

"Know your limits,
then surpass them."

QUOTE OF THE WEEK
"You think a brain is a terrible thing
to waste? They can blow all of you
away."
- Amiri Baraka
ON POLICE BRUTALITY
AGAINST BLACKS

VOL. II, No. 2

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3, 1991

Asian gangs: part of Stony Brook scene

By Patti Huang

In their black Zodiac shoes - no socks, of course - with Cavaricci blue jeans rolled tightly, they scan the crowd, taking deep drags from Marlboro reds. They congregate in the corner with automatic nine-millimeter Berettas, which their girls have smuggled into the party, strapped securely to their backs. In the warm seasons, a jacket - possibly cropped, usually rayon, but definitely black - is worn over a light tank top. The beeper and spiked hair are musts; the Dupont lighter is optional.

These Asian gang members have frequented Asian club parties at Stony Brook for years, though few conflicts have ever mounted - until last month.

At a Sept. 12 Union ballroom party sponsored by the Asian Students' Association (ASA) and the Commuter Student Association (CSA), a fight broke out between four Korean students and members of a Chinese gang from New York City known as the Green Dragons. The fight was reportedly due to rumors that the four Korean students were members of a rival gang.

According to Anna Marie Pineda, a Stony Brook freshman who witnessed the fight, it began in the men's bathroom when five Green Dragons deliberately bumped one of the Korean students. As the student made his way back to the ballroom, pushing and shoving ensued, leading to a brawl involving fifteen Green Dragons and the four Korean students. Minutes later, the fight was broken up by Public Safety and the party was quickly called to an end by ASA president Richard Guillopo. No arrests were made. The four Korean students suffered minor injuries in the fracas.

Most of the Green Dragons, like other Asian gangsters, are in their early twenties, though their bosses, known as *Dai Lo*, meaning "elder brother" in Chinese, are usually in their late twenties or thirties. Gang members who attend college are typically known as "weekend warriors."

"All it takes is a look," commented one part-time Stony Brook sophomore. "The gangs go to parties expecting to fight. What happened on Thursday is recreation for them. But it's also a big power thing and if their reputation is big - forget it... If they don't like the way you look then any eye contact you make with them - even if you're glancing over your shoulder - is an excuse for them to come after you."

While these city gangs have always traditionally grown out of Chinatown, they are now branching out with the growth of burgeoning Asian communities in Queens. Gangs which have claimed turf in Elmhurst and Flushing include Korean Power, a Chinese gang called White Tigers, and the Green Dragons.

Many of the Chinatown gangs are supported by the fraternal societies

known as tongs. One tong, the On Leong Merchants' Association, is one of Chinatown's most influential business and fraternal groups. Many of these tongs, originally created to help immigrants get on their feet, are also involved in illegal activities.

The On Leong tong is known to have ties with the notorious Ghost Shadows, who control Mott Street and Bayard Street. A tong named Hip Sing and its affiliate gang, the Flying Dragons, dominate Pell Street. The Dragons are currently the wealthiest Asian gang in New York due to large-scale heroin trafficking, according to a member of Born to Kill (BTK), a violent Vietnamese gang sometimes known as the Canal Street Boys.

The criminal activity these gangs are commonly involved with include gambling rings, prostitution rings, armed robbery, smuggling of illegal aliens, and extortion. The tongs and the gangs benefit from each other. The gangs receive financial support and in some cases, help from lawyers. In return, the gambling dens run by the tongs are guarded by the gangs and the tongs receive protection in the form of visible muscle.

Among the other gangs which control Chinatown streets are the Tung Ons, who can be found on East Broadway and Division Street, the Fuk Chins on Eldridge Street, and BTK. According to New York City law enforcement officials, gang recruitment is often concentrated around city high schools such as Stuyvesant High School, Bronx High School of Science, and Forest Hills High School. Sometimes gang members are as young as fourteen, according to Pineda, who is well-acquainted with members of several city gangs. She says, "They join a lot of times for protection and revenge. They get hurt and they want to hurt back."

One of the Korean students at the ASA/CSA party reportedly joined the Ghost Shadows as a result of the Sept. 12th incident. "It's not that hard to join a gang and they can pay very well. Some of my friends get cellular phones and \$500 dollars a week minimum for extortion hits. But sometimes it's hard to get out," said Pineda. "Once a friend of mine wanted to leave a gang and his own friends in the gang beat him up. That's another way they really hurt you - by having your own friends do it."

The back stabbing is both figurative and literal. "When it comes down to it, there really is no trust among gang mem-

See GANGS on page 4

Bagpipes player haunts campus

By Gail Hoch

While others strum their guitars or bang their drums behind closed doors, John English prefers to play his offbeat instrument on the Stony Brook athletic fields at night.

"I used to freak out people going to 7-Eleven," said bagpipes player English. He recalls one night when a drunk woman walked past the fields to the store. "I scared the hell out of her," he said.

The 21-year-old senior, known as "Bags" to his friends, picked up the instrument as a sophomore in high school when he attended pipe band practices with his Irish-born and pipe-playing father. He's been hooked since and is a member of the Clanneirann Pipe Band, the oldest of its kind in Brooklyn.

When explaining why he practices outside when most others are home asleep, English says, "I felt like playing at night. I'd listen to my bagpipe tapes and get all psyched to play... I was out there once from 12 to 3." Also, he believes he has disturbed few people with his playing far from the residence halls.

Although he used to play in the basement of Ammann College where he was a resident for three years, English said, "My RHD complained. She didn't really like them too much."

Apparently his RHD was not alone in her sentiments. Take, for example, the residents of James and Ammann Colleges



Julianne Lewis/UNITI Cultural Center

Amiri Baraka speaking last Tuesday night at the UNITI Cultural Center.

The X revolution isn't over, says Baraka

By Liam McGrath

It was a while in coming, but the UNITI Cultural Center had a blockbuster community meeting when it was finally able to pull off its first of the fall semester last week. After an evening of Amiri Baraka's perspectives on "Malcolm X and the Cultural Revolution," Cultural Center President Oral Muir and his fellow officers were inundated with questions on future programming.

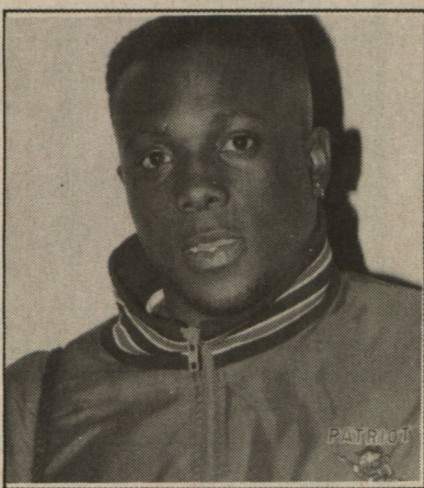
Baraka, a professor of Africana Studies at Stony Brook, kept an audience of well over 100 students engrossed for the entirety of his hour-long speech, then stayed for an open discussion, some of which touched on his differences with filmmaker Spike Lee, who recently started production of a Malcolm X project.

The main thrust of the legendary poet and activist's speech was an attempt to bring contemporary meaning to the

life and ideas of Malcolm X, whose was assassinated well before most of the audience was born. Malcolm X's life was "a model for cultural revolution" — the last step to blacks and other minorities escaping from centuries of white oppression, said Baraka.

"Apartheid in the United States ended supposedly in 1954," said Baraka, referring to the Supreme Court's decision to strike down separate but equal doctrine in Brown v. Board of Ed. But blacks and other minorities in the U.S. will be oppressed, continued Baraka, until they take more control of American society's superstructure — "the ideas and institutions raised up on an economic base to justify that economic base" — including schools, the media, and the arts.

See BARAKA on page 4



Chris Vacirca/USB Weekly
Alphonso Grant, Head of SPA Security.

Student security force beefs up its attitude

by Liam McGrath

Before SPA Security was SPA Security, students hired to work security at Student Activities Board (SAB) events often showed up with the idea that not only would they make a few quick bucks, but they would also get to see a good concert. If anyone acted up, maybe there would be a good rumble that night.

But last fall, the student security force began a rapid climb to respectability. SPA (Student Polity Association) Security, once SAB Security, was given more legitimacy by the student government's name, and

procedures tightened under its new head, Alphonso Grant.

When a riot broke out at a Special Ed concert last spring, Grant and his liaisons in the other offices dealing with campus events made some more adjustments. Polity President Dan Slepian pushed through an increase in wages to student security workers, and an interview phase was added to the hiring process for SPA Security.

The result? "I think people can tell," said Ronald Skeete, recently named one of SPA Security's seven supervisors for the year. "When you walk in (to an event), you see real security."

Although procedural changes have been part of the change, most of the talk is of a new attitude among the nearly 110

members of the force, and Grant is given the lion's share of the credit. "Good man," said Public Safety Lieutenant Doug Little at the mention of Grant's name.

"It's a different atmosphere," said Supervisor Dave Sanchez, who has been working security since the "real lax" days of 1989. "You're there to do a job."

According to Grant, who has worked security since 1988, student security personnel two and three years ago would dance and party at events they worked, and would not shy away from becoming involved in brawls.

The climate began to change almost immediately after Grant was named to

See SPA SECURITY on page 4



John English playing his bagpipes on the athletic fields.

USB Weekly/Chris Vacirca

INSIDE

Buddy can you spare a job?

Nearly five months after graduation, some Stony Brook alumni trying to land a job in the "real world" share their experiences. See page 7.

Stellar Staller

The Staller Center for the Arts is gearing up for four major productions this month, including the Tokyo String Quartet on the 12th. And best of all — all tickets are half price for students. See page 9.

Queens of the Empire

The women's volleyball team, sporting a 9-0 record and currently ranked No. 1 in the state, is preparing to host the Stony Brook Invitational this weekend. See page 13.

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USB Weekly

founded 1991

*"Know your limits,
then surpass them."***Otto Strong**
executive editor**Liam McGrath**
news editor**Gail Hoch**

features editor

James F. Barna

arts & leisure editor

Christina Brown

sports editor

Sean Duke

editorial/reactions editor

Chris Vacirca

photography editor

editorial staff

Janine Bangs

Jenna Baggett

Jeffrey Bernstein

Edwin Chase

Rosanna Chiofalo

Candace Copeland

Maxine Douglas

Rob Guardino

Patti Huang

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Teresa Novellino

Peter Parides

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business manager**advertising executives**

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This week at USB**FRIDAY****OCTOBER 4**

CED Real Estate Continuing Education Module, "Real Estate Taxes on Investment Properties." 9:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.; two full days (10/11). Preregistration required. Call 632-7071.

Humanities Institute Visiting Lecturer Series, "Women and Psychoanalytic Inheritance: Melange Klein and Anna Freud," Jacqueline Rose, University of Sussex, England. (Cospponsored with the Feminist Colloquium Series.) 10:30 a.m.; reception to follow. Library, E-4341. Call 632-7765.

Catholic Campus Ministry Mass. Noon. Level 5, Chapel, Health Sciences Center. Every Friday. Call 632-6562.

Women's Volleyball Stony Brook Invitational. 3:00 p.m. Call 632-7287.

Women's Tennis vs. Staten Island. 4:00 p.m. Varsity Courts. Call 632-7287.

B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundation Services, 5:30 p.m. Roth Quad Dining Hall, lower level. Every Friday. Call 632-6565.

SATURDAY**OCTOBER 5**

B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundation Services, 9:30 a.m.: Orthodox service, Roth Quad Dining Hall, lower level; Conservative service, Roth Quad Dining Hall, 2nd floor (in kosher dining room). Services followed by Kiddush (light refreshments). Every Saturday. Call 632-6565.

Women's Volleyball Stony Brook Invitational. 10:30 a.m. Call 632-7287.

Humanities Institute Cosponsored Film Series, First Annual Film Festival (Sunday also). The best of films at the Independent Feature Market. (Cospponsored with the Greater Port Jefferson Arts Council and the Port Jefferson Village Cinema.) Theatre Three, 412 Main St., Port Jefferson. \$6 each day; \$10/weekend pass. 15% discount for seniors, students and members of the Greater Port Jefferson Arts Council. Call 632-7765.

Women's Soccer vs. Villanova. 1:00 p.m. Call 632-7287.

Men's Soccer vs. Steven's Tech. 3:30 p.m. Call 632-7287.

Department of Music, Stony Brook Symphony Orchestra. Bradley Lubman, director and principal conductor. Features Rossini's Overture to *La Gazza Ladra*; Schuman's *Violin Concerto* - John McGrosso, violinist (winner DMA concerto competition); and Schumann's *Symphony No. 1 in B-flat Major*, opus 38 ("Spring"). 8:00 p.m. Main Stage, Staller Center for the Arts. Pre-concert talk about the music and music-making, 7:00 p.m., Recital Hall, Staller Center for the Arts. For ticket information, call 632-7230.**SUNDAY****OCTOBER 6**

Catholic Campus Ministry Mass. 9:00 a.m. Level 5, Chapel, Health Sciences Center. Every Sunday. Call 632-6562.

Humanities Institute Cosponsored Film Series, First Annual Film Festival. The best of films at the Independent Feature Market. 11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Theatre Three, 412 Main St., Port Jefferson. \$6. 15% discount for seniors, students and members of the Greater Port Jefferson Arts Council. Call 632-7765.

Bilingual Hispanic Liturgy. 5:00 p.m.; reception follows. Sponsored by Catholic Campus Ministries. Old Chemistry, Peace Center. Call 632-6562.

MONDAY**OCTOBER 7**

Flea Market. Bargains Galore! Faculty Student Association sponsored market is open every Monday. 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., SB Union B-level. Call Michelle Liebowitz, 632-6510.

Women's Tennis vs. Queens College. 4:00 p.m. Varsity Courts. Call 632-7287.

University Hospital and the American Cancer Society. "Cancer Support Group for Patients' Family and Friends," 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. South Tower Conference Room 104, Level 14, Health Sciences Center. Free parking; validate at meeting. Call 444-1550.

TUESDAY**OCTOBER 8**

The Guild Trio Concert Series, "Illness as an Inspiration: The Effects of Disease on the Creative Mind." Works by Schumann and Schubert, both great composers who suffered from illness while composing. 4:00 p.m. Lecture Hall 2, level 2 Health Sciences Center. Call 444-2765.

The Wellness Program, Defensive Driving. A 6-hour course (also 10/10) whose completion certificate results in a 10% reduction of collision and liability insurance each year for 3 years and a 4-point reduction from your license's total point accumulation. Instructor: Rich Susser. 5:30 - 8:30 p.m. Health Sciences Center, room TBA. \$38. Sponsored by the Office of Human Resources. Call Carol Manning at 444-2425.

Women's Volleyball vs. C.W. Post. 7:00 p.m. Call 632-7287.

The Alternative Cinema at Stony Brook, *Ugetsu*. Profoundly lyrical, sumptuous and eerie, this "chronicle of a dream disappointed" tells the tale of a 16th-century potter's fascination with a lovely ghost. Directed by Kenji Mizoguchi. (Japanese with English subtitles.) 7:00 and 9:30 p.m. Stony Brook Union Auditorium. \$2. All tickets available at the door. Call 632-6136.**WEDNESDAY****OCTOBER 9**

Campus Life Time, Hispanic Heritage Month Cultural Show. 12:40 p.m. Auditorium, Stony Brook Union. Call 632-6828.

Campus Life Time, Self-defense Demonstration. 12:40 p.m. Fireside Lounge, Stony Brook Union. Call 632-6828.

Campus Life Time Meeting, Asian Students Association. 12:40 p.m. Room 226, Stony Brook Union.

THURSDAY**OCTOBER 10**

Merchants Day. Hispanic crafts and food for sale. Noon - 5:00 p.m. Fireside Lounge, Stony Brook Union. Sponsored by Hispanic student organizations.

Department of Music, University Orchestra. Features Mozart's Overture to *Così fan tutte*; Grieg's "Piano Concerto in A minor," opus 16, Feng Yao, piano; Mendelssohn's "Violin Concerto in E minor," opus 64, Elizabeth Knowles, violin; and Schubert's *Symphony No. 8 in B minor* ("Unfinished"). 8:00 p.m. Main Stage Auditorium, Staller Center for the Arts. Free. Call 632-7330.Hispanic Heritage Month Program, *Turulette*, a two-act comedy. Stories from the life of a Puerto Rican girl (in Spanish; two scenes in English). Sponsored by the Affirmative Action Office and UUL. 8:00 p.m. Stony Brook Union Auditorium. \$3.00. Call 632-6280.**ATTENTION
ALL CAMPUS
CLUBS AND
ORGANIZATIONS****Have your next meeting printed here - FREE. Complete and submit form to USB Weekly's mailbox located in the Polity Suite.****Only club title, day, time and place of meeting plus one contact and phone number will be printed. All meetings must be applicable for that week.****Our next issue will be Tuesday, October 15, 1991. The deadline for all submissions is Friday, October 11 at 5 p.m.****All submissions will be printed on a first come, first serve basis.****CORRECTIONS**

Carmen Vazquez and Sean Joe were incorrectly identified in the September 10th issue. Vazquez is Director of the Department of Student Union and Activities. Joe is no longer President of the UNITI Cultural Center. Oral Muir is the current president.

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College Republicans hope USB Weekly office fire remains unexplained message makes Sense

By Teresa Novellino

The Stony Brook College Republicans, hoping to capitalize on a controversial spring, held their "Campaign Kickoff Meeting" last month to get students to vote Republican at the polls in November.

About two dozen students gathered in the Union Sept. 12 to hear the College Republicans' plans for the fall. "We are the only conservative organization on campus," said College Republican president Ron Nehring. "We like to think of ourselves as having the greatest amount of impact per member."

The club's impact on campus politics was felt last year when several of their members, including Nehring, ran as Common Sense candidates in the Student Polity elections in the spring. Common Sense, a campus political party, was formed by students, who said they were frustrated at Polity's handling of various student issues, such as parking. Their slate of six candidates was charged by many in Polity of being a front organization for the College Republicans, an accusation denied by Common Sense.

All six candidates were defeated after a political merry-go-round ride during the campaigning period which left Nehring saying there was "corruption" in Polity.

The party's candidates were first disqualified after being charged with gaining an unfair early advantage by

distributing party literature throughout the semester. But the election by-laws they had allegedly violated were ruled out as too vague, and they were reinstated as candidates after a week.

Currently, the College Republicans are focused on local elections. Bob Gaffney, a candidate for Suffolk County Executive, appeared Sept. 11 at a College Republican function where they endorsed him for the position. He won the county's Republican party nomination later that week.

In addition to their campaign on campus, Nehring says they will form a "Campaign Core" of volunteers to work as a team in campaigns across Suffolk County. "The purpose," said Nehring, "is to give College Republican members real-life, practical Republican experience and a chance for them to become known by Republican candidates and officeholders throughout Suffolk County."

Nehring, a senior, is a campaign manager for the Southampton Town Supervisor. Nehring says he owes this position to opportunities provided by his membership as a College Republican. Members can also earn credits or obtain internships through the club, which, according to Nehring, boasts the largest membership among College Republican organizations in Nassau and Suffolk counties.

A month after a small fire singed back issues of USB Weekly in the newspaper's Central Hall office, the origins of the suspicious fire remain unknown.

Interviews with members of the Stony Brook Press, which reported the fire to USB Weekly Executive Editor Otto Strong; Public Safety officers, and Warren Randall, Central Hall building manager, revealed little insight into the cause of the fire. But when the fact that a fire had occurred was known, who knew it, and what they did with that knowledge is unclear.

The fire, which caused only a little damage to about 20 bundles of back issues in the corner of room 022 in Central Hall, was reported to the USB Weekly staff on Sept. 9 by members of the Stony Brook Press, which occupies rooms next to and across from USB Weekly in Central Hall.

Press staff member Dave Suarez said he had seen two men enter room 022, which was unlocked, at 10:45 a.m. on Sept. 9, but was not aware of any fire until much later in the day. USB Weekly first learned of the fire at about 10:45 p.m., minutes after a John Sealy of the Press called Strong's home. Strong's mother, Marjorie Strong, reported that she had been told "firetrucks and hoses"

had been called to Central Hall because of the fire.

However, when USB Weekly staff members arrived on the scene at about 10:50 p.m., they found minimal damage to the newspapers - the only other items in the room were two tables and a few chairs - and no evidence that any water had been used to put out a fire. A nearby fire extinguisher had apparently been used.

Public Safety never received a report of a fire in Central Hall that day, and only went to room 022 at around 10:50 p.m. because of a report by Shari Nezami, a Press staff member, that the room was unlocked.

The room had been left unlocked since three days earlier, after USB Weekly held an open meeting for prospective staff. Executive Editor Strong said that he had left the room unlocked because no member of USB Weekly had a key to the room.

At least some members of the Press, who were in Central Hall the night of Sept. 9 for a staff meeting, knew about the fire well before 10:45 p.m. But they waited until after their meeting before deciding to notify Strong.

Press staff member Fletcher Johnson said he had seen a man with hoses in the Central Hall tunnels earlier that day. But the tunnels are located more than 250 feet away in the basement, and their

description did not match that Suarez gave on the two men he said he saw that morning - "college-age," with sweatpants and T-shirts. Suarez said he did not see the men's faces and that he heard spraying, but did not see what they were spraying on. Suarez said he had never seen or smelled any smoke.

Joe DiStefano of the Press said that Suarez and another member of the Press had been in the Press office that morning preparing something for the newspaper.

The next week, Strong reported that Randall told him that he had heard about the fire and that "one of his guys" - Strong's words - had put it out.

But Randall, who said he was not on campus Sept. 9, said in an interview the next week that he had not heard anything about the fire from anyone working under him, but had instead been left a message in the afternoon or early evening of Sept. 9 by Sealy informing him of a fire.

Randall also said that Fire Marshall Bill Schultz had been in room 022 to see

the damage and said it looked accidental, and could have been caused by someone dropping a cigarette on the newspapers.

Sealy said he had not called Randall's house that day, and suggested that perhaps Randall mistook his voice for someone else's.

Strong said he doubted the fire was accidental, because the papers were in the back corner of the room, taking up only about 15 square feet of space, and that several of the bundles of back issues were burned in different areas of the pile.

At one point in his interview the week after the fire, Randall, who the Press reported in its Sept. 12 issue has searched students belongings in Central Hall, asked, "Are you accusing me of setting the fire?"

Strong said he is being cautious in his thoughts on the fire, but is baffled by the circumstances that have been described by different people.

With almost a month gone since the fire, it is likely the mystery will remain.

Senator protests release of Yudin

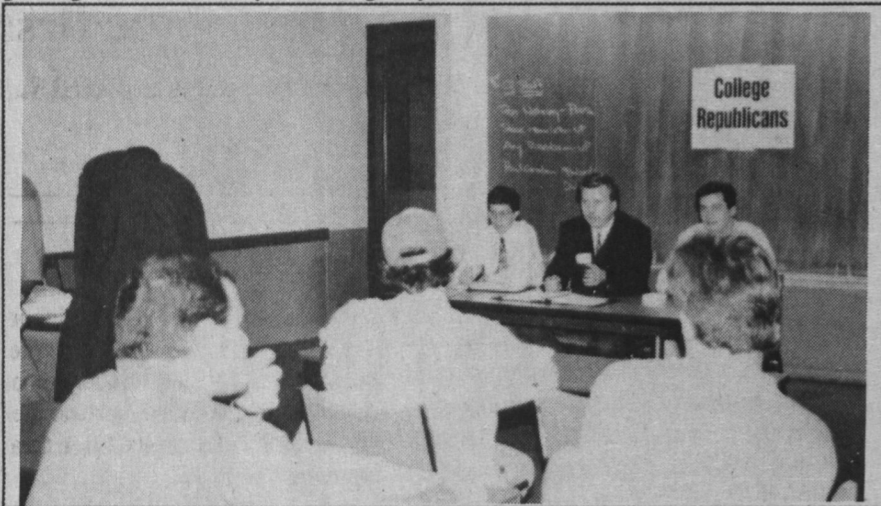
Resolutions ask for reconsideration

POLITY from page 1

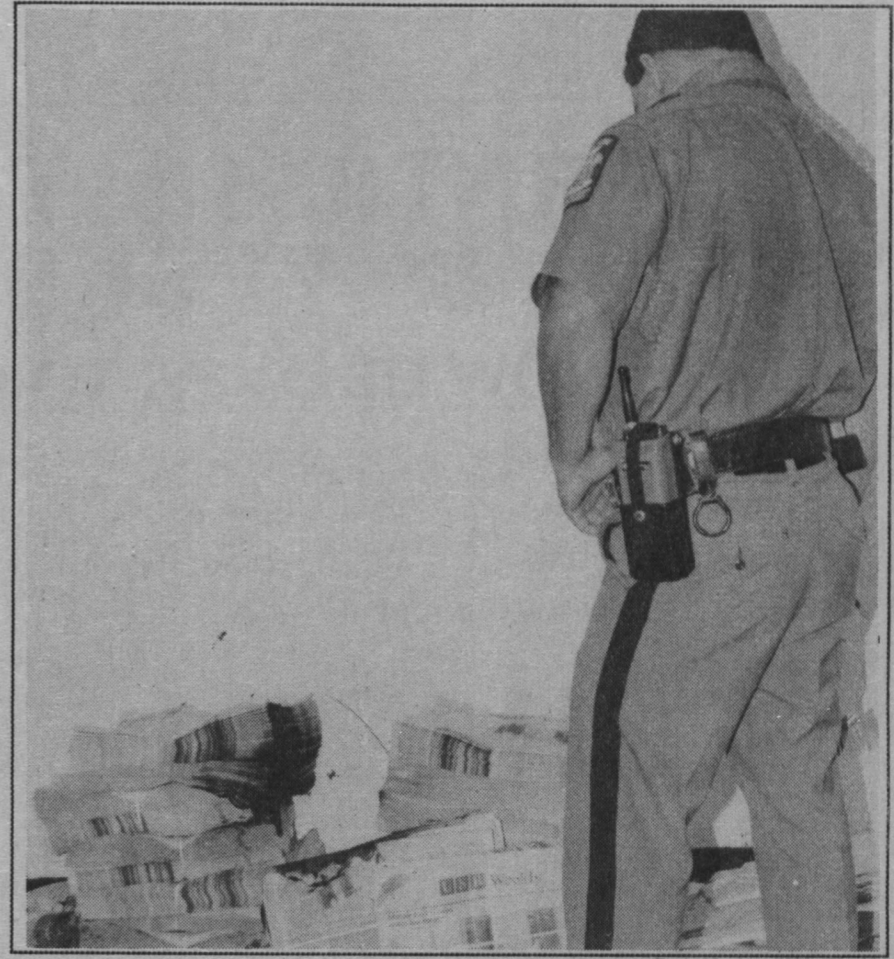
the establishment of "a committee of five non-Council Senate appointees be charged with formulating an evaluation criterion to assess the role of Executive Director...and evaluating with said criterion, Tobi Yudin's performance, no later than October 15th...to decide if it is in the corporation's best interests to renew her contract." In the event that the committee still chooses not to renew Yudin's

contract, the resolution requests that "she receive the standard three weeks severance pay."

"It is good to know that students themselves are united in taking a proactive stance in doing what they think is in the best interest of Polity and its investors," said Yudin. "I was told in June to discontinue my job, and that is what I'm doing. I am a professional and the decision is theirs."



College Republican Pres. Ron Nehring (c. at table) at meeting Sept. 12. Chris Vacirca/USB Weekly



Public Safety officer examines singed newspapers in USB Weekly office. Chris Vacirca/USB Weekly

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Head Grants wish for more respected student security force

SPA SECURITY from page 1

head SPA Security nearly a year ago and encouraged his staff to be courteous towards partiers or concertgoers and to watch out for each other's backs on the job. An aura of professionalism was another of Grant's goals, and he dispensed three main rules to the staff according to Skeete: "Be there two minutes early; you're there to work, not to watch the show; and don't send someone else in your place."

Grant, a senior economics major who played linebacker for the Patriots until an injury sidelined him this year, said he lifted some of his rules from a previous coach, who taught him "latenesses are a no-no."

"We're not taking any slouches this year," Grant said during the hiring process. Although being big is a plus, he said, "It's not all about size. It's about character, too."

Keeping a cool head is most important, according to Sanchez, who said Grant directs, "Don't try to be a hero." If an incident does arise, said Sanchez, "You want to nip it in the bud - we just try to separate them, and try not to engage in fistcuffs."

This year's interview phase was mandatory for new and experienced staff alike, as was attendance at one of the hour and a half training sessions this past Sunday or Monday. Little, the head of Public Safety's Community Relations Team and Grant's liaison with Public Safety, said the certificates each SPA Security worker received would be documentation enough to help them find security work in the future.

The force, approximately 110 students, most men but some women - "They don't realize their job (to 'frisk' women entering events) is the hardest," said Grant - is compensated better than ever, after the Polity Council voted to

raise their pay earlier this semester. Regular personnel, who work events on a rotational basis, are paid \$5 per hour, and supervisors - including chief supervisor Sean Waxman and the lone female supervisor, Beatrice Camacho - are paid \$6 per hour.

Many of the interviews were mere formalities, especially for experienced staff, many of who are in their third or fourth year working security together - and with Grant. But charges of cronyism would seem wrong. "When (Grant) sees something wrong," said Brian Harkins, SAB Comedy/Speakers Chair, "he acts on it."

Grant said, "A lot of my friends work for me, but when it comes to this job, it's business."

The improvement of the student security force comes now that more campus events will be required to hire SPA Security. Besides Polity-sponsored events such as concerts, G-Fest, and I-

CON, and Tokyo Joe's, the force will work events for non-Polity campus groups such as fraternities and sororities this year. "Generally in the past, student security wasn't deemed necessary," said Student Activities Adviser Stressor Altemis. Grant credits Altemis, Polity Executive Director Tobi Yudin, and Assistant Director of Student Union and Activities Ed Quinn with helping to improve SPA Security, especially after the Special Ed riot.

One step towards improvement was the recent acquisition of a walk-through metal detector for to help prevent customers from entering with weapons.

Also, two major administrative changes arose from that February incident, which sent two SPA Security workers in University Hospital, Altemis said. One is the hiring of an office manager, Rico Regnier, to assist Grant in dealing with the increase in requests for SPA Security. The other is a new form which, according to Altemis, ensures better communication among groups involved with an event. In addition, Grant was given more control over how many of his personnel he sends to events.

If there are going to be errors in judging how many security workers should be on hand, they will be on the high side. Harkins' comedy show Sept. 24 had only 33 paying customers, not even twice the number of SPA Security



Chris Vacirca/USB Weekly
Five SPA Security workers at a Student Activities Board comedy show Sept. 24.

workers on hand. Grant had seven of the workers leave early, but Harkins was still left with a bill of about \$250. "At a comedy show, what can really happen?" said Harkins. "I need a lot less (security)."

But Harkins said he and Grant had discussed the issue the week before the show, and decided "we'll see what happens and go from there."

It is another old principle that guides Grant in such decisions. Besides considering the nature of the event (he

would take extra caution at a Grateful Dead concert when patrons "come high as the sky"), "I look out for my guys before anything else. Our best defense is in numbers."

And Harkins' overall assessment of the operation, like many other's, is positive. "I think the security system is good," he said.

But leave it to an old hand to describe how just how much things have changed. "Security's no joke this year," said Skeete.

Asian gangs make their presence known at Stony Brook

GANGS from page 1

bers," commented one member of BTK, also a Stony Brook student, who insisted on anonymity. "They're only loyal to a point."

He leans back in his chair and takes another drag of his cigarette then shows the scars he has received from knife fights. BTK has been known to be the wildest and most ruthless gang in New York in the four years of its existence. Their name is derived from the phrase many American soldiers wrote on the helmets in Vietnam. "It's true that no matter what, Vietnamese kids will be the craziest because of their background," he said. "They figure they don't have much to live for, so why not have fun. And if they get killed - good."

According to this BTK member, many of the Vietnamese or ethnic Chinese from Vietnam come to the U.S. without their parents after facing dangers all the time in Vietnam and live the aftermath of the war. "That's the difference between the Chinese and the Vietnamese gangsters - the Vietnamese kids are usually sent over here by sponsors like uncles and aunts who pool together money...sometimes their parents are here but they come from broken homes anyway," he said.

He joined BTK in his senior year of high school "for the money" and left home that same year because to family problems. He says BTK extorts roughly \$100 dollars from each store on Canal Street every month and their biggest operation is selling counterfeit designer watches. He himself earns up to \$1000 dollars weekly.

After four years of "hanging out" with BTK, he is responsible for taking care of the younger gang members who are mostly new recruits. The phrase "hanging out" connotes being in a gang, so that asking "Do you hang out?" is the same as asking "Are you in a gang?" Since most gang members speak to one another in Chinese, more commonly used is the expression *bin lando*, which, loosely translated, means "What gang are you from?"

Traditionally, many gangs have been made up solely of Chinese or Koreans. Though the Korean gangs still consist almost purely of Korean members, many of the other gangs have become more integrated. The mix is mostly of Mandarin, Cantonese, and Vietnamese. According to the BTK member, there is still much animosity between the groups along ethnic lines, but he says, "Usually the gang fights are not racial. They're either personal or territorial."

There is concern among many Asian club officers of the threat of gang violence at future Asian club events at Stony Brook, and also with the perception that

Asian gang activity is widespread.

According to ASA president Guillopo, the organization's future party policy will include "no guests and no visitors", at least eight security people,

Baraka's speech at UNITI a hit

Explains his side of conflict with Spike Lee

BARAKA from page 1

Baraka focused on the development of Malcolm X as a leader who often found himself on a path parallel to Martin Luther King, Jr., contrasting the approaches they took in the struggle for justice. Baraka pointed out that King is often thought of as the older of the two, but Malcolm X was 39 when he was killed in 1965, the same age King was when he was assassinated three years later.

Such misperceptions are typical of the way Malcolm X's role in the civil rights movement of the 1950s and 1960s has been distorted and diminished, said Baraka. He compared the approaches and the followers of Malcolm X and King, describing the affinity that Malcolm X drew especially from the masses of younger, poorer blacks who thought King's - and his black middle-class following's - espousal of loving the enemy was too idealistic.

Baraka laced his fiery speech with humor, most effectively in contrasting the non-violent approach of King to Malcolm X's advocacy of self-defense. Speaking of recent cases of police brutality against blacks, he said, "You think a brain is a terrible thing to waste? They can blow all of you away," and of black non-violence in the face of white violence, "You can't talk to a mad dog about peace, love, philosophy - meanwhile he's tearing your arm off."

Malcolm X's advocacy of self-defense for blacks, said Baraka, followed two other essential "self-" principles - self-determination and self-respect - founded on the belief that blacks should not have to depend on white generosity to attain equality. "If we cannot be defended by society, we must defend ourselves," he quoted Malcolm X.

Baraka's spent the last 15 minutes of his lecture giving his account of his current conflict with filmmaker Lee. Baraka, who said he has seen a copy of the script for the movie, is concerned that Lee will misrepresent Malcolm X's life to ensure the film's success. Their discord became public after Lee asked Baraka to write a chapter for a book on his first five feature films but paid Baraka a \$500 kill fee after receiving a scathing 10-page analysis.

"She's Gotta Have It?" said Baraka. "That's what the slavemaster thought!" On "Do the Right Thing," in which a character, Radio Raheem, is killed in a riot that started when a pizzeria owner smashed his radio for playing it too loud, Baraka asked, "Is that why we're killed?" Of "Mo' Better Blues," which Baraka said Lee intended as a tribute to jazz legend John Coltrane, he said, "Alice Coltrane wouldn't let it be called 'A Love Supreme'."

Baraka said he feared Lee was not

up to accurately representing the complexity of Malcolm X's life, especially his ideological and philosophical development late in his life. Baraka is also afraid the movie will be too focused on Malcolm X's late adolescence and early 20s, when he went to jail for drug dealing. In prison, he educated himself and became a follower of Elijah Muhammad and the Nation of Islam. Malcolm X, who identified himself as a black nationalist, eventually broke from the Nation of Islam and denounced his earlier belief that all white people were evil after a trip to Mecca. "Do not make Malcolm X's life," Baraka said in a letter to Lee, "a Spike Lee joint."

For many in the audience, especially the younger students, Baraka's speech was their first exposure to ideas such as "the cultural revolution." Further, many had never heard Malcolm X's life and philosophy described in more than brief, mostly negative mentions. "(Baraka) gave me a better idea of what Malcolm X stood for," said Taraji Powell, a freshman, who called the speech "inspiring." "Before, I had viewed Martin Luther King, Jr., as great. Now, I like Malcolm X's approach better."

"Baraka doesn't mince words," said Muir. "Whether or not you agree with everything he says, you're forced to confront the issues he brings up."

Baraka's criticism of Lee was nearly as well-received, though Muir was typical of many in the audience with his comment, "I like Spike Lee movies." Muir did find reason in Baraka's commentary, though, saying, "Maybe we're accepting too much."

Baraka's speech was preceded by a powerful poetry reading by Carlos Montreuil, who railed against U.S. leadership in "A Quayle and a Bush Behind Watergate." In that poem, one of nearly a dozen he recited, he warned, "Read their lips...Making chaos and calling it society."

Sean Joe, former president of the Cultural Center and former editor of Blackworld's poetry page, also read some poems of his own, including one inspired by recent tensions in Crown Heights, Brooklyn. "A Common Unfinished Kindergarten Discussion" presented a litany of the name-calling spawned by racial and ethnic conflict.

But Baraka was the main reason that the meeting, which could not be scheduled earlier because Roth Cafeteria was without working lights, was such a success. "Just to know that we have that kind of talent here at Stony Brook is a great thing," said sophomore Fred Baptiste.

Said Muir, "I saw people walking out with smiles on their faces."

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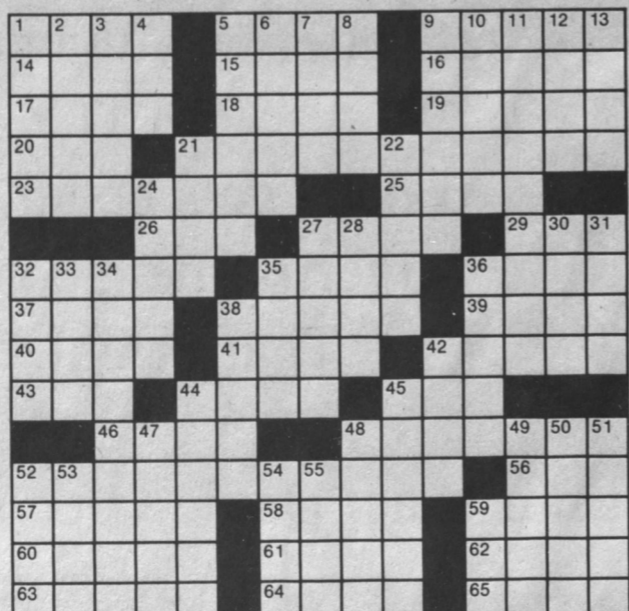
TODAY'S CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

- 1 Meat
- 5 Throw
- 9 Seed coating
- 14 Vehicle part
- 15 Spoken
- 16 Prior to
- 17 Big cat
- 18 Type of income
- 19 Fumble
- 20 Ms. Lupino
- 21 Large bird
- 23 Meal course
- 25 Retained
- 26 Take on
- 27 Hastened
- 29 Shadowy
- 32 Wild party
- 35 Mets' home
- 36 Be a model
- 37 — fixe

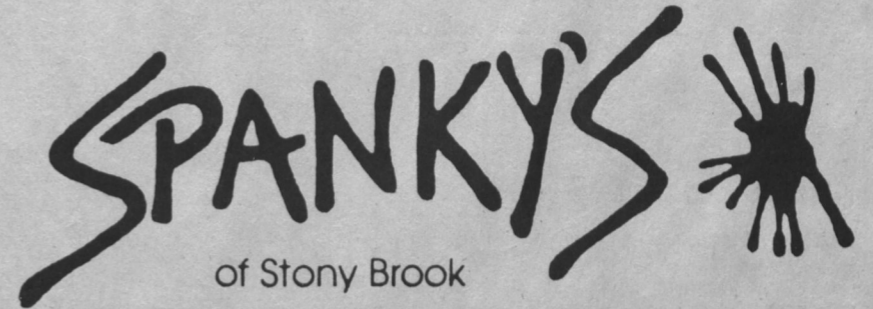
DOWN

- 38 Region of Eur.
- 39 Feathered predators
- 40 Hauls
- 41 Wagon
- 42 Penalties
- 43 Some FRs
- 44 Big dog
- 45 Family nickname
- 46 Not good
- 48 Spread
- 52 Record collectors
- 56 Malt drink
- 57 Quick
- 58 Lined up
- 59 Resting on
- 60 Amphitheater
- 61 Neck area
- 62 Melon, e.g.
- 63 Demuded
- 64 Turned right
- 65 Waste allowance
- 27 Part
- 28 Hemmed in
- 30 Bit of land
- 31 Muddle
- 32 Mouthful
- 33 Celebrity publication
- 34 Daily
- 35 Scrutinize
- 36 Calmness
- 38 Rampart slope
- 42 Evergreens
- 44 Trinket
- 45 Boiled
- 47 "Old Pal"
- 48 Gradient
- 49 Irrigate
- 50 Run away
- 51 Warehouse
- 52 Snatch
- 53 — avis
- 54 Suspend
- 55 "Dies —"
- 59 Fitting



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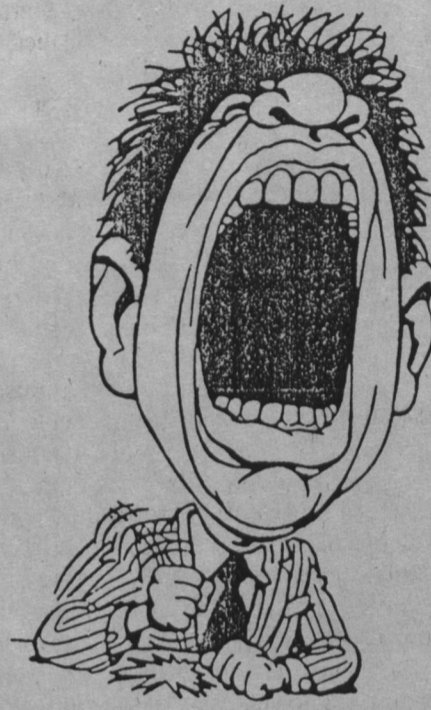
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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3, 1991

Comedy at USB



By Rosanna Chiofalo

Although the show Tuesday night started an hour late, it was well worth the wait. The event was a comedy show, sponsored by SAB. The comedians performing were: Sarah Silverman, Bill Rutkoski, Linda Smith, and the main performer, Billy Jaye. Although the Union was alive with activity all night, few students were present in the Ballroom.

Sarah Silverman appeared first. Originally from New Hampshire, Silverman lives in New York City. Her first joke was about the street beggars in NYC: "Change please, change please" "What don't you like my outfit?" Another great line was when she told someone that he looked like Rocky and then said, "Were you in Mask?" Most of her act was sexually oriented. She attempted to shock the audience.

She even followed Roseanne Barr's lead by grabbing her own crotch during one joke.

Bill Rutkoski, who has appeared on MTV, evoked laughter immediately with his erratic hand gestures and facial expressions. He was ridiculing people who talk with their hands in unusual ways. Several of his best jokes revolved around amusement parks which he thinks are stupid.

"I don't understand what people love about amusement parks... 'I just puked. Yeah, I had a great time'" Another joke concerned the Great Adventure theme park in New Jersey: "Did you know that thirteen people have died in that park? They call it an amusement park; it's more like Vietnam Park."

Lisa Smith was especially enjoyable with her down to earth approach to comedy. She griped about

the beach and said that she can have the beach at home

"I can turn on all the radios, light a cigarette in front of the fan, and I won't have the family with the kids and the couple fooling around in front of my face."

She also likes the winters more because she can go on her special diet: "I wear big sweaters!"

Billy Jaye, final comedian, will be in two upcoming movies, *The Pickle* with Danny Aiello, and *Billy Bathgate* with Dustin Hoffman and Bruce Willis. Jaye added spontaneity the evening when he ridiculed the Ballroom's appearance, with its huge round light fixtures and its iron bars on the walls. He joked about the security guards:

"Look at all these security guards. There's really so many people here. What, do they think I'm gonna stage dive like Jane's Addiction?"

He went on to say that USB reminded him of *Twin Peaks*. One of Jaye's best jokes was about Martin Luther King Jr. reproaching the Rev. Al Sharpton:

"I said I have a dream, not a scheme." Jaye closed by mimicking New York radio stations. He ridiculed WBLS by acting as a human beat box. Overall, Jaye's performance was extraordinary. He'll be well worth seeing in his upcoming movies.

Each of the four comedians received many shouts of laughter. The event went well overall except for the sparsity of ticket holders. Since the show was on a Tuesday night, the majority of USB students opted not to see it. Perhaps in the coming months, events of this sort can be scheduled on the weekends so that more students can attend.

A Seasoned Season

Staller Center Offers Something for All

By Jenna Baggett

The Staller Center is opening an exciting new season right now and there are more opportunities than ever before for students to share in the experience. For the second season now tickets for all Staller events will be available for half price to students. These are the same seats that are available at full price anywhere in the theater. Even less expensive, student rush tickets are available minutes before the curtain opens for a mere four dollars.

Katherine Day, Director of Public Relations for Staller, says that this season will provide a good combination of music, theater and dance appealing to all audiences. Although an important criteria for booking groups is quality performance and reputation, this season much of the music is written by accessible composers such as Mozart and Beethoven. These are composers who can be enjoyed by the most distinguished ear as well as the novice listener. "Our goal is exclusivity" in trying to book performances that otherwise would not appear on Long Island, Ms. Day explained. Efforts are made, for example, to get performers from Carnegie Hall.

Coming up October 12 is the Tokyo String Quartet, which is beginning its twenty-second season. This group is famous for its superb musicianship and unity, and receives excellent reviews. The program is to include Beethoven's *Quartet in F Minor, Op. 95*, Brahms' *Quartet in C Minor, Op. 51*, and Schubert's *String Quartet No. 8 in B-flat Major*. Other music coming to Staller this semester will be The Greenhouse (cellist)/Bloomquist (pianist)/Stier (clarinetist) Trio on November 16, playing a program of Beethoven and Brahms also. The New York Philomusica on December 6 will feature Robert Levin as piano soloist. The Philomusica concert will be "the ultimate homage to the great composer" Mozart.

Stony Brook's Center for the Arts has established a reputation for launching careers in theater. October 19 and 20 will be the return of the Acting Company for two unique performances. The first will be *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, directed by Joe Dowling.



The Tokyo String Quartet

Dowling, an esteemed Irish director, was inspired for the play's setting by the Flemish painter Hieronymus Bosch. This should add a creative twist to the Shakespeare favorite. The second play, to be staged on October 20, will be *Blood Knot*. This is set in South Africa and delves into the relationship between two brothers. The 1985 Broadway production featured the play's writer, Athol Rugard, and Zakes Mokae. This production is to be directed by Tazewell Thompson, whose production of *The Caucasian Chalk Circle* was nominated for four Helen Hayes Awards.

Ballet Stars from Eastern Europe, on October 26, is yet another example of a performance which will please all types of audiences. According to Katherine Day, this will be a "mixed bag of ballet's greatest hits." Prizewinning dancers from Russia and Eastern Europe will perform an array of popular scenes from favorites such as Tchaikovsky's *Swan Lake*. Les Grandes Ballets Canadiens will perform *La Sylphide* on November 23. This, too, will be enjoyable to the less experienced ballet fan, as

well as the hard core ballet connoisseur. *La Sylphide* is a tragic love story told through the medium of dance.

The five hundred year old singing entourage, the Vienna Choir Boys, will make an appearance at Staller on December 14. Their artistic sophistication is wonderfully contrasted with naivete, and should prove to be entertainment for all ages.

This season the orchestra series and chamber music series have been consolidated due to budget constraints. Since there will be fewer such concerts than last year, tickets are in demand. Two shows, the New York Philomusica and the Timothy Eddy (cellist) with Gilbert Kalish (pianist) have already sold out. However, last minute cancellations are likely to render a few good seats for student rush.

Opportunities for students to patronize the Staller Center are better than ever, and since the cost of tickets is no longer a problem, there is no reason not to take advantage of what the Staller Center has to offer.

A Night of Jazz Vibrations



Jay Hoggard

By Jake Alan River

The International Art of Jazz began its season at the Staller center on Saturday, September 28. The evening's performance was the Jay Hoggard Quartet. Proclaimed as "the most dazzling new vibraphonist in Jazz" by The New York Times, Jay Hoggard indeed provided a spectacular show in virtuosity as

well as in creative ability.

The quartet performed various Jazz favorites ranging from such compositions as "Prelude to a Kiss" to the title piece of Jay Hoggard's latest CD, "The Little Tiger". However, the most interesting musical piece during the night was one of Jay Hoggard's own compositions, "Convergence." He opened with a brilliant vibraphone solo, adeptly maneuvering two mallets in each hand. Hoggard completed the solo by using a rolling technique that brought to mind the image of a river's unyielding motion. At that point, the remaining three quartet members joined in and finished up the piece with Hoggard; the bassist scaled the bass' neck, the pianist tapped out seventh and ninth chords, the drummer perspired as he rapidly beat out the syncopated rhythms from his drum kit. The Jazz sparked and came alive. Afterwards, Hoggard explained the source of inspiration for the piece. That is, one time while he was in Africa, he had witnessed two rivers converging.

Despite the delightful music, the concert began on a sour note as an International Art of Jazz representative gave a twenty-minute monologue. The speaker continually digressed in ways which were irrelevant to the introduction of the concert. For instance, she told of how nice the hotel in which the quartet stayed was, while we, the audience, felt badgered as if from a Public Television support rally. At the end of the concert, however, because of the artistry of the musicians we could forgive the International Art of Jazz for the twenty minute sales pitch.

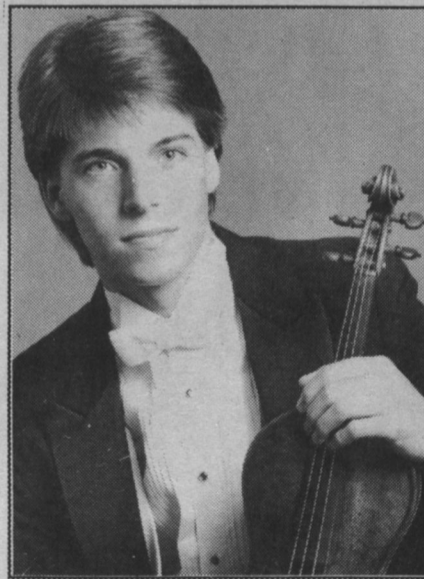
There were problems with the overall sound of the performance, however. The concert hall was not able to provide a suitable environment where the Jazz really felt alive and at home to the audience. The instruments' resonance seemed thwarted, stopped short, as if out of breath. In fact, it would be hard to find a truly suitable venue where jazz really sings, except perhaps on a subway platform late at night.

THROUGH THE LENS

by Chris Vacirca



Philharmonic Premieres at Staller



Joshua Bell, Violinist

By Jenna Baggett

The Long Island Philharmonic Orchestra's 1991-92 season premiered Saturday the twenty-first at the Staller Center. This concert was unique in three aspects: First, it was directed by a female conductor, Marin Alsop, one of the top conductors in the country. Second, an original piece was performed whose composer attended the concert. And third, a guest artist with an international reputation joined the orchestra for a violin concerto. The concert was reportedly sold out by Friday evening, but a limited number of student "rush" tickets were sold for only four dollars apiece half an hour before the performance. The program consisted of three works, two contemporary and the crowd pleaser, Beethoven's Fifth Symphony.

Beginning her second season as Music Director was Marin Alsop, one of the foremost young conductors in North America. Having studied with

some of the biggest names in the business (including Leonard Bernstein, Gustav Meier, and Seiji Ozawa), she is the first woman to have held the honor of conducting the Boston Pops Orchestra (1990) and will be the first to have conducted subscription concerts with the Los Angeles Philharmonic in November of this year. She is also serving this year as Music Director of the Eugene Symphony Orchestra, while continuing her work as Artistic Director of a large chamber group she started in New York. This group, known as Concordia, will be performing at the Lincoln Center and Avery Fisher Hall this season.

At a lecture which preceded the concert, Marin Alsop introduced Benjamin Lees, the composer of the first



Bon Appetit

By Kalman P. Toth

In an repeat production from this summer, A.R. Gurney's *The Dining Room* opened at the Stony Brook Theater the nineteenth, as the first play in the department's fall season. Directed by Loyce Arthur, the cast and designers did an excellent job in performing this unusual but remarkable play.

With a series of unrelated scenes, bracketed with a common theme, the play examines Northeastern WASP society in America. The playwright, as if holding an entomologist's magnifying glass to this suburban species, emphasizes their weaknesses, their hopes, their desires, in their ultimate, but perhaps futile endeavor to attain the Brady Bunch Utopia, the Cosby Ideal, the perfect, happy family.

Though rich with funny remarks that keep one entertained, the play regrettably moves at a slow pace. In theory, this slower pace is more characteristic of suburban life, as opposed to the fast pace of urban life, but in effect, it's soporific.

The actors: Jeff Tusch, Brian Kendell, and Donald Graham, and actresses: Maria Loor, Cheryl Manne, and Valerie Clayman all perform with virtuoso skill and vigor, rapidly changing in costume and character from scene to scene. The actors and actresses are well directed by Loyce Arthur. The technical designers also did a good job with Richard Dunham on both scene and design, Brad Griffith on costume design and Eff Henriquez on audio design.

The play captures and depicts the heart of suburban life, examines it, and then releases it and us with a touching and colorful denouement that makes the whole event worthwhile.

work to be performed. Mr. Lees is one of the most distinguished composers in the United States and currently resides in Great Neck. Passacaglia for Orchestra consists of a fascinating theme, nineteen variations and a coda in a contemporary style. Listening to this gentleman explain how he went about writing this particular work added a great deal of charm to the actual performance of the piece. When asked what made him choose to write nineteen variations, as opposed to any other number, he replied, "Writing a theme and variations is like they say about popcorn or peanuts, you can't eat just one." He went on to explain that as he would write one variation he was already thinking about what the next "See Phil" on following page

University Orchestra To Perform Free Concert

By Jenna Baggett

The University Orchestra at USB will be playing its first concert of the season on Thursday, October 10 at 8:00pm, on the Staller Center's main stage. This will be a free performance.

The University Orchestra is a dedicated group of Stony Brook students and members of the community, under the direction of Mr. Jack Kreiselman.

Mr. Kreiselman is an Artist-in-Residence at USB, and is currently serving his twenty-fifth year as a professor here. He is professor emeritus at New York University as well, where he directed a variety of instrumental music programs for twenty years. Though he has an established reputation as a conductor, Mr. Kreiselman is known worldwide as a clarinetist. He has performed and recorded with many internationally famous directors,

including such names as Bernstein and Stakowski and with groups such as the New York Philharmonic, Metropolitan Opera, BBC Symphony and many others. Presently, he is Director of the Stony Brook Wind Ensemble as well as the University Orchestra.

Two featured soloists will be presented at the October 10 concert. Performing Grieg's First movement from Piano Concerto in A minor, opus 16, will be Feng Yao. Mr. Yao is an undergraduate student at Stony Brook. The violin soloist for Mendelssohn's First Movement from Violin Concerto in E minor, opus 64 will be Elizabeth Knowles, a senior music major at USB. Also in the program are the Mozart Overture to Cosi fan tutte, and Schumann's "Unfinished" Symphony No. 8 in B minor.



The Spin Doctors at their appearance in the Union Ballroom on Wednesday, September 25

Phil. Continued from previous page

would be, and this went on until he reached number seventeen, when he said to himself that this would have to draw to a close soon. The National Symphony Orchestra of Washington, DC commissioned The Passacaglia for Orchestra for a concert in its Bicentennial celebration.

The second piece was a violin concerto written by Prokofiev, a twentieth century Russian composer whose works encompass a large span of musical genres. The Violin Concerto No. 2, Op. 63 was originally written for the French violinist, Robert Soetans in 1935. The concerto begins with the solo violinist stating the first theme unaccompanied. A second theme then emerges over the soft backdrop of the orchestra and the two themes then intertwine for the remainder of the movement. The second movement is the most lyrical and romantic, with the violinist reaching a very impressive high range. The guest violinist, a young virtuoso by the name of Joshua Bell, performed this beautifully. He appeared to be completely immersed within the music, and thus captivated the entire audience. His performance was impeccable.

Born in Bloomington, Indiana in 1967, Joshua Bell has earned the title as one of the world's most prominent violinists. He now appears worldwide performing with groups such as the London Philharmonic, England's Royal Philharmonic, major orchestras in Belgium, France, Italy, the Netherlands, Spain, Switzerland and Sweden, and in the United States with the New York Philharmonic, Philadelphia Orchestra, Bos-

ton Symphony, Chicago Symphony, and others. He toured the Soviet Union, Europe and the U.S. as the featured American soloist with the American Soviet Youth Orchestra in the summer of 1990 and has recently completed his second tour of Asia.

The finale was a Beethoven symphony, the venerable Number 5. This was actually the least interesting part of the concert. Many would argue that this is Beethoven's most emotional symphony, as it was written during the most trying period in his life when, in the midst of other personal problems, he realized that his deafness was incurable. However, this performance failed to support that assertion. Conforming to the trend to traditionalize classical music by using instruments that closely resemble those used during the time a piece was written (in this case, 1805-1808), Marin Alsop had the trumpet section using European rotary valve trumpets instead of the American piston valve trumpets. She also mentioned that the timpani was using a different type of mallets that were harder and sound like, as she put it, "someone falling down the stairs."

Overall, this was a very commendable performance. Marin Alsop has a stage presence that would impress the harshest of critics. The Long Island Philharmonic will be returning to Stony Brook's Staller Center March 28 and May 16, but if you don't want to wait so long to enjoy a good concert, their next appearance will be at the Tilles Center for the Performing Arts in Brookville on October 19.

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Will guns make Public Safety more effective? No, creativity will.

To arm or not to arm — that is the question that once again has made its way to the top of the hot issue list at the university. It's an annual rite, always coming at the heels of incidents such as the riot at a concert in the Union ballroom last February or the beating of five Public Safety officers trying to break up a party in Langmuir College nearly two weeks ago.

The debate's framing varies from year to year, but the main points rarely change.

Advocates of arming argue mainly that guns would enable Public Safety to better cope with situations involving weapons in criminal hands and act as a deterrent to campus crime — both factors lessening Public Safety's dependence on the Suffolk County Police.

Opponent say that putting guns in the hands in Public Safety's hands would only make the campus more dangerous, and that guns in the hands of cops elsewhere do not limit the tendencies of criminal activity.

The present SUNY budget crunch is one factor especially relevant to the current arming debate. If the state does not have enough money to avoid cutbacks in student security, where will it find the funding to train and arm a force of Public Safety officers? Perhaps a security fee would like nice on the same page as the recently enacted transportation fees and "cable" television fees campus residents pay.

But its an issue of safety, say some, and there have to be ways to overcome a tight budget.

Yes, there are. But they do not necessarily involve guns. Stony Brook has gotten along extraordinarily well without an armed university police force thus far, and it can continue to do so. And remember, hard times often bring an increase in creativity — the real key to providing a more secure campus for the Stony Brook community.

Some of this creativity is evident in programs introduced this fall by the Division of Campus Residences and, pleasantly, by Public Safety itself. Public Safety's Community Relations Team is already making a difference — the presence of officers at the Union's information desk is making it harder for students to retain negative impressions of the force.

Building more positive relations is a step towards building a model community, with a set of goals and people willing to work to achieve them. Safety is something everyone can agree on, right? Yes, but not the means of achieving it.

So where do the university's policy makers stand?

Their views span the spectrum. Polity President Dan Slepian has repeatedly spoken out in opposition of giving guns to Public Safety. University President John Marburger, by saying his mind is now open to "quality" arguments, has quietly shifted from being against arming to a more garden-variety position — he's hedging. Director of Public Safety Richard Young, not surprisingly, is pushing harder than ever for arming.

But what about the more than 16,000 students at Stony Brook — what do they think? As USB Weekly prepared to go to press, a forum on the issue of arming was held. Sadly, though, attendance in the Union auditorium — during Campus Lifetime, created with such events in mind — was closer to a baker's dozen than to even .001 of the student body.

Such apathy not only gives an advantage to those who would arm Public Safety, but is itself a prime reason why the issue keeps coming up. A strong coalition of students and other members of the university community dedicated to eliminating the roots of the any safety problems — including unfamiliarity and distrust — would be a stronger deterrent to violent incidents than guns ever will.

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Thomas is no help to African-Americans

By Peniel Joseph

The recent nomination of Clarence Thomas to the Supreme Court will have serious ramifications for the future of the civil rights movement. It is becoming increasingly difficult to delineate between those who wish to help humanity, and those who are tools of the conservative fascist leaders of our country.

On the surface Clarence Thomas seems to be the perfect choice to replace the first and only African-American justice ever, Thurgood Marshall. Like Marshall, Thomas comes from humble origins, has experienced racism in the United States first-hand, yet managed to make a success of himself. But this is where the comparison of these two men should end. Born in the town of Pinpoint, Georgia, Thomas is a conservative Republican who now condemns affirmative action although he one of its beneficiaries. He tells people in the black community that they must pull themselves up by their bootstraps as he did in his youth, rhetoric that says, "Stop your lazy and lascivious ways and get to working hard like I did." This "racism is ended" credo serves to alienate the hard-working members of the black middle and lower classes who continue to be the forgotten people of our nation.

Thomas' legal aptitude and accomplishments should also be questioned. Many in the black intelligentsia, including Jack Greenberg, former head of the NAACP Legal Defense Fund, have criticized the nomination, arguing that many other black jurists are more qualified than

Peniel Joseph is a sophomore majoring in History.

Thomas, who has served on the federal bench for only two years. The distinguished Harvard law professor Derrick Bell said, "Thomas just does not measure up," and mentioned federal judges Harry Edwards and Amalya Kearse as superior to Thomas in both legal scholarship and achievement.

The perception that George Bush' nomination of Thomas is just an example of a black reactionary winning the fruits of his labor is a valid one. Bush voted against the 1964 Civil Rights Act as a Texas congressman and is also the first president to veto a civil rights bill in this century. A July 16 article in The Village Voice brings several examples of the duplicity and callousness in the Bush administration to the forefront. The article cited a report in the New York Times which said that the Nathan Group, a black conservative political consulting group, presented a plan to the Bush administration that would lure more of the black vote without "compromising a single plank in the Republican platform." Also at the suggestion of the Nathan Group, the president later invited the Black Congressional Caucus for a meeting at the White House "for the sole purpose of listening, and showing his sensitivity to black issues and a rapport." A more condescending tone would be hard to imagine given that the Nathan Group's report scoffs at black political intelligence.

To simply call Thomas "a chicken and biscuit eatin' handkerchief head" as filmmaker Spike Lee did is to trivialize both Thomas and the complexity of the situation that is now at hand. The nominee has quoted Malcolm X passages on black self-help and joked in confirmation

hearings last week that he majored in "militancy" in college. To Thomas, this philosophy, fully embraced by the Bush administration, absolves government of any blame when it comes to minorities.

The title character of Ralph Ellison's much-celebrated "Invisible Man" is in many ways similar to Clarence Thomas, an opportunist who has knowingly and willingly altered his once "radical" views to get ahead. He is more than just George Bush's pawn, he has successfully eradicated the lines that previously existed in distinguishing "leadership" and "selling out".

Black people in the United States must see that this man has been nominated not only to mollify the masses but to be the oppressor of those who would view him as their saviour.

This may have already occurred. A recent series of articles published by New York Newsday reveals that James Parker, a good friend of Thomas', lobbied for South Africa's apartheid government. In fact in 1987 Thomas went to a dinner in honor of the South African ambassador. Thomas denies having any knowledge that his friend Parker had any ties to South Africa.

Black people who support Thomas' nomination are playing right into the hands of the Republicans with such blind loyalty to another person of color.

Putting a black face at the head of a racist institution does in no way change that institution. What citizens and college students in this country have to do is question their leaders before they are placed inextricably within our midst. Then men such as Clarence Thomas would be placed under closer intellectual scrutiny.

IF YOU DON'T HAVE THE NUMBERS,
YOU WON'T GET THE LETTERS.

Arab muggers, Israeli victims

By Adam Kaminsky

For over fifty years, the world was concerned about the mounting instability in a certain area destined to be one of the most strategic regions the world has ever seen. However, it wasn't until the last twenty years or so that this watchful eye has caused an outright panic amongst the nations involved in the unrest and the observant world as a whole.

This region is the Middle East, home of at least three major religions; Christianity, Judaism, and Islam. It is also the home of two major peoples; the Arabs and the Israelis. The cause of this unrest lies in the fact that these two peoples have radically different religious beliefs and national destinies.

Now, with Operation Desert Storm essentially over, the world is shifting its eye towards resolving this age-old dispute between the Arab people and the Jews so that lasting peace can be a reality in a historically unstable area. Many experts feel that it's Israel's fault that peace cannot become a reality there since it holds lands conquered from the Arabs in many a bloody battle. For the sake of peace, these experts say, Israel should cede these strategic holdings, the West Bank and the Golan Heights among them, back to their respective nations. After all, these experts reason, peace will come faster if all nations "cooperate," and that means Israel's losing a large amount of land.

Adam Kaminsky is a junior majoring in Sociology.

Ah, but where in this equation of peace lies the clause which indicates that Israel shall be recognized by the Arab nations as a legitimate state? Where does it say that Israelis shall live without the threat of unjust aggression, as portrayed by Saddam Hussein's ruthless attacks on the city of Tel Aviv with several SCUD missile attacks? Where does it say that the Palestinian people (of Arab orientation) will peacefully coexist with the Israelis in the Israeli homeland, or that the Arab nations will not provoke Israel into battle? Where?

The truth is that Israel very seldom if ever, plays the role of aggressor. Often it's the neighboring nations such as Syria, Jordan, Lebanon, and until recently Egypt, that attempt to surprise the Israelis with the hope that a sneak attack will prove more fruitful than a premeditated battle. Sure enough, Israel won every single war initiated by the very same Arabs that the experts now seem to be patting on the back. In order to prevent such ambushes in the future, Israel deemed it necessary to confiscate the Golan Heights, a natural "observatory" heretofore the property of Syria, the West Bank from Jordan which, as a more logical boundary, borders the Dead Sea, and at a time before the peace treaty, the Sinai Peninsula from Egypt.

For the sake of "peace" many liberal, peace loving citizens feel that it was wrong that Israel confiscated these lands in the first place. Peace, they say, will not

be present until Israel cedes these lands. It is the Arabs who have been slighted by the Israeli aggression, in their opinion.

Think for a minute. If you were being mugged and somehow commandeered the knife of your assailant, would you give it back to him, so that "peace" may befall the both of you? Do you think if he were successful, he would later turn himself in and return your money, so that "peace" may befall the both of you? Think again.

It's for these reasons that we must side with Israel in this resolve. These liberal experts do not realize the gravity of their decision to back the Arabs, the "muggers" instead of the Israeli "victims." While it would be nice to see immediate peace emanating from a hasty decision of the world to order Israel to cede its territories, this peace will be short lived and very shallow instead of sincere. The Middle East will only live in eternal peace if Israel lives in eternal peace and the Arabs are not scolded for setting into motion the set of events that led to the recent Middle East Debacle.

The Israelis have endured a great deal of hardship due to the misinformation being put forth as truth by those with no emotional or ancestral roots in the area. Control of Israel's destiny should be decided by Israel with no undue pressure from the Americans or Europeans, who, with all due respect, are retarding Israel from dealing with her problems the way she knows how.

ARA hard at work, with one regret

By John Rainey

On behalf of the entire ARA Dining Service Staff, I would like to express our excitement about being the food service company of choice at Stony Brook University.

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John Rainey is the Director of Dining Services.

Station Pizza, as a declining balance delivery service.

We regret however, to notify you that our alcohol beverage license for "End of the Bridge" has not yet been approved. This is a lengthy process which has been further complicated by the closing of many local State Liquor Authority offices. We are doing everything we can to become licensed as soon as possible. We are committed to providing the Stony Brook students with "On Campus" alcoholic bar service.

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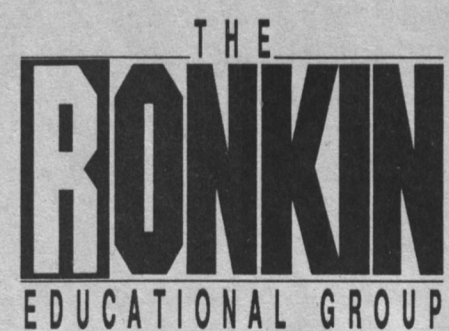
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