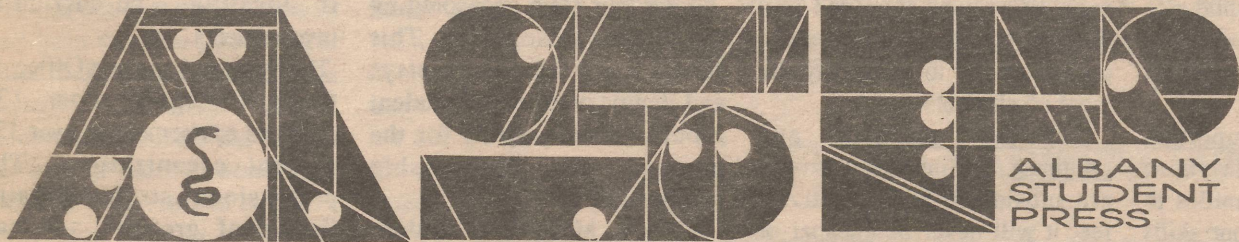


This Weapon is out  
of bullets

Editorial: Past events  
must not be forgotten

Track finishes season on  
high note

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## Absentee landlords targeted by University

By Tom Murnane  
NEWS EDITOR

SUNYA administration and student leaders said Wednesday at a campus safety task force meeting they may create a blacklist targeting "irresponsible" landlords who they believe have contributed to the unsafe conditions in the Pine Hills neighborhood.

This came in response to the brutal rape and beating of a 20 year old SUNYA coed the night of Sat., June 6.

There was a heightened sense of urgency in the campus conference room where about 20 task force members listened as Albany Police Assistant Chief William Murray and Lieutenant Robert Wolfgang updated them on their investigation of the attack, which occurred in a first floor Quail Street apartment.

"When a crime of this nature occurs, it doesn't just affect the students, it affects the whole city," Murray said. "Fear has been struck in the minds of many who are living in the area when a rapist seems to be 'working' that particular neighborhood."

Murray noted the similarities between the latest rape and several other violent attacks, particularly the rape of a 19 year old SUNYA woman in her first floor Hudson Avenue apartment on August 29, 1991. The victims gave police similar descriptions of their attacker, and both times the attacker entered the apartments by climbing through a screen window before raping,

beating and tying them up with wire.

The attacker in the June 6 rape has been described by police as a black male in his 20's, with a thin build and wearing a plaid shirt. The rapist from the August 29 case has been described as a clean shaven black male, 6 feet tall, weighing about 190 lbs., between 25-30 years old, wearing a white T-shirt, white cotton pants and red sneakers.

Despite the similarities in the cases, Wolfgang and Murray said they could not yet consider Saturday night's attack the work of a serial rapist.

On March 9, two Asian female students were robbed and punched by an unknown intruder in their first floor State Street apartment.

Wolfgang also stressed the department's free security evaluation service to area tenants. Officers will visit apartments to evaluate and suggest improvements, such as "pinning" windows, so that while a window can be opened for ventilation, it won't be wide enough for someone to fit through, Wolfgang said.

While SUNYA President H. Patrick Swygert agreed that this was a positive service to the community, he added, "We have to go much further than this." He then lashed out at those landlords who he claims have not been committed to making their apartments safe for tenants.

Having already talked with a group of area realtors, Swygert said the administration would be

investigating additional ways to identify and pressure "uncooperative landlords" to address the community's concerns about safety. He suggested one possible way to warn students about unsafe apartments would be to publish a list of "bad landlords" and the locations of the properties students should avoid renting.

"They have supped at our table and in return have taken advantage of our students, then retreat to wherever they live where it's nice and safe and comfortable," he said.

Student Association President Diego Munoz agreed with Swygert, labelling absentee landlords as a major culprit for Pine Hills' problems.

"There is a number of people who are moving out of that neighborhood due to the unsuitable and unsafe living conditions," Munoz said. "The apartments are just horrendous. There has to be a way of getting these landlords to understand their responsibilities. Yes, the students can do a lot to help themselves and it could be said that they're not doing enough, but the landlords have to know their role as well."

Task Force Chair Dr. Gloria DeSole said SUNYA had already begun compiling a list of those landlords who have volunteered to make their apartments safer for tenants. "This way we can report the positive news about the landlords who are assisting us as well as talk about the bad ones," she said.

SUNYA is taking several other steps to improve on- and off-campus safety, according to the task force. In a June 8 letter to Albany Police Chief John Dale, Swygert listed a number of programs SUNYA would be implementing this fall, including a new uptown campus shuttle bus service that will operate from early evening until 1:00 a.m., seven days a week. He also requested that Albany Police "adhere to a protocol for notifying the University when our students have been victimized by crime."

According to DeSole, new and returning students will be receiving a letter detailing the current safety problems plaguing the campus while Off-Campus Housing Director Tom Gebhardt said a door-to-door program informing students about safety concerns and the services available to them would begin when students return for the fall semester.

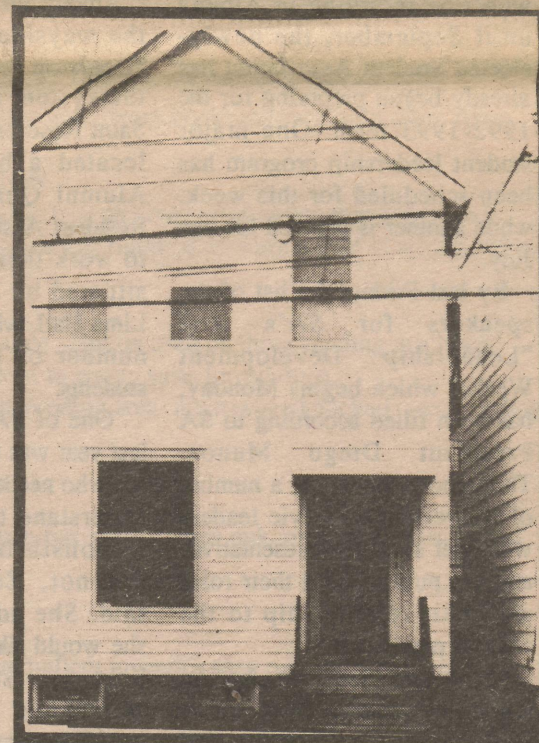
"We are undertaking an aggressive program to tell our students the good, the bad

and the ugly," Swygert said.

A city ordinance requiring landlords to install locks and other safety devices is also scheduled to be discussed on the floor of Albany's City Council.

Residents interested in the free security survey are asked to call Albany Police's Crime Prevention Unit at 462-8033 to schedule an appointment.

The Off-Campus Housing Office has also distributed a poster requesting student residents fill out a "Student Opinion on Off-Campus Housing Form" at their office, located in the State Quad U-Lounge.



Staff photo by Theo Turque

This State St. apartment was robbed March 9.

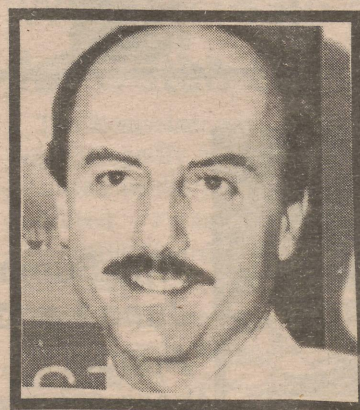
## Task force calls for student discount on CDTA

By Tom Murnane  
NEWS EDITOR

University and city representatives met Wednesday and said they will ask the Capital District Transportation Authority if it would consider offering a discount for local college students riding on its buses.

The proposal was announced at a University-Community Relations Task Force meeting held at the Albany Police station at 526 Central Ave.

They agreed a discount would promote a migration of student residents into other parts of the city of Albany, away from Pine Hills. This area, more commonly



File

Task Fce. Chair Thomas Gebhardt known as the "student ghetto," has a large number of college students concentrated in a small area. Local residents have complained for years that their

neighborhood has become run-down due to the conditions in the "ghetto."

The officials believe the Pine Hills neighborhood is attractive to students because of its proximity to the present University busline, which runs up and down Washington and Western Avenues. They also understand many students desire to live near other students, which keeps them clustered in one area.

There has been little incentive for students to move into other less student-populated areas. Task force members see location, finances and absentee landlords as culprits. Two students riding a University bus Friday

concluded with their assessments.

"Why should students want to move into other neighborhoods where the rent is higher, there aren't any other students to hang out with and the neighbors are a bunch of prudes who have forgotten what it's like to have fun?" one female rider said.

The woman's housemate, riding next to her, agreed. "It makes sense for us to live in the ghetto," she said. "It's only one or two blocks away from the bus-line to get uptown, we never see our landlord because all he cares about is collecting rent-maybe if we're late with rent we'll hear from him and that's

about it. The rent's cheap to begin with and if you can get a fourth housemate, it's even cheaper, and that's the bottom line."

The woman added she thought the University charged too much for "those little hell boxes they call dorm rooms," that other houses in Albany were "too expensive to afford on our budgets and next to impossible to get to" and "just too far away from the bars," leaving them and other students no choice but to "move in with the cockroaches."

Both women refused to give their names because they said their landlord is in violation of

Continued on page 8



# Opportunities abound to have an "impact" at SUNYA

This is an exciting time of year for everyone. The momentum has been building as the start of a new academic year approaches. There are many challenges that you will encounter at the University, both in the academic classroom as well as in your co-curricular activities. As you plan your activities for the next year, be aware of the University's **MIDDLE EARTH ROOTS** commitment to help students successfully meet future endeavors.

Your active participation with the various programs, both traditional and non-traditional, will provide you with an opportunity to impact the University. As you embark on your activities this year, you may already be asking yourself: Why should I get involved? How do I get involved? Is there time for involvement? Where do I get additional information?

Here are a few ideas for thought...

## Why should I get involved?

There are many reasons to become actively involved in a campus organization. Here are just a few good ones...

Meet people and make friends. Depending on the group(s) you

choose to join you'll meet people with similar or diverse interests and backgrounds from yourself-potential friendships await you.

Enhance your academic preparation. Numerous clubs are related to academic majors and sponsor events that complement academic coursework while also providing valuable opportunities to interact with faculty members outside the classroom.

Learn and improve important "life" skills. Involvement provides many opportunities to develop and enhance group skills such as program planning, budgeting, conflict resolution, time and meeting management, decision making, problem solving, publicity and public relations- skills that will be valuable to you and your future employers.

Make a difference! Students involved in groups are truly the campus movers and shakers. They contribute to the spirit and life of the University. Our groups are diverse in purpose and include social groups as well as those organized around social and political causes and community service and special interests so that students can make a contribution to the University and beyond.

Have fun. Utilizing some of your spare time constructively provides a necessary and enjoyable break from your academics.

Continue a favorite hobby or activity. With over 150 groups active on campus, you can find a way to become involved in a familiar activity that will make your transition to University life more comfortable.

Try new activities and pastimes. Since many groups are subsidized by the activity fee, it will never be cheaper or easier to learn and participate in new hobbies.

## What Opportunities Exist to Become Involved?

Over 150 student groups offer a wide variety of experiences to members. The University recognizes sororities and fraternities, cultural groups, academic clubs, residential quadrangle boards, media groups, including a radio station, newspapers, and other publications, social and recreation clubs, fine arts groups... We feel there is something for everyone with new groups constantly forming to meet the changing needs and interests of the campus.

Students also have opportunities

to become involved in student government (i.e. the Student Association) and the University governing systems.

## How Do Get Involved?

There are several primary ways to become better acquainted with opportunities for involvement ...

Group Fair Day; sponsored by the Student Association. This annual event features displays and demonstrations by student groups on the podium for the purpose of membership recruitment.

Interest Meetings; student groups sponsor special meetings each semester to introduce prospective new members to the purposes of their organizations. You're encouraged to attend to learn more and to determine if the group matches your interests. "Rush" activities; sororities and fraternities sponsor special meetings and events that allow you to learn about the Greek system and the individual organizations.

## Is there time for involvement?

Freshmen students are encouraged to be cautious in undertaking co-curricular involvements. However, if you are organized and careful in managing your work and your time, you'll find it is possible to

successfully handle coursework and co-curricular involvements and the combination can be richly rewarding.

## Where Can I Get Additional Information?

There are several offices and publications that can assist you in locating co-curricular involvements.

The Student Activities Office in Campus Center room 130 provides advisement to over 150 student organizations. The professional staff maintains listing of groups and can provide helpful information and assistance to students seeking opportunities for campus involvement.

The Student Association in Campus Center room 116 recognizes and funds many of these organizations and also provides numerous opportunities for students to become involved in many aspects of University life.

Active involvements in the life of the campus and the Albany community provides special rewards and valuable learning experiences that can richly enhance your education.

Make the most of your time here... become involved!

## SA schedules programs to spur leadership development

Compiled by ASP staff

While most SUNYA students won't be returning to Albany until September, the newly-elected Student Association has already begun preparing for the 1992-1993 term. One major student leadership program has been scheduled for this week, while another is planned for late July.

By last Friday, the list of the speakers for SA's first "Leadership Development Week," which begins Monday, has been filled according to SA President Diego Munoz. Throughout the week, a number of University and civic leaders will brief student representatives and the public about their roles and their relationship to the campus population.

"It's supposed to be an interactive program for everyone so people can get to understand each other's roles," Munoz said.

Central Council Chair Sarah Zevin said the annual SA Dippikill Summer Conference is planned for the weekend of July 31-August 2.

Highlights for the weekend include a roundtable session between University administrators and SA representatives from both the executive and legislative branches. "The roundtable is important because it outlines exactly what we want to accomplish with the administration this year," Zevin said. "For example, I'm sure campus safety will be a big topic at the roundtable because of all the rape reports this year."

While she said she enjoyed last year's conference, Zevin said many things were talked about but "less was

accomplished than I would have liked."

Among the things that fell by the wayside last year was a "Doorstop Program," similar to the system at the College of Saint Rose on Western Avenue, located a block away from Alumni Quad. At St. Rose, Resident Assistants are required to work their shifts at a desk situated by the front door to Lima Hall, where there is a high number of freshmen female students.

One of SA's main problems last year was too many people in SA who needed to understand their responsibilities did not, Zevin said. She added she would like to hold some workshops for new SA members as well as concentrate on better implementation of SA policy.

For example, she said, if there had been closer attention paid to implementation of policy this year, the SA elections debacle this past spring could have been avoided. "We have to get some people in there who know what they're doing," Zevin said.

Slated to speak Monday are Assistant to the Dean of

Undergraduate Education Dan Smith, University Accounting's James Vanvoorst, University Auxiliary Service General Manager Norbert Zahm and Deputy Building Commissioner for the City of Albany Richard Gross.

On Tuesday, Director of Off-Campus Housing Tom Gebhardt will start things off, followed by Director of Student Activities for Campus Life Jessica Casey, Associate Director of Admission Patrick Foti, Sr., who will do a joint presentation with Assistant Vice President of Admissions

Micheileen Treadwell, and Albany County Legislator Nancy Wiley.

Assistant Vice President of Residential Life John Martone and Residential Life Director Geneva Walker-Johnson will open up Wednesday's program. University President H. Patrick Swygert, Public Safety Officers Randy Fine and Thomas Kilcullen (Crime Prevention) and Aurora Insurance President Peter Noonan are also scheduled to make presentations.

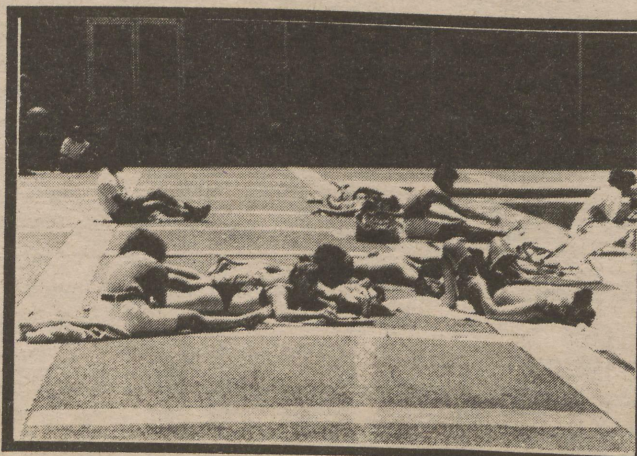
Thursday morning will start off with Vice President for

Student Affairs Mitchel Livingston, followed by Affirmative Action Director Gloria DeSole, Public Safety Director James Williams and Albany Police Lieutenant Robert Wolfgang.

Speakers scheduled to finish off the week-long program Friday will be Judicial Affairs Director John Murphy, Assistant Vice President for Campus Life Jim Doellefeld, former SA President Bill Weitz and Vice President for Academic Affairs Karen Hitchcock.

## Podiating hath returned

Students and dogs alike enjoy the beautiful weather by playing in the fountain. Catching some rays before class, cooling off in the fountain after, it hardly seems like Albany. Enjoy it folks, November will be here sooner than you think...



The Summer Session began June 1 and will continue until August 21. However, it seems there are more people by (or in) the fountain than in class...

Staff photos by Sal Coniglio



# Grad students study policy effects on women's issues

By Robin Fox

Three SUNYA graduate students, Glenda Villajuan, Sheila McBain, and Margaret King are participating in a seven month-long fellowship program created by the Center for Women in Government.

It enables women to research and help develop government policies that further advance the research and help develop government policies that further advance the status of women and families, with a special emphasis on women of color. All eight women currently in this program said they have a strong desire to affect social change for oppressed or neglected groups.

The fellowship places its graduate students with sponsoring state legislators and state agencies. Villajuan, placed with the NYS Department of Social Services, and King, working with Senator Anthony Masiello (D-Buffalo), are pursuing their Masters in Public Affairs and Policy while McBain, a student in the Public Administration Department, is working with the NYS Department of Labor.

These women's decisions to apply to this fellowship stemmed from their desire to advance women's issues. They decided the best way to accomplish their goals would be through policy-making or policy-related roles and teaching. These career aims were influenced by their exposure to women's studies courses.

"My goal, in whatever career I choose, is to improve the socioeconomic status of women and oppressed groups," McBain said.

Through her placement in the NYS Department of Social Services, Villajuan is working on policies related to day care. "Child care is not emphasized in society enough," Villajuan said.

Villajuan said she finds the experience in a state agency to be rewarding. "The Department of Social Services is a good place to learn about policy. Often agencies are underestimated in the policy-making decisions; the implementation of policies by state agencies are as valuable as the creation of those policies."

At 14, Villajuan immigrated to America from the Philippines, where she grew to understand the problems she faced in Western society.

"As an undergraduate at SUNY Albany I took Introduction to Feminism and Sexism, Racism, and Classism and my eyes were opened," Villajuan said. "Previously, I was the last person to consider myself a feminist, but I learned that anyone who believes in the equal economic, social, and political opportunities of women is a feminist."

She attempted to address what she saw as inequalities of women through her involvement with a sorority, Phi Sigma Sigma, in which she organized self-defense and Sexuality Week

workshops; her internship with Assemblywoman Earlene Hill led her to research family issues such as Medicaid, and she studied abroad in Spain.

"The Philippines was a colony of Spain for centuries. I wanted to trace my family and to get a better understanding of my history. Unfortunately, I learned firsthand how vulnerable women are; the way men treat women there made me very angry. I couldn't stay out late, I always had to be careful."

As a former graduate assistant she initiated programs with the Department of Residential Life's Multicultural Awareness Program (MAP) where Villajuan's challenges to prescribed roles for females or underrepresented groups have merged into her career options.

In MAP, Villajuan said she was able to draw upon her experiences to implement programs that might help the student body.

"I advised the University's Judicial Board and saw how people infused their prejudices in their judgments," Villajuan said. "It is important to confront our prejudices and challenge preconceived ideas, in order to be comfortable with ourselves. Otherwise, we cannot practice what we preach."

Villajuan said she eventually plans to teach. "Geneva Walker-Johnson (Director of Residential Life) once advised me that fighting oppression is like a relay race; you run until you are tired and then you pass the baton to someone else. You might not see the end but you know the race continues."

Sheila McBain grew up in Watervliet, NY. She grappled with college costs for ten years working full time while attending undergraduate and graduate school part-time. Her job experiences ranged from restaurant manager to the first female Capital police officer in 1989, to assistant director of the

*"Previously, I was the last person to consider myself a feminist, but I learned that anyone who believes in the equal economic, social and political opportunities is a feminist."*

-Glenda Villajuan

Women's Studies Center at Russell Sage College.

She eyed the fellowship for several years before she could meet the program's requirements. At her placement in the Department of Labor she has designed a study that will be used to analyze the promotional opportunities available to women and minorities in the existing work force.

"Most likely the State's financial climate will not allow many new employees. There is a need to focus on the women and minorities who are overrepresented in entry level positions," McBain said. "It is important to examine what advancement opportunities are available for these employees."

Originally from Bergen County, N.J., Margaret King attended Vassar and heard her vocational calling through her women's studies experiences. "I connected to the subject matter," she said. "I wanted to apply my passion for equality in a job."

King was able to obtain an internship with the Child Care Action Campaign that led to full-time employment. "The Campaign was my first exposure to a policy group," she said. "I felt in order for women to receive economic justice, more qualified child care programs and family

issues had to be promoted. These were not just women's family issues.

King continued to work for research and consulting companies

such as the Families and Work Institute, but she said she wanted to get a "bigger picture" view of policy-making. "It was important that I witness firsthand the legislators, and understand the policy makers' motivations for their decisions."

King's placement with Senator Masiello has afforded her more than a passing glance at the legislative process. Her close-up experience with legislators has allowed her a rare peek at the tremendous amount of negotiation and networking that occurs before a bill even appears.

King assists Masiello with research and gaining support for legislation. "Senator Masiello is working for child care improvements and a future project to improve economic conditions in a predominantly Hispanic part of Buffalo."

"It has been an opportunity I'd repeated if I could but it has also been disheartening," King said. "During one of my first days, the State of the State address was taking place. A crowd of at least 300 'dark suits' were attempting to enter and 275 of them were men. Women are clearly underrepresented and change happens so gradually."

"In whatever career I choose, I have to feel that my work is benefitting someone, somewhere down the line," she added.

Any student with a minimum of 12 graduation credits, who are interested in future policy-making roles can apply for this rapid, seven month fellowship. For more information, call Maud Easter of the Center for Women in Government at 442-3900.

## CRIME BLOTTER

### AGGRAVATED HARRASSMENT

6/4- State Quad- Irate and threatening call to office.

### ATTEMPTED MURDER

5/26- Dutch Quad- Woman arrested for shooting her estranged husband.

### BURGLARY

5/15- Stuyvesant- Cash and comforter stolen from locked room.

5/13-15- Schuyler- Phone and library books missing from dorm room.

### CRIMINAL IMPERSONATION

5/23- Roadway- At traffic trial received information that driver had presented someone else's license so that summonses were issued in wrong name.

### CRIMINAL MISCHIEF

5/14-15- Ten Eyck- Saline solution used on three vending machines.

5/14-15- Herkimer- Door to empty suite forced open.

6/7- L.C.'s- Damage at vending area- microwave knocked over, vending machine unplugged.

### CRIMINAL TAMPERING

5/31- Lecture Center sub-basement- Three unknown males discharged water fire extinguisher.

### FALSE REPORT

6/3- Husted- Fire alarm pulled; juveniles seen running from area.

### GRAND LARCENY

5/16- Indian Quad- Wallet stolen from car.

6/1- PE Lot- Purse stolen from car.

6/2- Dutch Lot- Bicycle off car and purse from inside car.

6/9- Dutch Lot- Car stolen; recovered at Crossgates Mall, no suspects.

### HARRASSMENT

5/13- Stuyvesant Tower- Item thrown out tower and three males became abusive to persons checking on that incident.

### PETIT LARCENY

5/1- Tuscarora- Bicycle missing from storeroom.

5/1- Dutch Lot- License plate stolen.

5/8- Student Health Services Lot- Parking hang-tag stolen.

5/14-16- Indian Quad- Bicycle stolen from bike rack area.

5/16-17- Ryckman- Bicycle stolen from basement.

5/19- Dewey Library- Book stolen.

6/1- Milne- Bicycle stolen.

6/1- CC-PE Road- Wheel and tire stolen off car.

6/1- Physics Road- Parking hang-tag stolen.

6/2- Dutch-Indian Road- Parking hang-tag stolen.

6/2- Dutch Lot- Parking hang-tag stolen.

6/4- Hu-SS Stairwell- Newspaper vending machine broken into.

6/7- Fieldhouse Lot- Car broken into, cash stolen from purse.

6/9- Indian Lot- Backpack stolen from car.

## Woman to be arraigned for Dutch Quad shooting

The Rensselaer woman who allegedly shot her husband in the jaw was indicted Friday on attempted murder and other charges.

Patricia J. Acker, 48, of 57 Pine Street, allegedly shot James D. Acker, 44, twice at close range outside the Upholstery Shop at Dutch Quad, where he worked, on May 26.

Acker, who is free on

\$25,000 bail, is scheduled for arraignment Tuesday in Albany County Court.

James Acker was treated for neck and jaw wounds at Albany Medical Center.

His wife checked into Four Winds Psychiatric Center in Saratoga Springs immediately after she posted bail, according to her attorney, F. Stanton Ackerman.



# Friday Features

## You're Not Just A Number At SUNY Albany....

### Getting the most of the college experience: One professor's advice

By Jennifer Young  
ASSOCIATE FEATURES  
EDITOR

Students are not just numbers when they attend SUNY Albany, thanks to the open and approachable professors that can be found here on campus. But unfortunately, the Profs. can't come to you--you must seek them out! "From the beginning of their freshman year, students should get to know faculty," advises Lee Bickmore, professor of linguistics and cognitive science and Faculty in Residence on Dutch Quad.

Bickmore recalled one student he encountered that didn't follow this advice. While doing graduate work at UCLA, a student approached him and asked him for a letter of recommendation for Harvard. "I told her that it would be much better to get three Professors to write the letters rather than a teaching assistant's recommendation. She thought she could only find two professors that she knew on speaking terms," recalled Bickmore. So if planning on going to graduate school, or hoping to one day obtain job recommendations, Bickmore strongly suggests making yourself known to professors.

One way to do this is to utilize their office hours. Incoming freshmen are sometimes taken aback by the overwhelming size of the classes held in the large lecture centers. When there are hundreds of students in a class, chances of getting personal attention are slim. "Go into their office and ask them questions. Make them know who you are," stressed Bickmore

adamantly and continued, "Try to ask questions that go beyond the text book. Professors love to see that you are interested in the subject matter."

As a student it is always smart to keep your ears open for any advice others might have about a specific professor. "Don't be afraid to take a class just because you heard how good the prof is. A good professor can make a class worthwhile no matter what the subject," said Bickmore earnestly.

Professor Bickmore knows this from experience. While attending college he heard "good things" about a professor of a philosophy class. "I had no interest in philosophy at all, but I took it. I don't regret it," explained Bickmore. "We often remember a small number of professors rather than the facts and figures we learn in classes."

Perhaps the most important words of wisdom Professor Bickmore passed along were to "go to classes." Not doing so is the easiest way to fall behind. However, he realizes that students are not just here to study. "Going to a University involves many different aspects besides taking classes. As a student you grow mentally, physically, spiritually, as well as socially," stated Bickmore. According to him, it is possible to do it all--as long as you organize your time!

Professor Bickmore himself seems to be able to do it all! Instead of being the "standard 9-5 professor," he and his wife and son Matthew, have

chosen to live on campus full time as a faculty in residence.

This position gives Bickmore the opportunity to interact with students both in and out of the classroom.

Bickmore, a native of Los Angeles, brings with him a background of education experience, and world travelling. He has gone from the class rooms of UCLA to wondrous countries in Africa, before settling down here at SUNYA.

After completing his undergraduate work at Brigham Young University, Bickmore went to UCLA to do graduate work. During his last year there, he became a counseling assistant. Bickmore was involved with summer orientation and he helped undergraduate students pick out classes. It was this that "planted the seeds" of his interest in undergraduate education, said Bickmore. He found working with students very rewarding.

UCLA was also the birthplace of another of Bickmore's loves. "It was there that I began to study Hausa, a language spoken in northern Nigeria. In the summer of '84, Bickmore was one of ten students in the country that was sent over to Nigeria in a government funded program designed to further educate the students in the language of Hausa.

"It was a real eye opener to the way people in the third world live," said Bickmore. He witnessed "open sewers, abject poverty, and fly infested living conditions." The people there were quite friendly to Bickmore and

the others in his group. "The children followed us everywhere! Especially the village children. It was probably the first time they had seen non-Africans," recalled Bickmore with a smile.

Last August, Bickmore got a chance to return to Africa. While co-teaching a class here at Albany, he became friends with Alfred, a native of Zambia. Alfred invited him to come visit him and his family in Zambia, where he is a principal of a school. Bickmore obtained a grant from the school and took Alfred up on his offer.

"I loved it more than Niger!" exclaimed Bickmore. During his month there, he was able to collect data on two African languages: Lungu and Lamba. The information he collected there provided enough information for Bickmore to use for two years. He has already written and presented two papers about his data at national conferences.

Bickmore found the people of Zambia to be poor but, "much healthier than those in Niger." The wages in Zambia were quite a contrast to the average living made here in America. Professor Bickmore paid Alfred a consultant fee which amounted to \$500. "That was over half of Alfred's yearly salary! And he is a principal of a school!" said Bickmore shaking his head in disbelief.

Bickmore has been able to incorporate his knowledge of Africa with some of the programs he does on Dutch Quad as Faculty in Residence. Last fall he held a program that allowed students to sample

some African food. This fall Bickmore and a native speaker of Swahili, will be teaching a Swahili class together on Dutch Quad.

Bickmore's other programs have included cooking international foods, and a discussion of how to apply to graduate school. This fall the hall he lives in will be a french speaking hall. They have plans to take a trip to Montreal, which will be open to all students even if they don't live in that hall.

Professor Bickmore is always willing and eager for suggestions for new programs. "If a student has a suggestion or an idea they should drop me a note, call me, or see me. I will certainly listen," he said sincerely. Bickmore isn't the only one running programs. There is one faculty in residence at every quad.

In the future summers to come, Bickmore would love to go back to Zambia. "Someday I'd like to bring my family and teach there for a year," he revealed. But for now, Bickmore plans to stay right here on the SUNYA campus.

Whether a student has a question about linguistics, a suggestion for a program, or would just like to talk, Professor Bickmore is the man to see. "After all," smiled Bickmore, "that's why I'm here."

What is Features? It's published once a week. It's somewhere in between news and Aspects. It needs help from talented students, so stop by CC323 and ask for Kristen or Jennifer.



# .....Or Are You?

## Students who feel lost in the crowd

By Kristen Hubbell  
FEATURES EDITOR

"Albany State is so large you're going to be treated as just a number."

How many times have you heard that statement? If you're like most students here, you've probably heard it a lot.

"It's too big, it's overwhelming," says Christina Mastroianni, a graduate of an area high school who chose not to attend the university because of its large size. "I wanted to take Business Administration at SUNY Albany, but I checked it out and it seemed like I walked for miles just trying to get to find the different buildings to get to my destination."

Although many students do complain of the large size of the campus itself, it is the size of the classes that intimidates the most students, especially those freshmen who feel that they need a lot of individual attention during their first year of college.

"I was planning on going on going to a two year school and then transferring here so that at least for the first two years I would get that individual attention," says one sophomore at SUNY Albany, "I mean, freshman and sophomore year classes like math, psychology, biology, and chemistry are always in crowded lecture centers and those are the years when you need the most attention."

Mastroianni agrees. "I'm used to small classes with thirty-five to forty students in them where you can actually talk to your professors if you need help during class. You need

that when you're a first year student, even 100 or 150 per class is too much."

If this is the case, then why doesn't fear of losing their individuality in the classroom turn more students off to SUNYA?

"It's more of a realization than a fear," claims Campus Life Staff member, Carmen Serrano. "I think a lot of the incoming students don't know what to expect, I

students freedom, independence, and allows them to develop and grow."

Dr. Steven Messner, Associate Professor of Sociology agrees. "It's a big school, and with the lower level courses there is a tendency to get lost in the crowd."

According to these professors, there are limits on the amount of contact that can be expected between faculty and

percent effort to get to know people and to get your name out," advises Serrano, "being known really depends on your interactions."

"For the professors to attack individual student problems in class is just too much. Most of the time when you're in the big lecture centers the professors just want to get things done, but you just can't sit back and say 'that's just how it is' and

he says, "I make an effort to know each one by name. I can't do that in a large course with over one hundred students. In a large class, the student has to take the initiative."

Not only are smaller classes more profitable and less intimidating for the students, but they are also better for the professors.

"Most professors feel that it is more enjoyable when students are known because it's easier to lecture," says Messner. "The class becomes more of a conversation," he adds cheerfully.

If you still have your doubts about becoming just a number at SUNY Albany, remember that it's all relative.

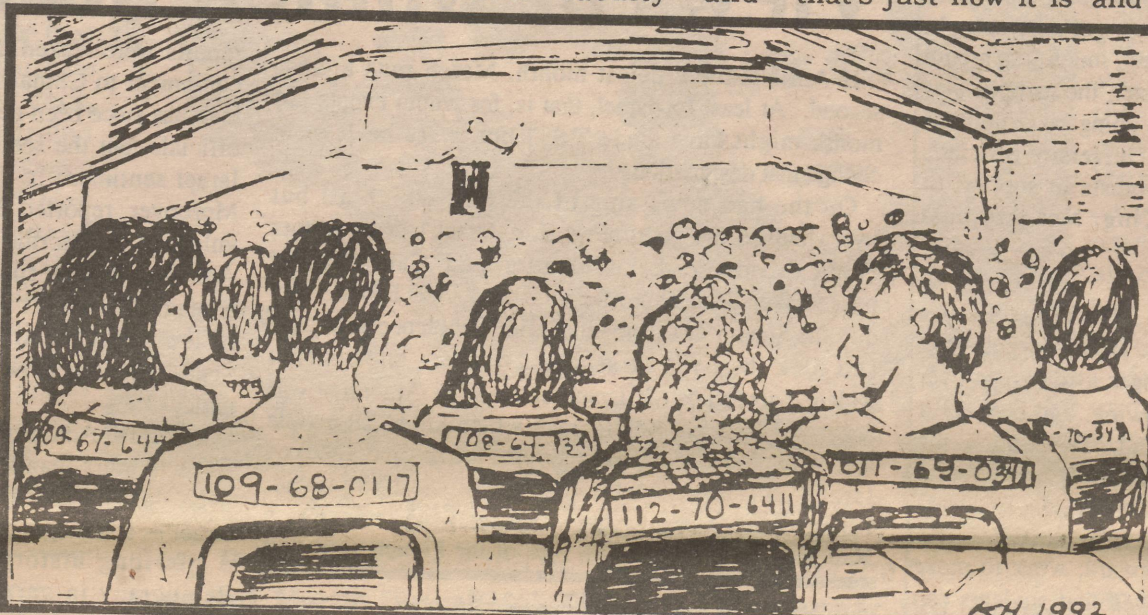
Dr. Acker uses an example from his own experience.

"I went to Indiana University as an undergraduate and that's two to three times larger than Albany. Believe me, it's a lot worse there and at even larger institutions. You never get within a stone's throw of a professor," he laughs.

"For a State University as large as Albany, I feel that the people in it do a lot to inspire faculty-student interactions. A lot of positive things are happening here," says Dr. Acker.

"They try," concludes Serrano, "with 17,000 students, they try."

So though your ears may be clogged with rumors of your inevitable fate of losing your identity at SUNY Albany, keep in mind that it is possible to establish yourself by taking the initiative and making that first move.



know I had no idea it was going to be that way. Now I realize in a school of 17,000 you can't expect to have a personal relationship with anybody."

Professors on campus seem to agree with the students when it comes to the university's size and the students' loss of individual identity.

"It's probably true, at least in the lower division classes," remarks Dr. James Acker, the Associate Dean at the School of Criminal Justice who also feels that, "a certain degree of anonymity is not entirely a bad thing because it gives

students at such a large institution, but the statement that students are "treated as just numbers" is an oversimplification.

"I think that that statement is exaggerating it a bit," says Messner, "It's certainly not that bad," he adds.

"I don't think you can say that all people here treat all people as numbers," claims chemistry professor Dr. Robert Frost.

How is it possible then, for a student to become a face rather than a statistic at a university of such overwhelming size?

"You have to make a 100

not do anything about it," advises one SUNYA student who is currently majoring in Biology.

"The students that I get to know," says Dr. Frost, "are the ones that make attempts to know me by approaching me and coming to my office hours. I do make attempts to know them, but I have trouble doing that in a class with as many as 240 students."

Dr. Messner admits that during a normal semester in a large course he gets to know only "between ten and twenty students- the ones who come to see me." In a small class with twenty or thirty students

**Sick of hearing just the facts? Want to spice up your life and meet UNIQUE people?? Then come to the ASP office on the third floor of the Campus Center and ask for Kristen or Jen of the Features department!!! Join the ASP staff and help us write or illustrate human interest stories! Keep your eyes peeled for information concerning our first general interest meeting!!! Hope to see you soon!**



## DON'T FORGET...

In times past, the editorial of the summer issue was simple, stupid, and written in very large print. The message, directed towards incoming freshmen and transfers, usually extolled the virtues of "becoming involved." Everyone should join the club of their choice. Take a part in our illustrious Student Association. After all, it's your money we're spending. Besides, no college experience is complete without a long list of extra-curricular activities, right?

However, this year is quite different. Last semester this campus experienced some pretty horrible times. There were allegations of a gang rape involving a fraternity. There were allegations of a cover-up by University officials. More rape reports were made. Students staged a sit-in at President Swygert's office. After the verdict in the Rodney King trial, there were more rallies and protests.

One of the chief worries of student leaders last semester was that these events would be forgotten over the summer. Three months away from something can lessen your intensity about it.

One thing I used to tell people about being a SUNYA student was that it wasn't possible to get thirty people together on this campus for free beer, much less a club event or rally. Suddenly last semester, the campus was unified in its anger over what was going on. Hundreds of people turned out to question University officials. Hundreds attended rallies and protests in support of women's issues and Rodney King. Not a typical SUNYA response by a long shot.

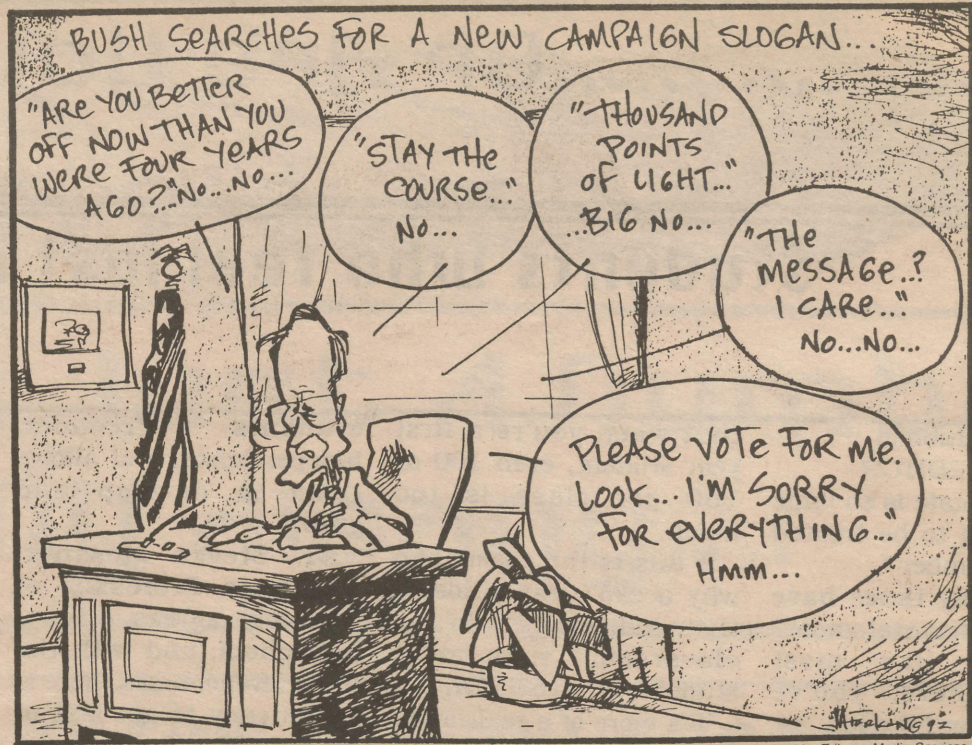
The purpose of this editorial is twofold. First a message to continuing students. Don't forget what happened here. Don't let your anger dissipate over the summer. Keep that energy flowing, and channel it into something constructive this fall. Don't allow the University to forget their promises. They've begun to change, but the student body must be vigilant to ensure the continuation of the trend. There were some good ideas about student safety put forward; work to make these a reality. Last semester proved that students can work together to accomplish what they want. To quote a chant from the Rodney King march, "The people, united, can never be defeated." Let's remember this above all else.

Now a message to the incoming freshmen. Most of you probably don't know much about what's happened. There is a new law that requires colleges and universities to furnish students with information regarding sexual assaults and rapes on campus. Make sure you exercise this right to know. Don't be afraid to ask questions. Ask your Orientation Assistant about it. Ask the resident assistants, the residence hall directors, anyone you can. Don't let it drop. In high school, questioning authority figures is most definitely not encouraged. It is time to break this habit. Passivity will only result in letting others stomp all over your rights. Take an active part in what's going on. No one is going to take care of you anymore but you. Taking responsibility for all our actions is the key to actually becoming the adults we claim to be. Responsibility includes exercising your rights, as well as protecting them, and those of others.

Everyone should look for self-defense workshops in the fall, and other forums about safety, both on and off campus. The ball is rolling, and it is our job to keep pushing it along. The University has responded to concerns by investigating the allegations, and promising to look into all future allegations. The administration as a whole has acted commendably. UPD has instituted foot patrols. They should be recognized for their quick efforts to make this campus safer.

So this year there is no sappy sweet, rah-rah involvement editorial. Involvement now is not a matter of strengthening your resume, it is a matter of personal necessity. By working together in the coalitions that were formed last year, we can hopefully create a campus community that is safe, cohesive and enjoyable for everyone. Only by working together can we achieve our goals.

Have fun this summer.



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## COLUMN

# Views of women need change

If April is the cruelest month, March runs a close second. At least for Israel, that is, for whom events last month might have made T.S. Eliot, were he Jewish, change that designation.

On the bad news side of the list, which all but overwhelmed the good news side, Israel lost its former Prime Minister, Likud leader and Camp David peacemaker Menachem Begin, the dovish David Levy quit the Shamir government. Infitada violence worsened and took the lives of several Israelis. The conflict widened abroad as the Israeli embassy in Argentina was destroyed by a car bomb crash which killed 28 people and wounded 235 others. Events in Europe shocked Israel and Jews worldwide as the anti-Semitic, xenophobic, extreme right wing Jean-Marie Le Pen's National Front swept away 14% of the French vote, and

## Ilene Prusher

German Chancellor Helmut Kohl met with Austrian President Kurt Waldheim, whose Nazi past as an intelligence officer includes war crimes in the Balkan states and the deportation of Greek Jews. When the World Jewish Congress spoke out against the meeting, Kohl shot back that he needed no advice on whom he ought to meet, and made a caustic accusation that the World Jewish Congress was an enemy of German unification. In Russia, anti-democratic groups like Pamyat, whose platform is openly anti-Semitic, have been protesting in Moscow and gaining in popularity.

Ironically and unfortunately, the cruelest of last month's anti-Semitic mania emanated not from Arab nations, radical terrorists, or other typically anti-Zionist groups, but from the highest office in the United States of America. President Bush denied the \$10 billion in loan guarantees requested by Israel to absorb Jewish refugees from the former Soviet Union, flatly rejecting the legislative compromise proposed by Senators Bob Kasten (R-WI) and Patrick Leahy (D-VT). The Bush Administration, in deciding that Jewish settlements in the West Bank, or Judea and Samaria, are the greatest obstacles to peace, abandoned not only the U.S.'s long-standing friendship with Israel, but an opportunity to have at least appeared to be acting as the "honest and fair broker" of the peace process. Had Bush and Secretary of State James Baker III made an accompanying demand for an end to the Arab boycott, or for a halt in intifada terrorism, the image of the U.S. acting as an impartial mediator might have been easier to swallow. By denying the Israelis the opportunity to negotiate the disputed lands in the context of the direct, bilateral talks, the Bush Administration has overstepped the peace process and clearly abandoned its stated policy of neutrality. In contrast to Bush's policy towards Israel, during the last three years the Administration has supported nearly \$8 billion in unconditional loan guarantees to eight Arab countries, including Iraq. It is believed that the Administration has even asked Germany and other European nations not to grant Israel loan guarantees.

Amid the uproar over the loan guarantee rejection, the Bush Administration forced Israeli confidence in its once-close ally to plunge even further downward, as

reports were leaked that Israel sold American military equipment to China and other third world parties. The leak has since been denied by both American and Israeli officials, but the seeming objective of increasing anti-Israel sentiment in the U.S. was probably achieved. Moreover, reported Ed Koch, Secretary Baker used a vulgarity to describe either hostility or indifference to American Jewish support for loan guarantees to Israel, adding, "They don't vote for us." When the top officials of the world's leading nations become overtly Anti-Semitic, what is to be expected from the citizens of those nations?

The Bush Administration's hostility towards Israel and its supporters manifests that now that the Cold War is over, Bush apparently feels that the U.S. no longer needs Israel as a strategic ally in the Middle East. Apparently, a life-long history of loyalty to the U.S. and of democracy in an undemocratic region bears little importance in the mind of George Bush. Bush's new outlook on foreign policy in the Middle East was extraordinarily apparent in March, when Jordan's King Hussein, whom Bush called his "friend," was invited for a personal meeting at the White House. Has Bush forgotten his leading role in last year's Gulf War, during which Jordan was one of the few Arab nations that supported Saddam Hussein? Does Bush pretend not to know that Jordan is presently helping Iraq avoid the U.N. embargo? In contrast, Bush makes no effort to treat Israel as a friend, regardless of its cooperation with U.S. demands during the Gulf War, or the fact that had Israel not destroyed Iraq's Osirak nuclear reactor in 1981, the world would have been dealing with a nuclearly-armed Saddam during the Gulf Crisis. Just what is George Bush's idea of a friend?

Obviously, Bush has endeavored not merely to push Israel out of what he perceives to be "occupied territories," but to push Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir out of office. However, while trying to bribe Israel into moderation and conciliation in its negotiations with the Palestinians, Bush's scare tactics might actually swing the Israeli electorate further to the right. The Bush Administration's hard-nosed stance has made Israelis feel more friendless and vulnerable than ever before. As both a matter of national pride and strategic security, Israelis are likely to feel increasingly strong about the need to maintain control of the disputed lands, and to refuse to concede much of anything to the Arabs. In that case, Bush would be responsible for having hindered the Arab-Israeli peace process, rather than having orchestrated it. Perhaps, then, rather than questioning "Who lost Russia?" as former President Richard Nixon rhetorically suggested, a more fitting question will be "Who lost Israel?"

The best news for Israel last month came when the Constitution for Israel Movement had its first major victory in last month's decision by the Knesset to have direct election of the prime minister, after over five years of fighting for governmental reforms which also include a written constitution and a change in the percentage of votes needed by parties to win seats in the Knesset, which is presently a mere 1%. Direct election of the prime minister is an inherently more democratic method

Continued on page 9



# Aspects

Summer Issue 1992

## 'Lethal Weapon 3' Should Have Been Left to Retire With Dignity

*Lethal Weapon 3* seems to be the next in a long series summer sequels. Like most sequels, this movie doesn't quite make the grade. Sure, there's still lots of car chases, bombs, intrigues, shots of Mel Gibson's posterior, Joe Pesci, and tons of other *Lethal Weapon* paraphernalia. The one thing that makes this movie different from its two predecessors is that for once, Martin Riggs's (Gibson) girlfriend doesn't die due to unforeseen circumstances, like South African governments. Lorna (Rene Russo) plays Laurel to Riggs's Hardy. In fact, these two seem to be made for each other. This is probably because they would drive anyone else absolutely insane. Both seem to have a love of *The Three Stooges* and the martial arts. One of the funniest scenes in the movie is when Lorna and Riggs are comparing battle scars.



"Hey, Roger, check out the babes over there by the fountain," says Sgt. Martin Riggs (Mel Gibson) to his partner, Sgt. Roger Murtaugh (Danny Glover) in *Lethal Weapon 3*.

### Cheryl Torrontor

Unfortunately, *Lethal Weapon 3* does not have the spirit or spunk of 1 or 2. Like Sergeant Roger Murtaugh (Danny Glover), the premise is getting old, and should probably retire while there is still some dignity left to retain. The rapid-fire dialogue isn't so rapid-fire anymore, and the action, while still as red-hot as ever, gets annoying

if there's nothing to support it.

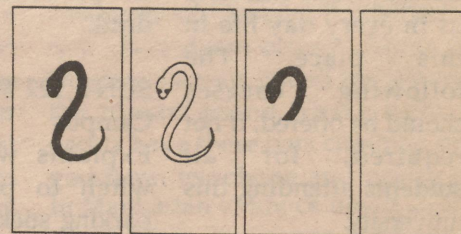
Not to say there isn't a plot. There is. The subject? Gangs in the city and the men who supply these people, usually teenagers, with their weapons and ammunition. In this case, the weapons are supplied by a group of developers. The developers sell the guns to the gang members. The

gangs, on the other hand, buy the guns to get the advantage over their rivals. The circle goes on and on...well, at least until Murtaugh shoots one of the young gang members, who happens to be a friend of his son Nicholas's. Enraged and distraught, Murtaugh scopes the neighborhood in search of the people

who sold the guns. Luckily, they find the right person, and the search ends.

Added to the basic premise is Joe Pesci, once again portraying Leo Goetz. Leo has gone straight and become a successful real estate agent. Unlike the Leo of movies past, he has destroyed any modicum of humor and bases the character strictly on those annoying aspects of his personality. Pesci is brought in to sell Murtaugh's house. The house is being sold because Murtaugh is retiring, and can't afford to maintain his mansion of a house. I wonder how he ever afforded the behemoth in the first place. Oh well.

Murtaugh's retirement is the underlying story behind the story. Riggs has to face the possibility that he'll have to break in a whole new partner, while at the same time losing his almost adoptive family. In the end, Murtaugh decides not to retire. I can only hope that Richard Donner shows wisdom and doesn't repeat that idea by making a *Lethal Weapon 4*. Let the guys retire with some kind of glory.



## Ford Doesn't Play Around

Harrison Ford is no stranger to the action-adventure genre. Now the man who portrayed such unforgettable heroes as Han Solo and Indiana Jones can add another to his resume: Jack Ryan.

### Adam Meyer

Although the role was originated by Alec Baldwin in *The Hunt for Red October*, any lingering impressions of him will be erased in the opening moments of *Patriot Games*. Ford replaces his predecessor's cockiness with a mature confidence and seems closer to the character created by author Tom Clancy. It is a privilege to watch Ford work; in the '90's Hollywood, he is one of the few genuine movie stars.

Jack Ryan follows up his escapades on the Soviet submarine *Red October* with a family jaunt to merry old England. This isn't CIA business: Ryan is retired and teaching college; He goes to London to make a speech.

Where Jack goes trouble is sure to follow. He finds himself among the bystanders of an Irish Republican Army assault on a member of the Royal family. Like any self-respecting ex-marine, he saves a Duke from near death, and in the process kills a 17 year old IRA member whose big brother, Sean Miller (Sean Bean), is taken into custody.

Ryan is a hero. But his celebrity may be shortlived after Miller's cohorts give him an early parole. He has not forgotten the man who killed his brother, and soon finds himself putting his personal hatred before his political goals. Although the movie doesn't explore his motivations for joining the IRA, we can empathize with his sense of loss if not the way he chooses to deal with it. It's almost a cliché that movie villains are stupid caricatures, but Bean is a strong actor in a strong role.

Back in the States, Admiral Greer (James Earl Jones) pays a visit to Ryan and informs him of what has happened. The chances of Miller

seeking revenge on him, he explains, are minimal. But if that were the case, there wouldn't be much of a movie.

Philip Noyce brings a sure directorial touch. The action scenes are balanced with a credible scenes of family life or conversations at the CIA. Instead of abusing car chases or gunfights to the point of numbing the audience (as is the recent trend), Noyce provides bursts of suspense throughout *Patriot Games*, only letting go at the very end. The composition of certain shots is so stunning they will remain vivid in your mind. His experience in the horror genre shows in the brutal violence, which is done in moderation but gives a sense of how ruthless the villains are.

James Earl Jones is an important supporting player, a giant teddy bear who's simultaneously imposing and likeable. His moments on-screen are all too brief and leave you wishing for more. Perhaps he would have been a better choice to play Catherine Ryan than Anne Archer, who simply reenacts her Oscar-nominated

performance from *Fatal Attraction*. She doesn't seem like the kind of woman Jack Ryan would be in love with.

Much of the film's success is due to its fully-realized characters. The suspense is real because we care about the Ryan family. The screenwriters, forced to convert Clancy's massive novel into a couple of hours of celluloid, face an unenviable task. Adapting a book is easy to do but difficult to do well. As when Jack Ryan makes the world safe for democracy, K.W. Peter Iliff and Donald Stewart take a tough job and make it seem simple.

Ultimately, *Patriot Games* owes its success to Harrison Ford. Lapses by anyone else could be overlooked, but he's the one who has to keep audiences in their seats. Unlike a Kevin Costner, Ford recognizes his limitations as a performer and instead capitalizes on his abilities (and they are extensive). Starring in action films

Continued on page 4a



## Far and Away' A Great Film

*Far and Away* seems to have a stereotypical Hollywood plot. Boy peasant gets house burned by landowner, goes to landowner to get revenge, girl aristocrat stabs boy peasant with pitchfork, boy peasant attempts to kill landowner, shotgun explodes in boy peasant's face, boy peasant recovers in landowner's home. Girl aristocrat turns out to be landowner's daughter. Girl aristocrat entices boy peasant to come to America in search of free land. While enjoying many various adventures in America, boy peasant and girl aristocrat fall in love. Boy peasant and girl aristocrat meet with difficulties and get separated. Eventually, boy peasant and girl aristocrat reunite and live happily ever after.

### Cheryl Torrontor

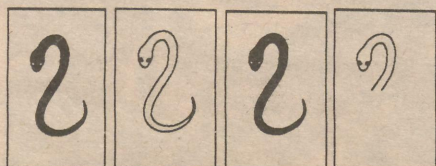
Okay, so maybe its not *that* typical. What makes the movie better than average is the directing and cinematography. Director Ron Howard filmed in 70 mm for the first time in a while. This tactic made the movie larger than life and a much more enjoyable cinematic experience. In fact, visually *Far and Away* reminds me more of *Dances with Wolves* than any other movie I have

seen recently. *Far and Away* is two and a half hours long, but it moves quickly. Unlike Kevin Costner's recent *Robin Hood*, the accents are plausible and remain intact for the entire movie. It was a nice change.

The main characters, Joseph and Shannon, are played by Tom Cruise and his wife, Nicole Kidman. Kidman and Cruise first worked together on *Days of Thunder*. Unlike many married couples who make indulgent movies and just like to make them together, *Far and Away* is an actual movie. Cruise and Kidman bring their marital relationship to the screen. The chemistry between them is ever constant, and a pleasure to see.

Director Ron Howard (of *Andy Griffith* and *Happy Days* fame) makes another spectacle of a movie, much as he did with *Cocoon* and *Backdraft*. The camera angles are interesting and innovative, and show a great knowledge of how to achieve the best effect with minimal panning of the camera.

All in all, I hope Cruise and Kidman proceed as well with their marriage as they did with this movie.



## Lessons in Life at SUNYA

As the number of classes dwindles here at SUNY Albany, the remaining courses are becoming more and more basic. Yet the school still doesn't offer classes which will help us in every day life in this place. The following courses should be offered, if not required, for all students attending this university.

### Kelly Barclay

SUNY 101 Local Bars: Getting In The Easy Way

This course explains the basic to finer points of fake IDs. When enrolled, you will learn how to chalk your license, where and where not to buy a laser copy, how to find someone who looks just like you and persuade him or her to give up his or her license,

sucking up to bouncers, and which bar will accept which kind of ID (i.e. chalked, laser copy, etc.). Assignments will include practical application by taking the professor out for a drink.

SUNY 122 Parking On Campus

Explains where and when to park, why parking stickers cost so damn much, and various theories on why UPD officers have nothing better to do then drive around giving tickets to people who park in the upper lots. General tone of class: park elsewhere.

SUNY 211 Quad Living: Mice and Other Strange Creatures

Gives students an opportunity to learn how to deal with their various companions inside quad halls. From the mice in the radiators, to those extremely loud guys

bouncing basketballs a floor above you, this class will explain how we can all live together in a harmonious community without tearing each other's throats out.

Prerequisite to SUNY 313 Off-Campus Living: Rent, Bills and Neighbors.

Suny 342 Surviving UAS

Explains different techniques on how to live through a semester of University Auxiliary Service food. Discusses which food is reasonably safe to eat without threat of food poisoning, and how to get a salad without any hair. Also teaches the quickest routes to local stomach pumps in case of emergency.

SUNY 437 How To Drag Out Elections Taught by members of the Student Association.

**Now that the cheesemeister has moved on into the hierarchy (and strawberryness), the threat of contamination to this section from his limburger breath is over. So when September rolls around come on up to Campus Center 323 to join ASPects, the hottest and freshest smelling section of the ASP, and ask for either Cheryl or Rob. Also, watch out for special interest meetings this fall.**

## Ad's Last Gasp

In hundred degree heat, a group of brave pioneers piled into my puke green 1981 Chevy Malibu, equipped with instructions written on masking tape (it was my grandfather's car, he didn't want to forget to fasten his seatbelt or put the car into drive), a state of the art air conditioning system which shuts down automatically after eight minutes exactly, and a radio without tape deck which receives every station in the Capital District with a maximum of static. These souls who dared trust my automobile to complete a fifty mile excursion were (not including the Head Gasper): Generalissimo Meghan Howard, Ed in Chief and Speed Reader; Cheryl Torrontor, Aspects Editor and Columnist-to-be; Robert Tiger I, Associate Aspects Ed; and Kelly, who just keeps following us around.

Actually, they aren't as brave as they seem. Generalissimo Howard was driving, not myself.

We were cruising down the Thruway when the "Check Engine Immediately" light went on. Sitting in the passenger seat, I asked my chauffeur if this was a bad sign.

"Sort of," she said.

"Does this mean my car is going to explode?"

"Perhaps."

"Oh," I sighed.

The light flashed again.

"I guess we should check it immediately, huh?"

"Oh, we will," she said. "There's a rest stop forty miles away. If we make it there, we'll stop."

At the rest stop, Kelly informed us that her major was currently auto mechanics, so she would gladly inspect my Malibu. "It used to be biology," she said, "but I was bored with that, so I switched to English, and then anthropology, and I was in philosophy for awhile—"

"Thank you, Kelly," Cheryl said.

According to Kelly's expert opinion, the water, oil, and blood levels were sufficient; she suggested that perhaps the car was having a PMS attack.

Back on the road again. In the back seat, Cheryl and Rob were debating whether or not Buffalo should be allowed on a state map; Cheryl, a Buffaloite herself, was making a poor case, using the Bills as her main argument ("Now that we got rid of Scott Norwood, we're going all the way...").

Our destination was a small village known as Red Hook. We passed through the traffic light, saw the video store (one can distinguish it from the pizza place by the sign which reads "Video") and the tractor dealership, as well as the historic trailer in which the all-time leader in issues as Managing Editor, Chief Howard, was raised.

Finally we arrived at the farm itself. We parked the Malibu in a dirt parking lot and braced ourselves for the festival festivities.

"Look at that," Rob said. "Isn't that Kevin Costner?"

Out yonder in the cornfield was, indeed, the Prince of Thieves himself. He was having a catch with Shoeless Joe Jackson, Ty Cobb, and John Goodman. Pete Rose was playing whiffleball with Steve Howe. George Steinbrenner was trying to sign Sandy Koufax to a ten year deal.

A baseball fan, I wanted to check out the goings-on, but was outvoted three to two. On a stretch of grass, tents had been erected. Each one had a different attraction. There was a straw maze, hay rides, and vendors selling every kind of berry product imaginable: strawberry shakes, strawberry shortcake, strawberry soda, strawberry beer, strawberry T-shirts, and so on. We wandered through, absorbing atmosphere.

"Now we'll go picking," Meghan said.

She took one basket, Cheryl, Rob, Kelly and I took the other. Since we were new at this, Meghan explained to us the subtleties of picking strawberries. "You have to see if they're ripe or not." She used her hands as she talked.

Everyone stayed at least two yards back to avoid getting whacked in the face. "If they're red all the way around, then they're happy strawberries. If they have white tips, then they're not happy." Then she sprinted off to a distant patch, leaving us to fend for ourselves.

Rob and I began to check the vines. There were several deep red strawberries which we grabbed. After a minute or two a competition had developed, not only in quantity of berries picked but in their size as well. "My strawberry's bigger than that," I told him, observing the puny fruit in his hand. "You wish, pal," he said. "I've got plenty more happy strawberries than you have."

"Hey," Cheryl said, "who's putting unhappy strawberries in the basket?"

"Rob did it," I said.

"All this business about happy strawberries and unhappy strawberries is totally unfair." Kelly shook her head. "It simply isn't right. Why should we discriminate against unhappy strawberries? Maybe they haven't had as much sunlight, or they were abused in their youth."

"Don't touch my strawberry," I told Rob.

"Man, I don't want anything to do with your strawberry."

Cheryl held up a bizarre berry-like mutation. "I've got a neurotic strawberry." Finally, with two baskets full of strawberries, we proceeded to the exit.

Payment was by the pound. Meghan claimed that she alone had collected more strawberries than we had. I begged to differ. When the berries were weighed, indeed, she was the winner. But, as Rob sorted through her basket, he pointed out unhappy strawberry after unhappy strawberry. "You'd have to put these things on drugs to get them happy," Cheryl observed.

Thus, we won by default. A strawberry conspiracy revealed.

*Adam "Ad" Meyer*



# 'Box Socials': A Good Way To Meet Kinsella

The old maxim about the importance of quality, not quantity, certainly holds true for the novels of W. P. Kinsella. There have only been two prior to *Box Socials* (in addition to a number of short story collections), both marvelous books, *The Iowa Baseball Confederacy* and *Shoeless Joe* (the basis for *Field of Dreams*).

## Adam Meyer

He has been categorized as a baseball fiction writer, and as such toils in a territory largely his own. Unlike those who pay an occasional homage to the American Pastime, Kinsella's love of the game and his literature are inextricable. Unlike such overblown fantasies as Bernard Malamud's *The Natural*, his books are both more realistic and yet fantastic. The details of everyday life in *Shoeless Joe* are so artfully rendered that when the 1919 White Sox trot out onto the narrator's cornfield, you're not necessarily willing to believe it could happen, but you wish it could.

*Box Socials*, which is the first of a promised trilogy, does not follow in the same vein as his supernatural baseball fantasies. The narrator is Jamie O'Day, a young country boy.

Some of the tales he relates about Bjornsen's Corner of Alberta, Canada are nearly as absurd as the two hundred inning baseball game featured in *The Iowa Baseball Confederacy*. There is, for example, the story of the Little American Soldier, whose truck breaks down, is taken in by the Lakusta family, and ends up marrying Wasył, "who was rumored to be the hotblooded one among the Lakusta sisters," with a six day wedding.

According to the first line of Jamie's narrative, "This is the story of how Truckbox Al McClintock almost got a tryout with the genuine St. Louis Cardinals of the National Baseball League..." but he greatly underestimates the breadth of his own story. *Box Socials* is about much more than Truckbox Al, the Cardinals,

or even baseball. It's about people.

In a novel with minimal plot, it is the characters who bring it to life. Many bear Dickensian tags which allow for easy identification of the large cast. There's the widow, Mrs. Beatrice Ann Stevenson (no relation to

the Venusburg Stevensons), Mrs. Edna Rasmussen Bozniak and her mother, Mrs. Irma Rasmussen, the infamous Flop Skalrud (whose infamy derives from his sexual prowess), Mr. and Mrs. Bear Lundquist, and various other eccentrics. If

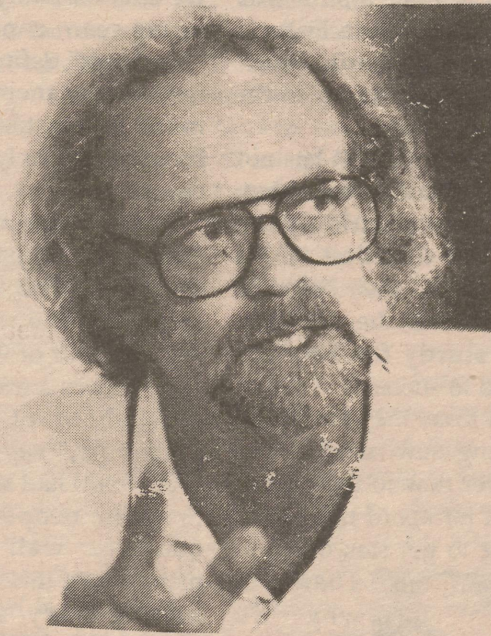
there is a villain in the novel, it would have to be Velvet Bozniak, the daughter of Mrs. Edytha Rasmussen Bozniak, who lusts after Jamie with single-minded purpose.

Kinsella's experience as a short story writer is evident, the book

coming together as a series of related anecdotes. Meanwhile he scatters tantalizing bits of information, promising to expand upon them later; in the absence of brutal violence or lurid sex, he plants these small hooks to keep you turning the pages.

The narrative style has an easygoing, familiar sound. *Box Socials* reads as if it were being told around a campfire, full of lengthy sentences and characterized by a steady rhythm. Instead of proceeding in a linear fashion, it takes broad leaps backward and forward in time, the only constant being the friendly in which it is told.

The title comes from the box socials which, along with with drives, community dances, and ethnic wedding, are among the main activities in the region. The idea is that the local women prepare box lunches and the highest male bidder earns a chance to eat it with her. Kinsella's latest proves to be a most satisfying meal, and anyone who doesn't bid on *Box Socials* is missing out on something almost as good as the locally-produced "bring-on-blindness, logging-boot-to-the-side-of-the-head homebrew."



# Bitting The Apple

I've got a very special recipe. It's a little concoction that I've thought up myself. A special mixture that will allow me, and those who will join me, to render helpless, and then take over, the island of Manhattan. My basic thinking is simple; paralyze the island's populace, create massive chaos, and present demands to the City's shaken and spineless leaders. I believe that if these steps can be followed properly I, along with a small occupation force, can conquer the Big Apple.

## Ladd Everitt

Before the first wave of my attack hits the island, I'm going to need a large-scale diversion to occupy the borough's populace and distract them from my impending strike. My first ingredient will thus be 150 clowns, 400 mimes, and those chicks in that Gerardo video.

I'm not talking about 2-cent, side-show, snot rag clowns. I'm going to get the best goddamn clowns this country's ever seen. They're gonna keep everyone busy, making 'em laugh, smile and chortle, while my blitzkrieg's warming up. The mimes, too, will be top notch. They'll be so damn good that people won't even realize they're mimes. I'm going to distribute them along with the clowns all over key points on the island, to keep all those Manhattanites nice and busy. Oh, and those chicks from the Gerardo video are going in, too. Why? Because they're damn hot and I don't want anyone concentrating on what I'm gonna be hitting them with a little later.

The next ingredient in my little brew is what I call my "special

forces." These forces will consist of people with a rare skill that I need in my operation; the ability to suck a token out of a subway turnstile in a matter of milliseconds. That's right. I need people that can assure me that, once the operation begins, no one in Manhattan can get off the damn island by train or bus. I'm going to put my "suckers" at all the main subway turnstiles in Penn Station, and other terminals. When anyone tries to get through one of these turnstiles, my people are going to bend down in a swift motion and suck that token right back out of the slot in the turnstile. Then they'll throw it back to a collection team behind them, who will alternate with them on "suck shifts" when they get tired. 500 strong, this force's task is crucial. I can't create chaos if I can't force a frightened population to remain on the island. I'm not worried, though. People will think twice about trying to leave when they see my Suck Elite go to work.

The next thing I'm going to need is 8,000 wildebeests and a few rigs to bring them onto the Manhattan bridges. My plan is simple. I divide my wildebeest force evenly among the bridges leading into Manhattan. Just before my attack, I get my rig drivers to bring this animal force onto the bridges and suddenly jack-knife, at the same time having a man in the rear of the truck open the back gate and release the animals. You can picture the rest. 8,000 screaming gnus pouring out of my rigs onto the bridges, immediately stopping all traffic flow (which, according to my planned schedule, will be that of the 5 o'clock rush hour) and causing mass-accidents and chaos. This will stop all car flow out of the island and cause

the surviving automobile commuters (and wildebeests) to flee back to the trap I have waiting for them on the island.

The last lane of transportation back to the other boroughs will be via the water surrounding Manhattan. Since I don't want anyone swimming off the island, I've planned to block this escape route as well. I'm going to get 1,000 duffel bags of guano and dump them into the Hudson and all other waters surrounding Manhattan just before I launch my attack. 1,000 bags of the smelliest, stinkiest, rottenest, crappiest, most fetid bags of guano you've ever seen. And I'm going to throw them right in the water. No one's gonna be swimming off that island.

I'm not stupid. I know I need an intimidation force, a hit squad, to take care of the city and community leaders and other individuals who will try to thwart my plans and rally the people of Manhattan against me. I've thus pre-selected my personal "gestapo." You know who's going to be in it? The meanest, cruelest, and toughest childhood stars this world has ever seen. I'm talking about people like Adam Rich, Dana Plato and David Cassidy; cold-blooded butchers with two-ton chips on their shoulders. Bitter, angry bastards out to make headlines again any way they can. Payback for the world that made their dreams come true and then took them away. And revenge is gonna be a bitch, baby. I've got a small army of these "warriors" lined up. People like "Rick" Schroeder and that Danny-kid from the Partridge Family. People that would kill you for drug money without a second's hesitation. I've even got coked-up ex-Menudo members ready to do my bidding.

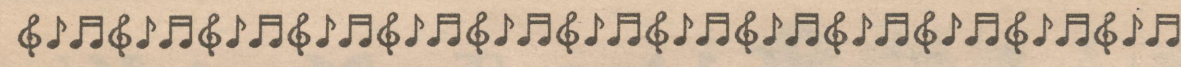
These guys are pissed, big time. Oh, yeah. I've also got Willis. A bulked-up, drugged-up, and heavily armed Willis ready to cleanse this earth, baby. You and I are knowing that any resistance is going to die real quick.

The last part of my "recipe" calls for 3,000 of the ugliest, roughest, strongest, and hairiest lumberjacks in this whole damn country. These guys are gonna knock out all the power on the stinkin' island. That's right. I'm gonna have these oafs climbing every goddamn telephone and utility pole in Manhattan to knock down all those damn wires. I'm gonna hand 'em big old-ass saws and say, "You boys cut through every pipe and cable you see." These half-asses are gonna be sawing, axin', choppin', hammerin', cuttin', spittin', and growlin' until I tell them to stop. You think I'm gonna give an already terrified population power? No way, Jack.

The last part of my little recipe is stirred up especially for my victory celebration, when I become the new Mayor and get the key to the entire, bloody city. What I need at my inauguration is that Michael Bolton guy. You know why? Because that son-of-a-bitch has pipes. And I want him to sing my glory song like a goddamn banshee when they place the crown on my sweet old head. You can picture it. His long-ass mane'll be blowin' in the wind and I'll be telling that bastard to sing on baby, sing on. Oh, it's going to be real nice.

There you are. A special little mix, I think. I'll see you suckers when all that smoke clears, and I'm the friggin' good ol' King of the whole damn Apple. And believe me, you'll hear about it when I bite into that big, red sucker.



earplug 

Continued from page 1a

### The Safest of Bets

A collage of influences from all areas of music (Classic Rock, Alternative/Hardcore, and Classical) comprises the premiere release from the band Machines of Loving Grace. Their sound is one that breaks down the boundaries, and encompasses an ever-widening scope of the riches modern music has to offer.

Mike Fisher on keyboards, Scott Benzel with the vocals, and Stuart Kupers on guitar are the principal members of the band. Two and a half years ago, the band blossomed out of a project Benzel was doing at the University of Arizona. The project was to produce a music video, for the song he was also working on... "Terminal City." With the addition of Kupers, and finding all their influences so distinctly different, yet complementary, the three musicians set out to bring their unique sound to a wider audience.

"Machines of Loving Grace," as a band name, begs for further explanation. Richard Brautigan's poem, 'All Watched Over By Machines of Loving Grace' was something I read in high school," said Kupers. "I'm actually not too fond of the poem anymore. That is where we got our name though..."

The first form of their album was recorded on an eight track in Fisher's bedroom. Mammoth Records heard their work, and picked it up to re-release properly.

All this, and money too?! It has not yet come to the point at which they can be free to create without the constraints of the dreaded "DAY JOB." As they put out their brand of fresh and unique music, they feel they are building a sturdy fan base for their springboard to success.

At the present time, they are in the process of writing new music. "The old stuff (however new to the public) has been around for about two years. We're beginning to get sick of it all.

new music does not differ that greatly from what you can hear on "Machines of Loving Grace." Fisher saw their new sound as "...more focused on what our sound is supposed to be, who Machines of Loving Grace are. It is about breaking boundaries, and shaking off all the labels people try to put on us. Through our new music, we cover a really broad scope." The terms seem contradicting, but the "Machines" defining themselves does not narrow them in any way. Their music is versatile, and their horizons broad, so the only way to go is up the charts.

The newest single off the album is "Burn Like Brilliant Trash (At Jackie's Funeral)." The "hard tech groove" created in the released mix, is a la Trent Reznor of 9 Inch Nails renown. "Oh, he was a friend of a friend. . .we got a hold of him through the grapevine," says Fisher of Reznor. "He (Trent) had similar points of view to us, he is open, and honest. . ." qualities well matched to the members of this band. The touring is getting crazy, one could assume, because the album is getting hot. I caught up with them in Las Vegas, and the big question "So, are you having a ball out there (the Black Jack and the Roulette)?" Oddly enough, the answer was, "Well, we played the slot machines last night, but we're awfully tired after shows. . .no time for all that stuff." Well, its all fun and games, until its not—it's serious art, with something for everyone to enjoy.

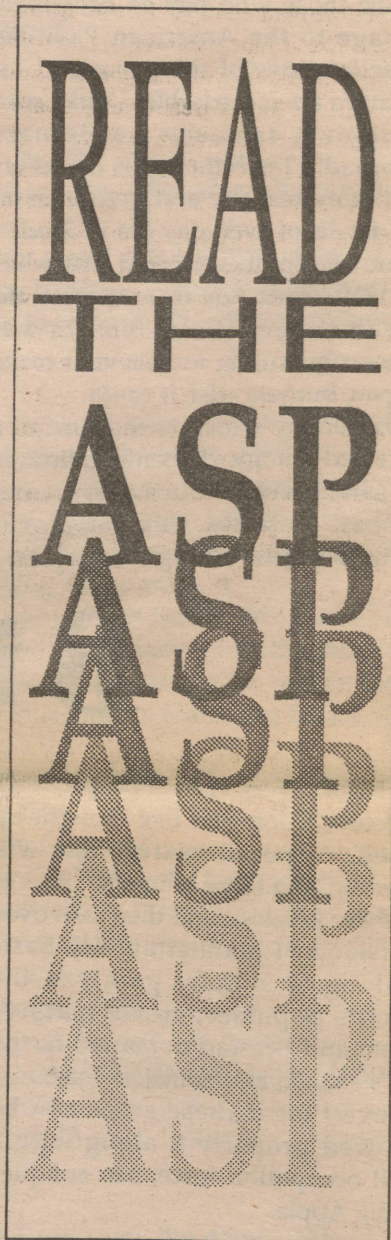
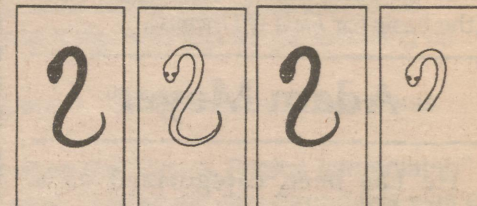
--Jamie Roberts



That is why we are playing so much of the new stuff on tour. . ." t h e ; y a d d e d . T h e direction t h e Machines are taking for their

like *Witness*, *Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade* and *Patriot Games* won't earn him a place in the Hollywood annals as a brilliant actor. He isn't at the level of a Robert DeNiro or a Gene Hackman. Not many actors are. When he does what he does best, there isn't anybody who does it better, and that's not something to be underestimated.

P.S. It's a boy.



## A Lollapalooza Guidebook

It is in essence a random smattering of bands, each with different musical styles and different groups that they appeal to - but it's not as simple as that.

This year's Lollapalooza Music Festival features seven bands who seem to be at the peak of their success or at a time where they are just beginning to show the world what they can do for alternative music.

Headlining the festival will be the Red Hot Chili Peppers, whose name describes the state of euphoria surrounding them at this moment.

Their latest release, *Blood Sugar Sex Magik*, has been both a commercial and a critical success. The album's third single, "Under the Bridge", has brought the Chili Peppers into the mainstream of Top 40 music. The song, which describes lead singer and lyricist Anthony Kiedis' regrets about his heroin addiction, has brought widespread popularity to a band that was known for its hard driving, bass laden funk style of music.

But just as the pinnacle of success had washed itself over the Peppers, a demoralizing blow was landed. Guitarist John Frusciante suddenly quit the band while on tour in the Far East. The group immediately cancelled the rest of its dates and the band's status at this year's Lollapalooza Festival was in jeopardy.

Just recently, however, the band announced that it had found a replacement for Frusciante, although

at the time of this article, his name was not known yet.

Backing up the Red Hot Chili Peppers at Lollapalooza will be the Jesus and Mary Chain, Soundgarden, rapper Ice Cube, Lush, Ministry and Pearl Jam.

Pearl Jam, replete with members from the now defunct Mother Love Bone, recently completed a year long tour to support its debut album, *Ten*.

Pearl Jam is at the heart of the ever-burgeoning music scene in Seattle, Washington, which brought rise to groups such as Nirvana and festivalmate, Soundgarden.

Seattle-bred Soundgarden toured recently in support of its latest album, *Badmotorfinger*.

England's Lush are the festival's opening act. The quartet's first album, *Gala*, was a compilation of earlier EPs and outtakes. Late in 1991, they released their first full-length album, *Spooky*, upon an expectant alternative music scene.

The album soared to the top of the college music charts upon its release. Lush, with its guitar-heavy dreamlike aura that it puts forth in its music, have been compared to up and coming group Curve, who recently came to the Manhattan Center Ballroom on 34th Street.

Ministry have been around for a long time and their style has changed dramatically during their years. Ministry, circa 1982, resembled a melodic, beat-oriented type of band, heavy on keyboards and electronic

beats. Somewhere along the line Ministry's frontman Alan Jorgensen was alienated by something. Ministry, circa late 1980's and early 1990's, have an angry, thrash guitar driven sound personified by Jorgensen's raging lyrics. Quite a change.

Jesus and Mary Chain has risen to the top of the current college charts with its latest release, *Honey's Dead*.

Lollapalooza, originated by former Jane's Addiction frontman Perry Farrell, started last year. Siouxsie and the Banshees, Nine Inch Nails, Ice-T, Butthole Surfers, Living Color and Henry Rollins Band backed up headliner Jane's Addiction last year.

Jane's Addiction has since broken up and Farrell has formed another band, Porno for Pyros.

Area shows include one show at the Saratoga Performing Arts Center on August 4th. Tickets are \$30.50 and they go on sale June 20th. Two shows at Long Island's Jones Beach Amphitheater and a show at Waterloo Village in Stanhope, New Jersey have already sold out.

--Patrick Cullen

The men and women of ASPECTS hope everyone has a good summer. The Queen of Terrible Fonts, The Duke of All That's Evil and Lewd, even Kelly sit up at night praying that you'll join us in the fall. OK, that's not entirely true; only Kelly does (after she's finished praying her car will start). So become a part of ASPECTS and earn a chance to get yourself a brand new paper pilgrim elf hat just like the ME (without all that stuff on it about being owned by the EIC, etc.).



# LETTERS

## Take rape seriously

To the Editor:

Once upon a time, a woman being raped was of direct interest to any man whom she was closely associated with. Fathers, male siblings, and husbands were enraged by such an act. By raping a man's daughter, sister, or wife, the assailant was raping his wallet as well. Because of this heinous act, a man's "property" was immediately debased and devalued. Raping a virgin was especially criminal; not because sex was especially criminal; not because sex was supposedly an act reserved to someone you live but because a virgin was a priceless commodity on the dowry market. If a woman was sexually flawed in any way, she was just about as useful as a cow who could not produce milk. Rapists were reprehended because they were thieves. Their sentence was to marry the victim who was now futile. In the end, a woman's feelings were not even a consideration.

Today, we go by the premise that we are all empathic civilized human beings. In the college environment, students like to fancy themselves as being mature adults. It seems that along with all this newly found civilization and maturity came a great deal of apathy. The following message is geared toward whatever emotions that we have not been robbed of in the advancement process.

I don't know how many of these recent rape incidents are veridical, but for any man who has or is inclined to rape a woman, I would just like to remind you that women were not objects when they were being bought and sold on the marriage market and they are still not objects now. Women are just the same as you are, with some anatomical differences. They have blood running through their veins, ideas running through their heads and feelings in their hearts. I am not going to beat the

proverbial dead horse by telling you that "no means no" because although this is important to understand, I think that by the time we are of college age we are all intellectually competent enough to know that. When you rape, you are not having sex. You are violating a woman's body and most of all her spirit. Albeit women may want sex, no one wants to be frightened, humiliated and degraded.

These rapes, both reported and rumored, have given rise to many misogynist statements and jokes. Quite a few men make the assertion that they would love to be raped and how lucky they would be to have a group of women just storm into their rooms and have their nymphomaniac ways with them. Statements such as these are completely idiotic. There is nothing enjoyable about being threatened that way. There is nothing fun about having your home broken into and being threatened at gun or knife point to have sex with someone you have never even seen before. On the flip side, there still is nothing pleasurable about spending time with someone you like and trust and having them turn on you because of their lack of respect for your feelings and decisions.

It does not matter what a woman wears or what her previous sexual behavior was like. Just as dirty clothes is not an indication that someone is a common street vagrant, a tight shirt or a short skirt does not make a woman a whore and does not give a man a right to rape her. People always argue that convicted felons should be given a chance to reclaim their part in society after incarceration; thus it would be wrong to assume that a former thief is automatically responsible for any thefts that take place after his release. At the same token, if a woman has slept with all of your friends, don't automatically assume that she is obligated to sleep with you. Don't assume that a rape is fictitious because of the victim's reputation.

I would like to commend the administration for its gook intentions. They are trying to prevent a frantic state of hysteria among the students. They are trying to protect us. However, they have to understand that we are facing a scary issue. When the master key of Indian Quad was stolen last semester, and people's rooms were being broken into, everyone got scared. When there was an arson incident on Alumni Quad, everyone got scared. Once again students are at risk, and now we are expected to be level headed about it. Yes, as college students we are supposed to be in the "best years of our lives" but it is also important to recognize that college is a microcosm of the "real world." The same issues that we are facing here will be the same issues that we will be facing after graduation and it is imperative that we learn how to protect ourselves today so that we will not be victims tomorrow.

With the semester over, we have, for the most part, left SUNY Albany to enjoy a glorious three and a half months of warm weather, no tests, no papers. By next semester, or maybe even next week, these incidents will be just a dull memory to most of us; except the victims. These women who have been raped have to live with their ordeal for the rest of their lives. To many of us, these acts are only available through what is printed in newspapers or what is aired on the news. Some people live them. A drunken night of passion for you may be a nightmare for someone else and the last thing a victim needs is a completely sordid critique of her experience afterwards. I urge that we all remember this when choosing what we say and do because it may directly affect someone else's life and that someone may never get over it.

Kenya McCullum

## Help teach Business Basics

To the Editor:

As a member of Delta Sigma Pi, the co-ed professional business fraternity, I've had many valuable experiences, but the most rewarding was my participation in the Junior Achievement Business Basics program. Junior Achievement is the oldest, largest and fastest growing business and economic education organization. Its mission is to provide young people with practical economic education programs through a partnership with the business and education communities. One after school program and four in-school programs have been developed. Business Basics is one of the in-school programs. In Business Basics, fourth, fifth, and sixth grade students learn the fundamentals of business through hands-on activities taught by college or high school business students in four lessons.

The organization lesson teaches what is necessary to start a business. The management lessons deal with good and bad interviewing techniques. The third lesson

compares mass production versus unit production. For the fourth and final lesson, marketing strategies are discussed and the kids make their own commercials. Delta Sigma Pi has been involved in this program for many years. This semester, twenty-six brothers participated. Not only is it a great way to serve the community, but it also is a useful addition to a resume since the program is recognized and well-respected by the business world. The program only requires four hours of lessons which are completely planned out. If you're interested in Business Basics, contact Carol Dyer at 372-6465.

Sheri Gilbert  
Delta Sigma Pi

## The rights of rollerbladers

To the Editor:

Well, it looks like it's time to defend myself in the ASP again, or at least to defend my practice of rollerblading on campus. From professors, from maintenance staff, and most recently from the weakest man on varsity crew, I or my form of transportation have received abuse. Why? Did I frighten the little fellas? Awww. Didn't mean to scare you, little fella. Have a lollipop and dry those eyes, everything gonna be alright.

Aside from irrational fear, I can see no reason to stop rollerbladers from utilizing the podium. It is true that beginning bladers lack control. However, they tend to be slow, and only endanger themselves. It is also true that the better bladers are fast. Allow me to point out that bikers, skateboarders, people late for exams, and Cushman carts are also fast, and that bladers have more control than any of these. So, RELAX. Personally, I have never and will never injure anyone unprovoked.

And if safety was really of any concern at all on this campus, perhaps preventative measures would be taken against rapists and vandals rather than rollerbladers. For those of you who need a safety issue to debate, try an important one.

Back to blading; for those out there who still think of me as the number one evil in our time, here are some suggestions: 1) find someone actually injured by me, ever, to testify against me; 2) devise a feasible obstacle course that I cannot navigate safely; or 3) flag me down to discuss things reasonably. Perhaps arrangements can be made. By the way, I am the long-haired freak with the jive-wheeled blades. And I take no responsibility for the actions of other bladers, although I support their right to blade and wish them well.

To the many who have tolerated me over the years with no more than a bit of griping, I commend you for your rationality and coolness. Would that there were more easygoing souls around here. Thanks for reading this.

Dan Stackhouse

## Buy American goods


To the Editor:

I am responding to the letter "Support the Dollar" by Peter Russo written in the April 3 issue of the ASP. I am responding because I felt the gist of Russo's letter was good but the way he went about it suggests unfounded fanaticism in the American market and a few inaccuracies. I will discuss only one. Why buy American goods?

The reason quality for the consumer has risen so fast is based on market competition, international as well as domestic. The U.S. was certainly on top in the 1960's but we did not keep the competitive edge. Thus in the '70's we got off track with the edge especially in the auto industry. Other companies in particular Japanese companies did good business. Now we are paying for our mistakes and trying to play catch-up. We are getting back into the game but with a cost, just look at the economy right now. WE are in a recession and only WE can get us out.

Russo suggests we should buy American because its comparable quality and similar price. I see it from a different angle, the consumer wants good quality and a fair price. The consumer doesn't want to buy an item with their hard-earned greenbacks that isn't as good as the competition just because it is "Made in the USA." How to solve this dilemma: work hard (and smart) make U.S. goods the best, go to the store, look for the best goods on the shelf, buy what you like. That product should be "Made in the USA." Make the USA number one. Demand quality, get quality.

J. Harris



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## GETTING PERSONAL

Tom,  
Sox suck. Adam

Pat,  
I save your ass (yet again) with a stunning article on the Mets and you still have the nerve to insult my manhood (and even worse, Genesis). I'll remember this. Hsy, maybe we can actually agree to hang out in Queens AND do it? Adam

Kelly,  
I miss you. NOT. Bet you loved it when Rob jumped you, eh? Adam

Rob,  
Is there anyone you haven't insulted this weekend--twice? Next time you visit Albany we'll scope the fountain. Adam

Cheryl,  
I love you. I want you. I need you.

Take me now. Or later. Or both. Or upside down. Oh, sorry, I thought you were Michelle Pfeiffer. Good job on your first solo. Adam

Meghan,  
I have only one thing to say:  
I feel like chicken tonight  
Like chicken tonight  
Like chickn tonight.  
(envision arms flapping in chickenlike motions) Adam  
(*Everytime I watch the Mets!- A Sox terrorist.*)  
Kelly,  
Nice car. NOT. Rob

Little Elf Ad,  
You're so photogenic. I bet it'll stat great. Can't wait for my chance to jump you. Here's to no one knowing where we're living next year.  
The Duke  
Meghan,  
Thanks for letting me crash. Don't be jealous, you'll always be my favorite jump of all. No need to wiggle my cables for you. The Duke

Generalissimo-  
Here's to a great year, plenty of machine guns, lots of alcohol, tall, dark and nerdy, and many future adventures. -Your Undersecretary

Pat-Thanks from saving page four from having a big empty space. Cheryl

Adam- Just wait and see wher e your picture turns up. It'll be like "Where's Waldo" in every issue. You need to get your glasses checked (see above). I don't think you'd know Michelle Pfeiffer if she came up and molested you. -Cheryl

Rob- Here's to a good year, fascinating fill-boxes, and making fun of everyone in the vicinity. All we need now are some articles...Cheryl  
P.S.- Is there anyone you haven't jumped?

I like people who play with superconductors!  
Meghan and Adam-you're off to a great start! One down, 21 or so left to go! Cheers! Rob, remind me to take out a hefty insurance policy from

Lloyds of London on that golden arm of yours. You know the one I'm talking about, don't you? I'm talking about **THE ARM THAT ROCKED SAI**! Two years in a row ASPies! **Patmeister, Otto and Sal**-way to go this week. Hey Dave can I lock something in your trunk? Pat-GLO! Good luck Cheryl, my successor as Corp Board Secretary. By the way, get used to Meghan bothering you at weird hours for a copy of the Constitution. Charge her a buck a copy for beer money. **Josh**-Thanks for the help. **Cindy** congrats, Madame Chair-woman Person! Good luck, **Jason and Jon**. **Rachel DeTeso-Welcome to the staff!** Thanks for showing me up with your neater handwriting on the Crime Blotter. Your grateful NE. **KerriWoman**-I'm gonna miss ya around here. Thanks(You too Judy) for the movie Please stay in touch. Tom NE  
**Natalie**, my love, I know it's a rough, but hang in there! Snuffy and Co. love ya and miss ya bunches! Great Adventure soon? Give Fenster a hug. Tom

Sputter...Gagh...Cough...Whimper  
What am I? Kelly's Car

Adam, But it's so easy to insult your manhood! I guess it takes a lot of balls to be managing editor - so there's part of your manhood back. See ya in Queens. Pat

Dave, You are funny when you're mad! Great job pullin' the dept. by yourself. Ice Cream in the car on the way home. Pat

Tom, good looking out. I'm glad you can see your feet now. Only 15 more pounds to go. Keep grinnin' Pat

Dan, Get a job, man! The hair's growing in nice, don't worry so much. You gotta come down this weekend for My Bloody Valentine. Pat

Louisa, I'll tell you everything about the concerts I saw if you want. Thanks for talkin' with me. Pat

96 Grafts, not bad for one issue.

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We are the only financially and editorially independent newspaper in the SUNY system. We receive no funding from either the administration or the Student Association.

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## Task Force

Continued from front page

The City of Albany's "Grouper Law," an ordinance prohibiting more than three unrelated people from living in the same apartment. They said they feared their landlord would be identified through them if their names were released. If that were to happen, one of the women said their landlord would "get fined by the City and then have to kick our fourth person out, meaning instead of splitting the rent four ways, we'll have to split it three ways."

"We do what we have to do to survive, so we're not going to blow a good thing," the other woman said.

Task force members said they understood that any additions to the University's linear bus route would mean overlapping routes presently covered by CDTA. By asking CDTA to offer students a discount to ride on its buses, both CDTA and the University would benefit. The University would not have to find additional buses and pay for additional drivers as it continues to contend with difficult budget constraints and it could avoid bad blood being created by using its buses on CDTA "turf."

By offering a student discount, CDTA in turn could count on additional riders and increased revenues as usage of the area's public transportation system has stagnated over the last decade. CDTA would also avoid the possibility of University buses moving into its territory.

A discount would be necessary to entice new riders because of the higher cost of riding public transportation. The average student travels uptown and downtown at least once a day during the week. On CDTA, that ride would cost the rider \$1.50 a day, \$7.50 a week, \$30.00 a month and about \$90.00 a semester. For the whole

year bus costs alone would be roughly \$200.00 for the student who lives off-campus and would like to take CDTA.

Currently the only alternative, the University bus system, is the cheaper one by far, charging students \$25.00 for colored bus pass stickers which are attached to students' identification cards.

Henry Madej, representing the Pine Hills Neighborhood Association, along with SA president Diego Munoz and former SA President Bill Weitz, suggested the University should consider asking other area colleges, such as the College of Saint Rose and Albany Law School, to join in their efforts to obtain a college student discount.

"If you can get the other colleges to work with you on this, I think that will whet (CDTA's) appetite," Madej said.

Task Force Chair Thomas Gebhardt said he and other members of the committee would continue seeking support from the University for the student discount proposal and would try to meet with officials from CDTA at a later date.

The task force also discussed problems resulting from student residents moving out of their apartments in May, chiefly the unsightly piles of garbage left on the curbs to be picked up by garbage haulers but which weren't for long periods of time. Again, task force members labelled absentee landlords as the problem.

"Yes students do have a responsibility, but it shouldn't all fall on their shoulders or the city's... these landlords should have contracted with private companies to have that stuff removed, but they didn't," one member said.

Representatives from the Albany Police and Fire Departments, the Pine Hills Neighborhood Association and the Albany County Legislature were also in attendance.



**Column**

*Continued from page 6*

and would help to alleviate the leader's recurring need to placate small, extremist parties in order to form a coalition. The change is also believed to allow for a prime minister who will be in a better position to negotiate with the Arabs.


Regrettably, the change will not be in place for the June 23 elections and will not go into effect until 1996. However, the leader who would be most likely to win through a direct election maintains a good chance at winning anyway. Yitzhak Rabin, the leader of the Labor Party, is the favored candidate for unseating Likud's Yitzhak Shamir. Rabin, many believe, is much more committed to the peace process than Shamir will ever be. He has expressed a willingness to temporarily suspend new West Bank settlements, yet has promised that he is not prepared to give up the disputed lands and force Israel to return to its indefensible pre-1967 borders.

A Rabin victory in Israel and a Clinton victory in the U.S. may be the best hope for rejuvenating friendly relations between the two nations. President Bush, having made little effort to conceal his dislike for Shamir, has affected a mutual stance in the Shamir government's attitude towards Bush. Clinton is the

only presidential candidate who has expressed strong support for both friendship and loan guarantees to Israel, but it is too early to predict an outcome for the November election in the U.S. In the Israeli election in June, hundreds of thousands of new Russian immigrants who are neither particularly Zionist nor religious, and whose concerns revolve around socioeconomic issues, may well vote for whichever leader can promise the most absorption benefits.

making a Rabin victory more likely. And that, unlike the March's malevolent turn of events, could be a harbinger for improved relations between Washington and Jerusalem. In the meantime, the Bush Administration takes the role once played by the Soviet Union: preventing Russian Jews from immigrating to Israel.

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**Track**

*Continued from back page*  
to place third. Vives later elected to run McCullen in the 800-meters at Nationals rather than the 1500.

Sophomore Bill Vanos set a school record 9:24.6 in the 3000-meter steeplechase. Rogers' personal best of 14:55 in 5000-meters was good enough to take third. Rodriguez was second in the 400-meters, timed at :53.23.

At the State Championships, Vives cited a team performance as the factor that helped Albany come from behind to win its third straight New York State title.

"We were behind going into the last couple of events," Vives remembered. "The team just rose up to another level."

McCullen was first in both the 800 and

1500-meters. York, running in his first ever 100-meter dash, won the event by beating an All-American.

"Jeff had never run this event before and he *won* it," Vives exclaimed. "It was a surprise."

Dean, with his discus throw of 161 feet, 10 inches, set a new NYS record.

Almendarez was second in the triple jump, while senior Tom Mead was second in the pole vault. Rogers' third place in the 10,000-meters was his first ever run in this event and was a school record.

Vanos ran a 9:32 in the 3000 steeplechase. It was a school record until he broke it the next week at Princeton/Adidas.

The 4X100 relay team was first while the 4X400 team took second place honors.

**Mets**

*Continued from page 11*  
know, why wait for what you can have right now? But can we really have it now? The lack of fundamental skills (bunting ability, baserunning, and so on) on recent Met clubs indicates that perhaps housecleaning should be done in lower-level management.

The Mets are like the Frankenstein monster: Harazin took parts from numerous bodies and attempted to create a superior individual. The experiment has failed thus far. When a team wins and you aren't quite sure why, it's called chemistry. The Pirates have it and have had it the past two years. The Mets don't. Pittsburgh is composed of mostly average players and a handful of superstars. Their

pitching is mediocre and may give out later this season. But don't count on it.

People may start calling this the National League Least. The first place Pirates have the lowest winning percentage of any division leader at .576 and yet they have the biggest lead over their competitors. It's not so much how good they are as how bad everyone else is. With a long homestand in front of them, the Mets have a chance to climb in the standings. Unfortunately, when cleanup hitter Bonilla can't find the baseball at Shea, the chances of that are slim.

In April, only a fool would not have picked the Mets for first. From what they've shown so far, only a fool would.

Do you like writing? Well who doesn't? You say you've been wanting to stop by the ASP but....Stop making excuses! Come up to CC323 first thing this fall and ask the first person you see about how you can get involved. You can write for Sports, News, ASPects and Features. Watch for our general interest meeting to be held early fall semester.

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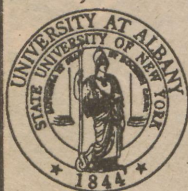
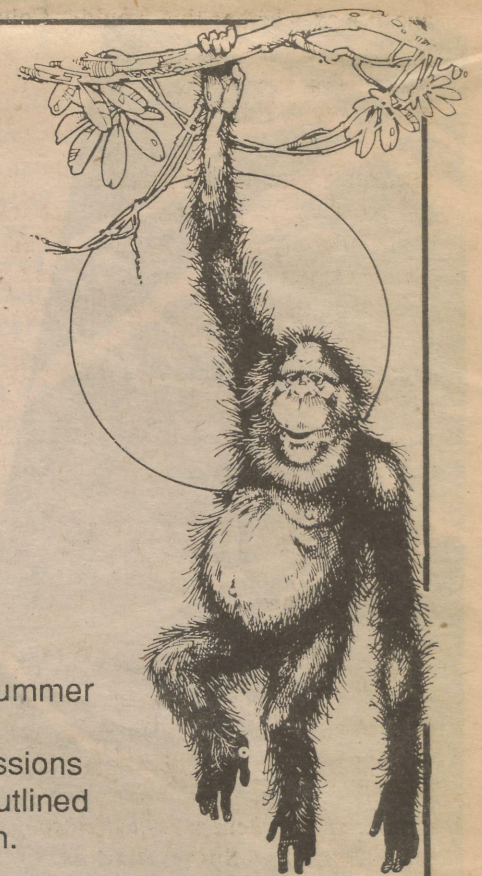
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# A season to savor in Albany basketball

By Patrick Cullen  
SPORTS EDITOR

If anything can be deemed positive here at the University at Albany after a year of budget cuts, campus safety concerns, bickering student government officials and general student discontent, it would be the extremely fruitful and exciting year Albany State basketball in 1991-92.

There were unprecedented achievements by Albany's teams, old pros did what they did best, and a milestone was reached.

Basketball is a staple sport at a typical university; school spirit can revolve around the comings and goings of these teams. This is most easily seen in the large Division I schools like, for example, Duke University, whose two consecutive NCAA basketball championships put it in revered status with the student populace.

Unfortunately, the same kind of hoopla usually doesn't surround Division III sports, which lacks the commercial capability and the scholarship athletes of Division I schools.

But shades of enthusiasm could be seen here in Albany during this sports year; students mobilized due to the outstanding play of some of SUNYA's teams.

The Albany basketball program went through a lean year in the 1990-91 campaign. The men's team struggled to stay above the .500 mark and people questioned whether this would be Albany coach Richard "Doc" Sauers' first losing season in his then 34-year tenure.

The Danes ended the campaign with a 14-12 record, but the team lacked the spunk that accompanied Sauers-coached teams of past years.

Contrast that with the Danes' 1991-92 season, one which saw them win 14 of their last 15 games and make it to the Division III Tournament after a rather lackluster start.

The year started off precariously. Opening their season with a convincing win over Union in the first round of the Capital District Tournament, the Danes faced RPI in the championship. The Engineers dismantled the Danes 80-60 in front of their home crowd to capture the championship.

It continued to be a lackluster early season as the Danes dropped two in the Rochester Tournament, losing to Allegheny and St. Lawrence. They watched their record drop to 2-3 after the losses.

All the while, Sauers was sneaking up on his 600th career win. After a 75-61 win over Castleton State, Sauers was at the 597 mark. Wins over Alfred University and Southern Maine in subsequent games gave the Danes a modest three-game win streak, but most importantly, Sauers was on the precipice of a milestone, poised with 599 career wins.

Hamilton College came into University Gym on December 11th looking to delay Sauers' celebration for one more game.

After seeing a 65-62 lead evaporate into a 70-65 deficit in the closing minutes, the Danes clawed back to within one, 72-71. But Bob Miller's off-balance jumper was off the mark and the Continentals salvaged a 73-71 victory and effectively played the role of spoiler.

Sauers' next chance for 600 glory came against Ithaca College, but a sorry performance in a 69-61 loss left the Danes with a bitter taste over the Christmas break and made Sauers wait a little longer.

On January 4th, the first game back from Christmas break, Sauers achieved his milestone when the Danes handled Montclair State (N.J.), 69-56.

After the win, Sauers said, "... now let's get on with the season." And the Danes listened.

Albany proceeded to go on a mammoth 14-game winning

streak, starting with a win over Alfred on January 15th.

Along the way, the Danes defeated archrival Potsdam State, nipped Plattsburgh State in a thriller, and ended nationally-ranked Hartwick's 13-game winning streak with an electrifying 65-57 win.

In the season finale, Albany faced an RPI team that had dumped the Danes by 20 points back in the Capital District Tournament. The Danes, winners of 12 straight at this point, had a chance at an NCAA Tournament berth looming.

The Danes did not disappoint as they convincingly beat the Engineers, 90-76, and received a bid to the NCAA's the next day.

Albany traveled to the Big Apple to face a New York University squad that had gone undefeated in 13 games at home. The Danes came away with an inspiring 72-66 win to propel the team to a matchup with powerhouse University at Rochester in Rochester.

The Danes 14-game winning streak and outstanding season ended when the Yellowjackets overwhelmed the visitors, 75-49.

Albany had gone as far as the second round when it beat Potsdam in the first round and then lost to North Adams State 69-66 in the second round on the 1989-90 season.

Albany's women, similar to the men's team, suffered a less than spectacular season in 1990-91. The Lady Danes came up with a 10-14 record, the worst in Coach Mari Warner's nine years at Albany.

It was deemed a transitional year because both a new offense and a new defense were implemented. It would take time to master. Only time would tell if the Lady Danes would rebound in 1991-92.

Opening the season, the Lady Danes travelled to Rochester to compete in the Rochester Tournament. They disposed of Nazareth, 97-67, in the first

round to advance to final against the host, University of Rochester. The Lady Danes took the trophy with a 73-64 triumph over the Lady Yellowjackets.

It was clear what this was a different Lady Dane team. In winning its first seven games, no opponent had come within nine points of Albany in the final score. They won these games by an average of 20 points.

At Hunter College, in the first game back after Christmas break, the Lady Danes received a scare when Hunter brought the game down to the wire before losing 56-54. Albany shot badly but caused many Hunter turnovers to come away with a narrow win.

The team won its tenth in a row and remained undefeated when it beat New York University for the second time in the season, 66-54.

The Lady Danes plummeted back to earth when Western Connecticut gave them a lethal dose of reality, cruising to a 61-46 win. It was Albany's first loss in 11 games.

Albany was 12-1 going into its own tourney, the Lady Dane Tournament. Revenge on Emmanuel College, who had taken away the title a year ago, was on their minds.

The Lady Danes almost didn't get to play Emmanuel because of a letdown against Norwich in the opening round. Norwich came storming back to take the lead after Albany appeared to have the game won. The Lady Danes woke up just in time to salvage a 79-75 decision.

Against Emmanuel in the title game, it was a close contest until the closing minutes. Albany pulled away at the end, winning 65-58 to reclaim its title.

The next test came at Cortland State two games later. The Lady Dragons were simply the better team on this day, demoralizing the Lady Danes with an 80-67 victory.

After wins over Utica and

Keuka Colleges, Hamilton College marched into University Gym and handed the Lady Danes a beating, 73-55.

In a must-win situation in the season finale, the Lady Danes beat Nazareth 80-65 to finish the season on a good note.

An invitation to the New York State Tournament at Hartwick College in Oneonta was next. The Lady Danes, the number one seed, played poorly and were almost upset by host Hartwick (eighth seed) in the opening round. They escaped with a 65-61 win.

Then came another showdown against Hamilton. Again, the Lady Continentals outplayed the Lady Danes, sending them packing with a 60-50 decision.

On strength of schedule and its 21-4 record, Albany received a bid to the NCAA Division III Tournament.

Its opening round game was against New York State champion William Smith College, who had beaten Hamilton to win the championship.

Fans, over 500 faithful, packed University Gym as the Lady Danes played what could have been their finest game of the year. Albany was able to shut down the Herons' lethal three-pointer attack on the way to a gratifying 67-50 victory.

The win advanced them to the second round to face Eastern Connecticut State. The Lady Danes hung tough, but in the end Eastern was too strong for Albany to handle. Eastern won, 69-57.

It was indeed a unique season for Albany basketball to say the least. For the first time ever, both the men and women advanced to the NCAA Tournament in the same year.

Albany basketball proved itself in 1991-92; it woke up a largely sleeping campus and electrified the University with its outstanding seasons and success in postseason play.

## The Mets of 1992: These firecrackers are duds

By Adam Meyer  
ASPECTS EDITOR

In the off-season, the New York Mets won the unofficial award for Most Improved Team. Al Harazin, who replaced Frank Cashen as the team's general manager, was this close to having a statue of his likeness erected in front of Shea Stadium. Sports writers were conceding the National League East to New York long before opening day. Here it is, sixty games into the 1992 season and the Mets are dwelling happily in second place (tied with the Cardinals), six games in back of the Pittsburgh Pirates. And there are no signs to indicate that the final standings will be any different.

The ballclub which had once scorned the free agent market spent millions of dollars signing marquis players.

They lured high-priced and highly-productive outfielder Bobby Bonilla from the division rival Pittsburgh Pirates with many years and even more dollars. They provided leadership and a solid glove at the often unstable position of second base with veteran Willie Randolph. With Dave Magadan returning from shoulder surgery (on both arms), they decided not to take

chances and grabbed Eddie Murray from the Dodgers.

The always solid pitching staff added a third twenty-game winner with the acquisition of Cy Young Award winner Bret Saberhagen from the Royals. In the deal they moved ho-hum left fielder Kevin McReynolds and third baseman Gregg Jeffries, whose absence alone improved the team's chances of winning.

There were some less dramatic changes. The Mets acquired reliever Paul Gibson, infielder Bill Pecota, and utility player Chico Walker. The team which had underachieved every year since capturing the division title in 1988 (and arguably since their 1986 World Championship) had been fully dismantled.

The team which could do no wrong in '86 but hadn't done much right since had been split apart. All the key everyday players from that season are gone, with only Dwight Gooden and Sid Fernandez remaining on the pitching staff.

Harazin's idea was a good one. He did what Cashen should have done. Out with the old and in with the new. Of course some of the new are old, but that's all part of the plan: men like Murray and

Randolph could provide leadership for a mixed bunch of young and seasoned players.

Darryl Strawberry, who only a couple of years ago was the talk of the town, is a distant memory. And no one - except perhaps the media - wishes he were back.

On paper, these Mets are awesome. If you were a playing a computer game where everyone performed at or near their potential, you would have a powerhouse. This is real life, however, where Vince Coleman is lucky to have spent more games off the disabled list than on it, where Bret Saberhagen is out indefinitely, where rookie catcher Todd Hundley isn't close to meeting expectations with a sub .200 batting average, and where Howard Johnson has a .220 average, five home runs, and 29 RBI.

Most of the big showings have been surprises. Third baseman Dave Magadan was a backup in April and these days he's a regular. With a .311 average, he's also a regular on the list of league leaders in batting. Everyone knew he can hit, but who would've believed he's so solid in the field.

Murray was expected to perform, but at

the age of thirty-eight and a shoo-in for the Hall of Fame, no one expected him to perform this well. He's provided offense and defense, a rare combination for this team.

Dick Schofield wasn't even around at the start of the season, but he has made an average infield look pretty good. Hitting .229 is all the Mets wanted from him, and considering his teammates, it isn't so shabby.

Last year the finger pointing was at Buddy Harrelson. There is no easy target this year; instead there's a whole row of them. Torborg has done a good job with everything except motivation. The cries lamenting the loss of Davey Johnson, which had subsided after Harrelson's firings, have risen again.

One school of thought says that you can't buy a championship, and maybe there's some truth to that. After all, the Mets' farm system has weakened considerably in the last few years. That as much as anything has caused them to seek aid on the free agent market.

New Yorkers are impatient, but perhaps this is a team that needs to rebuild. I

Continued on page 10



# Sports

## Summer

Empire State Games are coming to Albany

SUNYA Basketball wrapup - see page 11

Look for By the Numbers in the fall

## Outdoor season a success for Albany men

By Patrick Cullen  
SPORTS EDITOR

Over the years, the Albany men's track and field team has established itself as a force to be reckoned with not only on the New York State level but on the national level as well.

Similar to the great dynasties of the New York Yankees, Montreal Canadiens and New York Islanders, Albany's men have an impressive string of championships to their credit.

A come-from-behind victory at the New York State Championships at the University of Rochester on May 8th and 9th gave them an incredible three straight championships.

Just a week before, on May 1st and 2nd, Albany hosted its first Collegiate Track Conference Championship and proceeded to capture its third straight CTC throne. The win came over a number of Division I and II teams in addition to Division III teams.

Albany dabbled with world-class competition as well as the best of Division I at the Princeton/Adidas meet on May 16th and the IC4A Championships on May 23-24 at Northeastern University in Boston.

The outdoor season culminated at the Division III National Championships at Colby College on May 27th-30th.

Albany came out of Nationals with its head held high, achieving a 10th place

### York repeats; Albany wins 3rd consecutive NYS Championship

overall finish. But most importantly, it left with four All-Americans (8th place or better) and a national champion.

Junior Jeff York defended his national 110-meter high hurdle title, running a 14.03 to repeat as champion. During the indoor season, York captured the national title in the 110-meters.

Currently, York is an Olympic hopeful for the United States in the 110-meter highs. He bested the Olympic Trial qualifying time of 13.90 by running a 13.88 at a recent race. York will participate in the Olympic Trials at New Orleans soon.

"Jeff is one of the top five hurdlers in the country," Albany coach Roberto Vives maintains. "He is a world-class athlete."

Hampered by recent injuries, senior Wilfredo Rodriguez came into the national meet as the two-time defending national champion in the 400-meter hurdles.

Because of his injuries, Rodriguez entered ranked eighth in the 400-meter pool. But, Rodriguez surprised many as he sped to a second-place finish in 52.49 and achieved All-American status once again.

"Wilfredo really dug down deep," Vives said. "He ran extremely well despite his injuries."

Junior Joe McCullen's performance in the 800-meter, according to Vives, was the "surprise of the meet." McCullen's 1:50.74 missed the national title by an infinitesimal six-hundredths of a second. He finished in second place.

Nevertheless, McCullen improved his best 800-meter time by two seconds and achieved All-American status.

"We're real excited," said Vives, conveying the intensity of the moment. "We thought he had won the race."

Sophomore Brad Dean became Albany's fourth All-American of the meet when he tossed the discus 161 feet, six inches, for an eighth place finish.

Freshman Oscar Almendarez took part in the triple jump, leaping 45 feet to place 11th for the competition.

"Oscar helped us tremendously this year as a freshman," Vives glowed. "He is going to be a good one...he has a bright, bright future ahead of him."

Sophomore Todd Rogers had qualified for Nationals after running a school record 31:03 in his first-ever 10,000 meter run. His time of 31:11 at Nationals

brought home a 14th place finish.

Albany, with its 10th place overall finish, became one of only three teams in the nation to place in the top ten in all three National competitions. Albany was fifth at Cross Country Nationals last fall and sixth in the indoors earlier this year. Wisconsin-LaCrosse, winner of both indoor and outdoor Nationals, was another school to achieve the feat.

The IC4A Championships featured 94 colleges, including 70 from Division I. York was Albany's sole participant, running in the 110-meters.

In the semi-finals, York sped to the second fastest time, 13.56. "That [York's semi-final performance] was an incredible race and an incredible time," Vives asserted.

In the finals, York was involved in a photo finish for third, timed at 14.09. Upon further review, judges awarded third to the opposing runner and York settled for fourth. Syracuse University's Quadry Ismail, Raghieb "Rocket" Ismail's little brother, was second.

At the Princeton/Adidas competition, York finished an impressive second place in 13.7, only one-tenth of a second behind Eric Cannon, a former Division I National Champion from the University of Pittsburgh.

McCullen qualified for Nationals at this meet, running a 3:53.4 in the 1500-meters

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## Cap. Dist. wrestling alive and well at Trials

By Scott Breier  
ASSOCIATE SPORTS EDITOR

When people think of wrestling in the Capital District, they immediately think of the Adirondack Threestyle Wrestling Association.

The home of this club, which is considered one of the nation's most successful, is the State University of New York at Albany. It is here where one of the most crucial events leading up to the 1992 Summer Games in Barcelona were held during the month of May.

If there is a single reason why Albany has endured as the

country's hot spot for Greco-Roman wrestling and why it earned the privilege of hosting the 1992 Olympic Trials, its head coach Joe DeMeo. In 1985, nine of the ten berths on the U.S. Junior National team were from his club.

Several weeks ago, at the U.S. Greco-Roman Nationals in Las Vegas, DeMeo locked up his fourth trip to the Olympics when he was named assistant coach for the U.S. team.

The Albany wrestling team has been a very successful club for several years. Many of the participants of these trials

wrestled or still wrestle for Albany State.

Among these top Albany wrestlers are former 1988 Olympian Shawn Sheldon and Andy Seras (an assistant coach for Albany).

Sheldon has earned a spot on this year's U.S. team. He is considered an excellent candidate for a medal.

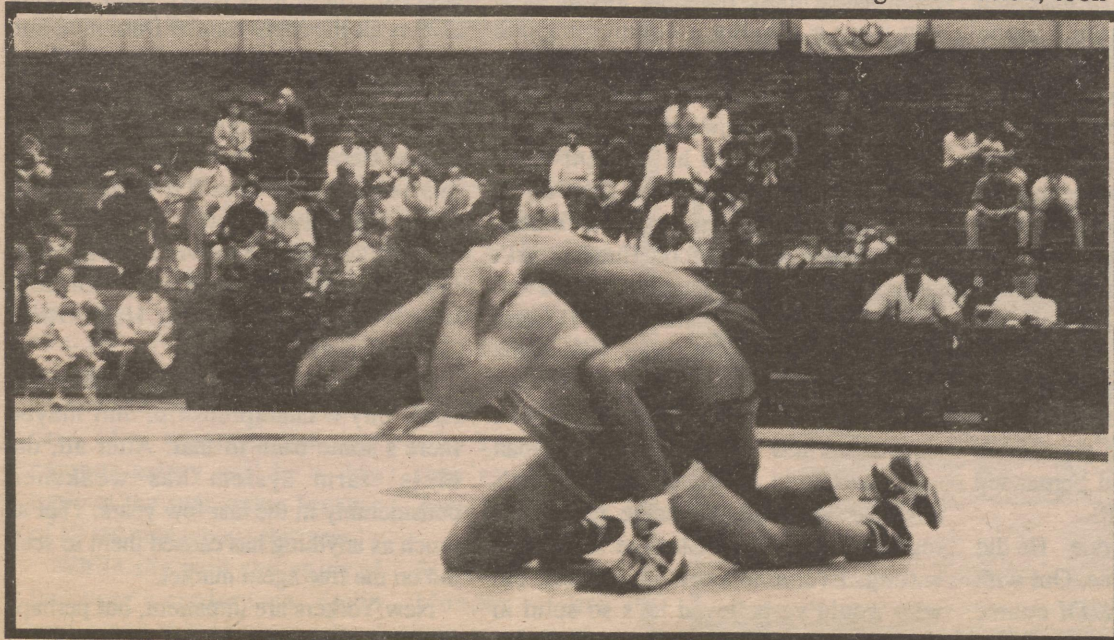
Of the current Albany wrestlers, Van Fronhofer and Chris Mirabella participated in the trials.

Fronhofer, 20, a member of the Adirondack Threestyle Wrestling Association, took a

year off from the University at Albany to give himself a shot at making the Olympic team. He lost in the trials to 1988 Olympian Anthony Amado (12-1) and similarly at the hands of Shon Lewis, the eventual winner

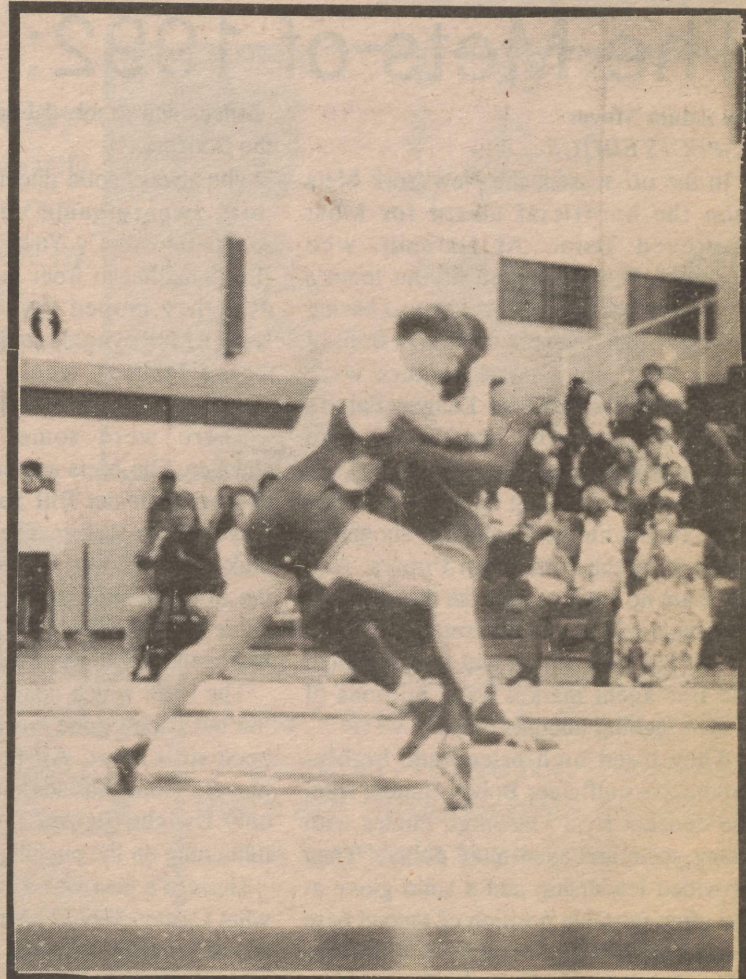
in the 134.5 weight division.

Chris Mirabella also lost in the tournament. He lost 10-1 in his opening match but came back to show some impressive moves in his second match. Mirabella pinned Jeff Cervone of Syracuse.



Staff Photo by Leanne Warshauer

You may watch one of these wrestlers at Barcelona this summer.



Staff Photo by Leanne Warshauer

Only the best could grapple with each other at the Olympic Trials.