

...HAPPY HOLIDAYS...

# THE PRESS

STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK, COLLEGE AT CORTLAND

Volume XVII Number 11

December 5, 1985



**Season's Greetings**  
Four SUCC students - Joanie Cook, Chris Delisla, Greg Rabin, and Christine Cornelius - are shown here spreading some holiday cheer.

## Eligibility for aid changes; federal regulations renewed

By AMY CUOMO

The federal regulations that determine the eligibility for student financial aid have recently changed significantly, according to William Cheetham, assistant director of financial aid.

Federal student financial aid regulations are governed by the Higher Education Act of 1965, which is reviewed and renewed every three years by a process known as reauthorization, Cheetham said. The reauthorization of the Higher Education Act included several amendments which will change the face of student financial aid for many years to come, he added.

One of the major changes included in the new amendments involves the Guaranteed Student Loan Program. The eligibility for a GSL had been determined by the use of a one page Needs Test that could easily be filled out and handed in to the financial aid office.

The new amendments make it mandatory that a student applying for a GSL fill out a full Needs Analysis Form. This means a student applying for a GSL must fill out the Financial Aid Form, and send it to Princeton for processing, listing the State University College at Cortland as the school the completed needs analysis should be sent to.

"It (the new needs form requirement) will definitely slow down our processing, especially due to the fact that the processing of the Needs Analysis Report by Princeton usually takes four to six weeks," Cheetham said. I am confident, however, that if we are able to make the students aware of the new application process and students file that Financial Aid Form as soon after Jan. 1 as possible we can alleviate many of the problems," he added.

Cheetham said the new eligibility requirements would probably affect the number of students who receive GSLs. "I am very concerned that many of the students who have received the Guaranteed Student Loans in the past years, students from low income families, may not be eligible any longer," Cheetham said.

Previous regulations made all families with incomes under \$30,000 eligible for the GSL and those families with incomes over \$30,000 needed to file the Needs Test Form with the loan application and the financial aid office

was able to determine the eligibility using the Needs Test, Cheetham said. The new regulations require all students regardless of the income to file for a Needs Analysis Report, he said.

The Needs Analysis Form calculates a family contribution based on the total family size, number attending college, family adjusted gross taxable income, all untaxed income and all family assets. Eligibility for the GSL is based on the difference between the cost of attendance at SUCC and the family contributions from the results of the Needs Analysis Report. The use of untaxed pensions, child support payments, and assets in the calculation of eligibility could render many low income student ineligible for a GSL.

Another change due to the amendments of the Higher Education Act is the independent student definition. Effective Jan. 1, 1987, the independent student is defined as:

1. A student 24 years or older by Dec. 31 of the award year.

All other under 24 by December of the award will be considered dependent unless they meet one of the following requirements:

1. Is an orphan or ward of the court.  
2. Is a veteran of the Armed Forces of the U.S.

3. Is a graduate or professional student who will not be claimed as a tax dependent for tax purposes on a parents or guardians tax return for the first calendar year of the award year.

4. Is a married individual who declares that they will not be claimed as a dependent for income tax purposes on a parents' or guardians' tax return for the first calendar year of the award year.

5. Has legal dependents other than a spouse.

6. Is a single undergraduate student with no dependents who has not been claimed as a tax dependent on a parents or guardians tax return for the two calendar years preceding the award year and demonstrates to the financial aid administrator total self-sufficiency during the two calendar years preceding the award year by demonstrating and being able to provide documentation to prove and annual income of \$4,000, excluding financial aid as a source of income.

The new definitions effective Jan. 1 for all students applying for GSLs for period of continued on page three

## SUCC student charged after allegedly striking other student

By BING MILLER

A State University College at Cortland student was charged with third degree assault in connection with a Nov. 23 incident in Corey Union, according to Lt. Steven Dangler of Public Safety.

Patrick W. Manning, 21, of 15 Tompkins St., was served the summons, a Class A misdemeanor, Tuesday to appear in court this morning at 9 a.m., Dangler said.

Manning allegedly struck a "student worker at Corey Union" at approximately 10 p.m., causing injury to the worker, Peter Lalla, director of Public Safety said.

According to the victim, who asked not to be identified, Manning and a few friends approached her as she was working the rear door of the Function Room during the showing of 'Ferris Bueller's Day Off' and started to 'harrass' her "for five minutes."

She said she then went inside the room and when she came back out she said he was still there. It was then that Manning allegedly grabbed her right shoulder and hit her in the upper cheek, she said.

The victim said in a signed statement that Manning struck her with "intent to cause physical injury... with a closed

hand causing swelling and a bruise."

Manning said, in a telephone interview, that he had no comment before he talked to his lawyer.

The student worker said she received a "black eye" from the incident.

According to Dr. Nancy Sternfeld of the Student Health Center in a signed medical appraisal, there was pain and swelling below her left eye and swelling over the left zygomatic arch.

Manning was identified by Christopher Valla, of 12 Squires St., and Ed Detweiler, of unknown address; according to signed statements by them, after being described by the victim after the incident.

In their statements they said they identified Manning Monday from a group of photos as "the person who said he hit" the victim.

The victim said she did not positively identify Manning.

Linda Kuk, vice president of student affairs, would not comment on what disciplinary action would be taken, but said that action is being taken, both "inside and outside campus."

William Mandicott, director of Student Life, said the case has been brought to the judicial system for action, and is "currently being processed through our judicial process."



19 shopping days to Christmas

### Inside This Week

Crossword Puzzle	13
Cort-toons	7
Editorial	6
Insider	11-14
Opinions	6-7
Peanuts	13
Personals	21
Sports	22-24