

THE STATESMAN

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sbstatesman.com

WOULD YOU COME BACK?

Look inside for an exit interview with this year's graduating seniors.



HEATHER KHALIFA / THE STATESMAN

The Stony Brook women's lacrosse team, above, celebrates after defeating Albany 11-8 in the 2015 America East Championship Game on Sunday, May 3 at Kenneth P. LaValle Stadium and earning its third straight title.

Seawolves unite to "Take Back the Night" from assault

By Kelly Saberi
Staff Writer

"I am Sarah Elizabeth Tubbs, and I am a survivor of sexual assault committed on Stony Brook University's campus," the Stony Brook University alumna, who is suing the school for alleged mistreatment of her sexual assault case, said in a speech at the "Take Back the Night" event on Wednesday, April 29.

The Center for Womyn's Concerns organizes the annual "Take Back The Night" event to raise awareness of sexual

assault and abuse on campus.

Tubbs accused a male student of sexually assaulting her in his dorm room after a party at West Apartments last January and she filed a lawsuit against the university for their "deliberate indifference" in the case. Tubbs, who graduated last year, is now a social work student working towards her masters at Hunter College.

The march started in the Student Activities Center and progressed down the Zebra Path toward the Island Federal Credit Union Arena. From there, the students went to West Apart-

ments and through the footpath to Tabler Quad. Halfway through the woods, the executive board held a moment of silence for victims of sexual assault and read stories aloud that were submitted via a Tumblr page.

Curious heads popped out of windows in Sanger and Toscanini Colleges, looking to see who was walking out of the woods in Tabler Quad and chanting, "Seawolves unite! Take back the night!"

"I'm excited to get the attention of everyone who is not in here and not in the march. You

don't have to be in it necessarily to get impacted by it," Karol Perez, vice president of the Center for Womyn's Concerns, said.

The executive board of the Center for Womyn's Concerns has been working all semester to put on the event.

The event was also run in part by the Center for Prevention and Outreach and the sisters of Sigma Psi Zeta.

"It's far reaching because with the 135 or more [people] that we

Continued on page 5

The pursuit of passion with astrophysicist Neil deGrasse Tyson

By Christopher Leelum
Assistant News Editor

Renowned astrophysicist Neil deGrasse Tyson spoke about the practicality of accumulating a "library" of knowledge and experiences during his talk Monday night for the 35th anniversary of the Stony Brook Graduate Student Organization.

Over 2,600 people packed into the Island Federal Credit Union Arena to hear Tyson summarize his journey from Bronx nerd to director of the Hayden Planetarium to Twitter and television celebrity.

His secret? Following his

natural passion.

"There are these things I did in life that I simply enjoyed," Tyson said.

His favorite endeavors included turning his bathroom into a photography lab, buying his first telescope with money made from walking dogs and visiting Stonehenge.

"These joys of mine found ways to manifest, and I'm reminded of what a library is," Tyson said. "So I remember thinking when I was growing up, I want to know as much as I can about as many things, because I don't know later on what I'm going to draw on."

From that advice, Tyson dove

into a number of humorous stories about his life, including when he was relieved of his jury duty for questioning the reliability of eyewitness accounts. But he especially expressed how his passion fueled him to success from a young age, even when the academic system estimated otherwise.

Tyson said his fourth- and fifth-grade teachers would say on his report cards that he was too social or needed more school work. Tyson replied by arguing that being social or being a mediocre student is not a bad thing, because academics are rarely a true indication of one's worth. So when his elementary school noted his growth later on

and called him back for a speech, he had powerful words for them.

"I am where I am not because of you but in spite of you," Tyson exclaimed, drawing laughter and clapping from the crowd. "At the end of the day, if you're going to assess the promise and performance of someone by their GPA when they have the rest of their life to lead, you're going to be missing some people for sure."

To help make his point, Tyson called up Stony Brook University President Samuel L. Stanley Jr. to the stage to ask him, "When's the

Continued on page 7

USG runoff elections to be held next week

By Hanaa' Tameez
News Editor

According to the Undergraduate Student Government website, junior marine vertebrate biology major Taylor Bouraad will assume the position of Treasurer for the 2015-2016 academic year. All other executive council positions in this year's election went into a runoff, meaning none of the candidates received 50 percent or more of the vote. A runoff election with a new ballot will be held from Monday, May 4 through Friday, May 8 on SOLAR. Below are the current results:

President

Runoff between Cole Lee (Total vote: 1048, 46 percent) and James Alrassi (Total vote: 931, 41 percent).
No confidence (Total vote: 302, 13 percent)

Executive Vice President

Runoff between Luo Luo Fang (Total vote: 975, 44 percent) and Krisly Zamor (Total vote: 953, 43 percent).
No confidence (Total vote: 305, 14 percent)

Treasurer

Taylor Bouraad (Total vote: 1149, 50 percent).
Naib Chowdhury (Total vote: 878, 39 percent).
No confidence (Total vote: 252, 11 percent)

Vice President of Student Life
Runoff between Nathan Blazon-Brown (Total vote: 922, 41 percent) and Fiqrly Kleib (Total vote: 813, 36 percent).
Christopher Smith (Total vote: 261, 12 percent).

No confidence (Total vote: 238, 11 percent)

Vice President of Communications

Runoff between Jason Mazza (Total vote: 944, 43 percent) and Brody Hooper (Total vote: 889, 41 percent).
No confidence (Total vote: 360, 16 percent)

Vice President of Clubs and Organizations

Runoff between Chinelo Obinero (Total vote: 667, 30 percent) and Bryan Michel (Total vote: 607, 27 percent).
Raisa Nishat (Total vote: 245, 11 percent).

Elmer Flores (Total vote: 400, 18 percent).
No confidence (Total vote: 300, 14 percent)

Continued on page 7

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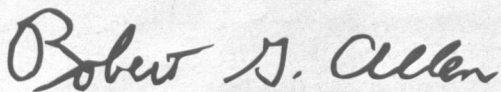
I would like to thank the many members of TFCU from the Stony Brook University family that have expressed their loyalty to their credit union and desire to continue the relationship. TFCU became part of the Stony Brook community when the school's credit union merged with TFCU in 1981. Although our on-campus branches will be closing in June (not by our choice), we will continue to provide the products and services that you are accustomed to receiving. There is no reason to change financial institutions or the long-term banking relationships you have enjoyed for years. Please note:

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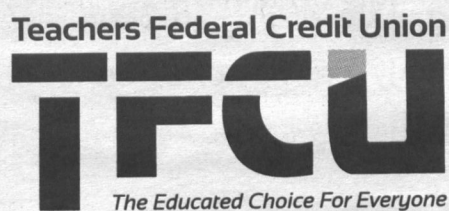
Please know our commitment to our members and the Stony Brook community is still a top priority for us! Over the decades through dedicated and targeted philanthropic efforts, TFCU has invested in cultivating Stony Brook's ability to nurture the arts, sciences and research that has proven so vital to Long Islanders. We are proud to say TFCU's investment has helped Stony Brook become a regional and national force in education and research.

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Senior student leads campaign for new nature trail around SBU campus

By Rena Thomas
Contributing Writer

One Stony Brook University student's senior project is growing into a cause that hundreds of students support. Hannah Mellor, an environmental design, policy and planning major, made a proposal to Stony Brook faculty and administration for a nature trail uniting the various pre-existing trails on campus.

Mellor envisioned the trail for her senior Sustainability Studies project in fall 2014. She has since attracted a team of dedicated students to assist her in accomplishing her goal.

Mellor saw the potential of several pre-existing trails sprawled throughout campus. She mapped out 2.5 miles of trail terrain, much of which is tough to navigate and explore. Mellor proposed connecting all the pre-existing trails, making a total of five miles of terrain.

Mellor presented a 34-page proposal to various academic department heads and faculty

organizations like Vice President for Strategic Initiatives Matthew Whelan.

"I was impressed at her enthusiasm for the process," Whelan said. "I was impressed by the work she had done. I am always impressed when students take action. I expressed, through my professional responsibilities, some concerns about safety and security, cost of maintenance and ADA [American Disabilities Act] access."

Mellor was not discouraged. "We brought it up to the school," Mellor said, "and then we brought it up to the students and it keeps growing and growing."

Students came pouring in with enthusiasm for the project. She collected 500 petition signatures in support of the trail in just one week and another 500 likes on the "SBU Nature Trail" Facebook page.

"I completely understand where the school is coming from, and I agree with them, but it's still people want to see happen," Mellor said.

Not only will this trail impact the students, but it will also be available to the community and

residents of Stony Brook.

"It will be a fantastic addition to the passive recreation activities that we enjoy in Stony Brook," Shawn Nuzzo, president of the Civic Association of the Setaukets and Stony Brook, said. "For years the university and local community have been struggling with the literal and figurative disconnect between the campus and its host community. Projects like this serve to link the campus and surrounding community and I look forward to walking the trail myself."

According to Mellor, the trail will be a enjoyable outlet for joggers, dog walkers and anyone who wants to use it.

"I love the idea," Suffolk County Legislator Kara Hahn said, "you just have to make sure the community is on board, and that the proposed portion running up against homes is enough distance away [from residential homes]."

Two weekends ago, Mellor and the team held an informal trail tour/construction. Mellor marked the trail on Saturday, and Sunday was the first day of actually clearing



ARIEL RAHIMZADA / THE STATESMAN

Hannah Mellor, above, made a proposal to unite the various pre-existing trails on the Stony Brook campus.

up the first mile.

On Sunday, they met at noon in the Mendelsohn parking lot and from there, they walked to the trailhead together with anyone who wished to join.

"I am trying to get the word out there, to get as many students as possible to support, as many faculty members and as many outside organizations," Mellor said.

Mellor is awaiting administration approval to trail blaze more terrain this upcoming Sunday, time and location to be determined.

There is also an app available on sbunaturetrail.blogspot.com that maps out the trail and tells users where they are located on the trail to prevent people from getting lost.

Psychology meets computer science to help out the Smithtown Animal Shelter

By Kelly Saberi
Staff Writer

As a young girl, Stony Brook University senior psychology major Elizabeth Crowe could not go to the shelter to volunteer, but faced with a "computing for good" assignment, she was finally able to help her favorite species: dogs.

Crowe came up with the idea of "dogs with blogs" as her honors senior thesis to investigate human tendencies toward adopting pets. The blogs are created by student volunteers who give a personality to the dogs, as opposed to just the height, weight and breed.

"We're trying to determine two things: does a blog help a dog get adopted because there is more personalized information...but the other thing we won't be able to know until we have a long term study is does this help to prevent the kind of return rate," Tony Scarlatos, a computer science professor who is helping Crowe build her application, said.

The goal of Crowe's new application, called "Shelterware," is to help shelters work more efficiently by streamlining processes and helping dogs get adopted and stay with their new families. The project officially launches in May.

"The act of going to the shelter, walking these dogs, playing with them, increases dog sociability which in turn actually does increase their adoptability and makes it less likely that they're going to be returned because they don't have as many behavioral problems," Crowe said of her application.

Scarlatos said shelters like the Smithtown Animal Shelter have faced many issues with adoption return rates.

When some adopters realize that they do not want the dog, they either gave the dog back to another shelter claiming the dog was a stray

out of embarrassment, or they let the dog loose. This can be devastating for the dog.

The application will have both a web and mobile component. The mobile application allows animals to be photographed and the photo uploaded to the Shelterware database at any time.

If someone finds a lost animal, he or she can scan the Quick Response bar code on the dog's tag. Senior computer science major Matt Lagueras originally worked this on as a separate project for Scarlatos' benevolent computing class. Crowe teamed up with Lagueras through Scarlatos, who taught Crowe's Honors College course.

If the animal does not have its own code, Shelterware allows users to snap a picture and upload it to the application on their smart devices. The GPS location and time stamp are then added to the database.

According to Scarlatos, this increases efficiency for the Smithtown Animal Shelter, where the project is being implemented. Filing papers is space intensive and also requires human hands in order to organize them, leaving fewer people to take care of the dogs. The program will alleviate the need for paper documents by going digital.

The project had its setbacks. The shelter only had six dogs at the time of the study. For the purposes of research, Crowe decided to accumulate her data from a random sampling of 30 dogs. Crowe used "Petfinder," a pet adoption website, to select the dogs and then used a coin toss to which choose which dogs would have blogs.

"[Crowe] doesn't want to have the most popular breeds of dogs who would be adopted anyways to also have blogs," Scarlatos said.

Lagueras took charge of the technical side of the application.



ARIEL RAHIMZADA / THE STATESMAN

Elizabeth Crowe, above, devised the idea to study the tendencies of pet adopters for her senior thesis.

Crowe's idea stemmed from something that is popular within many universities: petting puppies in order to relieve stress. But Crowe knew that there could be a more beneficial response to stress that could help both the students and the dogs.

"It felt really good to give back to those who aren't in a position to help themselves," Crowe said. "It's nice to see that things like Facebook or Twitter can be used for something more than saying how much life sucks; it can be used to actually help the community and increase a sense of involvement."

Crowe also liked how the project gave people a sense of purpose. According to Crowe's observations, by posting blogs on the Internet for these animals, it made volunteers feel good and it reinvigorated her own sense of optimism.

"If you look on the app store, so many apps will be things like 'where's my car?' or 'let me know when the laundry is done,'" Lagueras said. "There is not enough effort being put into computing for good."

Center for Womyn's Concerns holds annual march and vigil

Continued from page 1

have here it's going to reach an innumerable amount," President of the Center for Womyn's Concerns Katelyn Morrie said. "We want the survivors, that even if we don't know who they are, to know that there is always support through the university and through the CWC."

Before the march began, Dean of Students Timothy Ecklund and Deputy Title IX Coordinator Cathrine Duffy both gave speeches.

The executive board of the Center for Womyn's Concerns said Tubbs was quick to accept the invitation to speak at the event, but Tubbs said it gives her discomfort to be back on the campus at the university that gave her trouble.

"It's always scary coming back on campus," Tubbs said. "It's never easy, but I'm glad that I'm able to aid in change and hopefully empower more survivors."

Tubbs said she was nervous to speak before the event began. She repeatedly looked to her friends and family for reassurance. Her supporters rubbed her

back and gave her hugs.

In her speech, Tubbs spoke in the third person about a girl she knew who was raped and could not function properly after the incident.

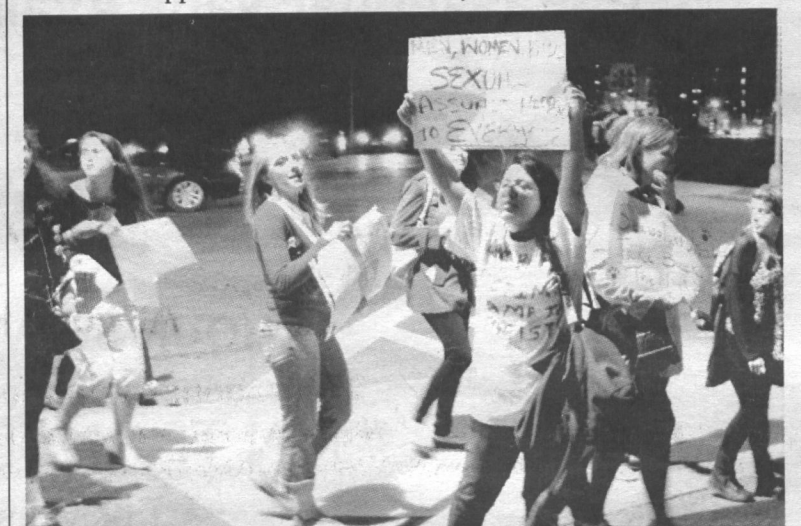
She went on to reveal that the girl is herself.

"I have been battling PTSD for over a year, with frequent flashbacks, disassociations, panic attacks, anxiety—all things I don't want to remember," Tubbs said.

After the speech by Tubbs, the allies and supporters relocated to Student Activities Center Ballroom A to make posters and t-shirts for the march. The marchers used electric tea lights to light up the night.

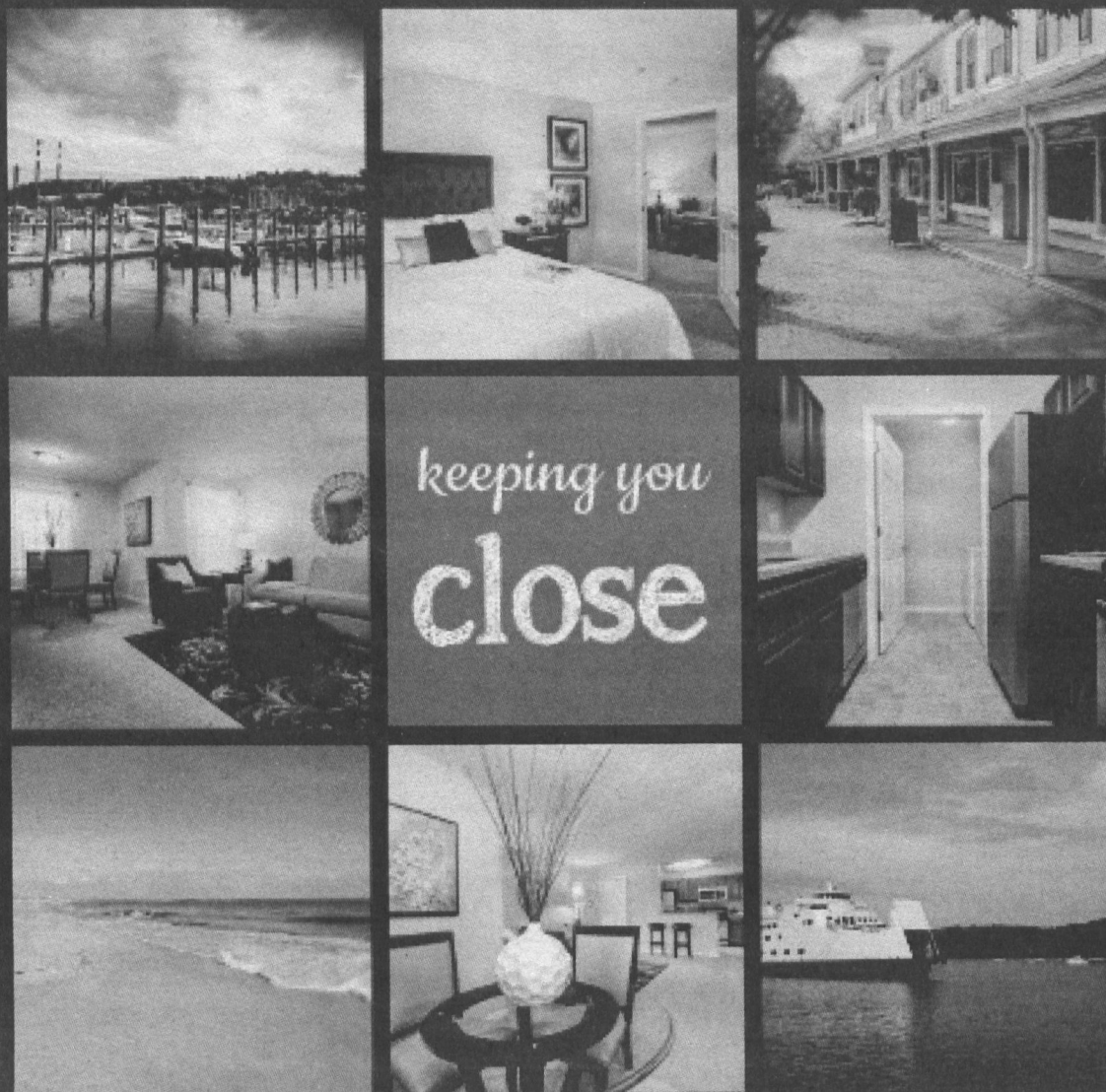
Following the march participants had the opportunity to go to three different informational sessions: "Men Against Violence," "Active Ally Event" and "Survivor's and Supporters Speakout."

In her message to herself shared in her speech, Tubbs said: "You can fly and you can soar. Soar beyond the cloud you saw before. Soar beyond your wildest imagination, because you know what, Sarah? It's time to start living the life you've always imagined."



SIMON SHARP / THE STATESMAN

A participant, above, holds a sign addressing sexual assault during the march near Circle Road and Engineering Drive.



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School of Health Technology and Management dean invents device for simplifying medication

By **Jakub Lewkowicz**
Contributing Writer

Craig Lehmann, dean of the School of Health Technology and Management at Stony Brook University, recently invented a vibrating bracelet to help people who are perplexed by difficult medicine regimens.

When it is time for the user to take a pill, the bracelet will vibrate and tell them which pill is necessary. If they do not take the medication within 45 minutes or do not pay attention to the signal, a relative or physician will receive a notification through email or phone.

The bracelet will come with a mechanical box in which all of the medications are sorted.

The box's programming knows the name of the medicine, the strength and when it needs to be taken.

As more pills are being dispensed, medicine non-adherence is becoming a larger problem. According to Medical News Today, 4.02 billion prescriptions were allotted to patients in the United States in 2011. About half of those medications are not taken as prescribed. Non-adherence causes 125,000 deaths annually, according to the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

If patients are on multiple medications with some pills requiring multiple doses per day, the number of ingested pills could exceed 200 per week. People sometimes forget to take a pill or forget if they already took the pill that day if they do not have any help.

"If I take double the amount

of blood pressure pills, it's very dangerous," Lehmann said. He added that many people are dying from prescription overdose or lack of use.

Lehmann said over 20 percent of the 136.3 million trips to the emergency room recorded by the CDC in 2011 are caused by medicine adherence issues and the problems get "worse and worse as they get older," therefore the primary intention for the invention was to help the elderly.

"When my mom was sick, she was taking 17 pills, which was a nightmare," Lehmann said. "I started it about three years ago all because of my mom. I always thought there's got to be another way."

Affordability and simplicity were key considerations in creating the bracelet. The estimated cost for the product would be around \$300-350 and the initial market would focus on the United States. The plan is to have the device available with a voiceover in many different languages.

The prototype is currently being built.

"We hope to have as close to a final product as we can in a year," Lehmann said. After that, a brief clinical trial must be conducted to warrant FDA approval, according to Lehmann.

John Brittelli, a clinical assistant professor in the respiratory care program at Stony Brook University, was so enthused by the idea that he decided to join in on the project.

In the past, other companies tried to create solutions to the problem.

Some companies created devices that dispense medication through tubes up to six times per day and cost around \$700-800 in addition to monitoring service fees.

Lehmann said that using dispensers is "very challenging," and several states require a caregiver or nurse to monitor dispensers because of past litigation.

"There are many people who tried to fix this problem, but nothing has seemed to work till this time," Lehmann said. "I think we got it."

Mitigating the issue would save huge amounts of money because the total cost estimates for medication non-adherence ranges from \$100-289 billion annually and the cost of annual physician visits per patient is around \$2,000, according to CDC.

"Everything in medicine has to do with dollars," Lehmann said.

Students and faculty at the Centers for Molecular Medicine acknowledged that incorrect medication use was a big problem.

"Because people are connected to their phones all the time, it would be really helpful to notify someone and prevent bad things from happening," Michael Cressy, a lecturer in undergraduate biology who resides in Commack, said. "I think it's great."

Lehmann was notified that the invention had strong IP—the probability of being patented.

Lehmann and Brittelli worked on another invention which would notify parents whether an infant rolled onto its stomach, has a fever, or has difficulty breathing while it is asleep, to prevent Sudden Infant Death Syndrome.

Police Blotter

On April 21, a resident assistant reported marijuana use coming from a Benedict College room. One referral was issued.

On April 22, a large table and chairs were reported missing from the Humanities building. The case was closed after an investigation.

On April 23, a cell phone was reported stolen from a room of the University Hospital. The case is still open.

On April 23, \$350 was reported stolen from a wallet inside Toscana College. The case is open.

On April 23, \$5 was reported missing from a University Hospital locker. The case is open.

On April 24, the driver of a vehicle parked inside the Kenneth P. LaValle Stadium parking lot reportedly attempted to drive off with a boot still on the car. The case is closed, and the student driver was issued a referral.

On April 24, theft of funds via a credit card was reported. The identity theft case was closed by investigation.

On April 24, a ladder was reportedly stolen from the Computer Science building. The case is open.

On April 24, an unknown person or persons "maliciously" activated a fire alarm inside the Grad-

uate Physics building, according to police reports. The system was reset and the case is closed.

On April 25, a male was arrested for driving while intoxicated in front of Keller College on Roosevelt Drive.

On April 26, a small, contained fire was extinguished within the woods near the soccer fields. One student among a group of people was issued a referral.

On April 26, a bicycle was reportedly stolen from outside Greeley College. The case is still open.

On April 26, a RA reported the odor of marijuana inside a Benedict College room. Three students were issued referrals.

On April 28, a wallet was reportedly stolen from inside a jacket pocket inside the University Hospital. The case is open.

On April 28, a ring was reported stolen from the University Hospital. The case was closed.

On April 29, a student was reportedly assaulted by two to three individuals for unknown reasons. The victim was "uncooperative" according to police reports, and did not wish to press felony assault charges. The incident took place inside Mendelsohn Quad.

Compiled by Daniel Moloney

Neil deGrasse Tyson: astrophysicist lecturer is a true star

Continued from page 1

last time someone asked what your GPA was?" When President Stanley said it's been a long time, Tyson said, "Exactly!"

Vice President of GSO Max Katz said Tyson's name was thrown around a lot as a potential speaker because he exemplifies Stony Brook's goals as a research institution.

"He's a very good scientist, but he's also very good at connecting with people and finding ways in pop culture to connect what's going on in science to that," Katz said. "That's why I think he best captures what we're all about here."

Sophomore computer science major Gustavo Poscidonio said his favorite characteristic of Tyson's is his charisma and how he can bring science even to those who have no scientific background.

"I think he's got this crazy ability to simplify the most extraordinary scientific concepts," Poscidonio said. "I think it was Einstein who said 'if you can't explain it simply you don't know it well enough' and I think he understands it well enough."

Stanley commended GSO for its hard work in getting Tyson to come to Stony Brook

and had similar feelings about his appeal.

"I think he takes a look at a lot of issues and approaches them in a really rational and thoughtful way," Stanley said. "I also appreciate the fact that he's a champion for science and for bringing science to the

masses to help them understand it and appreciate how amazing this universe is."

But as Tyson said over and over in his speech, science is not about answers. In fact, he said conclusions are just the "tip of the tip of the iceberg" in the

scientific community.

His passion for science is not attributed to the discovery of the what, but the pursuit of the why and how.

"You need to love the act of doing it," Tyson said. "That's what science is, the investigation."



Astrophysicist Neil deGrasse Tyson, above, spoke at Stony Brook University on Monday, April 27 for the 35th anniversary of the Stony Brook Graduate Student Organization.

PHOTO CREDIT: ANDREA CHARIDEMOU

Taylor Bouraad elected next USG treasurer

Continued from page 1

Vice President of Academic Affairs

Runoff between John Mele (Total vote: 873, 41 percent) and Danielle Ali (Total vote: 939, 44 percent)
No confidence: (Total vote: 333, 16 percent)

Senior Class Senator

Drazen Barcarra

Junior Class Senator

Jonathan Rodriguez

Sophomore Class Senator

Angelica Husni

CAS Senators

Mahnoor Raheel

Nida Kuruvilla

Jin Wei Lin

Tasnia Ahmed

Laura O'Shea

Troy Chinnici

Asia Grant-Murray

Rawson Jahan

Michelle Olakkengil

Alexander Bouraad

Maximillian Shaps

Victor Ng

CEAS Senators

Vallipian Lakshmanan

Joshua Seobarran

Michael Libretto

HSC Senator

Lydia Senatus

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Student performers brought a creative touch at this year's Roth Regatta



HEATHER KHALIFA / THE STATESMAN

This year was the 26th annual Roth Regatta. Besides the boat races, the regatta offered many live student performances. The performances varied from singing groups to acoustic sets.

By Craig Petragalia
Contributing Writer

Although the Roth Regatta is one of Stony Brook University's most long-standing and popular traditions, the Undergraduate Student Government added a new aspect to this year's event. Students have been constructing boats and racing across the Roth Pond since 1989, but this year's 26th annual Regatta featured a halftime show.

The Stony Brook community flocked to Roth Pond on Friday, May 1 to watch as friends and colleagues raced across the pond on man-made crafts. The halftime show began after noon and featured a number of performances from various students and campus clubs.

Students who were interested in participating were required to send in a video of their talent. Adrienne Esposito, a linguistics and economics double major, was elated at her acceptance.

"It's such a huge honor. When I sent the video in, I wasn't really thinking they would actually let me perform. When I read the email I started screaming," Esposito said.

Esposito sang "Rumor Has It" by Adele while accompanied by a friend playing the guitar. This was her first experience singing in front of a large crowd.

"I'm really excited," Esposito said. "I feel like no matter how it goes, afterwards I'm going to think that it's the most surreal experience I've ever had. I'm excited for the adrenaline that singing in front of such a large crowd gives me," she added.

A large crowd was in attendance for the show and the regatta.

Cassandra Elle Santiago, who sang Andy Grammar's song "Keep Your Head Up," sought to help her peers get through

the stressful end-of-the-semester blues period.

"Everybody is probably really stressed out so this is a good way to relieve stress," Santiago said.

"The song choice I chose is in light of finals, I want everyone to be comfortable and have a good time and to know everything will be fine," she added.

As Santiago aimed to relieve stress, fellow halftime performer Joel Polanco spread positivity through his performance. Polanco is a hip hop and soul musician who sang two songs he wrote himself, entitled "Rise" and "Just Bring It Back." Polanco is a sophomore business major from Harlem who uses his music to send powerful messages to listeners.

"Being able to overcome anything in your way and never give up is my message. I want to show people that you can do it no matter what, no matter where you're from and no matter the mistakes you've made, you can overcome it," Polanco said.

This was also Polanco's first music performance, for which he was humbled and excited.

"This is an opportunity to spread the love. It's all about unity and harmony. Unity is what brings us together; harmony is what keeps us together," Polanco said.

The Stony Brook community got another chance to listen to Justin Starling. Starling is comfortable rapping his original music to crowds. He opened Brookfest the past two years, but was excited for this new experience.

"It means a lot that I can be so involved in the campus. It's a great opportunity to perform and share my work with the school," Starling said.

Starling sang two songs from two of his own different mixtapes. The first was titled "Say

No More," and the second song was an unreleased track. Although his mixtape came out in April, Starling still finds difficulties in gaining listeners.

"Actually getting people to listen is the hardest part. There are so many people out here making music. They don't want to listen to you until you're already famous, so that's the hardest part," Starling said.

Although Starling wants to make a career out of his music, on Friday, he was focused on having fun.

"I'm excited to see the boats, to see who crashes in the water and also excited for the show. Roth Regatta is always fun so I know it's going to be a good time," he said.

The fifth individual performer was Vincent Metas, an acoustic songwriter. Metas has been playing the guitar for more than seven years and writing his own lyrics for about five years.

Metas, another talented Stony Brook musician, sang a song he wrote himself.

"It's a great experience and a great opportunity. I like any opportunity to share music with other people. It means something to me to that I can have a community aspect to what I do musically and artistically," Metas said.

In addition, clubs also performed during the halftime show. The Stony Brook Pipettes, Stony Brook High C's and Stony Brook Bhangra joined the individual performers at this year's regatta.

Although the performers were all excited to share their talents and music, in the end, they were looking forward to an eventful day that upholds the traditions of the Roth Regatta.

"I'm excited to see the boats, people splashing in the water and excited to perform and spread positivity," Polanco said. "I'm humbled and excited to perform," he added.

An Inside Look: Toscanini college's plan to impress at this year's Roth Regatta

By Francesca Campione
Staff Writer

Every year since 1989, students have gathered around Roth Pond during the later weeks of the spring semester for one of Stony Brook University's most coveted and beloved traditions: the Roth Regatta.

Treasured for its exhilarating and carefree atmosphere, Roth Regatta challenges students to craft boats out of only three materials: cardboard, duct tape and paint. Students must then race the boats across the murky, green-hued waters of Roth Pond.

The main objective of Stony Brook's annual Roth Regatta is to win the race by having the sturdiest boat and the fastest rowers, as well as to have fun, of course. There are subcategories of the competition that boats are judged as well, such as "Most Spirited" and "Best in Show."

For residents of Toscanini College in Tabler Quad, the competition is not their main priority. Despite their success in races, their first concern is having fun creating the boat and further reinforcing the community atmosphere during their boat-building workshops.

Being that residents of Tabler Quad are a part of the Undergraduate College of Arts, Culture and Humanities, many creative boats have come out of Toscanini and the other buildings within the quad over the years.

This year, Toscanini residents Thomas Krahulik and Joshua LaBounty are leading the pro-

duction of the boat. The theme for this year's Roth Regatta is "Mainstream Fantasy."

The residents of Toscanini decided to eliminate the obvious ideas, like Harry Potter, and instead come up with something a little more original.

"We then narrowed down the list based on what themes we could use to build a boat that was unique, recognizable, and creative," Krahulik said. "When it comes time to build the boat, we have many great volunteers who work efficiently and carefully on many different parts of the boat building. We have people working on cutting cardboard, applying duct tape, designing, tracing and painting. Everybody takes on a small task that needs to be done and is very careful with everything they do."

This year, Toscanini residents chose "Monsters Inc." to be the theme of their boat. Their runner-up boat ideas were "Toy Story" and "Jimmy Neutron's rocket."

Leading up to the Roth Regatta, members of the building were encouraged to become involved in the making of the boat. Working on it every day of the week, into the early hours of the morning, the boat building team also built a strong friendship.

"Building the boat is something we do every year and we are trying to keep up the tradition of keeping the building together to do this," LaBounty said.

The unique design featured the main character Boo's bed

Continued on page 9



BRIDGET DOWNES / THE STATESMAN

Toscanini College paid close attention to detail, adding the features and toys of Boo's room into the boat design.



BRIDGET DOWNES / THE STATESMAN

Toscanini College was one of the first to arrive the morning of the Roth Regatta. The group's first race was in heat four.

Toscanini's hard work scores "Most Spirited" award

Continued from page 8

room as the central focal point of the boat.

Naveen Mallangada, a 19-year-old biology major, contributed to the boat's creation.

"We want to win or at least show something that is nice to look at," he said.

After Toscanini won its first race on Friday, Andreas Stamatakis, an 18-year-old physics major and one of the rowers of the boat, felt "exhilarated."

Catherine Feldman and Carlos Del Castillo both rowed along with him.

"It was like an adventure and I think the adrenaline kicked in, we were just rowing as fast as we could," Feldman said after his first race.

"I was involved in every last step of this boat, from the design in the beginning to the final drawing at the end. All of it," Stamatakis said. "We were working on this thing day in and day out just for this moment, and it was great."

Toscanini College took home the "Most Spirited" award at the closing of the Roth Regatta races. The sentiment of working hard together to produce a boat, according to Stamatakis, made them "all very proud."

ARTSY EVENTS

1) On Thursday, May 7 and Friday, May 8, Pocket Theater will be hosting "Two Nights of Improv." The Pocket Theater's Improvisation Troupe will be performing skits with an emphasis on comedy. Admission is free and the event will be held in the Black Box Theater in the Tabler Center for Arts, Culture and Humanities at 8 p.m.

2) On Friday May 8 the Weekend Life Council is hosting a Renaissance Faire as a part of Relax-In-The-SAC. Relax-In-The-SAC is held annually and it is aimed to help out students during finals time. This year from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. the event will offer food, drinks and activities for students. Following the faire will be a showing of "How to Train Your Dragon" and "How to Train Your Dragon 2" in the SAC auditorium.

3) The Music Department Chamber Music Festival will be held from Wednesday, May 6 to Saturday, May 9. The Music Festival offers two to three different types of performances a day, with performance times ranging from 12 p.m. to 8 p.m.. The African Drumming Ensemble, for example, will be playing on Thursday, May 7 at 5:30 p.m. at Staller Plaza.

"Avengers: Age Of Ultron" leaves viewers entertained, but wanting more from Marvel

By Brandon Benarba
Senior Staff Writer

When Marvel's "The Avengers" was originally released in 2012 the biggest question surrounding the film was whether or not the film would work. Three years, four films and billions of dollars later comes the sequel "Avengers: Age of Ultron," which now begs a different question: Can Marvel recapture the magic of the first film?

"Avengers: Age of Ultron" is a beautiful mess. A film that is bigger, flashier and bolder than the original, but that also never reaches the heights of the original.

While it contains the stylish action and fun characters we have come to know and love over the years, the film suffers from poor writing and repetitive story beats that raises questions about the Marvel movies as a whole.

Director Joss Whedon starts the film in media res, assaulting a hidden Hydra base where the metahuman twins Wanda (Elizabeth Olsen) and Pietro Maximoff (Aaron Taylor-Johnson) are hidden away, along with Loki's spear.

Upon recapturing the staff, Tony (Robert Downey Jr.) tries to create an AI, with the help of his science bro Bruce Banner (Mark Ruffalo), to protect the world in place of the Avengers.

The creation, titled Ultron (James Spader), becomes self-aware and decides the only way to complete his mission is the eradication of both the Avengers and humanity, or at least, to force an extinction-level catastrophe that would force Darwinian evolution. This sets the team off on a globe-trotting adventure as they try to stop their mechanical Frankenstein's monster.

If that description sounds convoluted, that is because it is. "Age of Ultron's" biggest flaw is the writing, which usually is the strength of Whedon. The story feels rushed, with small character moments being buried underneath excuses to transition to the

next big action-sequence.

This is especially evident during the middle of the film, where characters and entire side-plots meander around for the sole purpose of setting up the next string of films.

The film sets up a lot of interesting developments only to backpeddle the character's development soon after. For example, Black Widow has gone from a strong female character to both a damsel in distress and the star-crossed lover.

Yes, the individual character quips are still great, often evoking plenty of laughs. Chris Hemsworth's Thor continues to be great comedic support, but the overall writing just feels sloppy.

Being the 11th Marvel film, it feels redundant to say the actors feel comfortable in their roles.

Newcomers Spader, Johnson, and Olsen are all fantastic, but the standout is Paul Bettany as Vision, an android creation of Ultron who is such a weird character that he breathes some life into the film's tired corpse.

That being said, the heart of the film belongs to Hawkeye (Jeremy Renner), who had little to do in the first film, but really steps into the spotlight, serving as the human element among a crowd of powered gods.

The action feels a lot more fluid in this film, with Whedon playing with the team aspect as

much as possible.

From the bravura opening of long traveling shots, we really feel like each character has their moment to shine, reminding viewers why each character is on the team.

While Whedon is much better at directing the action beats, they also feel empty due to how awful a villain Ultron is.

A mechanical robot who loves humanity so much that they need to save us from ourselves is interesting, yet Ultron comes off as a freshman philosophy major reciting Wikipedia pages about evolution.

It removes tension from all the fights, which might be the reason they have such rapid editing.

"Avengers: Age of Ultron" is still a lot of fun, but that does not mean it is perfect. The things we have come to know and love from these films return, but everything just feels more tiring this time around.

Beautifully-shot action scenes are countered by a terrible villain, powerful character moments overshadowed by a bad script, etc. What we get is fantastic mess, one that is fun to watch, but sucks to think about afterwards.

If all you want is more of the same, then "Avengers: Age of Ultron" will not disappoint, but ask yourself this: How long are you willing to accept more of the same from Marvel?



MARVEL / TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

Chris Evans, left, and Chris Hemsworth, right, returned to play characters Captain America and Thor in the sequel.

Box Office

1. In the movie "Hot Pursuit," Witherspoon plays Cooper, a cop who has not yet been able to prove herself in her field. She gets the job of accompanying a superior officer to transport a witness to testify in court against drug dealers. As she is picking up the witness Daniella, played by Sofia Vergara, their location is attacked and the two ladies must escape together, with Daniella under Cooper's protective custody. Cooper must do what she can to keep Daniella safe. The movie hits theaters May 8.

2. The girls are back and are ready to tackle an international competition in "Pitch Perfect 2." The same hilarious and quotable cast hits the big screen once more as they attempt to win an international a cappella competition that no American group has won before. The group's bond is stronger than ever as the girls try to achieve their goal, with some good music and comedy along the way. The girls hit the stage again on May 15.

3. Are you a Disney fan? The concept of one of Disney's most well-known attractions is explored in the movie "Tomorrowland." George Clooney plays a science genius who enters another dimension with a curious teenager, played by Britt Robertson, where their actions can potentially save the Earth from the current issues that are destroying it. The adventure begins May 22.

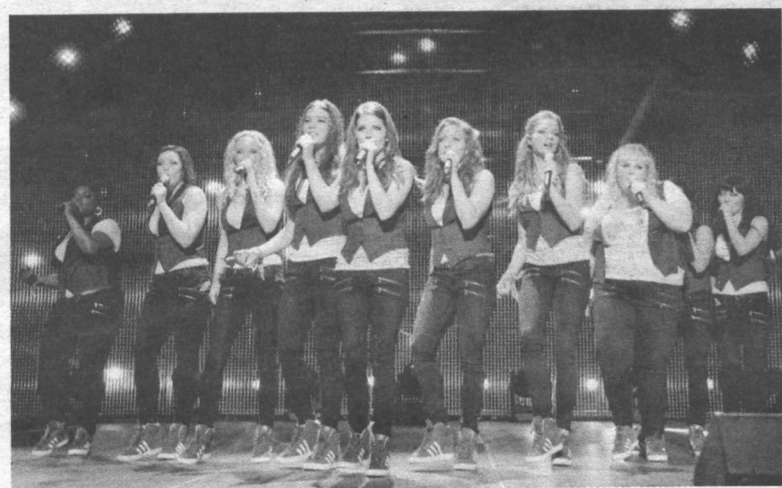


PHOTO CREDIT: TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

OPINIONS

THE STATESMAN

INFORMING STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY FOR MORE THAN 50 YEARS

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New stories are published online every day Monday through Thursday. A print issue is published every Monday during the academic year and is distributed to many on-campus locations, the Stony Brook University Hospital and over 70 off-campus locations.

The Statesman and its editors have won several awards for student journalism and several past editors have gone on to enjoy distinguished careers in the field of journalism.



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Letter to the Editor: Hate speech requires transparency



PHOTO CREDIT: BIFF MICHAEL

Dr. Frank Turek, left, engaged in a debate with Michael Shermer, not pictured, over the origin of morality at the Sidney Gelber Auditorium in the SAC on April 16.

Submitted by the Graduate Queer Alliance. The Graduate Queer Alliance is an all-inclusive group for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer people and their allies to create a sense of community for those in sexual and gender minorities.

We at the Stony Brook University Graduate Queer Alliance (GQA) believe that a university should provide an open forum for controversial ideas to be discussed and debated. We encourage open dialogue as a way to evaluate evidence, formulate opinions and communicate those opinions to others. However, not all ideas are morally fungible. Some are, in fact, harmful, and at a liberal educational institution, injurious ideas are rightfully criticized and not given an unquestioned platform to be presented. A different mechanism of presentation is required if ideas are deemed potentially harmful, and this mechanism holds to a higher standard the rigor with which they will be subsequently evaluated.

The "debate" at the Student Activities Center auditorium at Stony Brook University on April 16 flies in the face of the kind of dialogue encouraged at a public institution, especially dialogue funded with public money. The topic of the debate was, "What better explains morality, God or science?" At its surface, it seems like a complex and controversial topic (that myopically assumed only two answers), but is, nevertheless, one that students should engage. The problem with this debate was not the topic, but the people debating.

Michael Shermer, who is an author and has a monthly "Skeptic" column in *Scientific American*, was arguing for science, and Frank Turek was arguing for God. The latter is a prominent conservative Christian with what might be considered extreme perspectives on certain issues, especially homosexuality. Given our current political climate and the background of Dr. Turek, it was inevitable that this topic would be engaged during the debate. Turek's positions are clear and in the public sphere. Although the LG-BTQ* spectrum includes more than just gay people, gay people were the explicit focus of the presenters at this

debate. In fact, Dr. Turek has written a book deriding gays and suggesting doom for countries that accept them in any way, shape, or form (as per how the book was advertised by the moderator).

During the debate, Dr. Turek informed the audience that he has met many former homosexuals but never a former African American. He incited a clear divide between African Americans and gays by claiming that one is a more legitimate minority than the other. He also stated that gays have a choice in their sexual orientation, implying that they could choose not to be gay and therefore avoid discrimination, unlike African Americans who cannot choose their skin color. He discussed how a "homosexual lifestyle" was deadly, and when pressed by Dr. Shermer to define said lifestyle, he refused out of respect to the audience, citing the implied vulgarity of the answer. This refusal came following his 20-minute debate introduction where he showed Nazi propaganda videos and discussed torturing and murdering children in Nazi death camps. His implication was that the "homosexual lifestyle" is in some way worse and more discourteous than these genocidal war crimes.

Turek was also openly and unabashedly Islamophobic, sexist and misogynistic. He misrepresented the views of a variety of other groups as well, and mocked and denied the theory of evolution the same week that scientists at Stony Brook discovered humanity's oldest stone tools.

Turek's propaganda is so far from the truth that it should be self-evident in the 21st century and especially to the millennial generation that currently attends Stony Brook that a speaker who holds these beliefs should not be given such a prestigious platform to speak in the first place. This is not an issue of free speech, not least because the views that Dr. Turek expresses have already been evaluated and exchanged in public forums countless times, and it has been concluded that they are indeed wrong and harmful. We do not tolerate people who advocate for ridiculous things like racial segregation in schools an unquestioned platform

to speak, despite the fact that they are allowed to express those views in other public forums. A public school administration would rightfully fight the expression of bigotry like this on a college campus, so why should someone who speaks just as hatefully toward gays and other groups be treated differently?

We may live in a country and a world where many of people do in fact agree with Dr. Turek. However, this does not change the fact that what he is saying is factually incorrect and truly harmful to students. Again, disagreement and debate on social and moral matters, even when there is a common set of facts, is the crux of a liberal university culture. Free and open debate should be encouraged, but not when what is being said is so clearly wrong and so clearly harmful.

The nature of the university demands that there be a mechanism to discuss all views, as objectionable and repulsive as some of them might be. In fact, one might argue that exposing these views to the public might allow them to be subject to an enhanced degree of criticism, which would not happen if they were censored. This is why the GQA endorses the idea that more speech and dialogue about this sensitive matter, not less, is the solution when there are conflicting interests at play. The goal is a "positive sum game" where all viewpoints can be presented and evaluated in a manner consistent with our school's values.

When Columbia University invited the Holocaust-denying former president of Iran, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, to speak at the school, there was of course protest, and rightly so. However, the event was widely publicized and constructive criticism of the event happened both before, during and after. Indeed, the president of the Jewish organization Hillel signed a declaration of support for the event (and at the same time criticized the school for not giving students more notice for the event). As far as the LGBTQ* community at SBU is concerned, Turek's views towards us are similar to Ahmadinejad's towards

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Stony Brook answers: I wish my teacher knew...

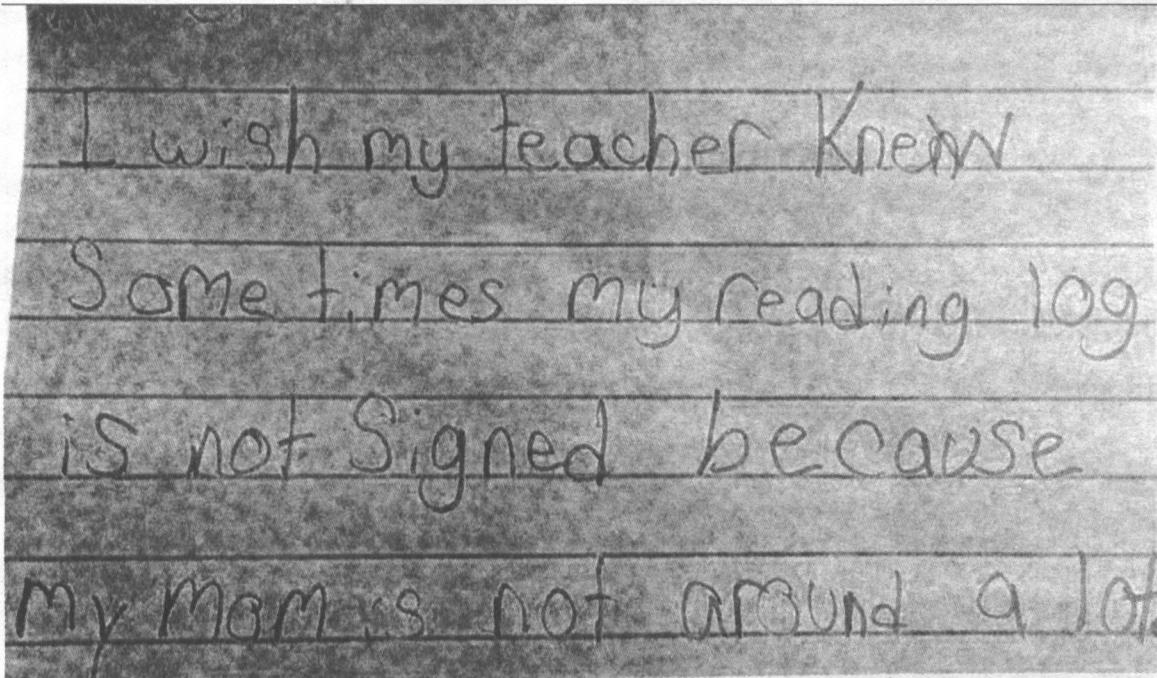


PHOTO CREDIT: KYLE M. SCHWARTZ

A third grader in Denver completed the assignment above with a heartbreaking response.

By Kate Valerio
Contributing Writer

A third grade teacher in Denver recently gave her students a writing assignment asking them to finish the prompt "I wish my teacher knew..." Some of the answers were truly heartbreaking. In honor of this teacher's attempt to better connect with our students, we took our own poll of what Stony Brook students wish their professors knew. Listen up professors, it is time for you to learn.

One of the most common responses I received from students is they all wished their professors could understand their workload. We are all taking multiple classes along with jobs, family obligations and extracurricular activities. We do not have time to read 25 chapters in one weekend when every other class is assigning the same workload.

A similar but separate comment was on how the schedule of student-athletes is not conducive to the amount of work teachers give. Duly not-

ed, student athletes, but it is not just you.

Another response that I received often enough to warrant attention is the students who wished their professors knew that their recent performance in school is because they are suffering from depression. Too many students here understand this pain, and I thank the students who spoke up about this. There are some professors that truly care about their students. I have also had a number of students wishing their professors knew how

much their help in a time of need was appreciated. However, more professors need to be aware of the students who are still struggling, still not receiving that help so we do not have any more students wishing their professors could understand their depression.

Two also very common, and in my opinion, unnecessary, comments were the students who wished their professors spoke English, and knew that they wanted to perform certain physical acts with them that would be more appropriate for The Sexwolf column rather than this article. To these students, save these comments for YikYak.

And I would like to add my two cents. I wish my professors knew that I am in awe of how much they understand and I appreciate all the knowledge that they have given me.

And maybe a little bit of the "physical act" stuff that was mentioned before.

Take notes, professors. This is what your students want you to know.

Some other interesting and notable responses to I wish my professors knew include:

1. I make jokes in class when I don't understand something so I don't look stupid.
2. Ph.D. is not spelled G.O.D.

3. If the average for a test is 50 percent, the majority of kids only understood half of the information that will be needed in more difficult classes.

4. How to teach slower.

5. We are adults and shouldn't be treated like children.

6. How little effort I put into my A- papers.

7. Putting a problem into Excel doesn't teach anyone anything.

8. I memorized an entire book to try and get an A on the final.

9. When they say you can't do an entire project in one night, they're completely wrong.

10. How hard I study.

11. I still have a crush on them two years after graduating.

12. How much I appreciated the help when I needed someone to talk to.

13. That they're brilliant and I love their intelligence.

Abrasive dialogue at public universities needs warning

Continued from page 10

Jewish people. Turek actively denies the existence of LGBTQ* people, and (at least it should) go without saying that this nonsense should not be tolerated. President Lee Bollinger of Columbia, in introducing former President Ahmadinejad, spoke out against his intolerance in Iran to his face. On the other hand, the event at Stony Brook was organized with support from the School of Social Welfare, which extolled Turek and New York Apologetics. The event was not advertised to students, even though it used public resources. No notification to the campus was given that this event was taking place and LGBTQ* services was not informed, despite the homophobic reputation of one of the speakers.

Stony Brook is a prestigious research school, with a rich history of activism and liberalism. It is incumbent upon the administration at all levels to ensure fair and open dialogue without bringing harm to any community on campus. In some cases, Turek's homophobic comments were met with roaring applause, demonstrating the level of misunderstanding and lack of empathy for LGBTQ* and other minorities at Stony Brook. This becomes significant, as we live in a benighted age when institutional homophobia and queerphobia hide behind supposed freedoms of expression and religion, guaranteed in the Constitution. Turek's hate-speech instigates and nourishes a culture of homophobia and should simply not be tolerated on campus

without the appropriate actions taken to put it into context.

At the Graduate Queer Alliance, we believe in free speech, we believe in the freedom to practice one's faith, we believe in diversity. We support these things even if opinions are different from our own. However, we are vehemently against pointless bigotry of any sort. Together with other LGBTQ* groups and other clubs and organizations on campus, we are passing resolutions against Turek's hate-speech.

At our weekly meeting, we passed a resolution demanding censure of the School of Social Welfare's decision to host this event in the dark, in a flawed manner, and with public funds.

We will ask for an apology from the administrator(s) involved in bringing Dr. Turek and his homophobia to campus without following proper protocols that should be second nature when dedicating time and resources to an event at a university. We ask for the Offices of the President, the Dean of Students, the Graduate School and the University Senate to reiterate the university's commitment to providing an inclusive environment for all students, especially LGBTQ* folks, to flourish and grow. More dialogue on this manner will not simply meet needs of LGBTQ* students, but will teach all students about how an academic culture of freedom should operate.

We open our meetings to provide a safe space to members of the university community to heal from Dr. Turek's bigotry and encourage further discussion on this matter.

Almonds: side effects may include killing California

By Joseph Whearty
Contributing Writer

In the last couple of years, the Golden State has turned more to a dusty, dry yellow as it is caught in the grips of a historic drought. Officials have taken charge to combat the crisis by instituting statewide cutbacks on water use. But despite their best efforts, there is still a major issue in the form of a tiny nut and its \$6.5 billion industry. While Californians are struggling to limit their water use, almond farmers are draining the state of its groundwater to support the growing industry. With almond growers and investors showing no signs of limiting their activities, the responsibility falls on the public to cut its consumption of California almonds in order to decrease their demand and preserve California's water.

Since roughly 2005, the consumption of almonds has skyrocketed in the U.S., so much that it the almond dethroned America's long-time favorite, the peanut, as the country's most popular nut in 2014. Their demand has also been strengthened by an unprecedented growth in popularity in China. While the widespread popularity of a trendy, healthy snack seems harmless, that carton of almond milk or bag of nuts prove to be more nefarious when you realize that it takes a gallon of water to produce a single almond. Also, the total California almond industry, which produces about 80 percent of the world's almonds, requires more than one trillion gallons of water a year.

One might think that with Californians being expected to decrease their use of water, hundreds of wild elk dying of thirst and bodies of wa-

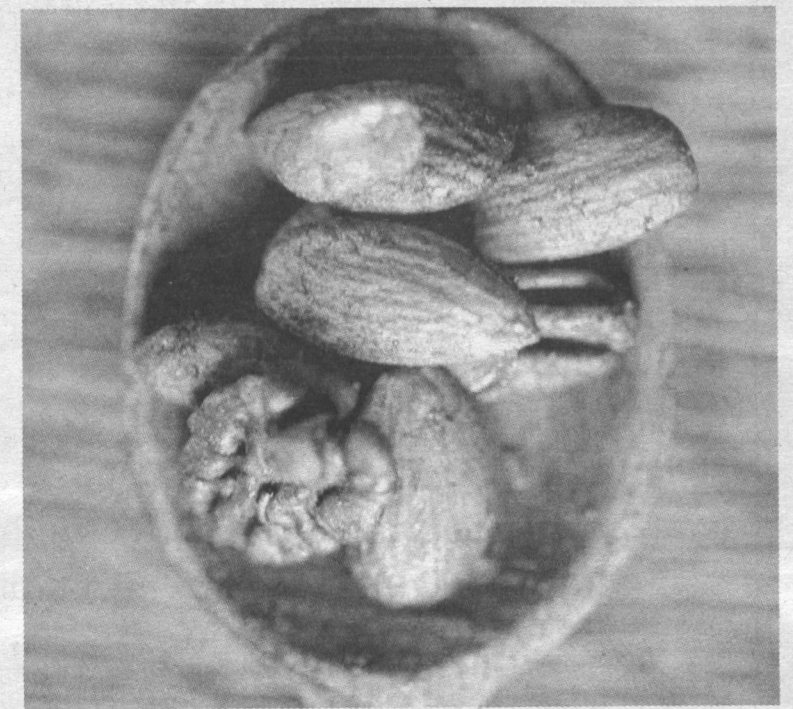


PHOTO CREDIT: JULI LEONARD

A drought had California in a State of Emergency in January.

ter decreasing to fractions of their normal area, almond growers might think twice about planting new almond trees. However, that is not the case. Despite the drought conditions, the majority of California almond farmers are still determined to expand the industry and plant more almond trees. I believe that this demonstrates a disappointing lack of social responsibility on the part of almond farmers. But who could be surprised when they are tempted by returns as high as 30 percent? I, for one, am not.

When given the option, any business owner would likely choose the more profitable course regardless of its implications.

Unfortunately, population on the East Coast have little ability to combat California's drought. We cannot mail water across the country and we

certainly cannot control the weather and send them rain. But as consumers, we do have one power. We can help to decide which products make money and which do not.

So I plan to stop buying almond products and I encourage you all to do the same. Then maybe, when their profits sink, almond farmers will reduce the cultivation of their crop. Until this crisis is over, I can stand to eat walnuts or help the peanut take back its place as top of the nut hierarchy.

And I can switch back to cow's milk. It is creamier anyway.

While the drought is a complicated issue and the boycotting of almonds will not solve everything, I believe it is a step in the right direction, even if it is just to show the almond industry that we will care about California's well being when they will not.

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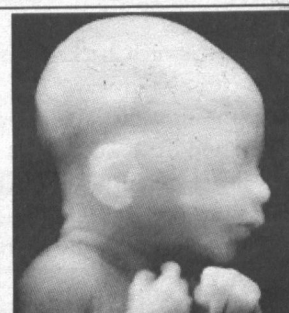
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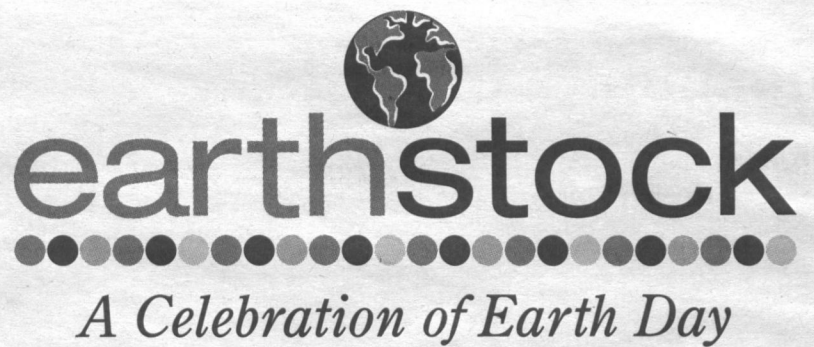


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Monday

Center for the Study of Men and Masculinities - Naomi Wolf
4:00 p.m. | Humanities 1008

Tuesday

Super Smash Bros. Tournament
7:30-8:45 p.m. | Cardozo Hall

Wednesday

The Mediterranean Legacy in Norman Southern Italy
2:30 p.m. | Melville Library E4340

Thursday

Two Nights of Improv
8:30 p.m. | Staller Center Stage 3

Friday

Weekend Life Council - Relax in the SAC: Renaissance Faire
3-7 p.m. | SAC

Email your event to calendar@sbstatesman.com. Titles must be fewer than 100 characters.



Weekly Instagram



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Posts are unaltered.

Sudoku

9	1	2	7	4	6	8	5	3
5	3	7	9	1	8	2	6	4
8	6	4	5	3	2	9	1	7
3	5	8	2	9	7	6	4	1
7	9	1	4	6	3	5	8	2
4	2	6	1	8	5	7	3	9
2	8	9	3	5	4	1	7	6
6	7	3	8	2	1	4	9	5
1	4	5	6	7	9	3	2	8

last week's answer

this week's puzzle

		9	5		7	6		
	8			2			9	
4								5
6			9		8			7
	2						3	
7			2		1			9
1								2
	3			5			7	
		6	7		2	4		

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Men's Lacrosse Championship

Fields, Thompson lead Albany to third straight title over Stony Brook

By Cameron Boon
Assistant Sports Editor

Big-time players come through in big-time games. Albany's star senior attackman Lyle Thompson did so again, tallying six points and leading the Albany Great Danes to their third straight America East Men's Lacrosse championship, defeating the second-seeded Stony Brook Seawolves 22-9.

This is Albany's third-straight America East Championship crown, and the Great Danes broke the conference's record for most goals in the title game in the process.

Thompson tallied all five of his goals in the first half, including scoring the first three for the Great Danes, who had two separate 4-0 runs in the first half to go into the break up 8-5. Thompson then used another one to take control early in the third quarter.

The second-half dominance would not stop there, as Albany went on to outscore Stony Brook 13-4 in the final 30 minutes after the Seawolves hung tough for the first 30, including a 7-1 fourth quarter in favor of the Great Danes.

The throne Thompson, who will go down as one of the best men's lacrosse players ever, currently occupies could very well



MANJU SHIVACHARAN/THE STATESMAN

Junior attackman Challen Rogers (above No. 23) finished with a hat trick in the AE title game loss.

be filled next by freshman attackman Connor Fields. He had himself a day, tallying four goals and adding four assists.

After the Seawolves took a 2-0 lead in the first quarter, the defending co-Tewaaraton award winner Thompson did it all on his own. To get the Great Danes on the board, he cut in front of the net and bounced it past sophomore goalie Hayden Johnstone to make it 2-1.

He then proceeded to give the Great Danes a lead after a very long possession that culminated in Thompson whipping it home

from about eight yards out to give Albany a 3-2 advantage, something the Great Danes would not relinquish for the remainder of the matchup.

After allowing a fourth goal, Stony Brook cut the lead back to 4-3, as senior attackman Mike Rooney floated a pass from behind the goal to sophomore midfielder Ryan Bitzer, who fired it past Albany junior goalkeeper Blaze Riorden.

The late-quarter goal momentum was quickly erased as Adam Osika took the ball and walked right through a mishap in Stony

Brook's defense to make it 5-3 Great Danes.

Thompson then scored his final two goals of the game, both from the "x" and going to either side of the goal, with the latter of the two with a very nice scooping shot to make it 8-3 Albany.

Midfielders Jeff Reh and Challen Rogers were able to cut the Seawolves lead to 8-5 with 8:19 to play in the first half, but that is as close as the Seawolves would get the rest of the way.

Four different Great Danes scored in a six-goal third quarter,

with Fields leading the way with a hat trick and an assist for the Great Danes to take a commanding 15-8 lead heading into the final period.

It was six different players wearing purple and gold jerseys in the fourth quarter of the matchup, including sophomore attackman Bennett Drake and freshman midfielder Kyle McClancy adding their lone goals of the contest.

Rooney was held relatively silent in what was quite possibly his final game of his storied Stony Brook career, only accumulating four points on the morning, under his average of 6.3 per game coming into the title game.

While Albany grabbed the automatic bid to the NCAA Men's Lacrosse Tournament by winning the America East Conference, Stony Brook will have to wait out, and most likely sweat out, the selection show on Sunday night to see if its resume impresses the committee enough for an at-large bid.

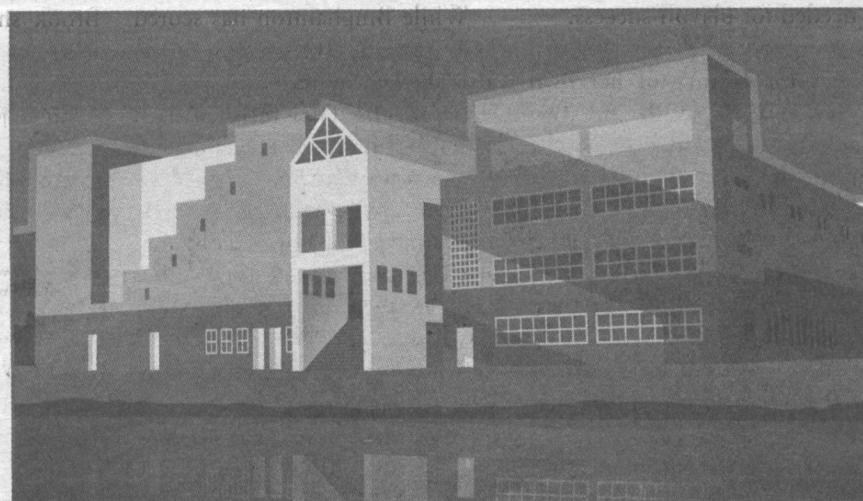
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Softball Championship Preview

Seawolves looking for redemption from 2014 after rolling through regular season schedule

By Chris Gaine
Staff Writer

After falling one win short of a conference title last season, the Stony Brook softball team has a chance to redeem itself this weekend when it hosts the America East Softball Championships.

The tournament opens up on Thursday at 1 p.m., with the top-seeded Seawolves facing off against the Maine Black Bears, and will conclude with the championship round on Saturday. Stony Brook was the best in-conference team this season, posting a 14-2 record, and enters the postseason as the favorites.

The winner of this tournament will advance to the NCAA Regionals, where teams will have a chance to earn a berth to the Women's College World Series.

Keys to Victory

Stony Brook will need solid pitching from both of its starting pitchers. Junior Jane Sallen and senior Allison Cukrov have each had dominant seasons, as both are top-ten in the America East in strikeouts, earned run average (ERA), wins and innings pitched. This 1-2 punch did wonders for the Seawolves during the regular season, and a similar output will be needed for playoff success.

Cukrov also has a chance to make some history of her own this postseason. With just two more wins, she will become the winningest pitcher in Stony Brook softball history.

Offensively, senior outfielder Bria Green has established herself as the America East's best hitter. She won the conference's Triple Crown this season, batting .438 with 18 home runs and 48 RBIs in 43 games.

There is no question that Green's dominance has garnered the attention of opposing pitchers and coaches throughout the conference.

As a result, she may draw more walks in the playoffs, as other teams will grow weary of pitching to such an effective hitter.

With this being the case, senior outfielder Shayla Giosia becomes perhaps Stony Brook's most important player.

Giosia, who bats behind Green in the order, is having quite a spectacular year herself, batting .396 with 12 home runs and 43 RBIs.

If Green begins to get walked, she should have plenty of chances to drive in runners all weekend.

The Field

Although the Seawolves are the clear favorites heading into the tournament, they will face tough competition from fellow playoff teams Maine, Albany and Binghamton.

Stony Brook will play Maine in the first round, while Albany and Binghamton face each other on the other side of the bracket. The winners and losers of both

games will face each other in the second round, respectively.

Maine's biggest strength is its pitching. Despite scoring the second-fewest runs in the conference, sophomore pitcher Alexis Bogdanovich and freshman hurler Annie Kennedy have carried Maine into the postseason.

Bogdanovich and Kennedy have two of the top three individual ERAs in the conference this season and will likely keep the team locked into low-scoring affairs. When the Seawolves visited Maine in April, they took two out of three from the Black Bears, outscoring them 8-5.

Unlike the Black Bears, the Binghamton Bearcats are powered by their offense and struggling on the mound. Junior outfielder Lisa Cadogan is tied with Green for the America East lead with a .438 batting average, while hitting nine home runs and 48 RBIs.

She also leads the conference by over 40 points with an unreal .563 on base percentage. With these numbers, Cadogan is undoubtedly the focal point of the Bearcats' offense. Junior outfielder Sydney Harbaugh is another Binghamton player to watch for, as she is batting .347 with a .473 on base percentage.

While Binghamton has scored early and often this season, it has also allowed more than their fair share of runs. They finished sixth of seven America East teams with a 5.48 team ERA.

Their two primary starters, sophomore Shelby Donhauser and freshman Sarah Miller, each have ERAs well over 5.00 this season.

When they visited Stony Brook for a three-game series in early April, Binghamton allowed 25 runs over the course of the series, which allowed the Seawolves to take two out of three from the Bearcats.

In the case of Albany, a potential matchup with Stony Brook would become a revenge match, as the Great Danes defeated the Seawolves in the final game of the tournament last year.

With the support of a deep lineup, Albany has returned to the playoffs in 2015 to defend its title.

Sophomore catcher Elizabeth Snow, senior outfielder Vicky McFarland and junior shortstop Maggie Cocks each rank in top ten in the America East in batting average, hits and total bases.

This has been a driving force behind their conference-leading .305 team batting average.

The Great Danes are a middle-of-the-pack team from a pitching standpoint.

Freshman pitchers Devin Durando and Erynn Sobieski have each been solid this season, going 13-5 and 10-5 respectively as the two primary starters.

Outside of these two pitchers, the rest of the staff is rather underwhelming, as no other pitchers have an ERA below 3.70.

The Great Danes' 3.57 staff ERA ranks fourth in the America East.

When Albany hosted the Seawolves last week, they were swept in two lopsided games by scores of 8-3 and 7-3.

The Outlook

Stony Brook has a real chance to win this tournament.

The Seawolves have by far the most well-rounded team in the conference, and this is reflected in their 14-2 record. Behind solid pitching and timely hitting, the Seawolves should do well this weekend.

Home-field advantage should help as well.

The Seawolves are 11-4 at home this season and should benefit from the tournament's residence at University Field.

With key players like Green, Giosia and Cukrov all graduating at the end of the season, this could be the Seawolves' last opportunity to make a run at an America East championship for a while.

These three players will be very difficult to replace, as each of them has established themselves as all-time program greats.

Whoever comes into any of these three spots in 2016 will have big shoes to fill, so Stony Brook should make its best attempt to seize the moment in this weekend.

Since joining the America East in 2002, the Seawolves have won the conference twice, emerging as victorious in 2008 and 2013.

Cukrov, Green breaking records as America East Tournament nears

By Dylan Moore
Staff Writer

With a 12-2 conference record, the Stony Brook softball team is poised to go far in the upcoming America East tournament.

The Seawolves shattered several personal and school records this season. A handful of players put up the best numbers of their collegiate careers and a few even led the America East in some categories.

One of the more noteworthy players this season has been Bria Green. Batting .438, she has been the centerpiece of this Stony Brook offense.

Her .958 slugging percentage is the best in the America East and on the team, and her .500 on base percentage is good for third place in the conference.

But the most talked-about aspect of Green's season is her power.

She hit her 18th home run of the season on April 28, setting a new school record for home runs. The previous leader was Hayley Durham, who hit 17 bombs in 2005.

The Seawolves' pitching staff has also been stellar this year. Senior pitcher Allison Cukrov has been solid as always, and Jane Sallen, a junior on the mound, has emerged as a star.

While Cukrov's numbers have not been as incredible as last season's, she is still a dominant threat in the circle.

In a three-game set against

Maine, she pitched 14.1 innings without allowing a single run, winning two of the games.

Cukrov is also on track to set the school record for most career appearances, currently held by Alyssa Struzenberg.

She will also have the second most career innings pitched and strikeouts, eclipsing Struzenberg and Stephanie Poetzsch, respectively.

Cukrov already holds the records for the most career saves and shutouts.

After a mediocre 2014 campaign, Jane Sallen has shown her ability to be an ace. So far, she has a 2.64 earned run average and a 14-9 record in 30 appearances.

While those numbers do not exactly jump off the page, her offseason improvement has been drastic.

Over the course of the 2014 season, Sallen allowed almost an entire extra run per game compared to this year, earning a 3.51 ERA.


She also struck out 50 batters last year, compared to 88 so far this year.

Another consideration is that Sallen is a junior. If she progresses even half as much before next season as she did for this season, she will be an incredibly dominant pitcher.

With Cukrov leaving this May, Sallen will very likely be taking over the role of number-one starter.


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CONFERENCE


Winners Bracket

#1  Stony Brook


Thursday, May 7
Game 1 - 1:00 p.m.

#4  Maine

Friday, May 8
Game 3 - 11:00 a.m.
Game 1 Winner vs. Game 2 Winner

#2  Albany

Thursday, May 7
Game 2 - 3:30 p.m.

#3  Binghamton

Saturday, May 9
Game 6 - 12:00 p.m.
Game 3 Winner vs. Game 5 Winner

Losers Bracket

Friday, May 8
Game 4 - 1:30 p.m.
Game 1 Loser vs. Game 2 Loser

Friday, May 8
Game 5 - 4:00 p.m.
Game 3 Loser vs. Game 4 Winner

Saturday, May 9
*Game 7 - 2:30 p.m.
Game 6 Winner vs. Game 7 Loser

2015 Champion

* Game Will Only Be Played If Team Out of Losers Bracket Wins

PHOTO CREDIT: AMERICA EAST CONFERENCE

SPORTS

Women's lacrosse secures third-straight championship

By Skyler Gilbert
Staff Writer

For many teams, winning the America East tournament is something that would be worthy of intense celebration and rejoicing.

For the Stony Brook women's lacrosse team, it is more or less just another game for a team with larger aspirations rooted in the NCAA tournament beginning next week.

On Sunday afternoon at Kenneth P. LaValle Stadium, the Seawolves took home their third-consecutive America East Women's Lacrosse championship in a 11-8 defeat of the rival Albany Great Danes in a contest that was not as close as the game indicated.

"I thought we played a very, very good game. I think the score was not indicative of the game itself," Head Coach Joe Spallina said. "I think we were way better than them the entire game. We scored whenever we wanted."

Such high praise of his team is uncommon for Spallina, known in the lacrosse community for his insistence on excellence and high expectations for his teams.

In a season where underclassmen Courtney Murphy and Kylie Ohlmiller earned the bulk of the spotlight offensively, it was Amber Kupres, one of the senior captains, who led the Seawolves at the Sunday matinee.

Kupres, a senior midfielder, notched her top goal output of the season with five tallies, tying her career-high.

Kupres was rather disinterested about her personal milestone, making a point to emphasize the team aspect of the win rather than her individual accomplishment.



HEATHER KHALIFA/THE STATESMAN

Senior Amber Kupres (above, No. 4) celebrates with freshman Kylie Ohlmiller (above, No. 17) and sophomore Courtney Murphy (above, No. 18) after her goal on Sunday.

"That's exciting," she said. "But I'm just glad that we won the game as a team."

"The kid goes 110 miles per hour, she never takes a play off. She's always the first one back on defense," Spallina said about Kupres. "She comes up with clutch plays, in the biggest game of the year she scores five goals. From day one, she's been like that."

Ohlmiller was named the Most Outstanding Player of the tournament.

The freshman attacker scored a goal and dished off five assists in the game.

Junior attacker Taylor Ranftle had two goals and three assists, earning a season-best five points.

Murphy added three goals on the afternoon, bringing her season

goal total to 70, which leads the America East.

Albany came out with a clear game plan: wear down the Seawolves with long, methodical possessions and slow down the pace against the No. 5 team in the country.

Albany attacker Sarah Martin opened the game by finding the back of the net at the tail end of a five minute passing sequence to make the score 1-0 for the Great Danes, and it looked as though the underdog's plan would come to fruition.

Spallina was unfazed by Albany trying to slow the tempo down.

"I think if you want to be an elite team you have to be able to play different styles," he said. "We

can run one time down the field and push in transition, or we can stop and spread them out. Not many teams can shift gears like that mentally."

Stony Brook answered by dominating the rest of the first half, outscoring Albany 7-1 for the remainder of the half, leading 7-2 in turnovers forced and 5-1 in ground balls in the opening frame.

The second half began with more of the same.

Kupres' fifth goal of the game and a goal by Murphy extended the lead to 9-2, the largest the lead would get.

The Seawolves began playing conservatively, focusing more on eating clock than scoring.

This allowed Albany to narrow

the margin in the waning minutes of a match in which the result was already decided.

Albany finished the game with just eight shot attempts, a far cry from its season average of 27.6 shots per game.

Stony Brook's defense is the top-ranked scoring defense in the NCAA this season.

The team's focus now is solely on the NCAA tournament, where Spallina believes they will be seeded as a No. 3 or No. 4 when the selection committee creates the bracket late on Sunday night.

A top-6 seed would earn the Seawolves a first round bye, while a top-4 seed would earn them home-field advantage until the national semifinals in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Both would give them a home first-round matchup.

Spallina and the players do not have a preference who they play, ready to take on whomever the selection committee pits against them.

"Honestly, we'll play anybody," Spallina said, regarding the idea of being matched up with a powerhouse like Maryland or North Carolina later in the tournament. "I think this year it's been pretty obvious that on any given day anyone can get knocked off."

"I'm just going to approach [tournament games] like any other game," Ohlmiller said. "We've played some huge games this season, against Northwestern, Florida and Notre Dame. Those types of games get me really amped up, so I'm sure it'll be the same."

"We've played great teams so far, and we've beaten great teams," senior midfielder Michelle Rubino said. "I think we're ready for anyone at this point."

Former Stony Brook WR Adrian Coxson signs with Packers

By Andrew Eichenholz
Assistant Sports Editor

Stony Brook wide receiver Adrian Coxson may not have become the first Seawolf ever to be selected in the NFL Draft, but immediately following the final pick, Coxson signed a contract with the Green Bay Packers, confirming it over the phone.

"It feels good man, this is what I've been working for, my goal," Coxson said. "[It's] finally coming true."

Coxson began his journey at the University of Florida.

The four-star recruit, who was touted as one of the top student-athletes at his position in the entire country, decommitted from Penn State University to become a Gator.

When his father started suffering from diabetes and lost his vision, the Baltimore native transferred to the University of Maryland to be closer to his family. His father has since passed, according to the Baltimore Sun.

Everything Coxson has accomplished, from his performance throughout his career to the work he has done since the end of the season in preparation

of the draft, have all been for his family.

"It means everything to them," Coxson said. "I think they might be more excited than me."

After sitting out for a season due to NCAA regulations, Coxson saw limited playing time for the Terrapins, catching four passes for 90 yards, including a touchdown.

He then decided to transfer to Stony Brook in hopes of seeing more passes.

In the span of only a couple of years, the City College alumnus, a sure-fire college star, went from a breeding ground for NFL players in Gainesville to a run-heavy offense under Head Coach Chuck Priore at Stony Brook. It may not have been easy to move from a team two years removed from a National Championship to a Football Championship Subdivision squad with few interests in highlighting the passing game, but Coxson let his performance on the field do the talking.

Scoring six touchdowns this past season, the speedy wideout did not necessarily open eyes with the statistics he piled up. But, he took advantage of his touches when he got them. Three of the six times he scored were on plays

of 61 yards or more, with the longest being an 83-yard score against William & Mary.

Even more impressive was that his biggest plays were not when a Seawolves quarterback threw the football over the top of the defense, but rather when they dumped the ball off and let him do the work. The touchdown against the Tribe was on a designed screen, where Coxson eluded his defender and utilized his speed to distance himself from everybody chasing him to bring it into the endzone.

It is that speed that attracted plenty of attention from NFL teams, as the 22-year-old put on a show at Pro Day on April 1, running unofficial 40-yard dash times of 4.33 and 4.42 seconds, respectively, with the latter clocked by others at the finish at 4.28 seconds.

He has credited much of his physical improvement since the end of the season to working with former Super Bowl champion Qadry Ismail.

"It has been a fun couple of months and he has worked incredibly hard," Ismail said about Coxson signing with the Packers. "I am out of this world happy for him."

By signing with the Packers, Coxson joins Aaron Rodgers, who many say is the best quarterback in the NFL, and one of the most potent offenses in the league.

"He's going to strongly be on that team," Ismail said. "It would shock me if he is not, period. He has so much more upside than people are realizing."

The third team All-CAA pick had since visited with multiple NFL teams, including the New York Jets, New York Giants, Baltimore Ravens and Washington Redskins, before signing with the Packers.

After traveling off the beaten path, Coxson finally reached the place he has sought for so long, where he hopes to now start a new journey in the NFL. If he had to do it again, there is no question about the way he would want it to go.

"I'd rather it be the exact way that it is now," Coxson said. "I've been through a lot of things and apparently they happen for a reason. I'm just blessed for the opportunity."

As of now, the only other Stony Brook alumnus who is in the NFL is former Seawolves offensive lineman Michael Bamiro, who plays for the New York Giants.

Upcoming SBU Sports Schedule

Baseball

Tue. May 5
3:30 p.m. at NYIT

Sat-Sun May 9-10
Three-game series at
UMass Lowell

Softball

Thurs. May 7
AE First Round
1 p.m. vs. UMBC

(Check page 15 for full
tournament bracket)

Women's Lacrosse

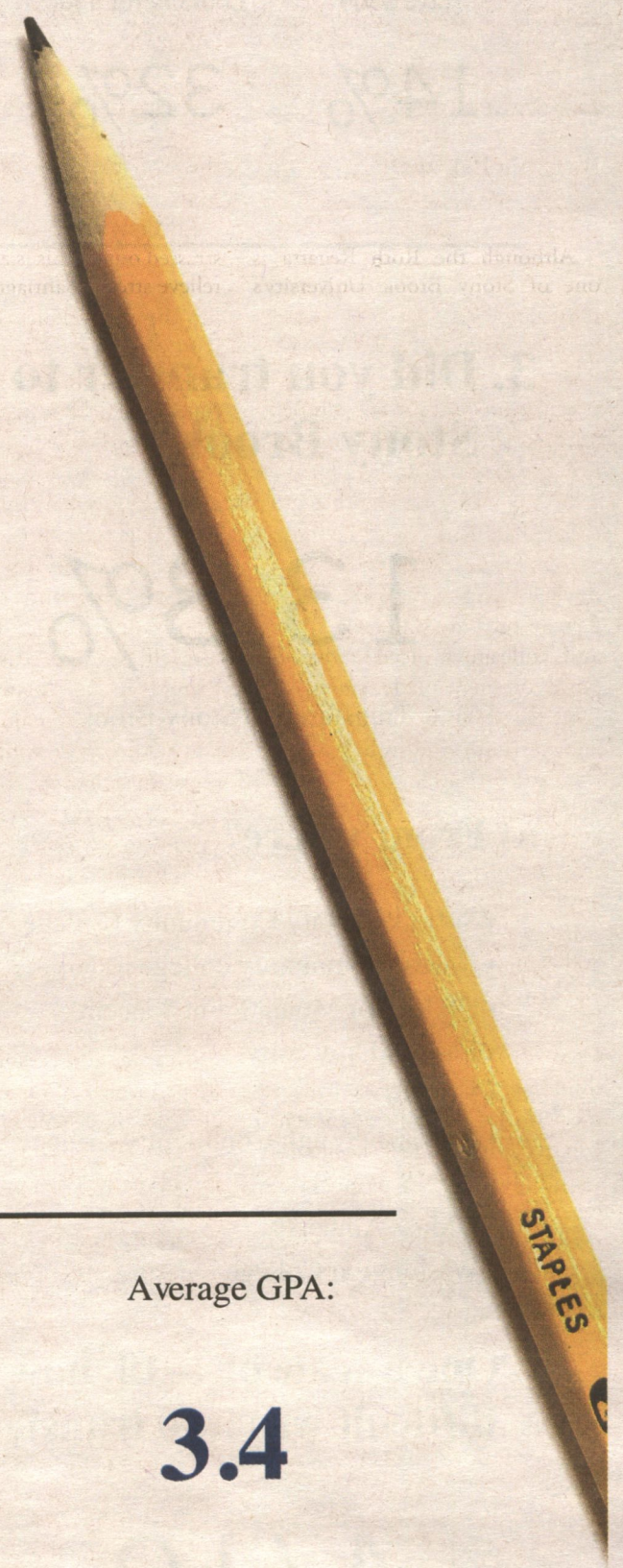
Sun. May 10
NCAA Second Round vs.
Princeton/Fairfield Winner

WOULD YOU COME BACK?

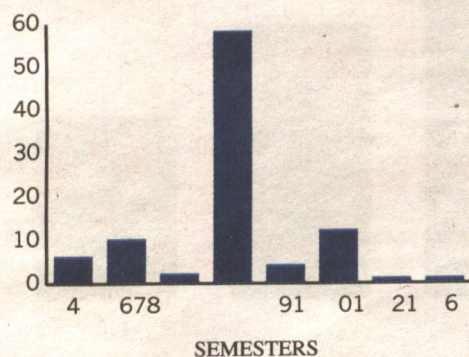
An exit interview with this year's
graduating seniors.

- yes
- no

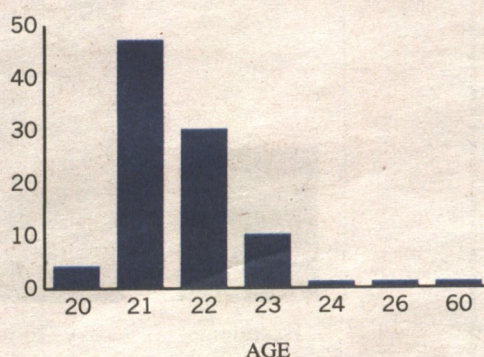
67% of respondents said knowing
what they know now, they would
still come back to Stony Brook



Semesters at Stony Brook:



Age of respondents:

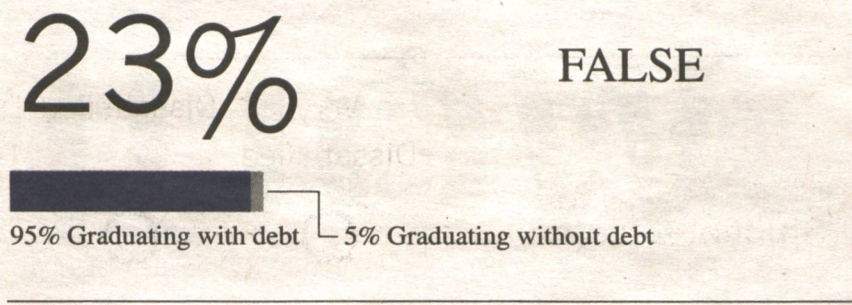
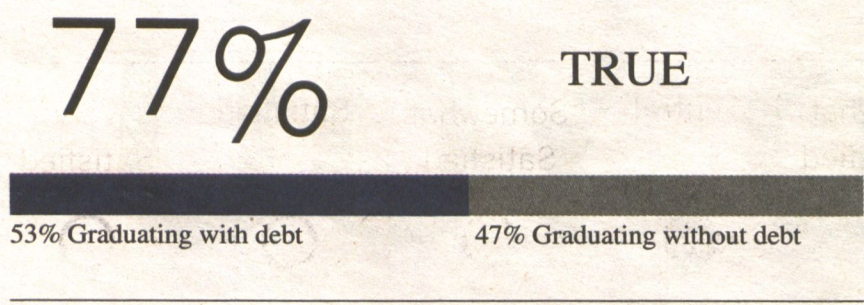


Average GPA:

3.4

94 respondents total

1. Evaluate this statement: My tuition was fair.

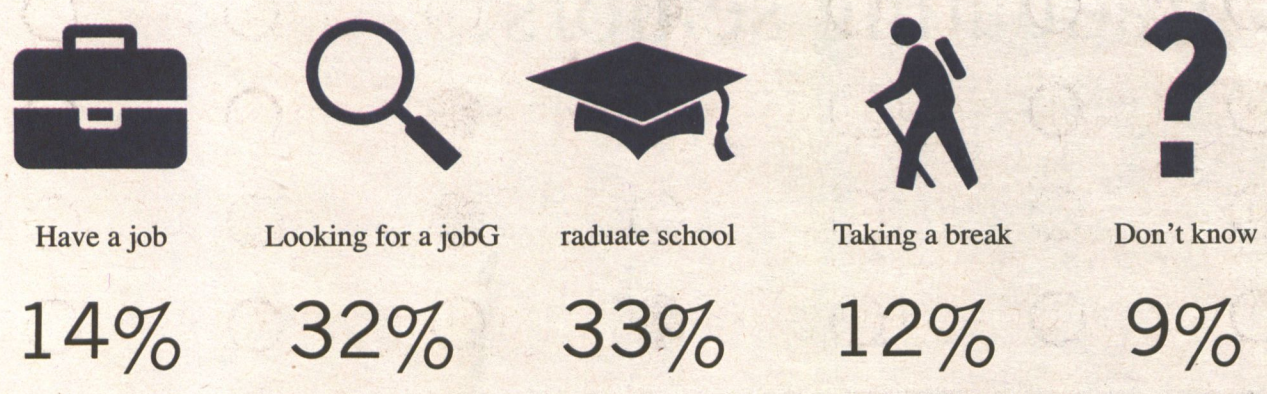


AVG. DEBT **\$19,657.66**

AVG. DEBT **\$32,218.75**

2. What are your plans after graduating?

63% said Stony Brook has adequately prepared them for their goals



3. Did you transfer to Stony Brook?

13.8%
Transferred to Stony Brook

a) From where?

- Suffolk County Community College
- Nassau community college
- College of Mount Saint Vincent
- Eastern University
- Hofstra
- Queensborough Community College
- SUNY Ulster
- UMass Amherst
- Washington College

b) One a scale of 1–10, how difficult was it to transfer?

4/10
Average

4. How would you rate living on-campus?

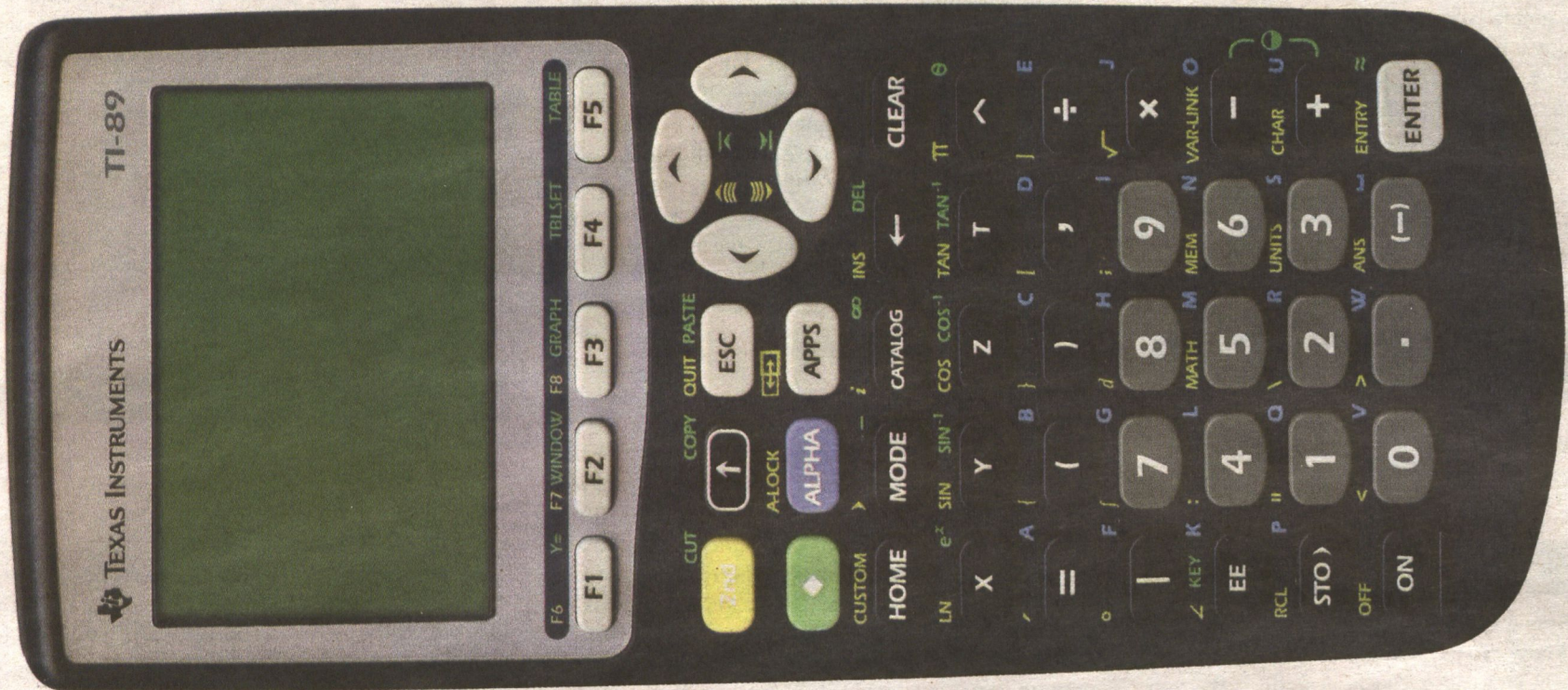


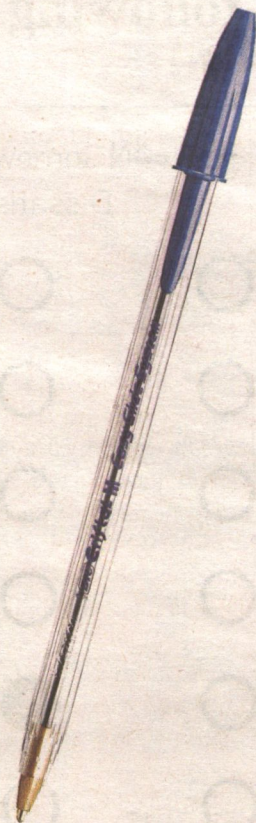
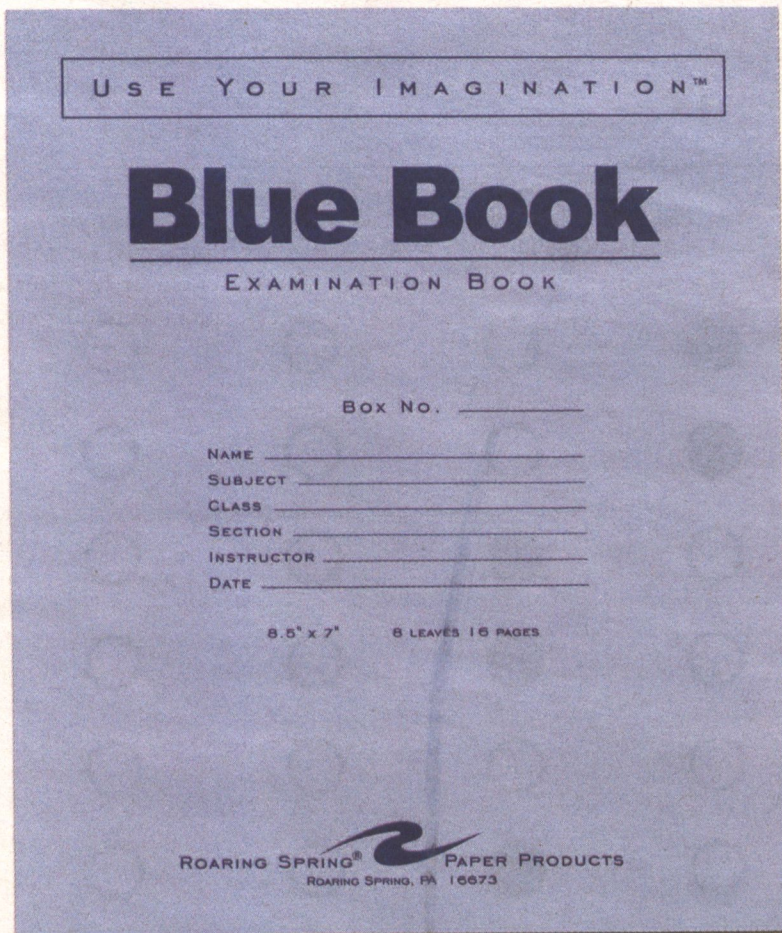
5. How would you rate living off-campus?



6. How would you rate the following?

	Very Dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Somewhat Dissatisfied	Neutral	Somewhat Satisfied	Satisfied	Very Satisfied
Student Government	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Administration	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Professors	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Academic Department	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Advising	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Campus Facilities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Off-Campus Life	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Campus Activities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Social Life	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Parking and Roads	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Campus Dining	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Tech for Student Use	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Transportation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Health Services	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Career Center	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Athletics Program	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>





7. What would you tell a student who is considering applying to Stony Brook?

Applied Mathematics and Statistics

Depends on the student's goals for college. Poorly worded question; a better way to phrase it might be: what would you tell a student who is considering applying to Stony Brook given your experiences in blank. • Don't come here if you want to go to any health related grad school. Classes are not compatible with many programs and they make the classes hard for no reason.

Biology

Don't come here unless you are a non-science major • Do it! • Don't stick with one group of people too long and commit yourself. Instead, spread around and talk to people you would never have thought to do so. Whether they are the super loud cheerleader sorority person or the dungeons dragons nerd. Or an asian. White people, stop being too scared to talk to the hoard of asians. They are the bestest. • Be prepared to be challenged academically. • Go here. Whether it's two or four years, you'll meet some great people. Take some amazing classes. And go to some great events. • Work hard. • Know what you're getting into. Make sure you listen to the negative reviews of professors, because they're true. • Know that you're gonna have to put yourself out there in order to enjoy it here. • Stay away from certain classes that have a bad reputation, because chances are they are actually that bad. And be smart when planning your schedules. • Don't do it. • Transfer immediately. Don't waste any time here. • Great opportunities, great facilities, great education, poor community. Worth the price.

Business

Research what you want out of it and see if they have what you want/need. • Go to Binghamton. • Do it.

Chemistry

Keep your mind open. You might discover a world you didn't know existed. • The cost is great, but they may trap you and cause you issues and make you stay more than 4 years. • Don't go here unless you're in it for science.

Computer Science

Run away now. The campus is isolated, the administration is cold and uncaring and it's difficult to find support from any adults on campus. • Major in CS please. • Stony Brook is good depending on the major. There are a lot of niche majors in which Stony Brook excels. Overall it's meh, which is why it's not as high as it would be if you look at majors individually. So decide what you want to do before you go to Stony Brook and see if Stony Brook is good for that.

Engineering Science

Only come here if you are absolutely sure what you want to do, or you won't graduate in a reasonable number of semesters. I have seen far too many people held back by that. • There are a lot of opportunities on campus. Don't wait to take advantage of them. Get involved in an on campus activity as soon as possible because it gives you a sense of community and a home on campus.

Health Science

Do it. • Actively search for internships and jobs pertaining to your field so that you gain relative experience. • Go out, go out to clubs and fairs, buy tickets to events; don't take yourself so seriously, and most importantly, remember that even if you don't know who you are in life, you will figure it out. Go Seawolves! • Go for it. • Live every moment because the time goes by so fast. • Make amazing friends and try to be a part of the community. • Nobody here will hold your hand or baby you through SBU, but that's what the real world is, so I would say that if you survive here you are prepared for the real world as much as any graduate could be. How well you survive at this school is all about how you take responsibility for yourself and your choices, and what your next move is after you make a mistake. This school has so many opportunities open to undergraduates, but you have to be willing to do the research yourself and fight tooth and nail to be noticed. If you can make it here, you truly can make it anywhere, but it won't be an easy process. • Apply! It is an amazing school that is getting better and better. Make the most out of your time here by getting involved inside and outside of classes. • Don't live on campus. • Make sure you know what you want to do and try to find a good advisor.

Journalism

Definitely apply! And if you get in, commit, because Stony Brook University offers each student an excellent education and tons of opportunities to make friends and grow as a person. • If you want to go to a school and get out quickly, SBU is the best option. Not worth staying more than 4 years, but for the cost, it could be worse. • Stony Brook has a lot of great opportunities but you have to be willing to seek them out. And get ready for mulch.

Political Science

Give it a shot. • Choose Stony Brook. You'll find yourself here maybe in ways you didn't ever expect. Also tuition is killer compared to other places. • Nothing is handed to you. You gotta be in the right place at the right time once your here. Stony Brook is a great option if you know what your looking for. • Don't.

Psychology

Don't apply. Their guidance in advising blows. You'd be on your own, kid. • Definitely take your time to decide and make sure you know that you have to put in so much time and effort. • As with most things in life, it really is what you make it. The more you put into making the best out of your experience, the more you get out of college. Don't be scared to meet new people and mingle with strangers. Befriend your major/minor advisors. • Respect yourself and others. Don't be an asshole. Be that one guy/girl that people look at and say, "That person is going places." Oh, and take a train to the city once in a while. • Keep an open mind so that you can discover what you want to do here to at SBU! • A large school can be daunting, but there are major advantages to being at a larger school, including endless opportunities. If you tell yourself you won't like it or you can't do it then you've already failed. However, entering, not just Stony Brook, but any college in general, means being willing to make an effort and step out of your comfort zone. The school may provide chances and opportunities but you will never find them or be happy if you aren't actively seeking them out. • Get ready for all of your dreams to be crushed and all of your happiness to be demolished. • Make the most of it. • Be sure to know what you want to do when you come here. It is very hard if you don't have goals when entering. • Prepare to work your butt for everything you get. Don't go if you don't love science. You need to learn how to network and differentiate yourself. Don't ever go to Community Standards for anything. CoinUSG or The Statesman. Those people are awesome. • Make sure you are self-sufficient and able to ask for help when necessary, and to not get discouraged when you are not helped enough. Students at this school need to find their support systems and utilize them, because Stony Brook will not place them in front of you. If you want to come to a prestigious university and thrive, come here and be prepared to put in the work both in classes and in personal development. Seek out and utilize your resources or you're sure to have a rough time. • Get involved. Classes will stress you out and you may not use everything that you learn in the classroom in the real world. Out of classroom experiences were most valuable to me in my career path. This includes jobs, internships, and student clubs and organizations. • You will learn a lot about yourself. • Only come here if it is for financial reasons. You're better off at a smaller school where you get more attention. If you lack independence or self-motivation, go elsewhere

Sociology

Take advantage of professors, diversity, programming, and free food. • You control your journey. Try everything out of your comfort zone to challenge yourself. Accept the good and bad of the next couple years knowing there are some solid support systems if you find your niche. Don't give up if you don't find the right club/job/internship right away. SB is a big school preparing you for a bigger world. • Getting involved is key. You can't sit around and wait for something fun to happen, you have to make it happen for yourself.