

THE STATESMAN

INFORMING STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY FOR MORE THAN 50 YEARS

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sbstatesman.com



HEATHER KHALIFA / THE STATESMAN

Concert-goers listen to Panic! at the Disco performs on stage at Brookfest 2015 in the Island Federal Credit Union Arena on Friday, April 24.

Judge orders Stony Brook University to justify chimp captivity

By Arielle Martinez
Assistant News Editor

A New York County Supreme Court judge has ordered a hearing at which Stony Brook University must justify its custody of two chimpanzees, but the order has raised the question of whether the chimpanzees can be granted human rights.

Justice Barbara Jaffe gave the order on April 20 after the Nonhuman Rights Project filed a lawsuit against the university. Jaffe's original order granted the two chimps a "writ of habeas corpus," which gave the chimps the human right to challenge their allegedly illegal imprisonment, but Jaffe later amended the order by

removing the phrase.

The Nonhuman Rights Project, a Florida-based organization, filed the lawsuit on behalf of Hercules and Leo, two male chimpanzees owned by New Iberia Research Center in Louisiana used for locomotion research in the Department of Anatomical Sciences at Stony Brook University.

"The University does not comment on the specifics of litigation, and awaits the court's full consideration on this matter," Lauren Sheprow, the university's media relations officer, said in an email.

In the lawsuit petition, the Nonhuman Rights Project wrote that the chimps are "autonomous and self-determining beings who possess those

complex cognitive abilities sufficient for common law personhood and the common law right to bodily liberty, as a matter of common law liberty, equality or both."

Steven Wise, a lawyer who is the founder and president of the Nonhuman Rights Project, said his organization petitioned for both a writ of habeas corpus and an order to show cause, which requires Stony Brook to justify keeping the chimps, in order to "cover all the bases." He said even though the writ of habeas corpus was struck out of Jaffe's order, the Nonhuman Rights Project is still pleased with the results.

"In the end, it doesn't matter what route you take to get Stony Brook to justify its detention of

Hercules and Leo," Wise said. "We're just happy that the judge has given us a chance to argue this in court."

The Nonhuman Rights Project first filed the lawsuit in December 2013 in the Suffolk County Supreme Court. Judge W. Gerard Asher denied the group's petition for habeas corpus on the ground that the chimps were not legally persons.

The organization also filed lawsuits for the release of two other chimpanzees living in New York: Tommy, a male chimp living on a lot owned by Circle L Trailers in Gloversville, and Kiko, a male chimp living in The

Continued on page 5

USG candidates face off in debate

By Michaela Kilgallen
Staff Writer

The 2015 Undergraduate Student Government election debate hinged on the theme of experience versus originality among the PARTY Party, the HOUSE Party and independent candidates on Wednesday night in the Student Union.

The PARTY (Proactive, Accessible, Responsible, Transparent and for You) Party's executive council candidates consist of current USG senators and employees, as well as the current USG Executive Vice President and candidate for president, James Alrassi.

"Like anybody who is involved with clubs on campus, it's not something you get involved with for one year and then drop the next year," Alrassi said. "The way I see USG is kind of my niche on campus. It's where I feel comfortable. It's where I feel really passionate. I wake up and the first thing I do when I get onto campus is grab my bacon, egg and cheese and then head up to my office."

From the HOUSE (Holistic Opportunities Utilized for Student Equity) Party, Executive Vice President candidate Krisly Zamor, Treasurer candidate Naib Chowdhury and Vice President of Academic Affairs candidate Danielle Ali were not in attendance.

But the HOUSE Party focused

Continued on page 5

Campus briefing: USG passes 2015-2016 budget after veto

By Arielle Martinez
Assistant News Editor

The Undergraduate Student Government senate passed a new \$3.2 million budget for the 2015-2016 year at its Thursday meeting by a vote of 15-2-0 after USG President Garry Lachhar vetoed an older version.

The senate extended the deadline to pass the budget to April 24 at an emergency meeting on April 15 after Lachhar vetoed the budget that the senate passed at its April 9 meeting. Lachhar said he vetoed the budget due to the large amount of money that was left in unallocated funds.

The original budget had over \$200,000 in unallocated funds, compared to \$52,966.23 for the 2014-2015 year. The new budget has less than \$40,000 in unallocated funds.

USG Treasurer Kathryn Michaud provided the senate with a breakdown of how much money was left unallocated. She emphasized the use of a key performance indicator (KPI) system to determine how much money each club was given.

"Clubs that performed better than others were able to get more funds back," she said. "The idea behind this was if you perform well, your club puts on more events and

you show you know how to use everything properly, you're more likely to put on larger better events next year because you know how to do it, you're more likely to have better transitions, et cetera. So it made sense to invest in those clubs."

Michaud said other factors that affected KPI scores were Leadership Conference attendance, attendance at the other open forums and the number of vouchers submitted on time.

Twenty-two clubs listed on the budget received no money for breaking the financial bylaws, not sending a representative to a budget hearing, handing in a budget applications

late or not handing in an application at all.

The new budget also contained two new allocations: \$65,000 for fall revisions and \$60,000 for clubs that will be promoted to line budget status in the next academic year.

Under the fall revision process, clubs that applied for budgets but were cut by 50 percent or more will be able to apply for more funding during the fall semester. Clubs that did not apply for budgets will only be able to regain only up to 50 percent of the amount they received the previous year.

Continued on page 7



Multimedia
Scenes from this year's Earthstock
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Arts & Entertainment
Caribbean food show brings something new
Students vote on their favorite dish.
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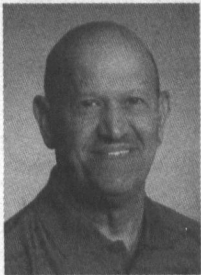


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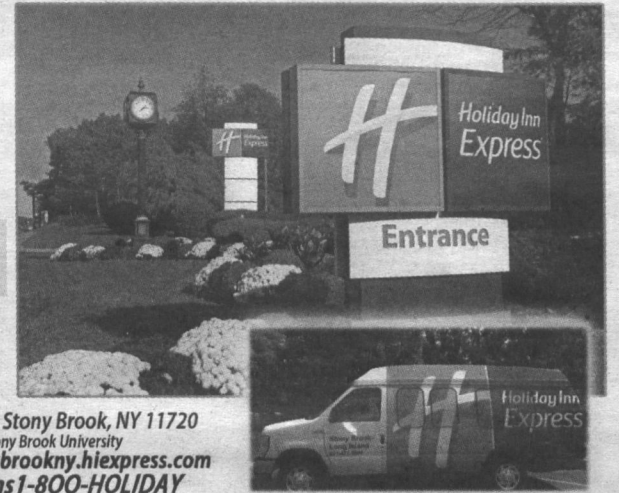
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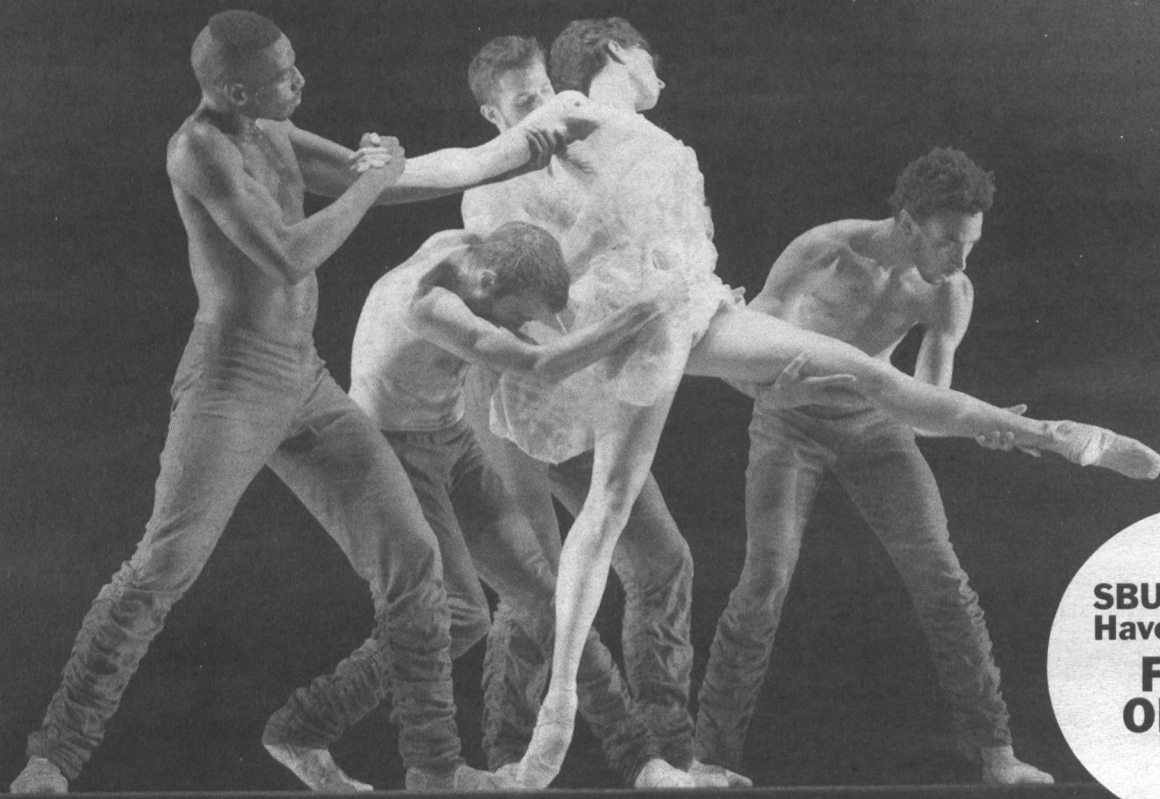


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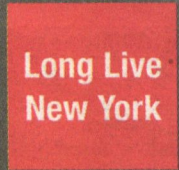
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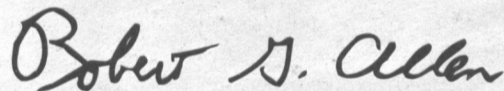
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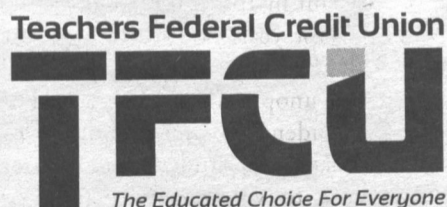
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Candidates discuss issues at debate

Continued from page 1

its comments on the new outlook it plans to bring to USG.

"I wanted to provide students with an alternative option this time around as opposed to last year when the USG elections were uncontested," Cole Lee, the HOUSE Party presidential candidate and a USG senator, said. "I formed a party that is extremely diverse, club leaders, students leaders all across campus who know what the issues are and who speak with the students on a day to day basis."

The HOUSE Party plans to push for library hours to be extended to 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Alrassi said a 24/7 library would require an additional \$3 million to make up for the 55 percent increase in staff hours.

Lee, who met with Division of Information Technology staff members, said "if students rally in support, the administration will provide the resources."

Nathan Blazon-Brown, the vice president of student life candidate for the PARTY Party, said his goal is to increase traditions on campus aside from the large-scale concerts.

"It doesn't just have to be concerts," Blazon-Brown said. "It doesn't just have to be shows. I think one of the things that we're really lacking right now is traditions."

A source of controversy on the HOUSE Party platform is its plan to create USG-funded scholarships. Although it was previously said that using the Student Activity Fee for scholarships went against the SUNY Chancellor Guidelines, Lee found that USG scholarships are legal if awarded by the university's administration and that he would plan to use unallocated funds in the USG budget.

Raisa Nishat, an independent candidate for vice president of clubs and organizations, found being unaffiliated with a party to be beneficial.

"For us to come in, it would kind of be like a new vibe I guess, something fresh, something new, maybe represent the student body in a different way than the people currently involved in USG," Nishat said.

Christopher Smith, an independent candidate for vice president of student life, also brought some new ideas, including a common area for students on campus.

"I was at Staller about two weeks ago, there were a ton of people outside and it really hit home for me. There's no real common area for students to hang out especially when it's not nice out," Smith said. "I think there should be some location where the student body can come together converge and foster a greater sense of community here at Stony Brook."

Freshman Elmer Flores, an independent candidate for vice president of clubs and organizations, showed enthusiasm for the position.

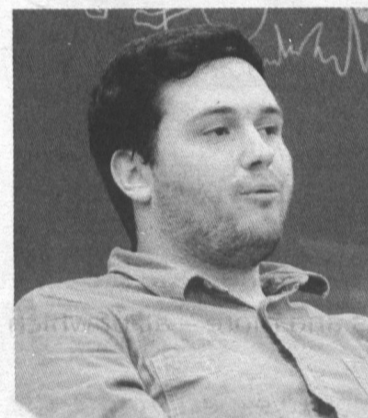
"I'm trying to increase voter turnout," Flores said. "I'm trying to increase participation of freshmen in USG, and the only position that freshmen can hold within USG that they actually get is probably the freshman rep. And by me running for this position I'm changing the dynamics of USG."



MANJU SHIVACHARAN / THE STATESMAN
Raisa Nishat, above, is running for vice president of clubs and organizations.



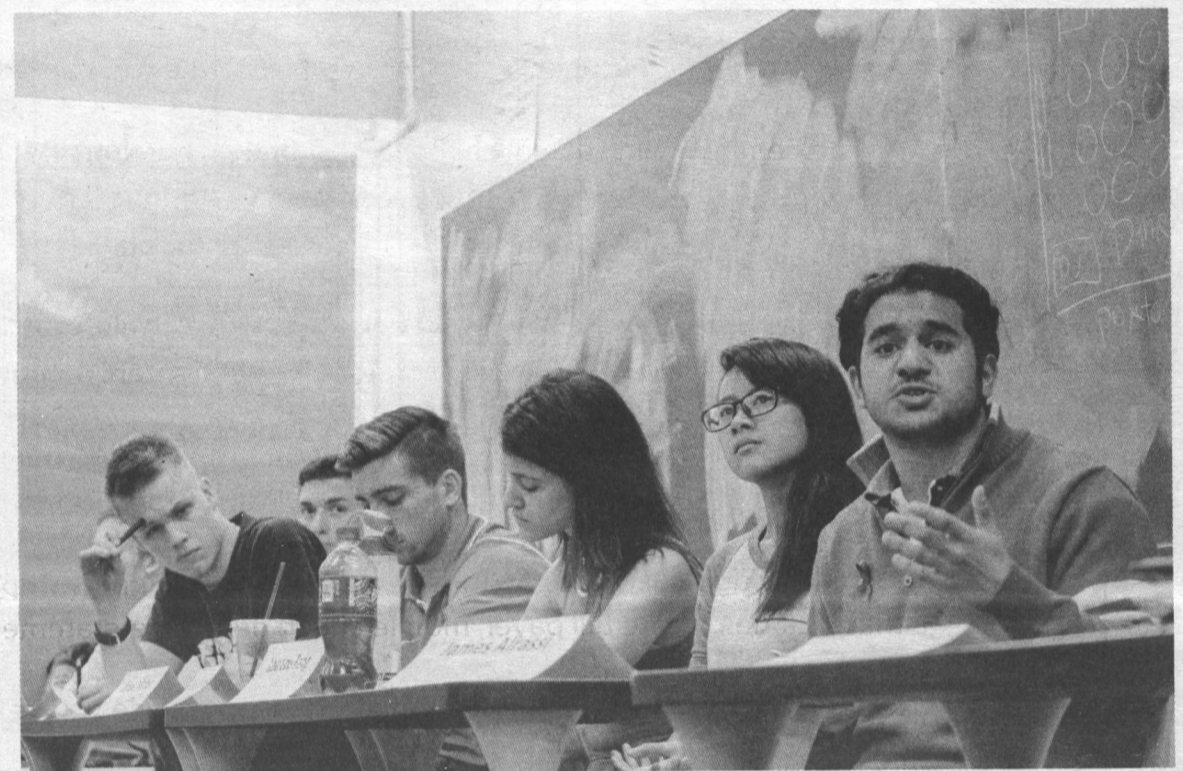
MANJU SHIVACHARAN / THE STATESMAN
Elmer Flores, above, is running for vice president of clubs and organizations.



MANJU SHIVACHARAN / THE STATESMAN
Christopher Smith, above, is running for vice president of student life.



MANJU SHIVACHARAN / THE STATESMAN
The HOUSE (Holistic Opportunities Utilized for Student Equity) Party's candidates for the USG Executive Council listens at the election debate on Wednesday, April 22.



MANJU SHIVACHARAN / THE STATESMAN
Candidates from the PARTY (Proactive, Accessible, Responsible, Transparent and for You) Party listen as James Alrassi, far right, the party's presidential candidate, speaks.

Student starts "Vote No Confidence in SBU USG"

By Rachel Siford
Staff Writer

Stony Brook University student Will Hackett started a "Vote No Confidence in SBU USG" Facebook event to encourage students to vote no confidence in the upcoming Undergraduate Student Government election, taking place from April 27 to May 1 on SOLAR.

"USG has not been serving the needs of the students and has major flaws," Hackett said on the Facebook event's description. "If you do not feel a candidate will change this system, you can vote 'no confidence.' The organization needs a people with a solid plan of action as to how they're going to change it from the inside out."

Voting "no confidence" means the voter does not believe any of the candidates are fit to fulfill the duties of the position.

The event page has attracted 92 "attendees" and is encouraging student-voters to be aware of the fact that they have another option besides voting for a candidate or voting for no one.

"It's not that I don't want anyone to get voted in to USG," Hackett said. "I want people who

are going to go into USG and change it."

Hackett said he has many issues with USG, including its alleged lack of transparency.

"We don't really know what the money is specifically being spent on," Hackett said. "There should be a lot more transparency in the budget and USG in general."

Hackett said he wanted to run for a position this year, but felt he did not have the time in his schedule to fully dedicate himself to USG. He is also a resident assistant in Toscanini College.

Last year, every candidate for an Executive Council position ran unopposed. Hackett said if a student did not like the candidate, the student should not have to vote for the candidate or not vote at all; a third option should be there. He also said that the representatives do not represent the students they are supposed to.

"People should have the right to say they don't support the way things are," Hackett said.

This Facebook event page has attracted the attention from current USG members as well. Malory Rothstein, assistant to the current USG Vice President of Academic Affairs Steven Adelson and former USG executive vice

president, shared her concerns about what would happen if the "no confidence" votes should surpass the votes for candidates.

"If no one gets elected, then there would have to essentially be another future election which would allow for a significantly less grace period for new officials to learn from past officials," Rothstein said.

Rothstein also said that voting "no confidence" does not solve the problem of better candidates running because a good leader cannot be forced to run.

It will be up to the Elections Board if "no confidence" will appear on this year's ballot. Historically, the option has not been on the ballot.

Current senators asked Hackett to share what would happen in the case positions do not get voted in, and he complied.

Hackett does not want everyone to vote "no confidence," he wants people to vote that way if they are unsatisfied with how things are being conducted within USG.

"My intent is not to have no USG next year," Hackett explained. "Voting 'no confidence' gives us, as a student population, the opportunity to say we don't like what's going on."

Florida group sues on behalf on SBU chimps

Continued from page 1

Primate Sanctuary in Niagara Falls. Both of these lawsuits were dismissed by their respective courts.

The lawsuit petitions asked the judges to grant the chimps writ of habeas corpus and to order for the chimps to be moved to a sanctuary within the North American Primate Sanctuary Alliance.

The Nonhuman Rights Project filed an appeal for Hercules and Leo's lawsuit to the New York Supreme Court's Appellate Division, Second Judicial Department in Brooklyn, but the judges dismissed the appeal in April 2014.

The Nonhuman Rights Project then refiled its petition for Hercules and Leo in March 2015, this time in the New York County Supreme Court.

In the court rules in favor of the Nonhuman Rights Project, the chimps will be released from the university and sent to Save the Chimps, a Florida sanctuary.

The hearing is scheduled for May 27 at 10:30 a.m. in the New York County Courthouse on Centre Street in Manhattan.

COMMUNITY

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Email advertise@sbstatesman.com to advertise your event in the featured section of the Community Calendar.

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The Role of Women in Italian Renaissance Courts
2:30 p.m. | Melville Library E4340

Converging Sciences Summit at Stony Brook University
8 a.m. | SAC Auditorium

Wednesday

MFA Open Studio
5-10 p.m. | Nassau Hall

Thursday

Chemistry Department Seminar
4 p.m. | Chemistry Rm. 412

Friday

Roth Pond Regatta
12 p.m. | Roth Pond

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



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

last week's answer

this week's puzzle

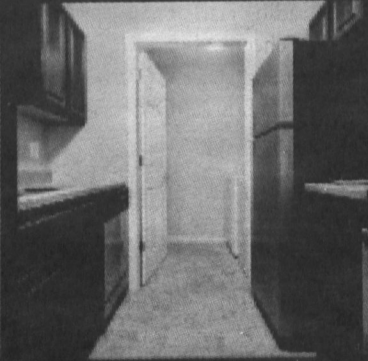
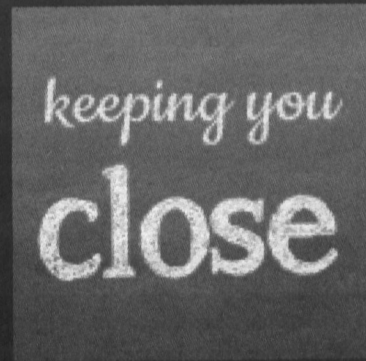
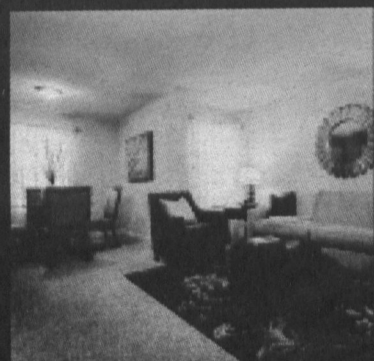
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SUNY recognizes Stony Brook GSO for female leadership and empowerment

By Craig Petraglia
Contributing Writer

Stony Brook University's Graduate Student Organization has been acknowledged by the State University of New York for its efforts to encourage female leadership. Stony Brook's GSO, which is overseen by second-year president Evgenia Sidorova, was awarded by the SUNY Student Assembly for Commitment to Female Leadership and Empowerment on April 11.

"We wanted to inspire girls at the graduate level," Sidorova said.

Stony Brook is not the only SUNY school with a woman holding an executive position in its graduate student organization. The graduate student organizations of SUNY's four flagship universities—Binghamton, Buffalo, Albany and Stony Brook—are all run by a female president. These women inspired Lori Mould, the president of SUNY's Student Assembly, Sidorova said.

"Lori saw our activities the past two years and wanted to recognize that," Sidorova said. "We set up different awards for females and highlight it on social media to get the information out. We have clubs and student leaders that try to inspire as well."

Sidorova and GSO strive to empower young women to hold executive positions and promote diversity within the organization.

"We wanted to make it diverse with people from different backgrounds and genders," Sidorova said. "Over the last four to five years we have become very, very diverse with more females involved. We have added international and domestic students, males and females. This year I am the only international and the only female on the executive committee, but that is probably an exception."

Sidorova is originally from Russia but currently resides on Long Island. She is a second-

year Ph.D. candidate studying political science. She has made it a personal priority to involve graduate students in extracurricular activities. Her dedication to University Café, an on-campus eatery that hosts entertainment programs for students, alumni and faculty, encourages those involved to enhance their social life at Stony Brook to help build a comfortable environment.

"The University Café has been a great movement as we have entertainment programs all the time," she said. "This isn't just a commuter school it's a community."

Sidorova recognized the challenges that graduate students face, who often have to balance a family with work and school. She noted that is particularly difficult for women to find this balance and also be a successful leader.

"Balancing family and a leadership career while also being the only woman in the room is a challenge," Sidorova said.

"Having a different role at home than in the organization is a challenge," she continued. "Do you wear a different mask?"

Sidorova said Stony Brook's GSO hopes to break traditional views of women and help young women move beyond stereotypes by being a strong, capable leader.

"I think that women are perceived as a weaker sex and that's how they are treated," Sidorova said. "If women are assertive they are considered to be rude or angry, too pushy or bossy. But if a man does this he is seen as a good leader. It's very hard to be taken seriously."

Sidorova knows these adversities from first-hand experiences. The entire GSO committee, except for Sidorova, is made up of men, and Sidorova is one of just a few female GSO presidents over the past 40 years.

"I think that women are afraid they won't be taken seriously by their advisers and that they will

be bullied," Sidorova said. "It's also challenging because they are in graduate school and often have a family. I try to encourage them and open their eyes."

Despite her upcoming retirement from student government in two months, Sidorova said she hopes to continue inspiring women in her personal life.

"I think females already have all the qualities to be a leader," she said. "To be a good leader you have to be empathetic. You have to be kind. Women have a lot of that. For women to be good leaders I think they need more encouragement from faculty and advisers."

Regardless of SUNY's recognition of Stony Brook, Sidorova argued that women need more encouragement and more inclusion in executive positions.

"We could do more, though," Sidorova said. "I think everyone should be doing more to spread awareness."

Under the microscope: minds meet for annual cancer research conference

By Ruchi Shah
Staff Writer

The American Association for Cancer Research's 106th Annual Meeting brought together 35,000 of the world's leading cancer researchers, health care professionals and advocates to discuss advances in cancer research and the future of patient care.

The conference was overwhelming in size, with each day full of hundreds of different seminars, meetings, poster sessions and talks. The Philadelphia Convention Center buzzed with the energy of scientific discovery.

While advances in diagnosis and treatment have allowed over 14,500,000 cancer patients to live cancer free, millions of pa-

tients continue to struggle with their cancer.

The prevalence of cancer continues to rise in part because cancer cells have the ability to evolve to evade treatment. Cancer also differs in each patient. The word cancer encompasses hundreds of different diseases, with different causes, symptoms and treatments.

The theme of this year's meeting was "Bringing Cancer Discoveries to Patients," bridging the gap between scientists at the lab bench and patients in the clinic.

"This new era of cancer discovery is unprecedented with respect to rapidly emerging cancer science and new and effective targeted therapies," Margaret Foti, the CEO of the association, said. "Today, molecular target approaches are being utilized based on a

greater understanding of the biology of cancer."

An area of focus at the conference was immunotherapy, or harnessing the body's own immune system to fight cancer. Several therapies are being developed that identify cancer cells as foreign or promote the aspects of the immune system that can destroy cancer cells.

Clinical trials conducted by Merck found that one drug, Pembrolizumab, was effective and safe for use in malignant mesothelioma and non-small-cell lung cancer. The drug targets a protein expressed on tumor cells and tumor immune cells, and has a better response rate and disease control rate than chemotherapy.

Pembrolizumab is just one of hundreds of drugs and potential treatments outlined at

the conference.

Additionally, scientists at Vanderbilt University combined two powerful tools, mass spectrometry and microscopy, to create a revolutionary image fusion technique.

For the first time, scientists can merge images to see the structure and molecular composition of tissue on one image, which has the potential to improve cancer diagnosis and treatment.

Image fusion utilizes the strengths of each technique. Microscopy produces clear images of structures, but does not provide any information on the presence of molecules. Mass spectrometry shows the presence and location of proteins, lipids, drugs and other molecules, but the image is pixelated.

It is difficult for doctors to look at a cell and tell if it is in the process of becoming cancerous due to the similar physical characteristics of normal and precancerous cells.

By combining the cell structure and presence of specific proteins and lipids onto one image, doctors will be able to better differentiate precancerous cells from normal cells, leading to more accurate cancer diagnoses and treatment.

Several sessions also included patients, survivors and patient advocates as a reminder of the clinical need for cancer research and the importance of outreach and science communication efforts.

The meeting fostered collaboration amongst scientists to accelerate development of cancer diagnostics and treatments.

USG senate passes new version of \$3.2 million budget to fund clubs and agencies

Continued from page 1

The new budget will cut Campus Recreation's allocation from \$167,952.88 to \$138,396.88. The majors cuts were from funding for a boxing class and student attendants for fitness classes, Michaud said.

The Stony Brook Volunteer Ambulance Corps's funding dropped from \$139,000 to \$114,000 as part of a plan to gradually decrease SBVAC funding to \$40,000 for the 2018-2019 year.

In September 2013, the USG University and Academic Affairs Committee proposed a resolution that asked the university administration to take over the financing of SBVAC.

Senators raised the Residence Hall Association's budget by \$1,000 by a vote of 14-0-1. Sen. Lloyd Ippolito, the RHA president, said this raise is to account for an increase in resident students due to an expected doubling of tripled dorm rooms next year.

The new budget also raised the amount of money set aside for grants by \$10,000. Michaud said this was to provide money for clubs to go to national conferences or events.

"If you have something on your line budget that you're not definite to go to, that makes you able to get a national or regional event grant," Michaud said. "So since you're able to get those grants and that's what that grant is actually designed for, that should not be allocated on the normal line budget. Since we cut a lot of those things out of the applications, we thought it was fair to put more money into the grant pool to help cover that."

Representatives of the cheerleading team came to the senate meeting to ask why their budget was cut by more than \$7,000. Kristin McGinn, president of the team, said the team need the money for choreography and to go to a national championship competition.

"When we compete nationally, we're received by tens of thousands of people across the country," McGinn said. "There are hundreds of teams from different universities. Brothers and sisters and families are coming to watch us. We've had double, triple the amount of people trying out for our team, interested in coming to Stony Brook for our team. Now we need the proper coaching to be more successful at nationals."

Lachhar and Sen. Marissa Peterson suggested that the Department of Athletics should help fund the cheerleading team, but McGinn said that the cheerleading team represents the entire university in outreach programs like hospital visits and breast cancer research fundraisers.

"We do all of that to support the community," McGinn said. "We spend our time doing that, time we could be working or doing school work or anything like that. And nationals doesn't just benefit us. It benefits the school, too."

McGinn also said that the cheerleading team does not receive the perks of team-status under the Department of Athletics.

"We're just like any other club sport," she said. "We're not here on scholarship. We don't get priority scheduling for classes."

Eventually the senate voted, 12-5-0, to increase the cheerleading team's allocation by \$6640.30.

One source of debate was over the decision of whether to increase funding for the Student Activities Board. The vetoed budget raised SAB funding by \$40,000, but the new budget only raised funding by \$10,000.

Lachhar supported a bigger raise to help pay for large-scale on-cam-



MANJU SHIVACHARAN / THE STATESMAN

USG Treasurer Kathryn Michaud, above, presented an explanation of the 2015-2016 budget to the senators.

pus events like concerts. "With both concerts having to be in the Arena now, instead of having one at Staller like we did last year, everything we spent was a lot more," Lachhar said.

Michaud said a new grant can be created to help SAB fund on-campus events.

"The new type of grant that we're trying to make is so that regular everyday student can come and they know that they're able to come and put on an event and work with SAB to put it on efficiently," she said.

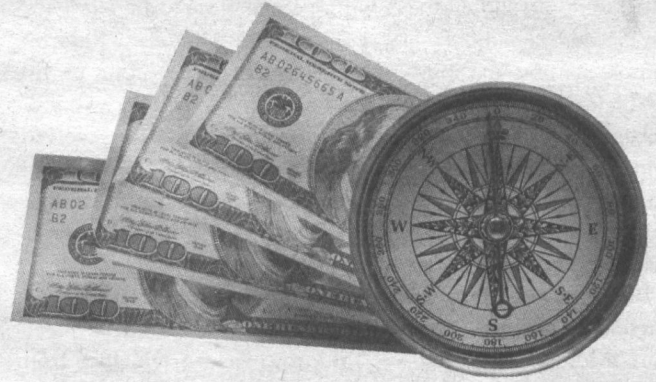
But Lachhar said that rather than going through the grant pool, the money should just be put directly into SAB's funds. "To say that \$20,000 in the grant pool is going to be used to help SAB put on events is the same as putting the money in SAB," he said. "But at least by moving the money over, SAB knows that it has that \$20,000."

In the end, Sen. Jan Jaminal's motion to move \$20,000 from the grant pool to SAB failed by a vote of 5-12-0.

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



HEATHER KHALIFA/THE STATESMAN

Panic! At The Disco's lead singer Brendon Urie, above, sings to the crowd at this year's Brookfest. The band was the headliner for the show.

Brookfest 2015 rocked the house with a mixture of genres

By Rena Thomas
Contributing Writer

This year's Brookfest concert—featuring B.o.B, Twenty One Pilots and Panic! At The Disco took place in the Island Federal Credit Union Arena. The concert resulted in a large success for the Undergraduate Student Government, it the first sold-out concert since Wiz Khalifa in 2012. Students filled the arena and danced to the mix of genres the show had to offer.

While B.o.B performed his latest hit “Not For Long” as well as his popular collaboration with Taylor Swift, “Both Of Us,” he really got the crowd going with the 2010 throwback hit “Airplanes.” He then

spread his “wings” and fell into the crowd.

Twenty One Pilots followed B.o.B, who served as a good transition between artists. The group's sound swayed from alternative to rap. The duo features Josh Dun on the drums and Tyler Joseph on lead vocals.

Their ukulele cover of DJ Khaled's “All I Do Is Win” caught the crowd's attention, and they kept that energy when segueing into their hit “House Of Gold.”

Joseph told the audience about the band's tradition of crowd surfing over audience on a surfboard.

“The university told us we were not allowed,” Joseph said, “I wanted to be on top of all you guys, but

they shut that down.”

The duo from Columbus, Ohio also performed its new hit single “Tear In My Heart,” from their album *Blurryface*, set to release on May 19.

“Ballad of Mona Lisa” radiated through the arena to introduce Panic! At The Disco.

Lead Singer Brendon Urie hyped up the crowd and then went into the song “Only Difference Between Martyrdom And Suicide Is Press Coverage.”

The band played hits, including “This is Gospel,” “Nine in the Afternoon” and “New Perspective,” as well as its new single, “Hallelujah.”

Jasmine Cervantes, a senior health science major, said she tweet-

ed the band multiple times to cover “Bohemian Rhapsody” and to her and everyone else's excitement, they did.

Of course, the show came to a close with the 2005 anthem, “I Write Sins Not Tragedies.”

“I've never really listened to Panic! At The Disco or Twenty One Pilots, but they were pretty good. Overall, they did a great job,” Ahmed Khokhar, a sophomore biology major, said.

The mix of alternative music and hip-hop was a refreshing twist to Stony Brook's annual Brookfest concert.

The predicted distaste for this year's concert was proven wrong by the hundreds of fans that came

out to enjoy the concert, even those with the slim knowledge of alternative music that only reached as far as the mainstream Panic! At The Disco song “I Write Sins Not Tragedies.”

Bass player and vocalist Tom Fasano of Nice Shot, Kid was pleased with the effort made to include different genres at this year's Brookfest.

Nice Shot, Kid opened in last week's Streetlight Manifesto performance and last semester's “Back to the Brook” concert with Lupe Fiasco.

“I think it's great that this [Brookfest] is appealing to different genres,” Fasano said, “people opposed the idea of Panic! at the Disco, but look at this turn out.”

Billy Joel to be one of the honored guests at 2015 graduation ceremony

By Krysten Massa
Assistant Arts & Entertainment Editor

Billy Joel is coming back to Stony Brook University. Joel played at Stony Brook's campus back in October of 1976 and he will be returning to campus to receive a doctor of music honorary degree and to speak at this year's commencement ceremony.

The piano man is an admired home-town hero, being a New York native.

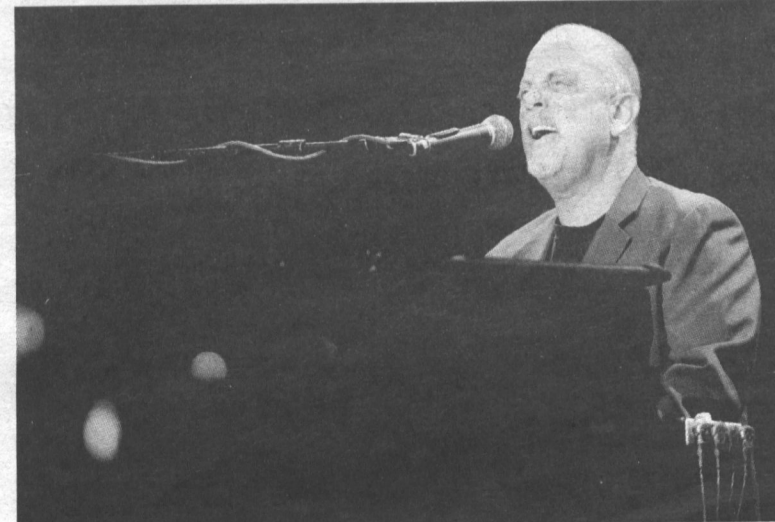
Joel has donated two Steinway Grand Pianos to the school, one of which was valued at \$250,000.

Joel, along with Charles B. Wang and Ben Shneiderman will be receiving honorary degrees.

Back when Joel came to the school in 1976, *The Statesman* reported that the audience “cheered at

every mention of Long Island, and Billy Joel sensed from the start that he was welcome back home.

Joel has been touring with his band and selling out countless shows at Madison Square Garden this year.



CHICAGO TRIBUNE/TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

Billy Joel has won six grammy awards and was the sixth recipient of the Gershwin Prize for Popular Song last year.

SB Idol showcases voices on campus

By Krysten Massa
Assistant Arts & Entertainment Editor

On Wednesday, April 22 on the Staller Steps, the finalists for this year's Stony Brook Idol sang for the students' votes. Erynn McLeod, a sophomore music major, won it all when she blew away the audience and judges with a performance of Carrie Underwood's “Blown Away.”

The finale began at 1 p.m. and the weather was ideal for the occasion. The grassy steps were filled with students enthusiastic to hear the talent.

This year's judges were the trio of Dr. Laura Valente, dean of residential education, Timothy Ecklund, dean of students and last year's SB Idol winner, Melanie Ellner.

The judges gave feedback af-

ter every performance, but this year, the ultimate decision process was a bit different. Instead of the judges choosing the winner, the audience voted.

To vote, students logged into the SB Idol Facebook page.

The competition was steep this year and each contestant brought their own unique style to the event. James Dougherty came in second place after he sang his rendition of “What I've Done” by Linkin Park.

Ecklund said that Dougherty had the “emotional-rocker thing going on” and that he brought good emotion into the song and gave it his all.

“I was nervous, because I didn't know how that was going to be

Continued on page 10



KRYSTEN MASSA / THE STATESMAN

The Caribbean Cook-Off featured teams composed of professional chefs and Stony Brook Students. Paella, above, is a traditional Valencian rice dish and they regard it as one of their national dishes, though it is often thought of as Spain's national dish.

Stony Brook gets a taste of some Caribbean flare

By Michaela Christman
Contributing Writer

Stony Brook University students were offered a lunch packed with heat and Caribbean flare on the afternoon of April 22.

The Seawolves Food Show hosted the Caribbean Cook-Off in the Student Activities Center this past Wednesday, allowing attendees to taste student-made Caribbean dishes for \$5 per person.

The goal of the event was to broaden the diversity of food available on campus. The Seawolves Food Show collaborated with the Latin American Student Organization, the Caribbean Student Organization, the Faculty Student Association, Campus Dining Services and the student team "City Soul," according to Kareema Charles, the event organizer.

Hungry guests entered SAC Ballroom A around noon to the rich smell of Caribbean spices and proceeded to the tables to pick from entrees and desserts.

The competitors, City Soul, The Caribbean Student Organization and The Latin American Student Organization, were comprised of three students and a Campus Dining chef. Each team prepared an entree and a dessert to be judged by the crowd.

What was on the menu?

City Soul served a crowd favorite: rasta pasta with zesty jerk chicken and a side of soulful corn bread, along with red velvet cake for dessert.

The Caribbean Student Organization prepared oxtail with rice, peas and a lemon sponge cake topped with strawberries for dessert.

The Latin American Student

Organization team and their chef, John Bell, lead cook at Roth Market Fresh, cooked up some flavorful Spanish paella along with a melt-in-your-mouth flan for dessert.

"My favorite dish was definitely City Soul's rasta pasta and jerk chicken. The chicken was really soft and still juicy," Joshua Dickie, a junior physics major, said.

City Soul's student chefs, Kalin Sims and Randy Ferguson, wanted to bring a New York City favorite to Stony Brook with an added hint of Southern comfort food.

"We're all from New York, so we wanted to bring something to SBU that NYC is famous for. Footprints Cafe is a restaurant in Brooklyn, it's very popular and everyone knows about it and rasta pasta is their big

Continued on page 11

Students voted the winner for this year's SB Idol

Continued from page 9

accepted—especially on the steps outside," Dougherty said about his song choice. "But I chose it because I felt like it was different and I wanted to do something that wasn't what everyone else was doing."

Another common theme for the competition was powerful female singers. Two students chose to sing Beyoncé songs and one chose a Jessie J song.

Khairika Al Sinani sang Beyoncé's "Love On Top." She began to really belt it toward the end of the song, which received a strong response from the crowd. Hiba Hashim also channeled Beyoncé, singing "Listen," made popular by the movie "Dreamgirls." Hashim had a more raspy voice compared to the types of artists who usually sing the song, but that did not stop her from completely owning it. Valente actually admitted to crying during the performance.

"You gave it every ounce of emotion it deserved," Valente said.

Matthew Paige, the only other male contestant, took a different approach from rocker-dude Dougherty, choosing instead to sit on stage with his keyboard and perform an original song, titled "Don't Run Away." His soothing voice captivated the crowd. After he performed, Ecklund expressed his approval, saying

"John Legend, look out!"

The host for the event was Joe Rock from WBAB radio station. Rock lost count of the amount of times that he has helped with this event on campus.

"I thought the talent was amazing," Rock said. "I kind of feel like more people are starting younger, which I am really encouraged by and I think it shows at the level that they have when they get to college."

After McLeod was announced the winner, her friends and fans ran off of the Staller Steps to go hug her.

This caused a following mob of people who ran to congratulate and hug their friends who were in the competition.

"I feel amazing, that was the best feeling ever," McLeod said after winning it all.

As the first-place winner, McLeod receives a \$300 Seawolves gift card and the opportunity to perform at the Shirley Strum Kenny Student Arts Festival closing ceremony.

This was McLeod's first time involved in SB Idol and she was in shock that she won.

"I practice a lot and I picked a song that I felt really connected to," McLeod said about her song choice. "I'm just so, so happy that I had this opportunity and I was so blessed to perform with so many other amazing singers and I feel so lucky."



KRYSTEN MASSA / THE STATESMAN

Erynn McLeod, above, won SB Idol this year. When she graduates college, she said she wants to appear on Broadway.

To fit in with the ska-theme for the night, Nice Shot, Kid had two students come on stage and perform a song with them. Two horn players, Shane Gallimore, a freshman biology major and Dylan Schreiber, a sophomore civil engineering major, covered the song "Superman" by Goldfinger with the band.

The smaller venue allowed for a more interactive experience between the band and the students. Mike Brown, Streetlight's baritone and alto saxophone player, pointed and made faces at the students who were jumping up and singing along.

The crowd wanted more after the band finished its set and left the stage the first time. After chanting for more songs, the chant somehow turned into a "USA" chant.

When Streetlight returned to the stage for its encore, one of the band members, playing off the audiences' joke, said "We are USA" into the mic.

The band encored with the songs "The Big Sleep" and "Somewhere in the Between." The audience brought the energy for the last two songs of the night and formed a circle pit that took up most of the floor space.

"Best 4/20 of my life and that was my fifth time seeing them," Abi Lopez, a sophomore business and women's studies major, said. "Stony Brook did something right for once," Lopez noted about the rescheduling of the concert.

Despite the aroma of cannabis floating through the air in honor of the "holiday," the crowd was in control.

There were a few students who attempted crowd surfing and others who went up onto shoulders, but these efforts were quickly put to rest by the tight security. Students came out to have a good time and enjoy the music, and the concert ran smoothly.

Two concerts in one week: Streetlight Manifesto makes it to the Brook

By Krysten Massa
Assistant Arts & Entertainment Editor

"Thank you Streetlight, thank you Streetlight," the crowd chanted after Streetlight Manifesto performed its encore. The band performed on Monday, April 20 after a long-awaited appearance on campus, as the initial show was cancelled back in January.

USG sold about 400 tickets for the show, and those who came out

to party did not hold back. Skavers from all corners of campus came out to enjoy the music and celebrate 4/20.

The room was filled with sweaty college students forming circle pits all night to the upbeat tunes. For some, the concert being canceled a first time actually worked in their favor. Many students who did not know about the concert initially were now able to get a ticket for the April performance.

The concert was originally going to be held Jan. 29, but due to an issue with a contract, USG canceled the concert with the promise of rescheduling.

Mike Millus, a sophomore political science major said that he was happy the concert was canceled the first time because it was only after the cancellation that he heard about the concert.

"I think that they were on point," he said. "This is the best I have ever seen them play." Millus had seen the band play five times prior to this show. He called the concert the "ultimate blend of ska music and alternative music at Stony Brook University."

It seemed to be a trend that many of the students in attendance of the show have been fans of the band for years and have seen them play a few times before.

The student band who opened the show, Nice Shot, Kid, said that Streetlight Manifesto is a major inspiration of theirs and that the members listened to them all throughout high school.

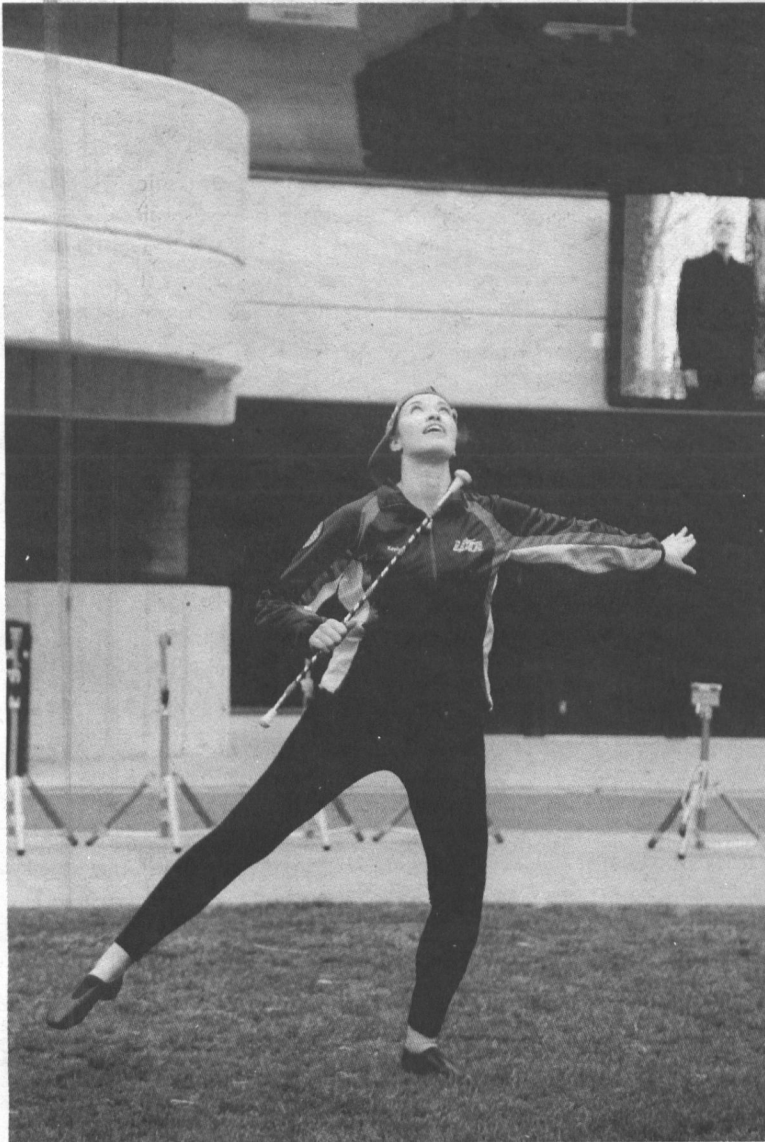
"To share a stage with them [Streetlight Manifesto] was just mind-blowing," AJ Ka-e, the drummer of Nice Shot, Kid, said.



KRYSTEN MASSA / THE STATESMAN

Streetlight Manifesto is from New Brunswick, New Jersey. Nadav Nirenberg, above, is the band's current trombone player. He joined the band in 2010 and also does vocals.

Color Guard and Drumline Showcase bring fun to cloudy Earthstock



JISOO HWANG / THE STATESMAN

The color guard's act, above, include batons and flag twirling. The major song that was prepared this year by the drumline was "Larger Than Life" by the Backstreet Boys.

By David Pepa
Contributing Writer

This year's Earthstock Festival made its mark with the recyclable materials, food, animals and the various performances.

The one show that stood out this year was the Color Guard and Drumline Showcase.

The showcase was held at the Staller Steps at 3:30 p.m. on Friday, April 24.

The main entertainers were the Stony Brook Marching Band's color guard and drumline.

Over 50 Stony Brook students came to the Staller Steps to watch the groups perform on the cloudy and environmentally-friendly day.

The drumline started the show with the song "Pompeii," which fired up the Stony Brook students who gathered on the steps.

Both color guard and drumline switched off performing throughout the entire showcase.

"[The Showcase] gives them the opportunity to focus on their technique," Shayna Stahl, the director of the Athletic Bands, said.

Members of the color guard started their performance by taking out their flags and dancing to songs like "Price Tag" and "Heartless," by Jessie J and Kanye West respectfully.

The color guard members choreographed all of their routines.

Elizabeth Brenner, choreographed two of her members for the 12th number in the showcase.

One routine from the color guard that stood out in the showcase was the "Pirates

of the Caribbean" performance.

Jake Holderman and Caitlyn Forrester-Johnson's performance embodied two pirates in the midst of a sword fight.

Color guard and the drumline did have one obstacle during the show: the weather.

It was a cold and windy day, which brought difficulty to some of the performances.

During the 11th and 14th act, while the color guard were dancing and waving their flags, the wind started to blow the flags away causing the performers to drop them.

However, they were able to pick them up and continue to impress the crowd with their talent.

Stahl and all of the other captains organized the entire showcase.

The other people who organized this event were Greg Mulzet, the coordinator of athletic bands, Mark Carmen, the Drumline instructor and the color guard captains.

The marching band closed the show with two final numbers from both the drumline and color guard.

Despite the dropping of a couple of the flags during their routine, the performance was still impressive and the crowd responded well, making it known that they were entertained.

The drumline closed the show with songs from "LTL" to "D&K." After the performance, the group received a big round of applause.

The marching band had to deal with chilling winds but, the performances made their mark on this year's Earthstock festival.



College gal cooking: Popcorn Toffee Crack Bars



By Krysten Massa
Assistant Arts & Entertainment Editor

Looking for something quick and easy to whip up for when your friends come over?

College Gal's rendition of a popcorn toffee crack bar is the perfect combination of salty and sweet that will be good for any occasion.

Ingredients:

Vegetable oil spray
15 graham crackers
Four cups of popped popcorn
Pretzels
¾ cup of puffed rice cereal
1½ cups of unsalted butter
¾ cups of sugar
1 cup of semisweet chocolate chips
Sea salt

First, preheat the oven to 350 degrees Fahrenheit.

Line a large baking sheet with tinfoil and coat it with non-stick cooking spray.

Place the graham crackers across the entire cooking sheet and top them with popcorn, pretzels and the puffed rice cereal.

Put the butter and sugar in a medium sauce pan and cook on medium heat to bring to a boil.

Once the mix is boiling, lower the heat to a simmer and swirl



KRYSTEN MASSA / THE STATESMAN

Popcorn toffee bars can be made a few days in advance and stored in an airtight container at room temperature.

the mixture occasionally until it turns a golden brown color with a syrup-like consistency.

This process should take around 8-10 minutes.

Once this is done, pour this toffee creation over the graham crackers.

Bake this for about 10 to 12 minutes until the toffee coating is slightly darkened to a nice brown color. As

the bars cook, you will begin to notice the sweet scent in the air.

Remove the pan from the oven and top the bars with the chocolate chips so they melt into the other ingredients. If you want, sprinkle some sea salt on top for some more flavor.

Let this cool for a few minutes and then, you are ready to break it up and pass it around.

Factoid Of The Week: Toffee Fun Fact

The term "toffee" was first published in the Oxford English Dictionary in 1852. National English Toffee

Day is on Jan. 8 of each year.

The Caribbean Cook-Off offers SB students different types of food to explore on campus

Continued from page 10

gest dish, that's their key dish," Sims, a senior sociology major and international studies minor, said. The team wanted to bring that chicken to campus.

"We're making cornbread to add some Southern soulfulness," she added.

Sims and Ferguson are no strangers to Caribbean cooking. Sims says that she "chef's it up in her house all the time" and she makes a lot of Japanese and Southern food. Randy Ferguson learned how to cook with Caribbean flair from his Jamaican mother.

Going off of what Sims had to say about their dish, Ferguson explained a deeper reason behind their participation in the competition: They were asked if they wanted to be a part of the Caribbean Cook-Off by Charles.

"We thought this might be a change for Stony Brook, especially for the black and latino community," Ferguson said. "This could be a stepping stone for us to say we're here, we do exist, we're not just a statistic. This is our voice on the campus saying, 'hey we want our food.'"

The Caribbean Student Organization and their campus dining chef, Elvis Dilone, made an oxtail dish.

Dilone has been a chef at Roth

for five years and is no stranger to Caribbean cooking, either. The group came up with its entree and dessert dishes together.

"I'm Caribbean myself, I'm Dominican, so I love Caribbean food and cooking it," Dilone said.

Students moved from table to table, savoring each dish they tried. City Soul asked the crowd if the jerk chicken made their mouths water and received cheers as a response.

"I came today because I saw a little bit of a different variety with the Caribbean food," Felipe Farfan, a junior health science major, said.

Farfan was not the only one glad to see a new style of cooking at SBU.

"The Caribbean food is different and that's why I came down today. I usually go to the SAC but it's never different there," Sutorah Berry, a freshman health science major said.

Danni Deng, a freshman mathematics major agreed, stating that she saw this as an activity on the calendar and came down to the event to try new food.

Team LASO's chefs were a little different than the rest. Chef John Bell, lead chef at Roth Market Fresh, has been cooking since around 16, attended the Culinary Institute of America and worked at a number of places before ending up at Stony Brook.

Unlike the other competitors, Caribbean is not one of Bell's favorites to cook.

"I don't cook Caribbean very often. It's kind of hard because it can get very spicy very fast, it's not one of my favorite cuisines, but I do like it," he said. The students on his team chose the recipes for the flavorful Spanish paella and sweet flan.

"The reason why we chose paella was because it's from Spain and although we are the Latin American Student Organization, we wanted to go further out than the Caribbean and Latin America," Sudley Perez, a senior health science major and chef for the LASO team said.

"Also, a lot of the foods in the Caribbean are the same as those in Latin America, so we decided to expand," he added.

After tasting each team's recipes, the students cast their votes for their favorite dishes.

Team City Soul came out on top, making their dish of rasta pasta and jerk chicken with a side of cornbread available for purchase around campus.

They also received a \$500 award to donate to an on-campus charity. The team chose to support The Stony Brook Children's Hospital.

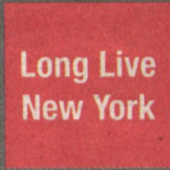
The winning dish will be featured at three dining locations on campus, according to Charles.

"Campus Dining is working out the final details, but it's definitely going to be in West Side Dining. The other two locations most likely will be the SAC and Union," she said.



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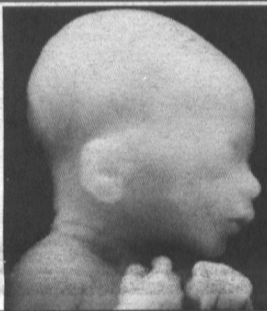
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Earthstock 2015

Earthstock took place ▶
on Friday, April 24.
The event showcased
various performers,
including stilt
walkers, on right.

SAHER JAFRI / THE STATES-
MAN



Pumpnickel the ▶
owl returned for
another Earthstock
appearance at the
Academic Mall.

JISOO HWANG / THE
STATESMAN



Keeping with ▶
tradition, the rubber
duck races took
place at 2 p.m. at
the Administration
fountain.

BOREUM LEE / THE
STATESMAN



ARIEL RAHIMZADA / THE STATESMAN

▲ SBU's mascot Wolfie, above, played with children in attendance of Earthstock 2015, flaunting his hoola-hooping skills.

Brookfest 2015

This year's lineup for Brookfest was one of the more diverse lineups, resulting in the first sold-out concert since Wiz Khalifa in 2012. Hip-hop artist B.o.B opened up the spring concert, performing his latest hit "Both of Us," a collaboration with Taylor Swift. "Airplanes," an older hit, rallied up the crowd, who carried B.o.B. on their shoulders as he crowd-surfed towards the seating section of the arena, where he snapped selfies with the crowd. Twenty One Pilots was the second performance transitioning from rap to alternative rock.

The duo took the time to express its dissatisfaction with the university and UPD, claiming they intended to crowd-surf, as B.o.B. had. Following their performance was the highly anticipated Panic! at the Disco, whose performance ranged from a cover of "Bohemian Rhapsody" to their latest hit, "Hallelujah." But similar to B.o.B., the group's throw-back performance of "I Write Sins, Not Tragedies" turned up the noise level to a deafening roar of approval from the capacity-crowd at IFCU Arena. Overall, the entire concert event kept the audience on its feet for the night, with the three acts providing variety and an electrifying environment for the biggest event of the spring semester.



HEATHER KHALIFA / THE STATESMAN

SBU students in the front row of the standing section react to Panic! at the Disco as they took the stage to perform for the first sold-out Brookfest since Wiz Khalifa.



HEATHER KHALIFA / THE STATESMAN

▲ Panic! at the Disco, above, was the headliner this year, performing hits like "I Write Sins, Not Tragedies."



HEATHER KHALIFA / THE STATESMAN

▲ B.o.B. was the first performer for Brookfest 2015, as well as the only rapper in the lineup this year.

OPINIONS

THE STATESMAN

INFORMING STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY FOR MORE THAN 50 YEARS

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The Statesman is a student-run, student-written incorporated publication at Stony Brook University in New York. The paper was founded as *The Sucolian* in 1957 at Oyster Bay, the original site of Stony Brook University. In 1975, *The Statesman* was incorporated as a not-for-profit, student-run organization. Its editorial board, writers and multimedia staff are all student volunteers.

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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Trouble with the (grading) curve

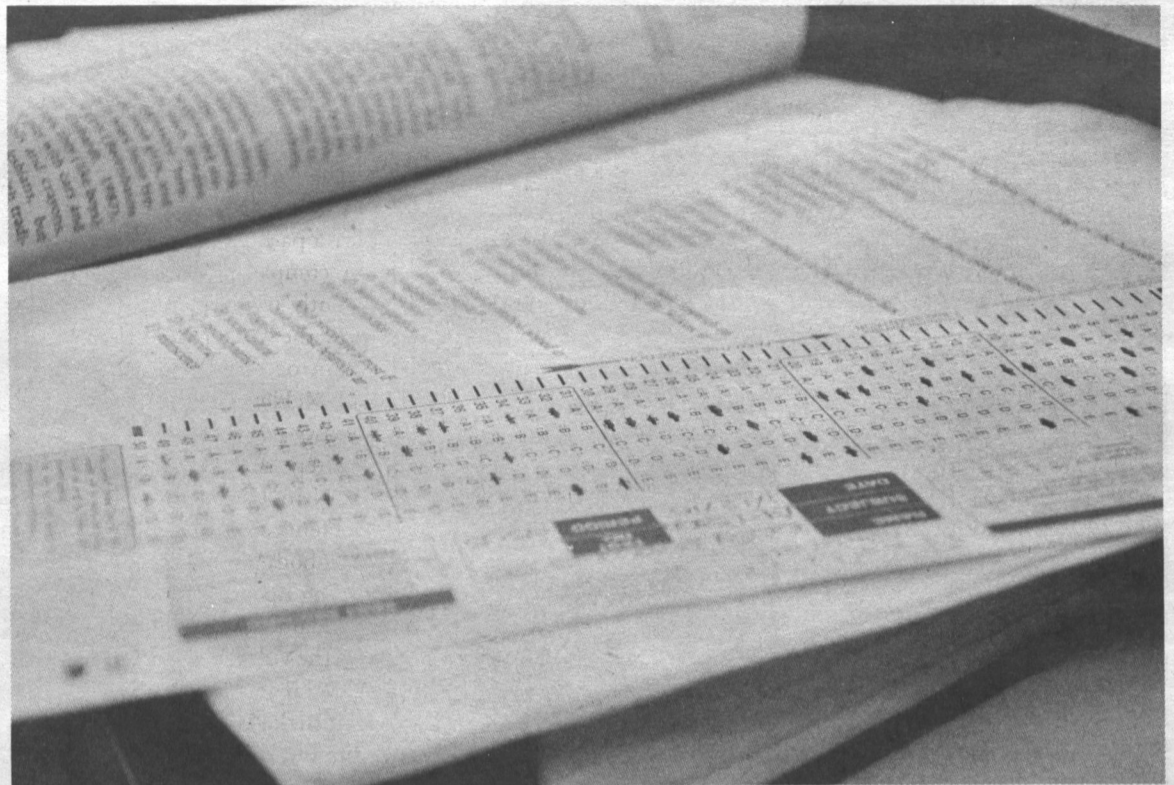


PHOTO CREDIT: KRISTEN LABUZIENSKI

"We have to stop accepting the fact that curves will save our college careers and start putting accountability on ourselves to learn material and actually try to be better."

By Jager Robinson
Contributing Writer

As the movie begins, Clint Eastwood is lining up the camera and ready to start filming. Amy Adams comes out of her trailer, looking like that daughter Eastwood never had. Justin Timberlake is ready to start filming like he is actually Scott Eastwood. All goes well on set until the technical director asks Eastwood, "How do you use this camera again?"

While the movie "Trouble with the Curve" was pretty alright, what is happening with students in colleges is just absurd. I like to call it "trouble with the curve" as well, but this concerns the ridiculous grading curve used nationwide. The real question is, are we hand-holding students too much?

This is a problem that has driven studies across the globe, specifically in the U.S. While many Americans boast the most ridiculous of claims that we are the best country in the world, we continue to fall in terms of global education rankings at an astonishing rate. Now, as we stand at 14th in the world in terms of global education, according to a Pearson study, we are at a crossroads with how we should decide our future. Should we rely on other countries or should we take control of our youth and really start educating our people to change the world?

I will not bother with ques-

tions of the future here, but the most important question we can ask ourselves is, "Is this grading curve worth the price we pay for education?"

The answer is clearly no. There is no benefit whatsoever to a student failing a test and still passing due to a ridiculous grading curve. It truly is one of the most puzzling things in education.

For example, just last semester I got a 56 on a midterm but passed with a B. How does that happen? I apparently knew 56 percent of the information, but that merits that I finished way above the average. This sort of discrepancy is alarming.

The real problem with grading curves are the professors teaching the curved classes. I understand there is not much the individual professor can do to change the material, but what benefit is it to a student to have a test so difficult that no matter how hard he studies, he is sure to fail?

I think it is time students start revolting against the curve. The trouble is on the university's end, but the acceptance that students have for curved classes is equally disturbing. Does anyone actually feel good getting a 50 on a test? Is that test really the best way to teach a student?

This means that some students waste their money by paying professors to teach them nothing, yet curve them to pass courses.

Students do not learn if they get saved, and as a student myself, I would rather have a teacher tell me how I can be better than tell me "Oh, you hit average, you are fine."

This backwards mentality is destroying American education. When a student accepts his fate and rides the average to a B and when a professor makes a test so hard that not one student passes, you know there is a problem with the education system.

Professors have to be better. They have to teach better. They have to really prove to students that they will test them on what is reviewed in class and not just their backward examples of "critical thinking."

Students have to be better. They have to behave better. We have to stop accepting the fact curves will save our college careers and start putting accountability on ourselves to learn material and actually try to be better.

I can guarantee that when that technical director lines up for a shot on a major motion picture, he would rather have been taught how to use the camera than how to "critically apply the knowledge that a camera exists but now you need to find how many apples Jane had."

Everyone needs to come together to understand the "Trouble with the Curve" applies to everyone's future and not just passing college classes.

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McHenry's temper tantrum does not warrant firing

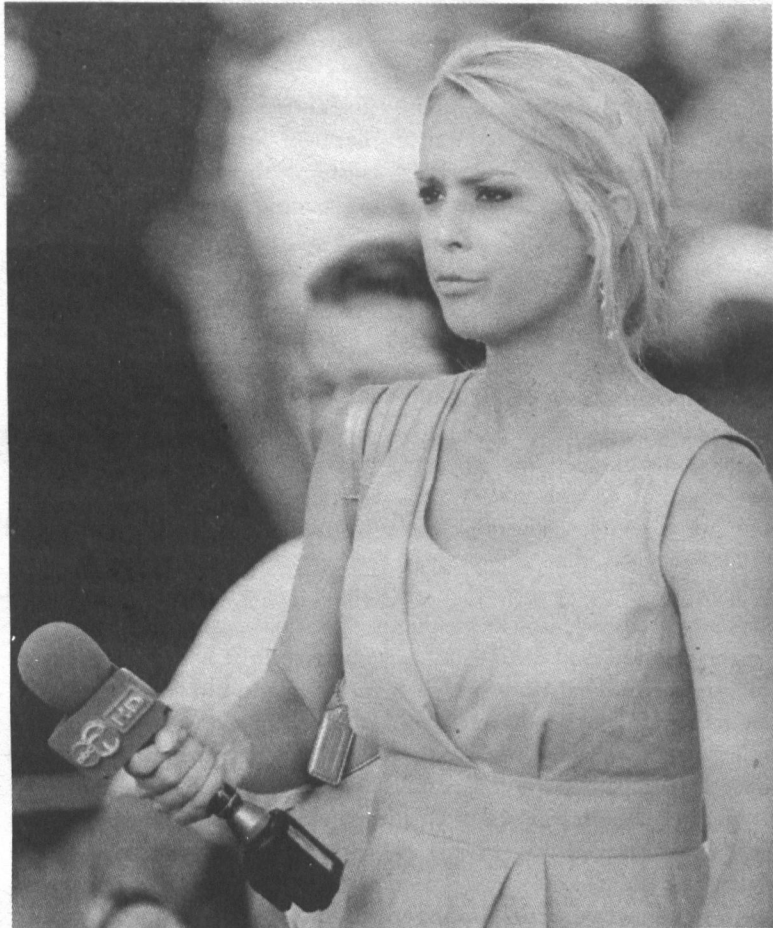


PHOTO CREDIT: KEITH ALLISON

McHenry, above, has been an ESPN reporter since 2014.

By Joseph Loscalzo
Contributing Writer

It's Britney, bitch.

Well no, it's actually Brittany, and she's better known quite tersely as Britt. Regardless, ESPN reporter Britt McHenry drew much ire after someone leaked a scandalous video showing her arguing with a female towing company worker. She received a one-week suspension, but many were left clamoring for a harsher punishment—a firing. I do not believe Britt McHenry should be fired for several reasons.

First of all, I said that the video featured Britt arguing with a worker. That is actually not true. We are not shown an argument. The video was purposely edited to only include the parts where McHenry was insulting the woman. We do not see what led up to this interaction, or what the worker was saying.

The leaked video is blatantly skewed to portray McHenry as a self-centered, condescending jerk. In fact, the only clear words we hear from the worker are her warning McHenry that she will show the security footage to other people, a statement clearly meant to antagonize the reporter further.

It logically does not make sense for anyone to support her termination without knowing the complete details surrounding the situation. The video does not provide enough to fully depict the scope of what happened.

Second, the actual comments that Britt made were not terrible. Let's break down a couple of her utterances.

"That's why I have a degree and you don't." Can this even be considered an insult? Steve Jobs and Bill Gates did not finish college, so she is putting the worker in the same category as two of the greatest minds the world has ever witnessed. "Lose some weight baby girl." This was the comment that

broke the camel's back. However, we don't know what the worker looked like. She could have legitimately been morbidly obese, and McHenry could have been genuinely concerned about the potential health risks such a condition would pose.

All kidding aside, all of McHenry's comments were typical, immature, condescending insults sometimes thrown about when one engages in a heated argument. The engagement seemed like a silly argument and nothing more.

Third, this incident occurred during McHenry's personal time and not while she was actually working. She was not giving this woman an interview for opening day of baseball season and cursing her out on TV.

Now, let's take Brian Williams. He lied on national television and has not been fired. Even though people are actually calling for him to be fired, the fact that he has not been should automatically prevent McHenry from getting fired. If a journalist for NBC can lie on a news program, then McHenry should be allowed to insult as many tow truck company workers as she wants to.

Fourth, we cannot ignore the massive elephant in the newsroom. When McHenry insulted the worker's teeth and weight, the fact that she herself has perfect teeth and is in great shape made that insult worse by a large magnitude. McHenry is an extremely attractive woman, and people do not like it when someone who is perceivably "superior" to another outlines that superior quality.

McHenry's one-week suspension was ample punishment for her immature temper tantrum. She has since apologized for the outburst and explained that her emotions got the better of her, as I am sure we have all experienced ourselves. As long as she does not say "Oops, I did it again" anytime soon, I hope to see more of McHenry.

ESPN's McHenry should already be gone

By Emily Benson
Staff Writer

There is a video floating around the interwebs of ESPN sports reporter Britt McHenry, being portrayed as something she probably thought she would never be—extremely ugly.

The video shows the 28-year-old going full Regina George all over a parking attendant at a towing company. McHenry was apparently trying to pick up her car from the attendant, but an altercation occurred between the two and McHenry turned from polite to nasty real quick.

After the video went viral, ESPN took action and suspended McHenry for one week.

Nobody knows what happened leading up to the video or if parking attendant was egging her tantrum on. The video only shows a minute of McHenry in her hulk rage state against the parking employee and edits out any comments the employee made back.

Honestly though, I do not need to hear what was said leading up to her tirade because very few things could have justified what she said. Not only that, but receiving a week suspension for her actions is a pathetic excuse for a punishment. McHenry should be fired, and it should have happened a while ago.

The video opens with McHenry telling the employee, "I'm in the news sweetheart, I will f***ing sue this place." Awesome. That is just the kind of pompous attitude you need when dealing with conflict.

The video cuts to her saying she cannot stand being at this place because it makes her skin crawl and that the attendant only cares

about taking peoples money and has "no education and no skill set." She even says that if she lost some teeth, she could work at this place too, and before snatching up her papers and storming off, McHenry tells the employee to "lose some weight, babygirl."

Before I rip McHenry a new one, I will say that yes, parking/towing companies everywhere have had a bit of a bad history with customer service. Anybody who has been to the DMV for more than five minutes contemplates murdering at least three people behind the counter. But in any of these blood boiling moments I never forget my civility, manners or how to act like a decent human being, something McHenry certainly cannot say for herself.

Being a reporter for ESPN Sports, McHenry has to understand the pros and cons of being in the spotlight. When that camera goes on and the players down on the field are being interviewed, the reporter on the scene is the personification of whatever news channel he or she is with. ESPN is too credible, and too smart for that matter, to not know that keeping McHenry is only going to hurt the appeal of their company. If Brian Williams, the long-time face of NBC, can be suspended for lying on camera, a sports reporter with little to no credibility should be fired.

Oh, and did I mention this is not the first time this has happened?

McHenry was involved in a similar disagreement online with a Twitter user. A female attorney tweeted about her disgust of sexualization of women in sports broadcasting saying, "I wish there

were more women in sports broadcasting that aren't completely sexualized." McHenry replied to this by saying women can be both intelligent and beautiful. Both the original tweeter and other Twitter users hopped in saying that was not the intention of the attorney's tweet.

To all this heat, McHenry replies, "You sound really bitter. Maybe if you work as hard as you say you do, you wouldn't bash more successful people on Twitter."

McHenry, my babygirl, can you step off? I am pretty sure if there is ever a shortage of helium in this world, we can tap into McHenry's brain. Did the world forget to tell her that starting fights over the internet stopped being acceptable in seventh grade? How many times is McHenry's temper going to get the better of her, only to have her actions brushed off?

I do not want to be one those people that tries to ruin someone's life over nothing. McHenry's job is a dream for many people, and if you mess it up, it is something you do not get many second chances in doing.

But McHenry crossed a serious line. She was aware that she was on camera, she was aware what she was saying was uncalled for and she did it all anyway. She did not just call out the employee on what she was doing wrong in her job, McHenry was deliberately belittling her looks, her intelligence and the employee as a person.

If McHenry is as smart as she says she is, then she should know she can not be both a popular public figure and act like this. I just hope ESPN is smart enough to realize this too.

It is time to have a woman on our \$20 bills

By Joseph Konig
Staff Writer

The last few months have seen a rise in support for a change of face in American currency. Bills have been proposed in both the House and the Senate after President Obama said in a speech that a nine-year-old girl wrote him a letter regarding the lack of women regarding paper money.

Activists have made their target known, it is the \$20 bill, which currently features a portrait of a wild-

haired Andrew Jackson.

The Women On 20s campaign has gained considerable traction and is in the midst of conducting an unofficial online poll. The finalists are Harriet Tubman, Rosa Parks, Eleanor Roosevelt and Wilma Mankiller. An abolitionist, a civil rights activist, an influential first lady and a Cherokee chief, respectively.

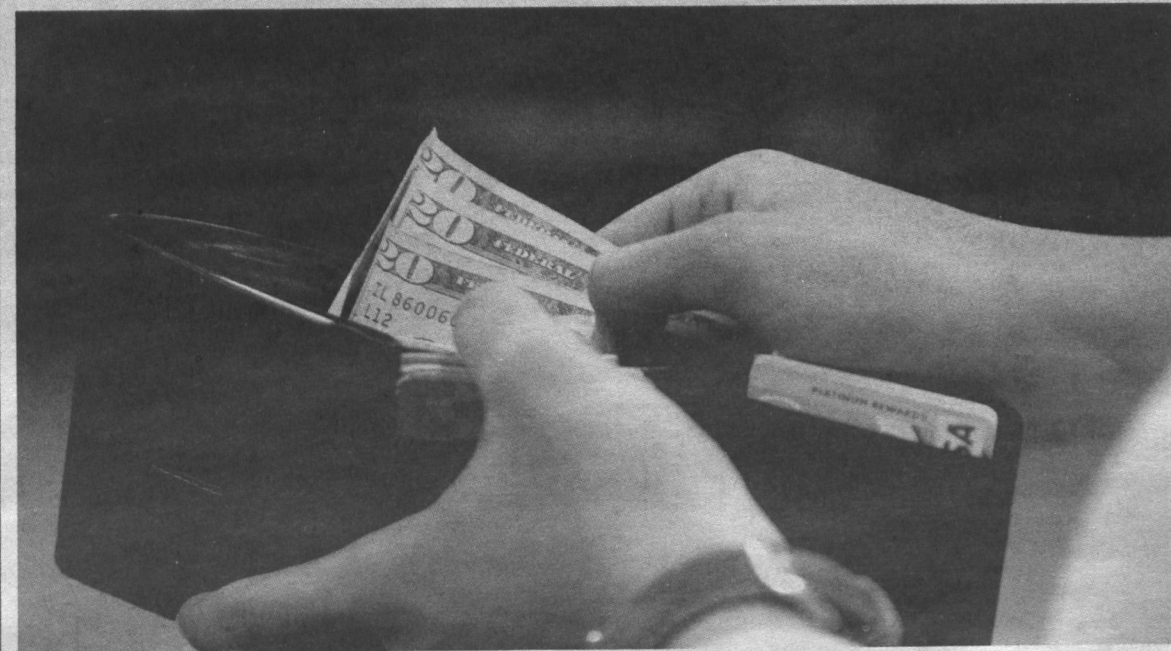
I am partial to Parks. Racism is often considered a product of past times, but racial conflict and the grating of historic tensions are more relevant now than they

have been in years. Adding Parks into circulation could serve as a reminder of how things were and how things need to be if development is to continue.

Of all the men who helped shaped our nation and were rewarded with their portraits plastered on our currency, Jackson is easily the least deserving.

Often in the modern world, we look back on our predecessors and allow for a learning curve. We forgive

Continued on page 18



MEGAN MILLER / THE STATESMAN

The "Women on 20s" campaign is trying to get the first woman on paper currency.

Jackson no longer has a place on our money

Continued from page 17
Bill Clinton for signing the Defense of Marriage Act and for enacting the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy. We have accepted the fact George Washington and Thomas Jefferson owned slaves. Henry Ford and Walt Disney were anti-semites, but Jewish people buy their products.

Andrew Jackson does not belong in this category of necessary evils.

He was a racist, warmongering and greedy plantation owner who became president and destroyed the lives of thousands in the name of American expansion.

Jackson assumed the presidency in 1829 and immediately became the people's president. He was the first president to invite the public to his inauguration ball. He came from a log cabin in Tennessee and became the most famous war hero to emerge out of the War of 1812, after his victories in the Battle of New Orleans.

A self-made man, his path to the White House would have been an honorable and intriguing one if he had not made his money buying and selling hundreds of slaves. And the kicker is that his plantation was on land that had previously been set aside for Native Americans. How is that for foreshadowing?

While it is unlikely a reasonable, fair and peaceful resolution would have ever been reached; Jackson expedited the inevitable conflict between the native North American population and Manifest Destiny

rather cruelly. His actions can be looked at as the point of no return for the relationship between our still developing nation and the Native American populace.

Jackson forcibly removed tens of thousands of Choctaw, Cherokee and Seminole Native Americans, including several thousand slaves, from their homes in Florida, Alabama, Georgia and Mississippi. Most of them walked the 2,000 miles on the Trail of Tears to Oklahoma. If they survived the trek, their children and grandchildren would, in all likelihood, later be forcibly removed again.

Jackson was not solely responsible for the persecution of Native Americans, nor was he the worst person to ever walk this earth. However, he was not just a product of his times. He was, for all intents and purposes, a monster who dehumanized his fellow human beings to the point of genocide and enslavement.

This is hardly a man worth celebrating or memorializing.

Putting a black woman on the \$20 bill will probably not make a dent in the immense amount of work our country still has to do across the board. Not to mention our currency will serve as recognition for someone who was not a rich white male.

Not that rich white men have not done a lot for our country. They have just also done a pretty good job at making sure they were the only ones available for the job.

On avoiding important conversations about rape

By Kate Valerio
Staff Writer

When I was younger, my mother talked to me about sperm and eggs and how fertilization makes a baby. Being the junior scientist/future sex columnist that I was, I questioned about how the sperm found the egg. Did it have a map or something? This conversation made my mother uncomfortable, so we did not talk about it. That is what people do; we avoid things that make us uncomfortable. That is why I avoid baked beans, Crocs and romantic comedies that star Katherine Heigl. Unfortunately, this is the same mindset that prevents us from discussing rape.

I know most people find the word "rape" uncomfortable and so avoid talking about it. I would like to bring to light the fact that it is much more uncomfortable to be raped than it is to talk about it. I also know this does not make it any easier to talk about. I avoided telling anyone about my rape for too long and was not able to prosecute it as a result. But as long as rape happens, we are going to have to talk about it. And now is a good time to start.

According to oneinfourusa.org, "One in four college women report surviving rape or attempted rape at some point in their lifetime." Seriously consider this

for a moment: A female college student might have a better chance of not dying in a game of Russian Roulette than she does of not being raped. In a freshman suite (which usually contains seven people), two of those girls will likely be raped. In your lecture class in Javits 100, estimates would say that everyone is sitting in a room with approximately 100 possible victims of rape.

When many people think of rape, they imagine a woman in a short skirt being held up at gunpoint in a dark alley by a stranger who has not had sex in a while. Our minds tend to overlook the other scenarios that still constitute as rape. Surveys show that 60 percent of rape victims knew the person who attacked them. And in college, recreational drugs are often present in about 75 percent of college cases. You go out to a party with a friend you trust to take care of you who takes advantage of you instead, and no one was wearing a short skirt.

To be explicitly clear, the federal law does not permit anyone who is under the influence of drugs to consent to sexual intercourse. This is not the kind of gray area in which you can make ridiculous statements like "But they really wanted to!" In fact, it is not a gray area at all. To those who would like to argue with me on this point and try to justify having sex with someone who

has been drinking (or using any other kind of drug), I personally believe that you should be exiled to Antarctica in your bathing suit. But, since that does not happen because of our judicial system, the sexual exploitation of people under the influence should not happen either. A law for a law.

We all distance ourselves from the concept of rape. It is something that happens on "Law and Order," not to people in my life. But if you really knew just how prevalent it is and just how many carry that burden in silence, you would be the one in silence. And yet, it is the victims who suffer alone and tell no one.

You have all heard that one uber-feminist who argues against mascara and blowdryers as weapons of our male-dominated society also throw around the phrase "victim blaming." You can never understand how deep-rooted this concept is until you have looked at yourself in the mirror after being raped and telling yourself "it was my fault."

I understand that a lot of this article is uncomfortable, but the more we discuss the issue and the more light we shed on it, the less these terrible things will exist in our society. So I invite you all to join the discussion and we can all only take advantage of Stony Brook's cheap tuition instead of someone's body.

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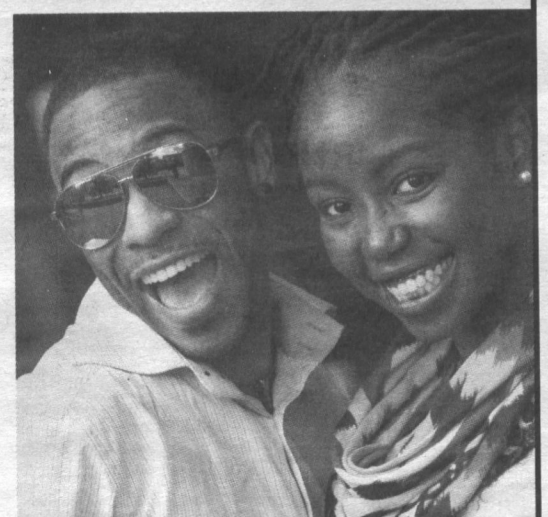
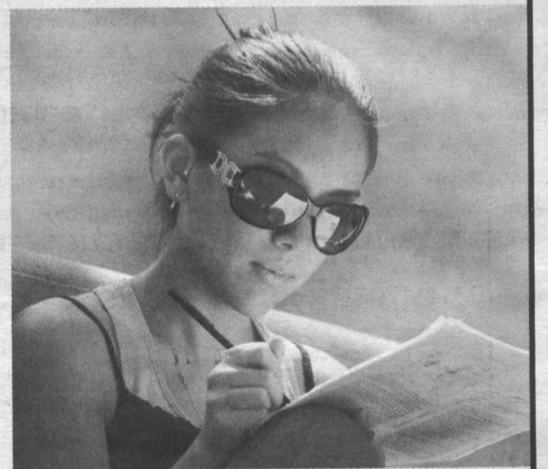
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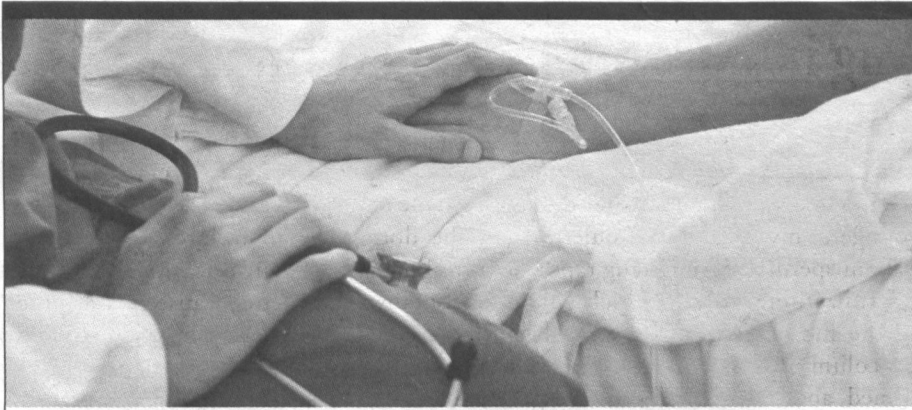
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Football

Defense dominates as Black beats Red in Conti '11 Memorial Spring Game

By Skyler Gilbert
Staff Writer

There is nothing like an April day on the gridiron.

In the inaugural Frank Conti '11 Memorial Spring Game, the Seawolves' offense, Team Red, was pitted against the Seawolves' defense, Team Black, in a public football scrimmage on Saturday afternoon at Kenneth P. LaValle Stadium.

Black won the game 22-17, showing the prowess of a defense that was ranked third in yards per game allowed in the FCS last season.

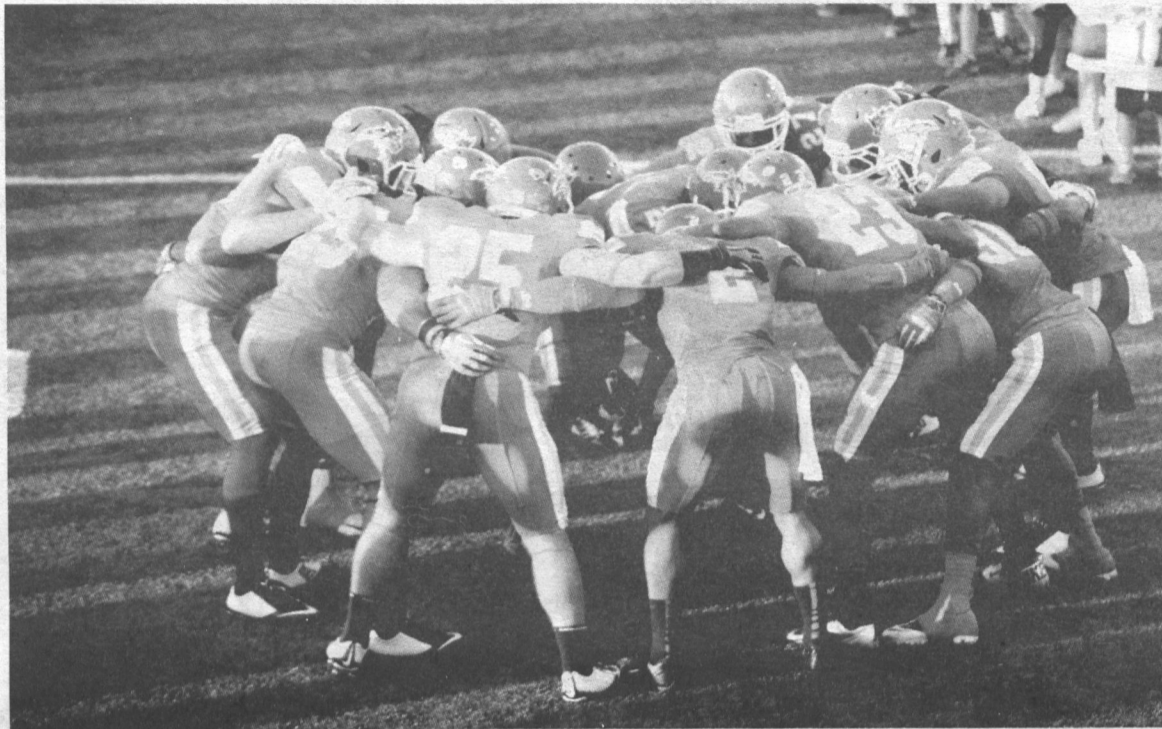
The scrimmage had no kickoffs and all punts were fair-caught. The offense started at the spot of the fair catch after punts and at the 25-yard line after scores.

Offensive points were tallied with conventional scoring, with six points for a touchdown and an additional one-point PAT kick or a two-point conversion opportunity, along with three for a field goal.

On defense, four points were given for forcing a turnover before the offense crossed the 50-yard line, while two points were awarded for forcing a turnover after midfield.

Punts were handled differently, as two points were awarded for forcing a punt before the 50-yard line and one point was granted for forcing a punt after the 50.

With quarterback Connor Bed-



MANJU SHIVACHARAN / THE STATESMAN

Stony Brook will look to top .500 in the Colonial Athletic Association for the first time.

narski and running back Stacey Bedell not playing for the Seawolves, it was Joe Carbone and Tyler Fredericks getting the quarterbacking and rushing duties, respectively, for Team Red.

Carbone, a redshirt freshman, was 14-for-24 on the day with 116 yards and an interception while Fredericks, a junior, carried the ball nine times for 87 yards.

Fredericks' highlight was when he scampered into the end zone from three yards out in the third quarter.

Redshirt freshman Pat Irwin and junior Carlos Hernandez both received playing time at quarterback for the Seawolves.

Sophomore wide receiver Ray Bolden had a huge day, catching eight passes for 121 yards.

Another wide receiver, sophomore Julius Wingate added six catches for 39 yards.

Sophomore running backs Anthony Anderson and Donald Liotine rushed for 40 and 68 yards, respectively.

Anderson scored on a seven-yard touchdown run to cut the

Black lead to 20-10 early in the second quarter.

On the defensive side of the ball, star lineman Victor Ochi did not play for Team Black.

Kye Morgan, a junior defensive back, recorded an interception and seven tackles.

Sophomore defensive back Darin Peart recovered a fumble in the first quarter.

The fumble recovery and interception each counted as four points toward Black's score.

Sophomore defensive back Reggie Allen added nine tackles on

the afternoon, the most of any defensive player.

The Black defense stopped the Red offense eight times for a total of fourteen points. Six of these stops came before the offense crossed the 50-yard line.

Black began the game by scoring the first nineteen points of the game, before junior kicker Przemyslaw Popek made it 19-3 with a 22-yard field goal.

Popek was perfect in the game, drilling both extra points he attempted and making his lone field goal attempt.

The Frank Conti '11 Memorial Spring Game was created this year to honor the legacy of Conti, a former defensive lineman for the Seawolves.

Conti tragically passed away suddenly in the July of 2011, shortly after his graduation, due to a heart attack.

The spring game, an annual event, now carries Conti's name "to cherish the memory of an individual who made a tremendous impact on the program," Stony Brook Athletics said.

Seniors Bednarski, Ochi, offensive lineman Jerry Hubshman and linebacker Jeremy Leggiero were named team captains before the game.

The Stony Brook football team will open its 2015 season on the road against Toledo on September 3 before hosting Central Connecticut in its home opener.

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Esohe Aibangbee	Diane DeSimone	Sugandha Gupta	John Martin	Roshni Sondhi
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Lacrosse Championship Preview

Prolific Lyle Thompson and Great Danes again stand in the way of a conference title

Young talent leading Seawolves into tourney as national power



MANJU SHIVACHARAN/THE STATESMAN

Brody Eastwood, No. 23 above, has 59 goals this season.

By Andrew Eichenholz
Assistant Sports Editor

On the far east end of Kenneth P. LaValle Stadium, a men's lacrosse player slowly pranced from near the sideline towards the goal crease, no urgency in his steps.

The clock was ticking down, ten seconds and counting, yet calm as can be, that student-athlete made his move and tied the America East semifinals, before his team beat Stony Brook to end the Seawolves' season.

That player just happens to be Lyle Thompson, Albany's All-World attackman who has returned after his Co-Tewaaraton Award winning season to lead his Great Danes on another postseason run.

Albany will likely be the toughest barricade for the Seawolves to knock over if they are to win the America East Tournament and advance to the NCAA Tournament.

The Great Danes broke Stony Brook's hearts with a gut-wrenching overtime win in last year's conference semis, but this year's Seawolves team is different.

The squad will look to finish what it started last season with a semifinal matchup against Vermont on Thursday at 4:30 p.m. at SUNY Albany.

The Seawolves trounced the Catamounts in Burlington earlier this season, as senior attackman Mike Rooney's 11 points led the way in the team's 21-12 win after bursting out to a 13-4 halftime lead.

It is not a shock that Rooney went off for double digits, as he leads the country in points with 98 and is second in the nation behind Thompson in points per game.

Stony Brook's season on a whole can only be summed up with one phrase—record-breaking. The Seawolves look to continue doing just that as they head into the America East Tournament this week.

A year ago, Head Coach Jim Nagle's team won six games, including a stunning loss to eventual NCAA Quarterfinalist Albany in the America East Tournament semifinals.

With pretty much the same squad back, minus a transfer to Duke and the injury bug throughout the year, the Seawolves came out swinging, winning 12 games on the year.

If the team should go on to win the America East Championship, they will break the program's record for wins set by a Kevin Crowley-led 2010 team that lost in the NCAA

Quarterfinals, 10-9, to Virginia.

So, how has a squad with almost no change doubled its win total and performed so much better with their backs against the wall?

As Nagle and his team said before the season started, the Seawolves bought in during the offseason, putting in the work and doing whatever it takes to win.

In one year, the program records for career points, points in a season, career assists and assists in a season have all fallen and done so at the hands of one student-athlete: Rooney.

The Long Island native has risen to the occasion, especially when the team has needed it most.

Stony Brook defeated Fairfield by merely one goal earlier in the season, with Rooney coming up with seven points on the day.

Recently against Binghamton, he added nine points in a big overtime win.

Without his poise, those outcomes may not have been the same.

Junior attackman Brody Eastwood has quietly skated by while having arguably the most prolific scoring season in team history.

He broke the records for goals in a game and season while steadily sitting in second in goals per game in the country.

That does not even take into account arguably the most unselfish performance of all coming from possibly the most talented of all the Seawolves, junior midfielder Challen Rogers.

His effort and impact may not show on the stat sheet, but for a midfielder to shoot 47 percent is unreal, and the slides he draws opens plays up for his teammates.

What does this all mean? The Seawolves have been doing great things individually, but while some

teams may see that negatively impact the overall result, it has only come together to produce one of the best overall team seasons at Stony Brook this year, during which the squad has spent much time in the national rankings.

There is one problem, and it happens to be a very, very big one: If the Seawolves should advance to the America East finale, they will more than likely face a team that sits in the country's top-10 in Albany.

Lyle Thompson is not only the best player in college lacrosse, but possibly one of the best in the world. He answered any and all questions about whether he could play without brother Miles and cousin Ty, who both graduated last season from Albany.

Thompson broke Rob Pannell's NCAA career points record and unselfishly led the country's most prolific offense with a group that he had little to no experience with before the first face-off of the year was held.

As well as Stony Brook can play, proving that the team can hang with anybody when it went into halftime against two-time defending National Champion Duke only down by two goals, it will come down to playing a clean enough game against the Great Danes so that the Seawolves will not have to play catch-up.

Looking to make a comeback against such a dynamic offense will only spell disaster for the Seawolves.

A lot of that will start at the faceoff "x," where sophomore Jay Lindsay and junior Frank Lucauto have filled in nicely for Kyle Rowe, who joined his brother Jack at Duke.

As the season has gone along, both players, but especially Lindsay, have excelled in the ground ball game, a soft spot for the team as a whole in the past, and one of the most vital aspects of lacrosse.

Time and time again this year Stony Brook has found itself in tough situations, and it has been winning that key faceoff, stealing that messy ground ball or making the right pass at the right time that has allowed the team to dig in and win games that it may not have won last season.

If the Seawolves do indeed beat the Catamounts, they will play the winner between the Great Danes and the Hartford Hawks on Saturday morning at 10 a.m. in Albany.



MANJU SHIVACHARAN/THE STATESMAN

Mike Rooney, No. 1 above, holds the career points record.

By Andrew Eichenholz
Assistant Sports Editor

The Stony Brook women's lacrosse team has gone from setting out to prove people wrong to proving itself right this season, as the team enters the America East Championships on Friday evening as the top seed and a nationally-ranked top-five powerhouse, playing UMBC in the semifinals at Kenneth P. LaValle Stadium at 5 p.m.

The Seawolves were not always a shoe-in to earn their third straight top seed for the America East Tournament, as Stony Brook entered the year without their loudest voice and strongest defense. Superstar-goalie Frankie Caridi graduated in the spring. Her departure naturally left a void. Yet, as April nears its end, the Seawolves find themselves not only just as good as they were last season, but even better.

Rankings do not always speak truth, but the top-five Seawolves are among the nation's elite, whether they have the number next to the team's name or not. Last year's suffocating defense has returned, despite losing key pieces, but the biggest change, as Head Coach Joe Spallina noted before the year got going, was the dynamic offense that Stony Brook possesses.

Any student-athlete on the squad can be the star on any given night, and one can pretty much pick the sophomores Courtney Murphy and Dorrien Van Dyke, senior Michelle Rubino, freshman Kylie Ohlmiller or others out of a hat as performer of the game and nobody would truly be surprised.

In the America East Tournament and beyond, having everyone ready and able to contribute will be of the utmost importance. It is inevitable that a team will scout Stony Brook and slide to Murphy on one day, or throw a double-team at Ohlmiller on another. If the Seawolves keep the ball moving fluidly, someone will be open, and it will be the receiver of the pass' job to finish the sequence off.

Despite their elite defense, the Seawolves will need to keep up what they showed they could do on the offensive end all season long. The Albany Great Danes, the only other America East team that is nationally ranked, happens to have one of the most potent attacks in the country.

Led by Maureen Keggins, the nation's leader in points per game, the Great Danes have averaged nearly 15 goals per game. Yet, Stony Brook managed to stifle the squad when the teams played at LaValle Stadium back in April. Albany only came away with five goals on the day, and if they should end up facing the Seawolves for the title, they will be looking for revenge.

First, though, the Seawolves will have to get by UMBC, the team that Stony Brook beat 13-7 earlier in the season, clinching hosting rights for the conference tournament in doing so.

Coming off of a big win over seven-time National Champion Northwestern, the Seawolves' game against the Retrievers was a spot

that one may expect a team to lose focus. However, a strong first half propelled the Seawolves to the win, as five members of Spallina's group scored two or more goals in a total team effort.

It cannot be said enough that even though Stony Brook has proven everybody wrong by putting together arguably the best season in the history of Seawolves Athletics, many people still underestimate the depth of this team. Last season, it was all Murphy and Van Dyke, with Rubino doing the two-way work. This year, those who rarely see the field can pitch in just as well.

Sophomore Kristin Yevoli and senior Amber Kupres would fit in as strong offensive forces on any other team in the conference, yet they have combined for "just" 27 goals and four assists on the season. That is a testament to the pure talent the Seawolves have.

Again, freshman Samantha DiSalvo may have an underwhelming total of seven points on her young career, yet she has proven that if necessary, she can run onto the field and do her part.

What is concerning and could cause problems is if the Seawolves fall behind in the second half. This causes the draw control to become as important as ever.



MANJU SHIVACHARAN/THE STATESMAN

Kylie Ohlmiller, above, has tallied 73 points this season.

Stony Brook has shown improvement not only from last season but throughout this campaign as well, but the team is still 93rd in the country in that department. There is no truly weak position on this team that warrants a lack of confidence, but if Spallina's squad has a must-win draw late in a game, will it be able to control? That is not an easy call.

If the Seawolves hang tough at the circle against their America East foes, there will be no problems. Stony Brook has the best defense and the most talented offense in the league.

However, the likelihood of that happening for the two-time defending conference champions is slim. After suffering their only loss of the year to Johns Hopkins, the Seawolves have learned their lesson of not going into a game with their guard down.

Even though Stony Brook will get into the NCAA Tournament with or without the America East's automatic bid, they will be looking to head to the national tournament with momentum.

Between the Lines: Four points from our staff about this week's action

By Statesman Sports Staff

Point 1: Baseball has to be cautious, even though it is rolling through the America East.

There is Stony Brook, and then there is the rest of the America East Conference as far as the baseball regular-season race is concerned.

The Seawolves currently have a four-game lead over the UMass Lowell River Hawks and have already taken two of three games from the second-year Division I team.

In fact, Stony Brook has only lost two America East games all season, holding a 12-2 record after the weekend sweep of Albany. But the Seawolves have done this before.

The Seawolves lost only five conference games last season and ended up blowing a golden opportunity to go back to the NCAA Tournament by losing back-to-back games to the Binghamton Bearcats.

In 2011, Stony Brook only lost two conference games all year but was defeated by Albany in an elimination game despite the Seawolves coming in as the top seed. So, as Stony Brook enters the final three weeks of the season riding high, it would be wise to be cautious.

If the Seawolves want to make the NCAA Tournament, they should make sure history does not repeat itself.

-By Cameron Boon, Assistant Sports Editor

Point 2: Softball has a plethora of dominant pitchers.



EFAL SAYED/THE STATESMAN

Junior pitcher Jane Sallen, No. 25 above, has surpassed her 2014 totals for wins, innings and strikeouts.

Any successful softball team needs at least one ace pitcher to be a title contender. This is someone that can carry the team to victory in any given game and is capable of thriving in big games.

Stony Brook has two such pitchers in senior Allison Cukrov and junior Jane Sallen. Both have been spectacular for the Seawolves in 2015. Both are top ten in the America East in strikeouts, ERA, wins and innings pitched. This combination has provided a perfect 1-2 punch to propel the Seawolves into first place.

Sallen, who has started 21 of the Seawolves' 37 games, is arguably the most-improved player on the team. She has already surpassed her 2014 totals for starts, wins, innings and strikeouts this season. Without this exponential improvement, the Seawolves

would likely be an afterthought in the America East.

Although Cukrov struggled early in the season, the two-time conference Pitcher of the Year appears to have regained her form as of late.

She won America East Pitcher of the Week two weeks ago and recorded a near-perfect game last week.

The only hit she allowed was a leadoff single. Cukrov is finding her stride at just the right time, with the conference tournament just two weeks away.

Should the Seawolves face an elimination game, Head Coach Megan Bryant will have quite the dilemma deciding who will pitch.

Although this may be a difficult decision to make, it is a good dilemma to have.

-By Chris Gaine, Staff Writer

Point 3: Men's lacrosse needs to limit scoring in bunches.

Men's lacrosse has one of the most efficient offenses in NCAA Division I, led by senior attackman Mike Rooney and junior attackman Brody Eastwood. The Seawolves currently have the second-most goals in the country (225) and are sixth in goals per game (14.06). The group has the offensive prowess to make a deep postseason run, but the Seawolves need to limit the scoring surges they have proven to be prone to.

The squad's first loss came at the hands of a currently-No. 50 St. John's team, after the Red Storm scored nine of the game's last ten goals. In the Seawolves' third loss to a then-No. 4 Duke team, Stony Brook's defense let up an eight-goal run in the first half.

Although the team rebounded and hung tough to an end score of 17-11, the hole dug was far too great for the defense to climb out of.

Stony Brook came out on top in Friday's game against Hartford, but not before being down 8-4 at the half for the second time this season.

Freshman midfielder Matt Robison would go on to score the overtime winning goal, but it will be a much greater challenge to come back from a halftime deficit against the more talented teams the Seawolves will face in the postseason, which the game against Duke highlighted.

Stony Brook is tied with Lehigh for the 32nd-best goals per game ratio at 10.06. If the team is going to make it far in the postseason, the defense needs to tighten up and

play consistently throughout the whole game.

-By Chris Peraino, Staff Writer

Point 4: Controlling ground balls is imperative for women's lacrosse.

In lacrosse, possession is crucial. Unlike sports like football and baseball where there is equal opportunity with possession, lacrosse relies on draw controls and ground balls to determine possession.

Faccoffs and ground balls are designed to be 50-50 opportunities for each team, but the No. 5 Stony Brook women's lacrosse team has used its speed and hustling ability to secure possession on much greater than 50 percent of these loose balls.

The Seawolves have won 52.4 percent of draws this season, winning 16 more draw controls total this season than they have lost. They have grabbed 55.6 percent of loose ground balls this season, or 51 more ground balls total than their opponents.

Stony Brook, on average, earns four more possessions for itself over its opponents each game.

For an offense as prolific as Stony Brook's, its opponents are basically spotting them two goals.

Looking ahead to a probable rematch with Albany for the America East championship, the Great Danes are even better at winning ground balls, securing 57.2 percent this season.

In a high-intensity rivalry game, ground balls will certainly be an aspect of the game to keep an eye on.

-By Skyler Gilbert, Staff Writer

Baseball

Offense comes alive as Seawolves sweep conference rival Albany

By Cameron Boon
Assistant Sports Editor

Stony Brook baseball has rolled through the America East Conference this season, taking two of three games from two of its opponents and sweeping its last two series. That dominance continued in Albany this weekend, as the Seawolves convincingly took all three games from the Great Danes to increase their lead in the conference to an astounding four games.

After running away late with game one by a score of 15-3, the Seawolves took a pitchers' duel to the wire en route to a 2-1 victory.

The bats then came alive again in game three, as Stony Brook rolled by a 12-2 score.

Having Tyler Honahan on the mound usually spells success for Stony Brook, and that did not change in game one.

The junior allowed three runs on seven hits in six innings of work and exited the game with a 5-3 advantage that was in the hands of the bullpen.

After holding a 3-0 going into that fifth inning, Albany scored three runs to tie the game up. Shawn Blake roped a double to left-center to cut the lead to 3-2 and Alex Lushkevich scored from third on an RBI ground-out to then tie the game.

Whatever hope the Great Danes had after that inning was quickly eradicated, as the Seawolves rattled off 12 unanswered runs, scoring two in the sixth, three in both the seventh and ninth and four in the eighth.

In the sixth, a Malcolm Nachmanoff RBI double plated Andrew Gazzola. Nachmanoff then scored from third on a Casey Baker sacrifice fly.

Toby Handley tripled to left-center to get the barrage started in the seventh inning, plating a pair of runs. He then scored on a Jack Parenty single up the middle to put the Seawolves lead at 8-3 as Nick Brass took the hill.

After the Great Danes went down in order, Stony Brook went back to work.

Cole Peragine and Parenty both drew bases-loaded walks to bring in two runs, Handley drove in another run with a single to right, and a sacrifice fly off the bat of Robert Chavarria gave the Seawolves four in the eighth.

But the offense was not done, and they poured it on in the ninth.

Parenty was a big part of it. He laced a bases-loaded triple down the right field line, bringing everybody home.

When it was all said and done, Parenty finished with five RBI on the game, Handley had three of his own and Peragine reached base four times and came around to score every time.

From high-explosive offense to great defense and pitching, Matt Senk's squad proved it can win any type of game on a sunny Saturday afternoon, taking the nightcap of the doubleheader in a defensive slugfest after winning the first game in a run-filled affair.

Baker finished the second game with two of the three hits the Seawolves would record on the day, but that was enough for starter Daniel Zamora and closer Cameron Stone, who recorded their fourth win and third save, respectively.

Baker also scored both of the runs for Stony Brook.

He touched home on a wild pitch in the second to give the Seawolves a 1-0 and then doubled that lead with one swing, a home run to right, to make it 2-0.

The third hit was recorded by Parenty, a bunt single in the first inning.

Zamora struck out seven batters in his five innings of work, only allowing one run on four hits. Said run came in the Albany fifth inning, when Alex Lushkevich hit a sacrifice fly to center, scoring Eric Mueller from third to cut the Seawolves' lead in half. The Great Danes would leave the tying run at third in the inning and not get close to scoring again.

Stone, the sophomore reliever, would shut down the Great Danes, only allowing one baserunner in the final two innings of play and clinching the series for Stony Brook.

If there were any negatives taken out of this game, it is that three hitting streaks came to an end in game two.

Gazzola and Jeremy Giles had raised theirs to 10 before losing it in game two, and Handley's came to a halt at eight games.

On Sunday, the Seawolves went for the sweep, and convincingly got it.

Ryley MacEachern started the game on the mound and already had a lead before throwing a pitch, as the Seawolves threw a three-spot on the board in the top of the first on Albany starter Matt Gallup.

Chavarria singled down the left field line, Baker grounded out to the

pitcher and Gazzola singled to first base and before the fans could get settled in at Varsity Field, it was 3-0 Stony Brook.

The Seawolves were consistent in their scoring, tallying a run in each of the first five innings, plating three in the first and the third innings.

Three Seawolves recorded multiple RBI in the game, with Baker driving in three runs and Handley and Gazzola each bringing in two.

Baker, along with the RBI ground-out in the first, reached on an error in the fourth to bring in Parenty and doubled to left-center in the eighth to plate Handley.

Handley utilized two RBI singles to bring in runs in the second and fifth, while Gazzola singled to first base and center field to plate a pair of Seawolves runs.

The game was never in doubt, as Stony Brook led 9-2 after five and coasted to the finish, as four pitchers combined to hold the Great Danes to six hits and only two runs.

MacEachern only went 3.1 innings, striking out five Great Danes batters and only allowing two runs on four hits.

Chad Lee relieved him and was given his fourth win of the season, pitching 3.2 innings and striking out a pair of batters while only allowing two hits.

Nicholas DiEva and Teddy Rodliff pitched the eighth and ninth, holding Albany hitless with DiEva recording a pair of batters.

Stony Brook is now 12-2 in the America East, with the second-place UMass Lowell River Hawks far behind at 8-6.

Upcoming SBU Sports Schedule

Baseball

Wed. April 29
3:30 p.m. vs. Fairfield

Sat-Sun May 2-3
Three-game series vs. Hartford

Softball

Tues. April 28
Doubleheader at Albany
1/3 p.m.

Thurs. April 30
4 p.m. at LIU Brooklyn

Fri-Sat May 1-2
Three-game series vs. UMBC

Men's Lacrosse

Thurs. April 30
AE Semifinal vs. Vermont at 4:30 p.m.

Sat. May 2
AE Championship vs. Binghamton/Albany winner at 10 a.m.

Women's Lacrosse

Fri. May 1
AE Semifinal vs. UMBC at 5 p.m.

Sun. May 3
AE Championship vs. Albany/Vermont winner at 12 p.m.

SPORTS

Women's lacrosse finishes conference regular season unbeaten

By Skyler Gilbert
Staff Writer

Sophomore attacker Courtney Murphy scored six goals, freshman attacker Kylie Ohlmiller totaled nine points and No. 5 Stony Brook annihilated the visiting UMass Lowell River Hawks 22-1 in the women's lacrosse Senior Game on Saturday night at Kenneth P. LaValle Stadium.

The Seawolves' regular season record finishes at 16-1, with a perfect 6-0 record in America East play.

"One of the things we wanted to do was come out and finish our conference season undefeated," Head Coach Joe Spallina said after the regular season finale. "We didn't want to share anything with anybody," he said.

The Seawolves shared the America East regular season title last season with the Albany Great Danes, with both teams finishing 4-1.

The game never truly caused great worry, as Stony Brook is a top-5 team nationally and UMass Lowell is in its inaugural season of Division I women's lacrosse. The Seawolves asserted their dominance in the opening minutes, making the score 8-0 in the first five minutes, 13-0 in the first 15 minutes and 20-0 by halftime.

Murphy scored four goals on her own in the opening 3:02 of the match. There was one point in the first half when the team scored four goals in a 35-second span less than five minutes



CHRISTOPHER CAMERON/THE STATESMAN

The Seawolves finished their America East slate undefeated for second time in three years.

into the opening period.

With Stony Brook leading by 20 at halftime, there seemed a realistic chance that the Seawolves would become only the second team in NCAA history to reach 30 goals in the last 25 years.

"We weren't trying to score in the second half," Spallina said, who removed most of the starters midway through the first half. The only Stony Brook goals after the break were by

senior midfielder Sarah Ehrman and sophomore attacker Nichole Doran, the first goal of the season for both players.

Ohlmiller had four goals and five assists and sophomore midfielder Dorrien Van Dyke had three goals and three assists. Eleven different Seawolves players netted a goal in the blowout.

Ohlmiller has recently been named one of the 25 finalists for the Tewaara-

ton Trophy, given annually to the most outstanding lacrosse player in the nation. Ohlmiller is one of only three freshmen in the NCAA to be given the nomination.

"As a freshman, it's definitely an honor," Ohlmiller said, immediately giving credit to her teammates. "I definitely have my team to thank for it. I wouldn't have all the assists I have without Michelle [Rubino], without Dorrien [Van Dyke], or

without [Courtney] Murph[y]."

"She's automatic offense," Spallina said, "She's got outstanding skills and her lacrosse I.Q. is off the charts. She's a very, very talented kid."

It was the last regular season game for the Stony Brook senior class and they were honored before the game.

In their four years donning the Seawolf attire, the class as a whole has a record of 64-18.

"When I was a freshman, coming in, not knowing anyone, the upper class really welcomed us in," senior captain Rubino reminisced. "That's what our upper class tried to do this year to the freshman; welcome them in. We're a young team." Spallina had nothing but praise for the upcoming graduates.

"The senior class is special. They came in the same time that I was hired here, so they were able to be part of the emergence of this program," he said. "They've been a part of it since day one. These guys really helped to put the program on the map."

Looking forward, Stony Brook is back in action on Friday at 5 p.m. at LaValle Stadium, when the team will compete against the UMBEC Retrievers in a semifinal of the America East tournament.

"I told our kids that we're not guaranteed anything from this point on," Spallina said. "We have one guaranteed game on our schedule and that's Friday."

Men's lacrosse clinches second seed in win

By Drew Ciampa
Staff Writer

A second-half rally by the Stony Brook men's lacrosse team on Friday night forced the game into extra time where freshman midfielder Matt Robison buried a shot to give Stony Brook a 9-8 win over the Hartford Hawks.

This win marks the second-straight overtime win for the Seawolves as they also defeated Binghamton last week.

With the two latest wins, the Seawolves were able to clinch the second seed in the upcoming America East tournament.

After putting themselves in a difficult situation, down 8-4 at half time, the Seawolves regrouped and took control.

They went on to put forth an absolutely dominant second half effort and completed the comeback win.

The Seawolves fought their way back into the game by scoring five unanswered goals with the fifth being the overtime winner.

The one-sided second-half was really exemplified by the fact that the Hawks were held scoreless for the final 40-plus minutes of the game.

Robison, a freshman for Stony Brook, played the role of hero as he scored the overtime goal on a nifty up and down fake, finally going low to beat the goalie.

He finished the night with just the one goal which was only his second in his young college career.

Hartford had its push in the



MANJU SHIVACHARAN/THE STATESMAN

The Seawolves will face Vermont in the semifinals, after defeating the Catamounts 21-12 earlier in the season.

first half when the Hawks came out scoring seven goals in the first 17 minutes.

They took a 7-2 lead and from there felt they could take their foot off the gas pedal and play defense.

Once the Hawks relaxed, however, they could never get back into rhythm.

For the Seawolves, it was an opportunity to take advantage.

The Hawks had just over a minute left to hold off the Seawolves, but Stony Brook sophomore Ryan Blitzer forced overtime with the game-tying goal with 1:07 left.

Senior attackman Mike Rooney provided the Seawolves with a game high in both points and goals, finishing with seven points from four goals and three assists.

He was the catalyst for the team contributing on seven

of nine goals.

The defense of Stony Brook was spectacular causing Hartford to turn the ball over a total of 20 times throughout the game.

The defense also limited Hartford to low-quality shots that were turned away nicely by sophomore goalie Hayden Johnstone.

He finished the night with five saves, four of which came in the second half.

Hartford's Kevin O'Shea had a team-high four goals on the night.

He was the only multi-goal scorer for the Hawks, but ultimately he could not do enough to hold on for the win.

Stony Brook will now move on to the America East tournament where the Seawolves will play their semifinal against Vermont on Thursday, April 30 at SUNY Albany.

Women's tennis clinches fourth consecutive conference championship

By Michaela Christman
Contributing Writer

The Stony Brook women's tennis team earned an automatic bid to the NCAA Tournament after winning its fourth straight America East Tennis Championship this weekend.

"This never gets old. This absolutely never gets old," Head Coach Gary Glassman said.

Stony Brook, at No. 1, defeated host-Binghamton in the semifinals on Saturday, advancing on to the AEC Championship title match against No. 3 Albany, on Sunday.

The Seawolves were led by senior and America East Player of the Year Polina Movchan, who helped lead a No. 2 doubles match over Binghamton 8-3 with freshman Yana Nikolaeva and a No. 1 singles match, 2-0; winning each set 6-1.

Movchan has now won four America East titles in four tries in her career, and was named the 2015 Most Outstanding Player of the Tournament.

"She's really been the gamechanger for our program," Glassman said. "What a career."

Doubles team Nadia Smergut, and Louise Badoche, defeated opponents Agatha Ambrozy and Katherine Medianik of Binghamton 8-3 as well.

Kristina Vozniak and Elizabeth Tsvetkov tied their doubles match against Binghamton, 6-6.

Smergut also won her singles

match, defeating Binghamton's Alexis Tashiro 6-0, 6-4.

Tsvetkov defeated Annie DiMuro 6-4, 6-1 to secure Stony Brook's undefeated victory.

No. 1 Stony Brook defeated No. 3 Albany on 4-0 on Sunday, claiming the title as the AEC Champions for their fourth consecutive year.

The Seawolves got 8-4 and 8-3 victories from their Smergut/Badoche and Tsvetkov/Vozniak doubles pairs.

Stony Brook earned straight-set wins from Vozniak, Adey Osabuohien and Tsvetkov in singles matches, sweeping the Great Danes again as it had earlier in the season.

In an earlier matchup this year, the Seawolves defeated Albany 7-0.

This season is recorded as one of Stony Brook's best with a 15-1 record, losing only to No. 36 Harvard, 5-2.

"This is just a really special year because we accomplished so many of the goals that we set out to do, one to beat a nationally ranked school, become nationally ranked, and this is always our main goal, to win the conference championship," Glassman said. "Pretty much, we ticked almost everything off the list."

The Seawolves will learn their fate on Tuesday, April 28 at 5 p.m. when the 64-team NCAA Women's Tennis Tournament Bracket will be unveiled during a stream available on NCAA.com.

Stony Brook lost to Texas A&M in last year's NCAA Tournament.