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ERIC SCHMID / THE STATESMAN

A pedestrian treks past Yang Hall on Circle Road as snow falls on Saturday, Jan. 23. The blizzard, dubbed "Winter Storm Jonas," led to the activation of the university's Emergency Operations Center and modified hours for dining facilities.

Transgender students face obstacles on Stony Brook campus

By Kelly Saberi
Assistant News Editor

Choosing a new name is a big step for transgender or gender nonconforming students going to college, but Derrick Wegner did not anticipate that changing names on university rosters and email addresses would be a difficult process.

At Stony Brook University, one can change preferred names through the "Preferred Name Policy," which allows students to change the name listed on Blackboard, the final grade roster, photo roster and class roster. Even with

this policy in place, data systems may still be left unchanged.

For Wegner, a sophomore biology major, this issue meant almost failing a math course. Some math courses use an online application known as WebAssign for homework assignments, which is accessed through Blackboard, a system used by professors and students to communicate. Although Blackboard is part of the preferred name policy, WebAssign did not update Wegner's name.

Wegner could not access his math homework with his new name. He fell behind in the class as

a result and had to use the "Grade, Pass or No Credit" option for his course grade.

"Essentially what happened was they made me a new Blackboard," Wegner said. "The WebAssign was attached to the old [Blackboard account] directly. For almost an entire semester I couldn't do any of my homework."

According to the coordinator of LGBTQ* Services Chris Tanaka, who works in the Dean of Students Office, changing names is one of the most fulfilling steps of transitioning. But the different information systems at the university are

not updated alike. For example, if a student is employed at the university, the student's old name might resurface because there is a divide between the student and staff data systems.

Legally changing a name requires a New York state resident to go to the state Supreme Court and make an appeal to the judge. In Suffolk County, the charge to change names is \$210. In many cases, the person will apply for a Poor Person's Affidavit to avoid

Continued on page 2

Green Dot bystander intervention training tackles violence

By Julia Marsigliano
Contributing Writer

Stony Brook University hosted a four-day seminar about Green Dot, a bystander strategy to prevent violence, this month from Jan. 12 to Jan. 15. The seminar educated State University of New York institution employees on the Green Dot initiative and was hosted the university's Center for Prevention and Outreach.

"Green Dot is a small choice that we can make in a split second to make a difference in how an event turns out," Smita Majumdar Das, the assistant director of the center, said.

This is the second four-day seminar that has dealt with educating those within SUNY about the Green Dot program. Stony Brook University is one of five SUNY schools, including University of Albany and Binghamton University, to have certified Green Dot instructors, according to the Green Dot website.

Green Dot is a strategy that focuses on bystander awareness of situations that can escalate or become violent and teaches techniques to combat those situations using direct or indirect means.

The program deals with "red dot" behaviors, which includes every

Continued on page 3



PHOTO CREDIT: CENTER FOR PREVENTION AND OUTREACH

Stony Brook University mascot Wolfie sits with students while listening to speakers at a Green Dot year-end event.

Continued on page 2

Winter Storm Jonas freezes campus activities

By Arielle Martinez
News Editor

A major blizzard dumped snow on Stony Brook University's campuses and the rest of Long Island on Saturday, prompting university, town and state officials to take action.

The Nor'easter, dubbed "Winter Storm Jonas" by The Weather Channel, moved into the New York area over the weekend as hundreds of students moved into their residence halls for the start of the Spring 2016 semester.

Several opening weekend events and programs for incoming freshmen and transfer students were canceled, including the Campus Community Information Fair and the New Student Welcome Convocation, which were both scheduled for Sunday. On-campus dining facilities closed at 2 p.m. Saturday.

The university's Emergency Operating Center was activated throughout the storm to help the Office of Emergency Management monitor and respond to on-campus hazards. The center monitored Winter Storm Juno in February 2015.

Michael Librizzi, a junior coastal environmental studies major, said he often tweets at the Office of Emergency Management about obstructions caused by snow. On Saturday, he tweeted about the lack of plowing in the parking lot on the west side of Toscanini College, which prevented him from reaching on-campus dining facilities before they closed.

"Sadly, I was not able to get food in time," Librizzi said. "And now I've eaten six bags of Pirate's Booty."

The Union Commons, West Side Dining and Roth Cafe later reopened from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m..

All Staller Center events were canceled for Saturday, and the Wang Center was closed on Saturday. Sunday's Stony Brook Men's Basketball game against the University of Maine was postponed until Monday at 7 p.m..

New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo declared a State of Emergency on Saturday for Nassau and Suffolk counties, as well as New York City and Orange, Putnam, Rockland and Westchester counties.

The storm brought about 22 inches of snow to the Stony Brook area by Sunday, according to the National Weather Service. Saturday forecasts also warned of winds between 30 and 40 mph with gusts



News

Police Blotter: What you missed over break

A compilation of crimes reported to University Police.

MORE ON PAGE 3



Arts & Entertainment

USG announces date for comedy series

Comedian Nasim Pedrad will be at Stony Brook on Feb. 9.

MORE ON PAGE 4



Opinions

Real masturbation booths in NYC

Why New Yorkers deserve real stress relief from work.

MORE ON PAGE 8



Sports

Women's basketball loses to Maine

Read *The Statesman's* game recap online at sbstatesman.com.

NEWS

Blizzard prompts state of emergency, travel ban

Continued from page 1

up to 65 mph and the possibility of coastal flooding.

"Unless there is an emergency situation or a critical need, you should not be on the roads," Cuomo said at a storm briefing in New York City on Saturday morning. "I have been on the roads all through the metropolitan area this morning. They are incredibly dangerous. I don't care how superb a driver, how big a four-wheel drive vehicle you have."

At another storm briefing in

Melville, Cuomo announced a travel ban on all local and state roads in Long Island and New York City, from 2:30 p.m. Saturday to 7 a.m. Sunday.

"Once the snowfall is over about 3 inches per hour, the plows just can't keep up with it, and that's when the situation becomes most dangerous and frankly, that's a situation that is now occurring," Cuomo said at the Melville briefing.

Suffolk County Executive Steve Bellone, Town of Brookhaven Supervisor Ed Romaine and Port Jefferson Mayor Margot Garant

also declared a State of Emergency. The officials called for residents to stay home and to keep vehicles off the roads.

The Metropolitan Transportation Authority suspended service on the Long Island Rail Road starting at 4 p.m. Saturday. Suffolk County Transit and Stony Brook Transit suspended all bus routes for Saturday. Updates on university bus routes can be found on the SMART Transit website. Advisories from the Stony Brook University Office of Emergency Management can be found on the office's website.



CHRISTOPHER CAMERON / THE STATESMAN

Snow from Winter Storm Jonas blankets the Stony Brook University Academic Mall on Saturday, Jan. 23.

Name changes, prescriptions present challenges for transgender students

Continued from page 1

the fee. The person then needs to take out an ad in a newspaper saying that the person has changed names, but judges might choose to waive this requirement as it can be deemed antiquated.

"Even anyone who changes their name for marriage goes through this process," Tanaka said. "But generally people who change their name for marriage don't mind if their previous name shows up."

Tanaka, who has worked as the first LGBTQ services coordinator in the Dean of Students Office for roughly a year now, started out at the Center for Prevention and Outreach. Tanaka was moved out of CPO because "prevention" made it sound like transitioning people should not embrace their identities, she said.

A new data collection tool unveiled by the State University of New York Board of Trustees in the fall of 2015 will ask students about their gender identities and sexual orientations upon acceptance to their respective campuses.

The announcement of SUNY's new tool came just two months before an ordinance that would have offered protection against discrimination based on gender identity failed to pass in Houston, Texas this past Election Day. Opponents of the ordinance in the city carried signs that read "No men in women's bathrooms."

There are plenty of gender neutral bathrooms on the Stony Brook campus, but they are just not visible to the naked eye, sophomore sociology major Luna Vasquez said.

"What happens a lot is I'm at the sink with a crew cut in the women's bathroom, someone will come in the door behind me and then turn around and leave...and I always wonder what happens to them," sophomore biochemistry major Jasmine Ayers said, laughing.

Ayers uses the pronouns they, them and theirs, as they are gender nonbinary. Ayers, who has researched human papillomavirus at Yale University, has been told by their colleagues in the lab that they cannot be open about their pronouns in a future professional setting.

"The biggest problem I have in my day-to-day life is just faculty and [teaching assistants] who are refusing to acknowledge my pronouns," Ayers said.

Dealing with public opinion is only part of the issue; another part consists of dealing with the healthcare system. It has become increasingly popular for forms in medical offices and beyond to list three options: female, male and transgender.

However, transgender is not a gender. Transgender means not correlating with the sex assigned at birth and cisgender means correlating with the assigned sex.

"In doing that wrong, they're miseducating," Wegner said. "It's not a gender. Although I appreciate you thinking about it, you're misinforming all these people."

When Wegner goes to the Student Health Service to have his testosterone administered by a nurse, he is only allowed to bring in unopened vials of hormones and required to leave the vials with the center. If a student who needs hormones goes home for a break, he or she cannot bring back a used vial. All prescriptions that enter the pharmacy or are kept with the center must be unopened, Medical Director of Student Health Service Rachel Ann Bergeson, MD, said.

When a student who needs hormones returns to the university, they will need to order another unopened vial, creating a pricey and complicated system that often forces students to administer the prescription themselves or to have their friends administer it for them, which can turn a seemingly simple task into a dangerous one.

The Student Health Service invited Tanaka to give a presentation to the SHS staff. They also took part in a "webinar" by the American College Health Association to inform the staff about the medical changes regarding the transgender population, which has led to a more open minded staff, according to Bergeson.

"It's been an issue that has been brought up at [ACHA] meetings," Bergeson said.

According to Bergeson, the staff looks forward to working with Tanaka and her staff at the Dean of Students office to create a better experience for transgender students.

Before any student can take hormones, they must consider the financial burden.

For Vasquez, getting hormones comes with dollar signs. For a student who is financially responsible for her own expenses, hormones are too expensive to buy. She knows people in her situation who have gone



PHOTO COURTESY OF DERRICK WEGNER

Stony Brook students Jasmine Ayers, furthest right, and Derrick Wegner, held, at an event for transgender awareness. Wegner changed his preferred name on university data systems.

down the illegal route, although she has not gone down this route herself.

In order to properly obtain hormones, she would first have to go see a therapist who would then send her to an endocrinologist. The standard procedure requires a year to two years in therapy, but specialized therapists might write a recommendation in less time. In some instances, informed consent can be used to get hormones on the spot.

"I don't have that autonomy [to get hormones]," Vasquez said. "When your parents oppose that sort of thing it's not easy for me to go out and get it."

Reactions from family members like this are common for transgender students. At first, Ayers tested the waters by coming out to their loved ones as queer, before ultimately came out as nonbinary, or not identifying as male or female.

"I remember when I was a lesbian," Wegner said, referring to when he too used coming out as gay to assess the reactions of his family and friends before coming out as another gender.

"I was so deeply in the closet with liking guys that I wouldn't even think about it to myself," Wegner said. "I just accepted the fact that I liked females, because guys don't like guys and I wanted to be as masculine as possible."

The Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Alliance, or LGBTTA, a student-run club was originally

named the Gay and Lesbian Alliance, or GALA, and its name was later changed to LGBA to include bisexuals in the organization. In February of 1996, however, a visit from famous transgender activist Leslie Feinberg inspired the change from LGBA to LGTBTA, SBU alumni Robbi Samuels said.

"The conversation is more out there now," Tanaka said. "So it's not that transgender people are new; they're not. It's that people are more willing to talk about it now."

While the transgender population has become more open about the transgender identity, they have also become victims of assault. A study conducted by the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention and the Williams Institute at UCLA School of Law found that 68 percent of transgender survey participants who reported being physically assaulted in college had also attempted suicide. The study also found that 78 percent of transgender survey participants who reported being sexually assaulted in college had attempted suicide.

Despite these statistics, things are looking up for transfer student Ashley Smith. Smith, whose name has been changed in this story to protect her privacy, came to Stony Brook only a few months after she decided to transition. She said "people are good here" despite the slurs and profanity that are thrown at her, like

"tranny" or "slut."

"Life is amazing," Smith said. "I was never able to picture myself five or 10 years in the future. The past few months have been the only stretch of a few months that I haven't had a suicidal ideation."

For Wegner—who eventually finished his math class—the moment everything sunk in was when he wanted to continue his hobbies, like martial arts and singing. At his martial arts classes, where there were changing rooms and reminders of his old name, he did not come out as transgender because the instructors were conservative.

Similarly, Ayers, an avid horseback rider, loved competing back home in Connecticut. For horseback riding, there are regulations on how a rider presents themselves, and women need their hair either in braids or a bun. When Ayers decided to cut their hair, they had to start dressing in drag to keep competing.

"I sing and I dance all the time," Wegner said. "I remember being younger and loving to sing and dance, but voice is something that gives [gender] away. I didn't want to dance because it shows off [the feminine parts] of your body."

Despite all this, Wegner continues to sing and dance wherever he goes.

"I love dancing and singing more than I care what somebody else thinks about me," he said.

Police Blotter

On Monday, Dec. 14 at 4:33 a.m., the Stony Brook University flag in the Academic Mall was reported missing. The case is now closed.

On Monday, Dec. 14 at 11:30 a.m., police responded to a complaint of alleged illegal dumping in the university salt shed/service yard in South P Lot. The case is now closed.

On Wednesday, Dec. 16 at 10 a.m., a student in Benedict College was allegedly being blackmailed over the Internet. The case remains open.

On Wednesday, Dec. 16 at 2 a.m., police responded to a report of graffiti on the outside of Wagner College. The case remains open.

On Wednesday, Dec. 16 at 9 a.m., a vehicle's sideview mirrors were reported stolen at West Apartments C. The case is now closed.

On Thursday, Dec. 17 at 2 p.m., \$500 was reported stolen

from an office in University Hospital. The case remains open.

On Friday, Dec. 18 at 1:45 a.m., police arrested a driver who was allegedly in possession of a fake New Jersey driver's license after being stopped for driving 90 mph in a 45 mph zone.

On Friday, Dec. 18 at 8 a.m., a backpack was reported stolen during a final exam at Javits Lecture Center. The case remains open. On Saturday, Dec. 19 at 11 p.m., a car in the University Hospital Parking Garage was keyed, and its tires were slashed. The case is now closed.

On Thursday, Dec. 24 at 4:15 p.m., two patients at University Hospital were allegedly engaging in inappropriate sexual misconduct. The case is now closed.

On Wednesday, Dec. 30 at 11:30 p.m., a patient at University Hospital allegedly struck an employee, breaking the employee's glasses. The employee declined to press charges. The case is now closed.

On Saturday, Jan. 2 at 1:28 a.m., police arrested a driver on suspicion of driving under the influence of alcohol northbound on Nicolls Road to eastbound Route 25A.

On Thursday, Jan. 7 at 12:40 a.m., police arrested a driver on suspicion of driving under the influence of alcohol southbound on Nicolls Road north of South Drive.

On Sunday, Jan. 10 at 1:28 a.m., police arrested a driver on suspicion of driving under the influence of alcohol northbound on Nicolls Road north of Shirley Kenny Drive.

On Tuesday, Jan. 12 at 6:45 a.m., police arrested a patient at University Hospital who allegedly bit an employee on the hand.

On Wednesday, Jan. 13 at 7:54 p.m., police arrested two suspects in a car in South P on suspicion of marijuana possession.

Compiled by Brittany Bernstein

SUNY employees attend four-day Green Dot seminar

Continued from page 1

thing from harsh comments and hazing to stalking and sexual violence, as well as "green dot" behaviors, which include being proactive, reacting appropriately to a violent situation and stopping a violent situation from happening.

The overall goal of the Green Dot initiative is to educate the bystander about proactive or "green dot" behaviors and how to use them in order to reduce the number of "red dot" behaviors and create lasting change in society.

Das met with the founder and executive director of the Green Dot, Dorothy Edwards, at a training seminar in 2012. Two years later, the pair planned a four-day seminar for January 2015.

At that seminar, Edwards, along with one of her trainers, met with 49 faculty, staff and students, who were chosen because they are passionate about campus issues, have a strong role in his or her department, and have a connection with students, Das said. The departments involved in the seminar included the Office of Undergraduate Admissions, the University Police Department and the Office of Student Affairs.

"The entire training is really positive and truly teaches how a

small act can make a big difference and it is these small acts that actually change a culture," Das said in an email.

The trainees were given a booklet that detailed real-life examples and watched videos showing "red" and "green" dot behaviors. In addition, the participants contributed to small-group discussions that focused on giving and receiving feedback, as well as journaling exercises to help them connect to issues of violence. After 28 hours of training, the newly certified Green Dot instructors can now raise awareness and educate other students and faculty members on campus.

"Combating and eradicating sexual violence on campus requires a community effort and approach," Marjolie Leonard, Director of the Office of Diversity and Affirmative Action, said in an email. "Everyone can play a part whether big or small by speaking up when they see something."

The second four-day seminar, which took place this month, dealt with educating employees that work within the SUNY school system. Stony Brook University is one of 297 colleges and universities nationwide, including Princeton and Harvard, that have certified Green Dot instructors, according to the Green Dot website.

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

"Saturday Night Live" star Nasim Pedrad to perform at SBU Comedy Series

By Rena Thomas
Arts & Entertainment Editor

The University Student Government announced on Wednesday Nasim Pedrad as this semester's performer in this semester's USG Comedy Series on Tuesday, Feb. 9 at the Staller Center.

The 34-year-old comedian and actress is known for her work as a cast member in "Saturday Night Live" and co-star of the Fox series "Scream Queens."

According to USG Vice President of Communications and Public Relations Brody Hooper,

The Student Activities Board is involved in choosing who takes the stage this semester, but integrates the student voice through conducting a poll.

"Nasim was eventually the winner after attempts to get comedians ranked higher than her on the list, but we were unable to for various reasons," Hooper said.

Some comedians on the list included Craig Robinson, known for his role as Darryl Philbin on "The Office," and parts in "Pineapple Express" and "This Is End," as well as Kenan Thompson.

Thompson, known for his work on Saturday Night Live,

was actually the winner of the student poll according to Hooper. However his scheduled rehearsal for SNL interfered with the date of the Comedy Series Performance.

USG introduced the comedy series back in 2011 with 32-year-old actor and comedian Aziz Ansari.

In regards to the performance being held on a Tuesday, USG is attempting to work around student's hectic schedules and make it easier for students to attend.

"While working around the schedules of the facilities that we need to host the shows, we are doing our best to offer our events on different days than in the past so that students who have had conflicts in the past due to work, class, going home, etc. are now able to come," Hooper said in an e-mail interview.

USG President Cole Lee expressed his excitement for the variation of activities provided to the students this semester.

"We're extremely excited to continue to provide a diverse range of programs and activities to maximize the student experience for all of Stony Brook University," Lee said, "We hope to continue to put the student activity fee to good use and enhance the campus community



COURTESY OF USG

Nasim Pedrad, above, is an Iranian-American actress and comedian born in Tehran, Iran. Pedrad was raised in California and graduated from the UCLA School of Theatre in 2003.

"The Revenant": a contender in this year's Oscar race

By Krysten Massa
Multimedia Editor

It is a new year, and the start of the new year brings a lot of buzz in Hollywood due to awards season.

There are a lot of hot films this year, and *The Statesman* is going to take a look at the most talked about films leading up to the Oscars on Feb. 28.

Let's start off with "The Revenant." This film is being talked about for a number of reasons. For one, Leonardo DiCaprio gets attacked by a bear...and you do not see that every day.

Another reason is that DiCaprio may finally win that Oscar. DiCaprio constantly gets defeated when he is up for the award despite how many times he has been nominated. But this year, critics say that he has it in the bag.

DiCaprio did all of his own stunts for this film, which was shot in a number of locations but mostly in the wilderness in Alberta, Canada.

DiCaprio is a method actor. He puts everything that he has into his roles.

For his role in "The Revenant" DiCaprio displayed more of this method acting. For example, there is a scene where his char-

acter is starving and needs to eat the liver of a freshly killed animal. According to an article in Vanity Fair, he was given a prop liver made out of jelly, but DiCaprio was not sure it looked real enough and he wanted to make sure it did. So, he worked it out with lawyers and producers and that bison liver you see him eating on screen is an actual bison liver.

The film won the Golden Globe for Best Motion Picture and the film's director, Alejandro González Iñárritu, was able to take home the Golden Globe for Best Director for a Motion Picture. The film is now up for the Oscar for Best Motion Picture of the Year. Last year, that Oscar was given to "Birdman or (The Unexpected Virtue of Ignorance)" another film directed by Iñárritu, and for which he also won Best Original Screenplay and Best Achievement in Directing.

"The Revenant" might just be good enough to give Iñárritu the win two years in a row. The film is worth seeing just for its twelve Oscar nominations alone. Some parts are dull, and by dull I mean there is no dialogue for a significant amount of time. However, the visual effects, cinematography and makeup are just incredible and the detail in these areas

really add to the film.

The movie starts out peacefully, with scenes of nature, crystal clear images and the sound of a running stream that relaxes your mind. But then, the film jumps into a brutal fight scene. The movie is set to take place in the 1820's, when European explorers were taking over land in the Americas. The film is centered around the struggle

between the explorers who are trying to profit off of the land as they destroy it and the Native Americans who feel that everything is being taken away from them.

A lot of the storyline is a bit unclear. You are vaguely introduced to different characters, but the main focus is on a small group of explorers who are the survivors of the brutal attack at

the beginning of the movie. DiCaprio plays Hugh Glass.

The movie reveals that Glass has been away from home exploring America for quite some time. The hints that give you the sequence of time are given through Glass's teenage son, Hawk, who is half Native Amer-

Continued on page 5



PHOTO CREDIT: DAY DONALDSON-FLICKR

Leonardo DiCaprio, above, is a method actor. Method acting consists of a range of techniques in the dramatic arts in a theatrical realist movement to achieve great acting.

How to have a positive spring semester at Stony Brook



MEGAN MILLER/THE STATESMAN

A tip for having a successful spring semester is utilizing the campus recreation center to de-stress. The campus recreation center offers various classes, like Pink Gloves Boxing.

By Francesca Campione
Assistant Arts & Entertainment Editor

New semesters are often met with one of two outlooks: one filled with hope and enthusiasm for the learning and growing to take place over the next few months or one riddled with self-doubt and feelings of impending doom.

While classes, social lives and other responsibilities may inspire the second of the aforementioned outlooks, there are some people on campus who can offer valuable advice to ensure at least

somewhat smooth sailing as we enter the Spring 2016 semester.

Julian Pessier, the Interim Associate Dean and Director of Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) says that with self-compassion and patience, the new semester is a great time to try new things, meet new people and make some changes. However, Pessier says that these changes should not be too drastic and unrealistic.

“The biggest mistake that I notice students make at the beginning of a semester is under-

estimate how difficult change is and set unrealistic goals,” Pessier said, noting that it is harder to follow unrealistic goals, which in turn makes it easier to fall into bad habits again.

“The old cliché ‘Everything in moderation’ comes from the fact that changing behavior requires great planning and persistence, but less so perfection and self-criticism,” Pessier said.

Looking for a way to destress in a short amount of time? Pessier says that often people do not realize how long they have spent

indoors, which creates an environment of lethargy. Take a 10-15 minute walk.

“As difficult as it may be to motivate, for your next study break get wrapped up in those mittens and scarves and go for a walk in the freezing cold air,” Pessier said.

In regards to study breaks, Pessier said they are very necessary.

“It can make a big difference in mood, as well as perspective on all of the work that needs to get done.”

Jay Souza, the Director of Campus Recreation, offers the rec center as an excellent way to promote both physical and mental wellness.

In a survey of people who utilize the rec center, it was found that by participating in Campus Recreation programs, services or facilities, 80 percent of students report improvement of increased stress management and 89 percent of students report improved or increased feeling of well-being. Furthermore, 63 percent reported improvement in their academic performance and 64 percent report improvement in their ability to develop friendships.

“We offer a variety of formal and informal recreational opportunities,” Souza said. “Formal would be inclusive of group fitness classes, personal training, intramurals, club sports and special events. Informal includes open recreation such as drop-in fitness, weight room, cardio machines, track and open free-play. By offering so many options,

students have the ability to find something to suit their needs and schedule.”

For beginners trying to get into a fitness schedule, Souza recommends something structured, such as a group fitness class, personal training, intramural sports or a club sport.

“If they want to participate in open rec, start slow and try to get 30 minutes of continuous activity for most days of the week, but at least three times a week,” Souza said.

Dean of Students Timothy Ecklund unwinds with swimming, but finds that meditation is also effective.

“There has been a lot of attention lately being given to meditation as healthy option to reduce levels of stress and increase a sense of well-being,” Ecklund said. As for school work, Ecklund emphasized personal responsibility.

“Prioritize your coursework and keep focused throughout the semester. Pay attention to your own well-being and make sure you get enough sleep.”

One more tip from Pessier: “Before everyone settles into the new semester’s routine, actively and consciously set the goal of talking to one new person, making at least one new friend,” he said. “I know from my work at CAPS how many interesting, funny, brilliant people this university is filled with, but many of us are very cautious animals that like to stick with the familiar. Mix it up a little.”

“Revenant” Oscar race

Continued from page 4

ican. The viewers get a touch of Glass’s story and you are able to piece together that he had fallen in love with a Native American woman and lived peacefully with her and her tribe, until an attack by other explorers killed his wife and almost killed his son.

Even the ending is ambiguous. You do not know if Glass lives or dies.

It is up to the viewer to guess what happens, or interpret the ending as they wish. tween father and son.

After watching a member of his own group murder his son, Glass’s mission becomes revenge.

This movie has some really

great acting in it, not just from DiCaprio.

Tom Hardy, who is the antagonist of the film named John Fitzgerald, has an Oscar nomination for Best Performance by an Actor in a Supporting Role, and the whole cast deserves credit for their performances.

You should see this movie for the whole presentation.

The sounds, images and attention to detail really made a big difference for this film because storyline alone was not enough to give it all of the praise it is now receiving. “The Revenant” is a tough contender for Best Motion Picture of the Year in this year’s Oscar race. And as for DiCaprio, the man deserves his Oscar.

Next on The CW: “The 100” returns for a third season

By Ryan Williams
Contributing Writer

After its explosive finale last year, “The 100,” a post-apocalyptic series on The CW, premiered its third season on Jan. 21.

Based on the science fiction book series by Kass Morgan, “The 100” follows a group of teens who are sent back to Earth 100 years after a nuclear war killed nearly all life and destroyed civilization and have been living in a space station with a view of the earth called “The Ark.”

They soon find out there is life beyond the cold metal confines of the space station.

As the teens struggle to survive, they soon find themselves fighting each other and the war-like indigenous tribes who have adapted to the altered Earth.

While the premise may sound like a standard CW teen drama with a slight twist, “The 100” has risen above its thin foundation to become one of the most thrilling additions to the apocalyptic genre.

The show’s first few episodes are shaky, but it quickly finds its footing and becomes an exciting blend of action, adventure and science fiction.

“The 100” shines largely because it does not shy away from its dark subject matter.

Despite featuring most-



PHOTO CREDIT: RACH/FLICKR

From left to right: actors Eliza Taylor, Thomas McDonnell and Marie Avgeropoulos from the TV series, “The 100.” Taylor was a Teen Choice nominee.

ly young actors, the show delves into violence frequently and brutally.

The show is also not afraid to kill off members of its main cast, which helps present the apocalyptic setting as being unpredictable.

Beyond physical violence, “The 100” also touches on a variety of moral and ethical issues using its post-apocalyptic basis.

Much of the show’s cast is comprised of relatively unknown performers, including the show’s lead actress Eliza Taylor, who gained some

prominence after starring in the Australian soap opera “Neighbors.”

This choice, intentional or not, works in the show’s favor, as it adds a sense of credibility to the show’s chaotic and sometimes outlandish scenarios.

Most of the young actors embrace their roles and create compelling characters to root for and against.

The first two seasons, currently available on Netflix, provide excellent binge-watching material while the third season marches ahead.



PHOTO CREDIT: FOCUS FEATURES

Director Alejandro González Iñárritu, above, also directed the award winning film “Birdman” in October 2014.

#SNOWYBROOK



CHRISTOPHER CAMERON/THE STATESMAN

A plow clears the road in front of the Island Federal Credit Union Arena on Saturday afternoon during the blizzard.

The winter weather finally hit Stony Brook University on Saturday, Jan 23. The Nor'easter, or "Winter Storm Jonas," came just in time for move-in weekend. Opening weekend events and activities were cancelled as the campus was buried under snow. New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo declared a State of Emergency for Saturday in Nassau and Suffolk counties as well as New York City and Orange, Putnam, Rockland and Westchester counties. Long Island was hit with nearly 24 inches of snow.



ERIC SCHMID/THE STATESMAN

Natalie Christensen, above, went sledding with her friends during the blizzard on Saturday, Jan 23.



ERIC SCHMID/THE STATESMAN

Maria Zambuto, left, and Sylvester Buccat, right, work to shovel out their cars near Hand College.



ERIC SCHMID/THE STATESMAN

A response vehicle works to clear the snow in front of Yang College.



CHRISTOPHER CAMERON/THE STATESMAN

There was no action at the Student Activities Center during Winter Storm Jonas on Saturday. All dining halls were closed after 2 p.m.



ERIC SCHMID/THE STATESMAN

Bikes buried in the snow in front of Tosconini College.



ERIC SCHMID/THE STATESMAN

Two pedestrians on campus journey through the rough conditions of "Winter Storm Juno" on Saturday, Jan. 23.



CHRISTOPHER CAMERON/THE STATESMAN

The Umbilic Torus statue on campus on Saturday evening when the blizzard was settling down.



CHRITOPHER CAMERON/THE STATESMAN

The Staller Center for the Arts was frozen by the time the blizzard was finished on Saturday.

OPINIONS

Street meat: NYC should install real stress-relief centers

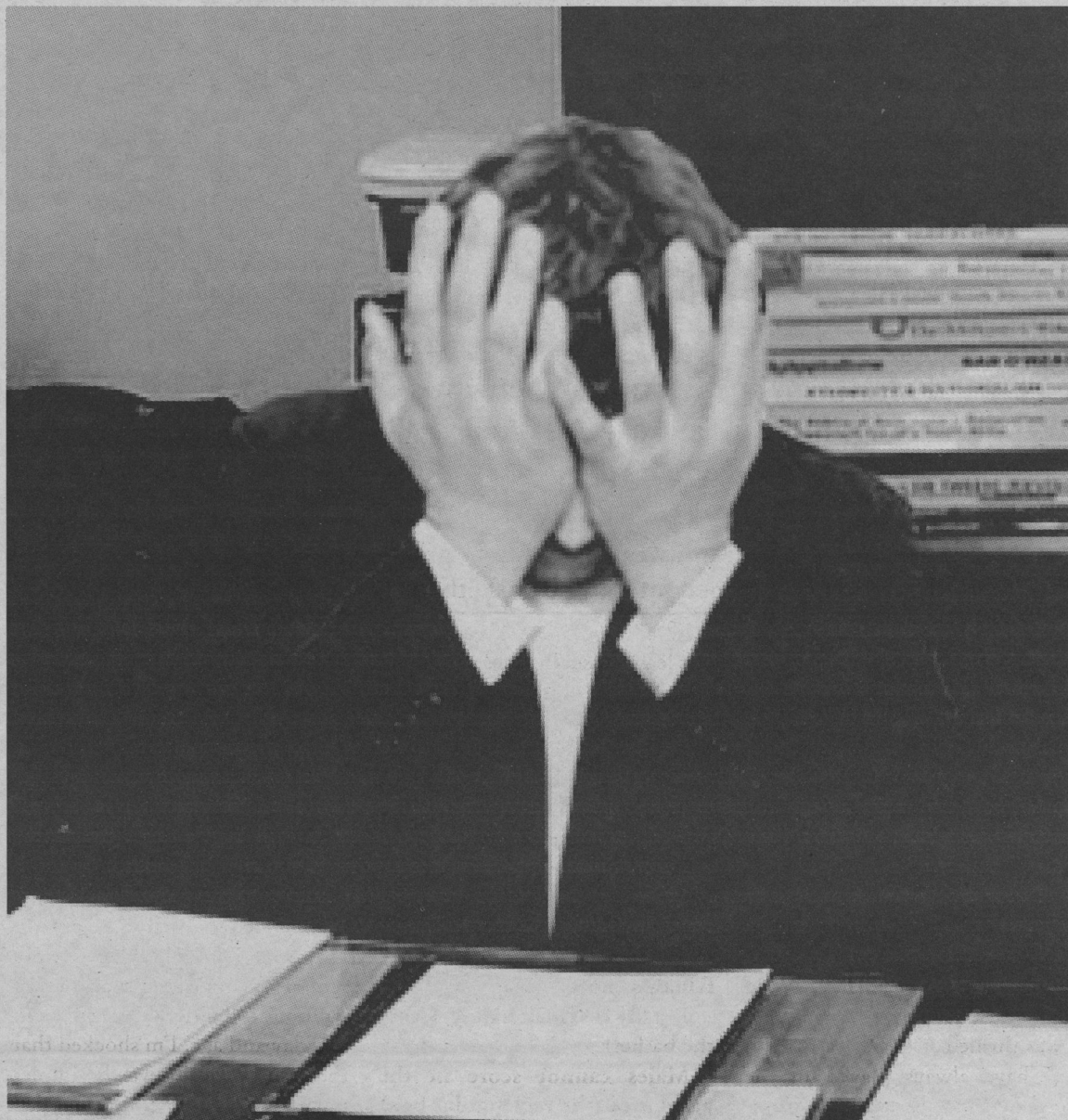


PHOTO CREDIT: LAURMG/WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

The hoax project "GuyFi", discussed building masturbation booths in New York City for over-stressed workers, raising concern on how employees deal with workplace stress.

By Christopher Leelum
Opinions Editor

As surprising as it may sound, natural desires sometimes get the best of men. We lash out when we're angry, binge when we're hungry and most importantly, relieve ourselves when we're stressed. Under our facade of dashing good looks and stately manner, we are civilized mammals in the end, with animal instincts and inclinations that must be fulfilled in one way or another.

With that in mind, I was delighted at first to hear that the great city of New York was going to do more to account for these natural desires by creating a masturbation booth. NYC welcomes all the hungry with open arms, but what about the horny?

But alas, it was far too progressive to be legit. The project, titled "GuyFi," is probably just a marketing scheme to highlight the problems of workplace stress and relief. Though the booth is gone, the problem remains: What do we do about a repressed workforce?

I say if not GuyFi, then something, anything else. Workplace stress is too real of a problem and masturbation is too natural of a desire to be further ignored in the office.

No matter what sociological or

political factor you think is the driving force behind stress—the interconnected, non-stop pace of the current global economy, an increasing value on work ethic, or waiting for the next season of *Game of Thrones*—the problem is pervasive. When the World Health Organization calls it the "health epidemic of the 21st century," then it's probably a big deal.

On the website for the American Institute of Stress (yup, a real thing), it reads, "Numerous studies show that job stress is far and away the major source of stress for American adults and that it has escalated progressively over the past few decades. Increased levels of job stress as assessed by the perception of having little control but lots of demands have been demonstrated to be associated with increased rates of heart attack, hypertension and other disorders."

Even in 1999, a report from the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health showed that 25 percent of workers say his/her job is the number one source of stress in their lives, and 50 percent said they need help in learning how to manage stress. Accordingly, the *Huffington Post* said the term "work-life balance" was first coined in the '90s.

Obviously, just going into the janitor's closet to choke the

chicken won't make men suddenly come to peace with their position, but it can at least get them ready for the afternoon meeting.

And it's already being done anyway. A poll from New York publication *Time Out* found that 39 percent of employees, male and female, have masturbated during work hours before.

Wouldn't be nice to designate a safe area where New York's blue and white collars can rub one out together, instead of having Margaret from Human Resources walk in on you because she needed a broom from the closet?

As far as design, engineering and cost is concerned, I'm leaving that up to Mr. De Blasio's minions. A booth in the middle of the city still seems a bit public, so I would suggest demolishing a Starbucks and erecting a semen center in its place.

Stereotypes sometime depict an animalistic, sex-hungry man chasing the virtuous, modest woman. But they ignore the simple but easily-avoidable fact that first led me to applaud the GuyFi project: men and women are both sexual animals. We both need a GuyFi-like reality to help combat workplace stress.

The Bible would have you believe that masturbation is the devil's work, but I'm sure even the devil has jerked off on the job before.

THE STATESMAN

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

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

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First issue free; additional issues cost 50 cents.

Stony Brook intramurals take the fun out of corecreation



PHOTO CREDIT: AUSTIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE/FICKR

Intramural sports are a great way for students to practice their sport of choice. But Stony Brook's new rules for coed intramural basketball are unfairly biased to both sexes.

By **Kerryn Bakken**
Contributing Writer

Intramural sports in college are a great way to take a break from studying (or not studying) and get together with some friends to have fun. Basketball has always been my sport of choice, and in high school I never knew what club or intramural sports were, so when I found out that I could continue to play at Stony Brook, I was thrilled.

I have always played in the coed division, because the wom-

en's league usually doesn't pick up enough sign-ups. However, last semester in 3v3 coed intramural basketball, I was shocked and upset to hear of the change in rules that was implemented. The handbook from Stony Brook's IMLeagues website states the following for coed 3v3 rules:

Males cannot jump to block female's shots

Penalty = Goaltending (score the basket)

Males cannot score in the paint area (the rectangular box)

Penalty = loss of possession & basket does not count

I find these rules both unfair and biased toward both sexes.

Coed intramurals have always tried to encourage participation from females, because as I mentioned, women's leagues don't usually have many sign-ups. However, though these rules may be trying doing that, they're counterproductive. Honestly, in this day and age, I'm shocked that these rules would ever be implemented and accepted by anyone.

According to Merriam Webster, the definition of "corecreation" is "recreation engaged in jointly by both sexes." And, according to dictionary.com, the meaning of the prefix "co" is "indicating partnership or equality." These rules are the exact opposite of equality.

What the rules are implying is that males are better at sports than females, and thus should not be allowed to shoot in the paint (the paint is the closest spot to the basket). It's very demanding on men and unfair to assume that their athletic ability is superior to females. That isn't the case for every male, but that is what these rules assume.

On the flip side, as a female, I'm extremely insulted that a male cannot jump to block my shot. That is a part of the game. The whole point of a sport is to work hard to become the better player or team. Not allowing a male to block my shot is a slap in the face, and it tells me that because of my sex, I'm not skilled enough and I need an advantage on the court.

In my first game, I was given a completely open shot at the basket because the male who was close by couldn't block my shot. I honestly wanted to take the point away. What's the point of a sport if there's no challenge? Additionally, there's no fun in intramurals when people aren't even playing real basketball, which is exactly what these rules end up doing.

I met with the intramural staff at the campus recreation cen-

ter in hopes of addressing these unfair rules. However, very little was accomplished at the meeting. I was told that these rules are not meant to be sexist and are in place for safety reasons, and that I was the "one percent" who felt this way about these rules. I was also told that these rules are nationwide, and not just Stony Brook-centric.

Interestingly enough, other SUNY schools such as Albany, Binghamton and Oswego have no mention of these rules in their intramural rules for basketball.

I know and completely acknowledge that safety is a top concern. However, putting these rules in place for "safety" isn't exactly doing that.

These rules aren't preventing females from getting hurt; basketball is a contact sport, and they can still get hurt by other females. These rules are also not protecting the safety of males. Why is it fair for a male to jump to block another male's shot? What if one is a whole head shorter, or is weaker, than the other? If there is an issue with over-aggression, I say that it would be on the role of the coordinators or especially the referees to step in and let the players know.

What we face here is a problem of sexism and gender inequality. Until these rules change, unfortunately, the fun has been taken out of intramurals for me. I am very disappointed with Stony Brook's intramurals for implementing these rules, and I hope to see change.

This is the final year of our very first #POTUS

By **Michael Kohut**
Staff Writer

He goes by many names and fills many roles. Twelve million Americans believe he's the Lizard-King. The guy in the pick-up you're stuck behind in traffic declares he is the antichrist. To others too young to really care about politics, perhaps he's simply the guy we thank when anything goes wrong. He's our commander-in-chief, Barack Obama.

Like it or not, his presidency is coming to an end this year. But in his eight-year tenure, he's left a certain mark on his office, an X-factor which may never be replicated in the same way—he was cool. Some might call it unprofessional for the president to participate in the whirling dervish that is the realm of social media during his presidency, but it's exactly what he needed to garner public support and what the office needed to evolve.

Taking office, Obama had a number of pressing issues to deal with, including getting our economy back on track and trying to find a solution to our issues in Middle Eastern conflicts. But just as important was making himself seem personable and more like a politician who young people could get behind. And at least in that regard, he was a resounding success.

With the crisis of student debt, a challenging job market and a seemingly massive disconnect between ourselves and our politicians, millennials have a different perspective



PHOTO CREDIT: MIKE BRICE/PLXABAY

President Obama, above, is entering his final months in office. The president was able to successfully utilize the growth of social media during his term for political advantage.

than previous generations. But unlike the disenfranchised people of the past, we have the means to make ourselves heard through the internet and we expect our president to listen and connect. He did. The president utilized Facebook and Twitter, had an active Youtube page, did live virtual interviews with citizens over Google to answer questions, and even conducted an "Ask Me Anything" on Reddit. He didn't just feel like "the president," he felt like "our president"

Obama isn't just the president anymore, he's the #POTUS. Obama didn't make himself a meme but he rolled with it beautifully. His Buzz-

Feed video promoting a health care initiative, which famously had him say thanks to himself, was controversial, but it was undeniably funny and did what he wanted—it generated buzz! He seemed connected to the citizens.

Juliet Eilperin of the Washington Post said Obama "leveraged the opportunities of the digital age to maximum political advantage. But often, this now means speaking narrowly to his base voters or to groups disconnected from the mainstream political process."

I can't think of a better way to leverage an advantage than to use "Luther," the comedy persona of co-

median Keegan Michael Key, to roast his opponents on live TV.

Obama set a precedent for the presidents of tomorrow, one which requires them to be engaged with the citizens he leads, to answer their questions, to stream and to adopt humor about themselves instead of rejecting it.

Obama went on Zach Galifianakis' "Between Two Ferns" and got roasted in exchange for an opportunity to promote Obama Care. A year later, we had presidential nominee Hillary Clinton spoofing Trump on Fallon and Bernie Sanders dancing to Drake on Ellen. Thanks, Obama. I think.

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Women's Basketball's win-streak ends at Albany 73-54



KRYSTEN MASSA/THE STATESMAN

Senior forward Brittany Snow (No. 20, above) set the tone with six first-quarter points and finished with 16 in the loss.

By Skyler Gilbert
Staff Writer

The Stony Brook Women's Basketball team, riding a school-record nine-game winning streak, looked for a statement victory on the road against Albany on Thursday night.

Great Danes junior guard Imani Tate had different plans, contributing 29 points off the bench for Albany as Stony Brook fell to its conference rival, 73-54. The Seawolves are now 13-6 overall and 5-1 in America East conference play with the loss.

"She just came off ball screens and she was knocking down shots," Stony Brook head coach Caroline McCombs said of Tate. "Our guards were working hard to contest all of her shots, she was just knocking them down tonight."

Tate, who entered the game as the second-ranked scorer in the America East, averaging 17.5 points per game, was a force particularly in the middle two quarters. She scored 15 points in the second quarter and 10 more in the third.

The Seawolves held their own against the four-time defending conference champion Albany early on, as junior guard Christa Scognamiglio trimmed the Great Danes lead to 16-14 with 8:20 remaining in the first half. From there, Albany put on an offensive clinic, closing out the second quarter on a 22-9 run, shooting 9-for-13 from the field during the stretch.

"I think we competed in spurts," McCombs said. "We didn't compete the whole way and we let them do some easy things to score some baskets. They shot a high percentage, grabbed a lot of offensive rebounds. Some of those little things we need to tighten up."

The rebounding margin, a 38-22 advantage for Albany, was due in large part to Stony Brook freshman forward Ogechi Anyagaligbo getting into foul trouble. Anyagaligbo, who entered the game leading the Seawolves with 10.1 rebounds per game, committed her third foul on a charge midway through the second quarter. Due to the foul trouble, Anyagaligbo played only 23 minutes in the game, her lowest total of the season.

"Any time one of our post players gets in foul trouble it hurts on the glass," McCombs said. "I

left her in there and thought she could play through the two fouls [in the second quarter], but she wasn't able to do that."

Stony Brook missed her presence, as Anyagaligbo was the team's most effective offensive player, shooting 7-for-8 from the field for 14 points.

Senior forward Brittany Snow had a productive game for the Seawolves, as she scored a team-high 16 points on offense, including six in the first quarter. On the other end of the floor, the Stony Brook captain played strong defense on Albany senior forward Shereesha Richards.

Richards, a two-time America East Player of the Year, was limited to 16 points, well below her season average of 24.1 points per game.

Junior guard Zakiya Saunders did well facilitating the basketball from the point guard position for the Great Danes. She dished out 13 assists in the game, a career-high, as Saunders was able to beat Stony Brook by finding the open player off of screens from her forwards. Saunders added 10 points in the game for a double-double.

On the other end of the floor, Stony Brook freshman guard Davion Wingate also set a career-best in assists, as she recorded nine. Wingate filled in at point guard for junior Kori Bayne Walker, who has been sidelined with injury.

Although she performed well as a playmaker for others, Wingate herself struggled from the floor, shooting just 3-for-14 in the contest.

"It's the first time that two freshmen on our team [Anyagaligbo and Wingate] have ever started and played against Albany," McCombs said. "I think looking back on this game, we need to not start on square one, but really evaluate it and show them the positive things."

Next on the docket for the Seawolves is a trip to Orono, Maine, for a Sunday afternoon game against the Maine Black Bears, perhaps the strongest conference opponent for Stony Brook other than Albany.

Maine, voted to finish second in the conference by the preseason America East Coaches' Poll, is tied for Stony Brook for second place in the conference with a 5-1 record. The Black Bears, who were America East regular season co-champions last season, are led by junior guard Sigi Koizar, who is averaging 16.9 points per game this season.

Two freshmen leading women's basketball strong conference start

By Skyler Gilbert
Staff Writer

Stony Brook Women's Basketball is off to one of its best starts in America East history, beginning the conference slate with a 5-2 record. The team recently tied the Division-I program record by winning nine consecutive games before losing at Albany on Thursday. Over the course of those contests, the team outscored its opponents by 10.4 points per game.

The recent success has been spearheaded by two freshmen—forward Ogechi Anyagaligbo and guard Davion Wingate—who have starred for the Seawolves in recent weeks.

"We're playing with confidence now," Anyagaligbo said. "I can say for a fact that in our second game of the season, against Hofstra, I was terrified out there. Now we're playing with more confidence and we know each other better. We're playing as if we want it. We're hungry for these games now."

Anyagaligbo is one of two freshmen in the nation averaging a double-double per game this season, the other being Southern Mississippi forward Caitlin Jenkins.

In addition, Anyagaligbo is looking to become the first player to average a double-double in the America East since the 2003-04 season.

Perhaps even more impressive is that she is making 60.2 percent of her shots, the best rate in the conference.

Anyagaligbo has started alongside senior forward Brittany Snow in the frontcourt each game this season for the Seawolves. The freshman says she has learned a lot while following in the footsteps of Snow, the team's leading scorer.

"Britt[any Snow], she just works so hard," Anyagaligbo said. "She's like a role model to me. Anything she does, I want to do it too."

One of the other veteran leaders of the team, junior guard Kori Bayne-Walker, has missed much of the last month's games with a lower-body injury first suffered against Wagner on Dec. 18 game and then re-aggravated against Binghamton on Jan. 6.

According to Stony Brook Athletics, the Seawolves are aiming for Bayne-Walker to return next Saturday, when the team takes on Vermont at home.

"Those are some tough shoes to fill," head coach Caroline McCombs said after Friday's loss against Albany. "[Wingate has] done an outstanding job of coordinating everything we're doing, stepping into that role. Being able to score the ball, finding open players, I think Davion has done an outstanding job of running our team."

Wingate has excelled in the interim, acting as the starting point guard and averaging 14 points per game in her last



KRYSTEN MASSA/THE STATESMAN

Freshman forward Ogechi Anyagaligbo (No. 22, above) and freshman guard Davion Wingate have played major roles in Stony Brook's best America East start in history.

nine games.

Wingate has been described in the past by McCombs as more of a scoring guard than a traditional point guard.

However, she says she has been working with Bayne-Walker to better run the Stony Brook offense as a floor general.

"It's been a good opportunity for me to learn the point guard position better and learn some things from Kori," Wingate said. "She always tells me to be confident."

Wingate's confidence has shown on the court, particularly in clutch situations. Against Binghamton, she scored 17 points in the second half to lead her team to a comeback victory after Stony Brook trailed by 16 midway through the third quarter.

"I just don't want to lose," Wingate said, describing her tendency to take games over late. "I hate, hate, hate to lose."

Although the pair of Seawolves freshmen have not seemed to have too much trouble at the collegiate level, Anyagaligbo spoke to the adjustment from high school to the NCAA, particularly the difference in game length.

College women's basketball has ten-minute quarters, making the game in total eight minutes longer than high school girls' basketball, which has eight-minute quarters.

"I have to say that the eight minutes added onto the game have been a huge difference for me," Anyagaligbo noted. "You have to be in better shape.

The game's longer and the court's longer."

Wingate has seen a huge uptick in playing time with Bayne-Walker out—she has played 362 of 365 total minutes of action in her last nine games.

The nine-game winning streak for the women's basketball team had coincided with a 10-game winning streak from the men's team, and one would be mistaken to think the players were unaware.

"There's a friendly competition between the guys and the girls," Anyagaligbo said in a mid-week interview. "You don't want to be the first ones to lose, you know?"

Although the women's team was ultimately the first of the two programs to lose in conference play, the pair of freshmen are no longer lacking in the confidence that had hindered them early in the season.

Anyagaligbo acknowledged she was "terrified" before the November game against Hofstra, that is not the case anymore. She scored 14 points on 7-for-8 shooting in the loss against Albany, which now sits atop the America East with a 6-0 record in conference play. She now enters games with more of a determined mentality.

"I expect us to win," Anyagaligbo said. "I expect us to play our hardest ball, to go out there and not beat ourselves."

Behind these two freshmen, Stony Brook has fulfilled Anyagaligbo's rising expectations, as the Seawolves have enjoyed one of the best season starts in program history.

SPORTS

Men's Basketball wins 11th in a row, defeats Albany 69-63

By David Vertsberger
Assistant Sports Editor

It looked like a case of same Seawolves, different day when junior guard Ahmad Walker missed the second of two free throws with 22 seconds remaining with the Stony Brook Men's Basketball team leading Albany by one. The Seawolves were in danger of falling to the Great Danes in similar fashion to last year's America East Championship, until senior forward Rayshaun McGrew hustled for the offensive rebound and scored a layup plus the ensuing foul shot to give the team a four-point advantage.

"I was thinking he was going to make both of them," McGrew said. "But at the same time you always have to be prepared for whatever happens, so I always try to go to the offensive glass aggressive."

Stony Brook would close it out to win 69-63, making it 11 straight victories for the Seawolves. As usual, senior forward Jameel Warney and senior guard Carson Puriefoy dominated the stat sheet, scoring 17 and 20 points, respectively. Also as usual, the overlooked McGrew quietly played as big a role as either in securing the win.

"Especially with the attention Jameel gets, [McGrew's] really often underappreciated," Stony Brook head coach Steve Pikiell said. "He does a lot of things for us."

McGrew collected three offensive rebounds in the final two minutes,



CHRISTOPHER CAMERON / THE STATESMAN

Senior forward Rayshaun McGrew (No. 11, above) secured the win for the Seawolves.

seven total rebounds in the final 5:20 and finished the game with 11 points and 13 boards. With 12:54 remaining in the first half, Warney picked up his second foul and sat until the halftime break. McGrew played 11:49 during that stretch, anchoring the defense and keeping the game close. Albany outscored Stony Brook by just two after Warney's exit, as the teams headed to the locker rooms tied.

"It's great to know that you can trust your teammates," Warney said.

"They're ready at anytime."

Neither team gained a lead of more than six points, with both squads making potential momentum-grabbing plays that were answered. Warney blocked a wide-open dunk attempt by sophomore forward Greig Stire with under five minutes to play. A minute earlier, Stony Brook had a five-point edge that quickly disappeared after a rushed shot by Walker and a Puriefoy foul on senior guard Evan Singletary shooting from

deep. Puriefoy hit back-to-back 3-pointers late in the first half to spark the offense, but Stony Brook could not pull away. Free throws held the Seawolves back, as they shot just 10-for-19 from the stripe on the night.

"This is what we've shot in a lot of games," Pikiell said. "We have to make free throws and if you don't, you better figure out a way to still win."

Neither team looked good on offense in the first half, with each only making 35 percent of its shots.

The Great Danes ignored Walker on the perimeter, which limited the Seawolves' spacing. In previous games, Pikiell would turn to a lineup with sophomore forward Roland Nyama at the power forward position to spread the floor, but Nyama did not play against Albany.

"These guys are bully fours and fives, they're not perimeter fours or fives," Pikiell said. "It's tough. Those guys are big and physical, and I just liked the lineup that we had."

Albany got off to a hot start in the second half, but Stony Brook kept its cool. The Seawolves' championship game loss did not linger in their minds.

"We just try to take it one game at a time," McGrew said. "The game from last year wasn't in my head, I doubt any of my teammates' heads."

Although the players looked at this as just another regular season game, they were likely the only ones. ESPN's broadcast of the rivalry game was the lone 9 p.m. college basketball game in the nation. The Island Federal Credit Union Arena lobby did its best Penn Station impression, and non-student tickets sold out over six hours before gametime. Even the weather added to the atmosphere, with a coming blizzard allowing students to move back to campus two days early and catch the contest.

"It wasn't a pretty game but it was a win," Pikiell said. "I'm happy with that."

Two members of Men's Lacrosse team drafted by MLL teams

By Andrew Eichenholz
Sports Editor

Senior men's lacrosse players Challen Rogers and Brody Eastwood may not have started their final season at Stony Brook yet, but each has already totaled a win. Both were selected in Friday afternoon's Major League Lacrosse Collegiate Draft, with the Boston Cannons taking Rogers, a midfielder, in the fourth round with the 32nd overall pick and the New York Lizards picking Eastwood, an attackman, in the sixth round with the 52nd overall selection.

"I am excited for both Challen and Brody's selection in the draft," Stony Brook Men's Lacrosse head coach Jim Nagle said. "They are both going to have long post-collegiate careers in both professional leagues and as candidates for the Canadian National Team."

Each has earned his fair share of accolades while on Long Island, thousands of miles from their respective homes in British Columbia. Rogers was named to the All-America East First Team for the second season in a row in 2015, after he earned All-Conference Second Team honors to go with selection to the All-Rookie team in 2013.

In 50 games for the Seawolves, the Coquitlam-native has scored 70 goals and contributed 79 assists. The two-way midfielder's 149 points puts him in ninth all-time for Stony Brook, with a season still left to go.

Next summer, Eastwood will be staying close to his college home.

Stony Brook Women's Lacrosse head coach Joe Spallina, who is also the Lizards' head coach and general manager, selected the Seawolves' finisher.

Eastwood has led the team in goal-scoring in each of the last three seasons, putting him within 29 goals of tying Jordan McBride's record of 175 career tallies heading into the year. Last season, the Victoria-native set a new Stony Brook mark for goals in a campaign with 62, shattering 2010 and 2011 first-team All-American Kevin Crowley's previous total of 51 in a year. It was also tied for second-most in the entire nation.

That performance helped Eastwood earn All-America East Second Team recognition after also making his way onto the conference's All-Rookie squad and All-Championship team in 2013.

Both will need to keep up the level of play that earned their selection in the draft this season, as one Seawolf played his final year in 2015. Mike Rooney set the career mark for most points totaled by a Stony Brook Lacrosse player with 253. He finished second in the country in total points last campaign with 111 to Albany's Lyle Thompson, who became the first ever to win back-to-back Tewaaron Awards as the best player in the nation.

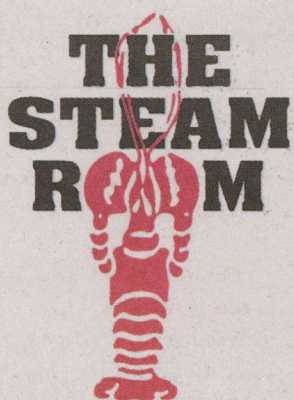
Rogers and Eastwood will look to account for the void that Rooney leaves behind when Stony Brook kicks off its season on Feb. 16 at home when Sacred Heart visits Kenneth P. LaValle Stadium.



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