

THE STATESMAN

INFORMING STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY FOR MORE THAN 50 YEARS

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sbstatesman.com

USG president wins re-election

By Michaela Kilgallen
Assistant News Editor

After a problematic campaign period, students were finally able to vote for the Undergraduate Student Government candidates of choice last week. In total 4,295 students voiced their preferences, according to a post on the USG Facebook page. Current USG president Cole Lee will remain in the position for another year after defeating Elizabeth Osei by 4 percent of the vote.

"To think ... me? A skinny little kid from South Korea who enjoys binge watching Netflix, my only talent being able to eat abnormal amounts of pizza, surrounded by the most incredible Seawolves who I could never even imagine comparing myself with," Lee wrote in a Facebook post that has garnered almost 200 likes since Friday.

The much debated mandatory Student Activities Fee will remain mandatory, with 2,301 students voting to keep it and only 901 voting to make the fee voluntary.

Students elected Drazen Baccara as executive vice president with 56 percent of the vote.

"I'm really excited to take on the role of Executive Vice President because it's a role that allows me to foster others and become even better leaders than they already are," Baccara said in an email. Voters also elected Maximilian Shaps as vice president of communications with 55 percent.

The vice president of clubs and organizations and vice president of academic affairs were both close races. Lydia Senatus was elected vice president of clubs and organizations, but only seventeen votes divided her and her competitor, Elmer Flores. A mere nine votes separated John Mele, the winner of the race for vice president of academic affairs, and fellow candidate Joshua Seobarran.

In the senate, Millicent Mulieri, Jay Abad, Amanda Tam, Clare Finnegan, Samantha Coyle, Saori Arai, Vanessa Cornelio, Nicholas Vollano, Zachary Shaps and Derrick Wagner were the ten candidates chosen to represent the College of Arts and Sciences.

Students elected Christian Cole as Health Science Senator, John Scalmandre for the College of Business Senator, and Keiko Nagami for Senator At-Large. Mudassar Memon, Forum Doshi and Tao Wang will represent Engineering and Applied Sciences. And Johnathan Rodriguez, Tasna Ahmed and Kemi Adebajo were elected class senators for the senior, junior and sophomore classes.

However, it's not over yet. Run-off elections for Vice President of Student Life and Treasurer will be held this week after no single candidate managed to win a majority vote.



KRYSTEN MASSA / THE STATESMAN

Students gather around the rubber duck race on Friday, April 22 outside of the Administration Building. The annual race is part of Earthstock, a week-long celebration of environmental awareness, education and entertainment.

"Spotlight" journalist tells the true story behind the film

By Rebecca Liebson
Contributing Writer

Two-time Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Michael Rezendes visited campus on Tuesday, April 19 to talk about the story behind the Academy Award-winning movie, "Spotlight."

The film, starring Mark Ruffalo as Rezendes, follows the team of reporters from the Boston Globe that worked to uncover child sexual abuse in the Roman Catholic Church and the subsequent cover-up by the Catholic clergy

of Boston.

"I'd like to say, to all the people who think journalism is a dying business, watch this movie and take that," Rezendes said with a smile to the crowd of nearly 300 gathered in the Sidney Gelber Auditorium.

After praising the film for its accuracy, Rezendes went on to explain that before the story became a blockbuster Hollywood production, it was really about four hardworking reporters trying to uncover the truth.

The Globe's editor at the time,

Marty Baron, got the idea for the story after reading a column journalist Eileen McNamara wrote for the Globe on a series of lawsuits filed by the victims of John Geoghan, a priest in the Archdiocese of Boston.

"Marty Baron believed that it's the job of a journalist to find the truth, and to communicate that truth to readers," Rezendes said.

Sophomore journalism major Jasmin Suknunan said Rezendes' talk inspired her, but left her with no illusions about the work.

"We understand that we have a duty to report on the best avail-

able version of the truth, yet there are sometimes people who stand in our way of that — unknowingly or not," she said. "That means we have to work harder to uncover facts"

One of Rezendes' key responsibilities in the Globe's investigation was speaking with Mitch Garabedian, an attorney for a few of the abuse survivors.

"I needed to win the guy's trust," Rezendes said. "I knew that he knew a lot about the Archdiocese. He had been battling alone

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Medical professor proves dodo birds were not so stupid

By Taylor Ha
Contributing Writer

Before Maria Eugenia Gold redeemed the reputation of the dodo bird, she was a little girl who dreamed about the extinct world of dinosaurs and had their images plastered all over her bedroom wall.

Recently, she and her team have discovered new evidence suggesting a general misconception concerning dodo birds — the descendants of a group of dinosaurs called maniraptoran theropods — may be wrong.

Raphus cucullatus, more commonly known as the dodo, was a



PHOTO COURTESY OF MARIA EUGENIA GOLD

Gold, above, worked with her team to discover evidence that the dodo bird was not as dumb as previously believed.

3-foot, 40-pound flightless bird that was native to one island, Mauritius, near Madagascar.

These dodos were infamously fearless of human explorers who arrived at Mauritius in 1581, and

the first significant predator the birds had ever encountered on their isolated home. The affable personality of the dodo made the birds vulnerable to human hunting, as well as predators, such as dogs and cats, that were introduced to the island by the explorers. By the end of the following century, the much-too-friendly dodo population was officially wiped out.

"The dodo is embedded in popular culture," Gold said in an email. "It's famous for its extinction and for being dumb. I wanted to study it because of its infamy

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Sports agent teaches business at SBU

Burton Rocks brings the real world to the classroom.

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Arts & Entertainment

Students go green for Earthstock

Flowers, festivities and fun come to campus.

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I'm Berned out from social media

Social media is pushing millennials to vote Sanders.

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Sports

Women's Lacrosse wins on Senior Day

No. 6 Stony Brook defeats Hofstra.

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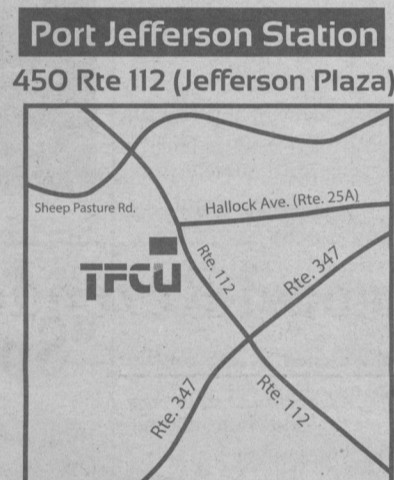
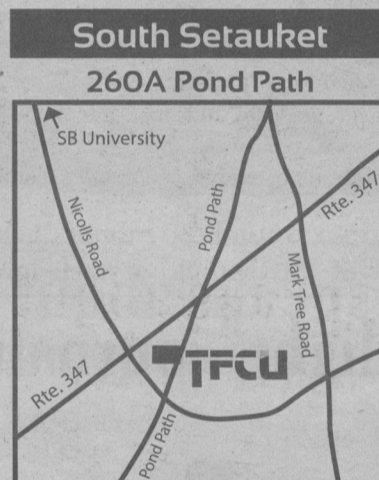


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NEWS

Center for Medical Humanities course teaches students compassion

By Andrew Goldstein
Staff Writer

There is a statistically significant positive effect on patients when a health care provider is compassionate, according to a meta-study published in PLoS One, a peer-reviewed scientific journal.

In the study, patients were seen to heal faster, feel less pain and anxiety and even bounce back faster from common colds when health care workers approached them with kindness.

Since August 2008, the Stony Brook Center for Medical Humanities, Compassionate Care, and Bioethics has focused on teaching literature, history, philosophy and the arts as they relate to the patient as a person against the background of a healthcare system that can often be dehumanizing, impersonal and lacking in care.

"Medical humanities is a way of sensitizing students and doctors and nurses to the experience of illness," Stephen G. Post, the center's director, said. "And that in turn builds empathy because you can't have much empathy or good communication unless you're willing to observe pretty carefully what someone is experiencing and connect in that. And that in turn leads to good clinical and ethical de-



The Stony Brook Center for Medical Humanities, Compassionate Care and Bioethics teaches subjects such as literature and history, as they relate to patient care.

isions and outcomes because when big items come up they don't resolve themselves without good communication and good empathy."

The center offers classes for undergraduate students, graduate students and courses for both pre-clinical and post-clinical medical students.

The center also hosts a poet-

ry community called "Astonished Harvest," which has workshops and group reflection rounds to promote awareness, introspection and a path to mindfulness. This mindfulness helps doctors treat patients effectively and overcome burnout and depression.

While there is no hard data, a

study on Medscape.com says, "It has been reliably estimated that on average the United States loses as many as 400 physicians to suicide each year (the equivalent of at least one entire medical school)."

A study published in the New England Journal of Medicine found that only 58 percent of Americans

surveyed said they "strongly agreed" or "agreed" with the statement "Doctors in your country can be trusted." Only four countries — Chile, Bulgaria, Russia and Poland — had worse numbers.

Thirty percent of women and 23 percent of men have lied to their doctors through omission or "white lies" due to embarrassment or time constraints according to a study by ZocDoc, a type of Yelp for doctors.

"I think people who are concerned and interested in patients as people experiencing illness tend to be more empathetic," Post said. "And to the extent that they explicitly engage in such things as narrative medicine and the like. I think it does in fact sharpen their listening skills and their observational abilities, and they can care and connect better with patients."

A study from the University of South Carolina found that doctors spent an average of only eleven minutes with patients per visit, with patients only speaking for four minutes. It also found that patients spoke for an average of twelve seconds before being interrupted by their health care provider.

"It's critical for communication because you're not communicating with the biological slab," Post said. "You're communicating with a human being who has a story."

Michael Rezendes speaks about his work

Continued from page 1

against the Church for many years, and I needed to find out what he knew."

Rezendes sought to gain Garabedian's trust by speaking with his clients. Once Garabedian saw that Rezendes was serious, he helped him gain access to court documents that were previously seen as unattainable. What happened after that is history.

"These stories were based on the Church's own internal records," Rezendes said. "And that made the stories bulletproof."

Shortly after it broke, the story began to spread like wildfire.

"Back then there was no social media ... but people were using the Internet," Rezendes said. "People could read our stories and then go to the actual documents we were describing and see that we were recording the truth ... I think that had a profound impact on our readers and also it allowed the story to go viral."

Although the story was able to quickly grab international attention, the transition from real life to blockbuster film did not happen overnight.

"Years went by, nothing happened and we weren't surprised because we never thought it would be a movie," Rezendes said.

Even before a screenplay came into the works, novelist David Mizner wrote a narrative of the "Spotlight" team's story for a case study at the Columbia University School of Journalism.

"[Mizner] said to me, 'This would make a great movie,' and I said, 'You're crazy. All the big moments come when I'm sitting at my desk reading documents!'" Rezendes said.



DINGFANG ZHOU/BU NEWS SERVICE

Michael Rezendes, left, and Mark Ruffalo on the red carpet at the "Spotlight" movie premiere on Oct. 28, 2015.

Despite his initial reaction, Rezendes and his fellow reporters agreed to give the rights to their story to two young producers, Nicole Rocklin and Blye Faust. Several more years went by before anyone picked up the film. Eventually a screenplay was written, but the project remained stagnant for a while longer until Mark Ruffalo stumbled upon it and finally got the ball rolling.

In the end, the film company Participant Media took what was once just a promising idea and turned it into a reality. Rezendes noted that the cast and crew worked very closely alongside him and his colleagues.

"They wanted our input all along the way," he said.

The attention to accuracy and detail paid off in the end after seeing the first draft of the film, Rezendes and his colleagues were stunned into silence.

"It was such an emotional experience to see ourselves portrayed on screen," he said. "This was a very tough time in our lives, and the work was very grueling. We

didn't really want to go all the way back, but this took us all the way back."

While the "Spotlight" team loved the movie, Rezendes said, the best part was the response from the abuse survivors.

"The survivors are people who were ignored for decades by the Church and felt ashamed of their experiences," he said. "Our work liberated tens of thousands of survivors ... and the movie just amplified that."

Rezendes said he was happy that the film was able to prompt victims of sexual abuse to speak up, but he mentioned another group he hoped would draw inspiration from "Spotlight": young journalists.

"These are troubling times," Rezendes said. "I can't guarantee that you'll make much of a living if you go into journalism right now. But what I can guarantee you is if you take up the cause of investigative reporting, you may find yourself leading a life of meaning and purpose. And I think that's worth a lot."

Police Blotter

On Thursday, April 14 at 2:25 p.m., an unknown individual allegedly stole a bike from a bike rack at Yang College. The case remains open.

On Thursday, April 14 at 3:30 p.m., an unknown individual allegedly stole one camera from the Staller Center. The case remains open.

On Thursday, April 14 at 9:17 p.m., police allegedly found white powder in a room in Lauterbur Hall. The case remains open.

On Saturday, April 16 at 3:45 a.m., police issued one student referral to an individual for alleged underage drinking and activating the fire alarm in Benedict College.

On Monday, April 18 at 11:36 p.m., a University Hospital employee allegedly saw another employee taking State supplies. The case remains open.

On Wednesday, April 20 at 8:31 a.m., police arrested an individual for allegedly stealing a boot in Mendelsohn and H Quad Staff Parking Lot.

On Wednesday, April 20 at 12:39 p.m., police issued a student referral to an individual for allegedly trespassing in Hamilton College.

On Wednesday, April 20 at 2:24 p.m., an unknown individual allegedly stole a package from the Irving College mailroom. The case remains open.

On Wednesday, April 20 at 8:59 p.m., an RA at Chapin A allegedly reported hearing a male and a female yelling, followed by a female whimpering. The victim declined to press charges. The case is now closed.

Compiled by Brittany
Bernstein

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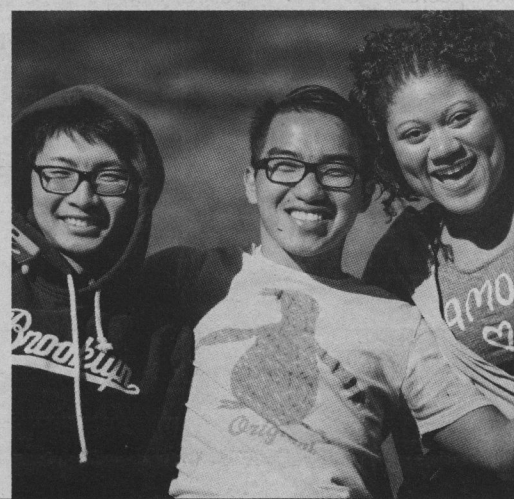
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Gold's study on intelligence of dodo birds makes national headlines

Continued from page 1

and see if I could learn anything about its biology.”

Gold's findings may have freed the dodo from popular culture infamy forever.

By publishing a study last February in the Zoological Journal of the Linnean Society, Gold proposed that the dodo bird might have been about as smart as the common pigeon.

Her research sparked headlines in The Washington Post, Forbes and History Channel website, ranging from “Dodos: Smarter Than Most People Think” to “Were dodos as dumb as they looked? New research suggests otherwise.”

Gold used CT imaging to compare the endocast, a mold of a cranial cavity, of a rare preserved dodo skull from London's Natural History Museum to the endocasts of seven pigeon species, the dodo's closest living relative.

She discovered the size of the dodo's brain in relation to its body size is actually similar to

that of a pigeon, a fairly intelligent bird that has the capacity to be trained.

The pivotal moment was when Gold finally found evidence to support her theory.

“It was an exciting discovery,” she said via email. “Once I had the data, the analysis was very quick. Having all of that work result in the dodo's brain size being proportional to its body size was really neat.”

Julian Pender Hume, an English avian paleontologist and artist who co-authored the critically acclaimed book “Lost Land of the Dodo,” published in 2007, also believes that the dodo does not deserve its reputation.

“The use of the word ‘stupid’ is a misnomer here, and has been completely taken out of context,” Hume said in an email. “Early visitors to Mauritius thought it stupid because it was fearless, and would not try and escape even when attacked with clubs and guns. This is classic naivety, where an animal does not recognise humans as a threat.”

Although he was intrigued that Gold's research noted that the endocranial morphology of a dodo is generally like that of pigeons, he saw something missing.

“What issue that the authors failed to mention was the enormous hooked beak of the dodo,” he said in an email.

According to Hume's own research, the dodo was not a stupid bird that was defenseless in the face of danger.

“Two accounts made by Dutch travellers to Mauritius in 1611 and 1631 stated that ‘you must not approach these birds too closely as they bite mightily hard’ and that the ‘war weapon was its mouth,’” Dr. Hume said.

Before before experts like Hume discussed her research, Gold was a curious young child. Born in Buenos Aires, Argentina, she was raised in Maryland by her economist father and meteorologist mother.

“I've been interested in dinosaurs my whole life,” Gold said in an email. “They are fascinating animals and being able to understand how they lived is exciting.”

Pouring over encyclopedias and news clippings, Gold wanted to learn as much as she could about dinosaurs and other extinct creatures.

She supplemented her growing knowledge with news articles from her family in Argentina.

As Gold continued to receive clips about the latest South American fossil discoveries from these relatives, her family gradually began to understand that Gold's interest had turned into a passion.



PHOTO COURTESY OF MARIA EUGENIA GOLD

Gold, above, used CT imaging to compare the size of a rare, preserved dodo skull to the skulls of pigeons.



PHOTO CREDIT: BAZZADARAMBLER/WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

A skeletal cast and model of a dodo at the Oxford University Museum of Natural History in England.

“They are amazing creatures that were very diverse in the Mesozoic and are even more diverse now in the form of birds,” Gold noted about dinosaurs.

Years later, she went on to earn her Ph.D. from the American Museum of Natural History's Richard Gilder Graduate School — the first Ph.D.-granting program for any museum located in the Western Hemisphere — unearth dinosaur

eggs in the Gobi Desert and teach human anatomy to medical students at Stony Brook University's Department of Anatomical Sciences.

“She's a very careful and very thorough scientist,” said Eric Wilberg, Gold's colleague at Stony Brook, who met her while they were graduate students at the University of Iowa. “And she's very passionate about what she works on.”

Burton Rocks brings sports agency experience to College of Business students

By Aleeza Kazmi
Contributing Writer

Adjunct professor and alumni Burton Rocks is bringing his insight as a sports agent to the students in the College of Business at Stony Brook University.

Rocks taught BUS 391 Management of Sports Organizations last fall and plans on returning next semester to bring more of his firsthand knowledge.

“As a student athlete I really appreciated Burton Rocks' class,” junior business major PJ Edwards said. “He told us about real world situations that he had to deal with first hand. This made classes more exciting because it wasn't just a PowerPoint with made up scenarios.”

Bringing real-world knowledge to his students is one of Rocks' main goals.

“I wanted to give the students a special hands-on look to agency and into what goes on behind the scenes,” Rocks said.

Students who may not follow sports very closely were still able to benefit from the class.

“I do not follow sports as much as my peers in the class,” Christian Sugiarto, a senior in-

formation systems major, said. “But he is highly knowledgeable and can answer questions using specific players and/or management in sports.”

To Rocks, coming back to his alma mater is not only a way to give back, but a way to help the sports agency industry.

“The sports world, the agency world and the business world really need an overhaul,” Rocks said. “And that will start at the college level.”

Rocks founded CL Rocks Corporation in 2008, which now has a list of clients including multiple NFL and MLB coaches, as well as MLB players.

Before fully committing to the world of sport agency, Rocks co-authored seven books, including the New York Times best-seller “Me and My Dad: A Baseball Memoir,” which he co-wrote with retired New York Yankees player Paul O'Neill.

Rocks says his time in the writing world benefited his career as a sports agent.

“I was represented by a big agency as a writer and there were things I did and didn't like,” he said. “And I took that into my own agency.”



PHOTO COURTESY OF BURTON ROCKS

Burton Rocks, above, is a writer, business entrepreneur, sports agent and Stony Brook University alum. He taught BUS 391, Management of Sports Organizations, last fall.

Not only did his writing career shape who he is as a sports agent, Rocks' time as what he calls a “hospital kid” has also impacted his career.

Rocks suffered from chronic asthma early in his life and spent

much of his childhood in and out of the hospital.

“Experience as a hospital kid has trained me to understand a lot of the roadblocks in my life,” he said.

Rocks tries to pass on that un-

derstanding of adversity to his business students.

“I want my students to be proud of overcoming adversity,” he said. “Everybody fails, so I want people to embrace adversity and wear it as a badge of honor.”

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



KRYSTEN MASSA / THE STATESMAN

Students gather at the bottom of the fountain near the Administration Building to watch and take part in the annual duck race at Earthstock.

SBU trades its signature red for green during Earthstock

By David Pepa
Contributing Writer

This year's Earth Day got greener when Stony Brook's Earthstock came back to the Academic Mall with performances, energy efficient material and owls.

Earthstock brought out numerous clubs and organizations in order to help make Stony Brook and the Earth, at large, greener.

One of the stands at Earthstock, Friends of Fire Island National Seashore, offered students the opportunity to plant tomatoes using recyclable cups. They also offered dirt so that people could grow

fresh vegetables.

Dr. Marvin O'Neal, faculty director of the Friends of Fire Island National Seashore, said "We use recyclable K-Cups to plant a tomato and get things ready for the summer.

"We work with the parts of service of Fire Island National Seashore to try to bring students and guests to improve the part and find clean up volunteers," O'Neal said, in reference to his organization.

Other organizations came to Earthstock to share their knowledge and ideas for the community. Eleni Nikolopoulos, 28, educator for the North Fork Natural History Museum, offered pamphlets on an-

imals and the environment in order to get people involved in preserving the environment.

"We try to educate people about nature, the importance of the environment and the importance of conserving biodiversity," Nikolopoulos said.

While people were walking around and viewing all of the Earth-related attractions, music was being played all around the Academic Mall, including performances from Taiko Tides. The group's upbeat playing brought excitement to the day.

"Our group has been performing in Earthstock for I'm not sure, but this is my second time performing," Sang Pat, a senior psychology major, said.

After the performance, Taiko Tides invited students to come see the group's first concert at the Charles B. Wang Center Theatre on April 28.

Some of the clubs on campus offered students and guests original material in order to help benefit the environment.

One example was the Sierra Club, with their hand-made biodegradable bird feeders made using pine cones, peanut butter and bird seed. Once people create the bird feeders, they hang their new biodegradable bird feeders on the trees and other plants around the Academic Mall.

"It's our chance to make a completely biodegradable bird feeder and they can hang them

around campus to create a more positive atmosphere today," Kylie Campanelli, a junior environmental humanities major, said. "We just want to bring people a little message on how they can be more sustainable and get them involved because we do a lot of outing, camping, and activist's work so we want to let people know that we're here."

While celebrating making the community green, students and guests also came to Earthstock to indulge in the Farmer's Market for pies and the ice cream social.

Earthstock made getting the message out to people in order to help get involved and protect the environment an entertaining experience.



KRYSTEN MASSA / THE STATESMAN

From left, Justin Corbo, a senior ecosystems and human impact major, Brandon Waaland, a senior sustainability studies and political science major, and Dillon Incantalupo, a senior environmental humanities major, promote their greenhouse-grown vegetables and herbs.



KRYSTEN MASSA / THE STATESMAN

From left, junior computer science major Roger Rosenquist and graduate student Jenna Schneider pose with plants.



KRYSTEN MASSA / THE STATESMAN

Junior ecosystems and human impact major Evan Joo, right, and professor Marc Fasanella, left, stand by a tree where students displayed earth-saving messages.

ARTSY EVENTS



CHRISTOPHER CAMERON / THE STATESMAN

Student Athlete Advisory Committee Lip Sync Battle

Stony Brook's student athletes and Spirit of Stony Brook marching band will be competing in a Lip Sync Battle on Wednesday, April 27. The event, held by Stony Brook USG and the SAAC, will take place in the SAC Auditorium and starts at 8:30 p.m. Tickets can be purchased for \$5 at the Student Activities Center ticket office and all proceeds go to Stony Brook Children's Hospital.



PHOTO CREDIT: STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY

Periods and Waves: A Conference on Sound and History

The Periods and Waves conference will be led by the Stony Brook Department of Music, Department of Philosophy and the School of Heath Technology & Management on April 29 and 30 in the Humanities Building. Its aim is to bring together scholars and scientists of humanities studying sound. The event also includes Judith Lochhead, pictured above, as the chair of the Soundstates portion.



CHRISTOPHER CAMERON / THE STATESMAN

Roth Regatta: Under the Sea and Far Beyond

This year's Roth Regatta will take place on Friday, April 29 starting at 12 p.m. at Roth Quad. The annual event consists of teams representing clubs, organizations and other aspects of campus life racing across Roth Pond in boats made of cardboard, duct tape and paint. Winning teams are awarded with trophies after the races are finished.

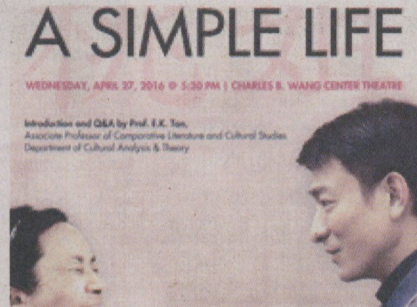


PHOTO CREDIT: CHARLES B. WANG CENTER

The Wang Center presents: "A Simple Life"

The film "A Simple Life," directed by Ann Hui, will be shown in the Charles B. Wang Center on April 27 at 5:30 p.m. Admission to the event is free. The event will also include an introduction and question-and-answer session by E.K. Tan, associate professor of Comparative Literature and Cultural Studies.



COURTESY OF SB LIFE

Indian Classical Dance by Stony Brook Taandava

Stony Brook's Taandava has its annual performance to raise awareness for the ancient art form this Friday, April 29 at 6 p.m. in the Charles B. Wang Center. The event supports the Akshaya Trust Charity, which provides food, love and care to the homeless people of Madurai, India and also tries to find housing for the mentally ill.

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OPINIONS

Berned out from social media: How Sanders supporters flooded the internet

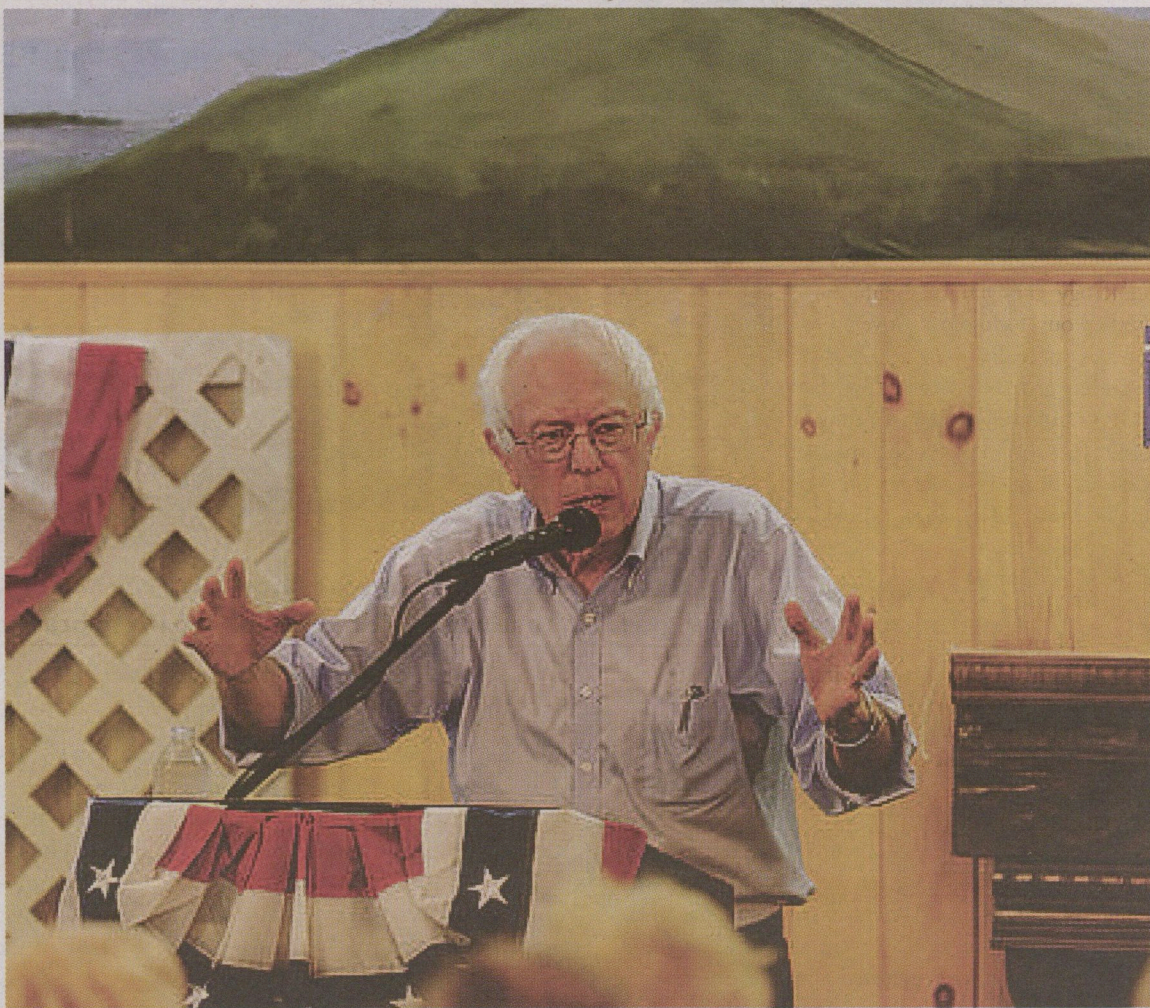


PHOTO CREDIT: MICHAEL VIDON / FLICKR

Presidential candidate Bernie Sanders, above, has been praised on social media by millennials, creating a bias against those of the generation who do not support him.

By Max Katz
Contributing Writer

Hillary Clinton is in bed with Goldman Sachs. Hillary Clinton supported the coup in Honduras. Hillary Clinton is a liar and a political opportunist. Hillary Clinton believes that young black people are superpredators. These are some of the assertions I am assaulted with on a daily basis when I pull up my news feed on Facebook.

This stands in stark contrast with the posts I see about her primary opponent: Bernie Sanders cares about the working class; Bernie Sanders is going to overturn Citizens United; Bernie Sanders is going to rein in the excesses of Wall Street; Bernie Sanders is going to expand access to healthcare and higher education.

I know that I have friends who support Clinton, but during this Democratic primary, the Sanders supporters are the ones sharing voluminous information.

And it is not just Facebook. I'm on Reddit too, and /r/politics might as well be /r/sanders-for-president.

For many of my friends who feel the Bern, this presidential election is about so much more than just picking the best candidate.

This is a story of their hero. People of my generation feel disillusioned with the political process. They think it is broken and it does not represent their interests.

Supporting Sanders, to them, is part of the principled stance that we must take back the

country from the economic elite who dominate it.

Sanders, to them, is the candidate who can restore what is good about democracy.

This narrative has its costs. I often feel that my friends are caught in a social media echo chamber, in a desperate frenzy to talk about all the great things Bernie will do. This echo chamber is contagious.

Nearly everything I read is one-sided: Clinton is the epitome of what Sanders is trying to defeat, and thus everything about her must be viewed in a negative light.

This establishes an enormous potential for bias in support of Sanders.

When the bulk of what one encounters casts one candidate positively and others negatively, it is challenging to maintain a dispassionate view about who to support — even for those such as myself who already regularly pay attention to the political process.

My friends do not merely support Sanders. They identify with him and what he is fighting for. Therefore, I feel a constant pull to do the same — a pull that has little to do with whether he would truly be the best president.

I caution against forming your opinion inside of this echo chamber. It is not truly possible to form an unbiased opinion about the candidates in this environment.

Different sources will have different takes on political subjects, and it is wise to seek out opinions from all angles so that

the individual biases can in some sense be averaged out.

If the biases don't average out, can you really trust what you believe?

Sanders supporters often argue that the establishment media is heavily biased in favor of Clinton, the establishment candidate. It certainly seems to be the case that Clinton gets a boost from the fact that these news sources have long treated her as the nominee-to-be.

So does the bias I see from my friends counteract the bias from The New York Times?

Not quite. I don't personally know anyone at the Times. It costs me no mental willpower to disregard their beliefs. But I do have lots of friends, and those friends overwhelmingly lean towards Sanders.

Even expressing a positive opinion about Clinton seems like it is committing treason, like I am not being true to my peers. Worse, it feels like I must be wrong. How could I believe something that so many of my friends obviously don't?

I have felt this way constantly during primary season, and it has made me extremely uncertain about my feelings for who to vote for.

Voting for Sanders could just be me subconsciously bending to peer pressure. Voting for Clinton could just be me subconsciously overcompensating for it.

The only thing I am sure of in this election is that I wish everyone I know would be a little bit more willing to talk about why they might be wrong.

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.

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The GPS is changing our brain's ability to navigate ... but is that bad?

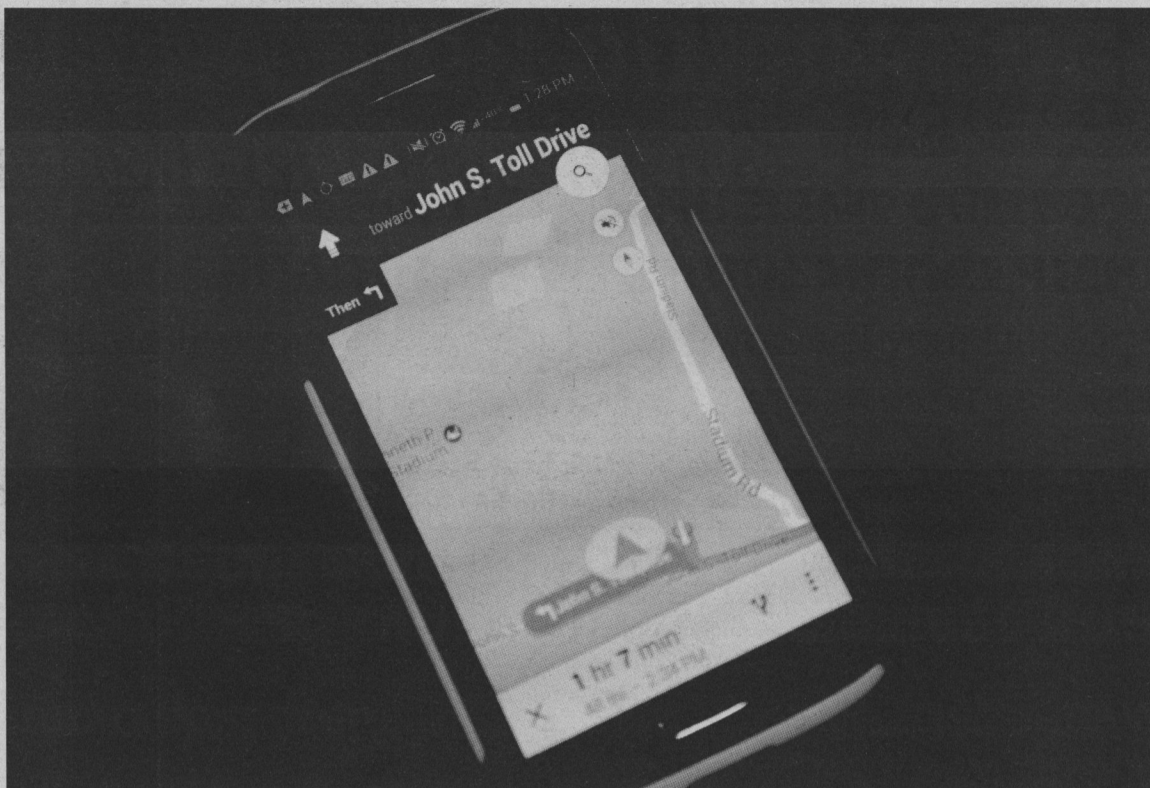
By Craig Evinger
Contributing Writer

Craig Evinger, Ph.D., is the recipient of the first Donald B. Lindsley Prize in Behavioral Neuroscience by the Society of Neuroscience. Evinger is a member of the Society for Neuroscience and is a faculty member in the Department of Neurobiology & Behavior.

An integral component of brain organization is that it changes with experience. So yes, our modern lifestyle alters our brains. The important question, however, is not whether technology changes the brain, but whether our technology-driven life damages our brain.

A recent article on Vox asks whether GPS is ruining our sense of direction. The author describes several studies reporting that reliance on the turn-by-turn information provided by a GPS when driving disrupts our ability to create a brain map of our environment.

Most of us have a brain map of campus from walking around without a GPS. You know that there are several ways to get from Staller Center to the Earth and Space Sciences building. Depending upon the weather or the obstacles on campus, you can pick different routes between buildings or change routes mid trip. You develop this flexible internal map by walking around campus making your own decisions, correct and incorrect, about which way to go. Over time, the brain internalizes the spatial relationships



CHRISTOPHER CAMERON / THE STATESMAN

A recent article on Vox looks into how the reliance on a GPS affects one's ability to navigate. But using a GPS may allow for more brain capacity to learn new skills.

between the different buildings on campus.

Your brain doesn't develop these spatial relationships when your phone tells you when and where to turn to get to your destination. In this situation, your brain remembers a pattern of left and right turns and landmarks. This memory can get you to the right place, but unlike the flexible brain spatial map, this memory doesn't enable you to change your path if you encounter a roadblock.

The hippocampus is the region of the brain that appears to be critical in constructing these spatial maps, and the size of the hippocampus changes with spatial map creation.

One example comes from studies of London cabbies who must memorize all of the 25,000 streets in London to earn a cab license. Researchers show that cabbies successfully learning to navigate London streets exhibit an increased growth of their hippocampus volume relative to in-

dividuals who fail the cabbie test. Non-drivers show even less hippocampal growth than individuals failing the driving test.

One interpretation of this result is that if we aren't expanding internal maps, the hippocampus doesn't grow and may even shrink. This interpretation implies that relying on GPS is bad for our brains. On the other hand, using a GPS to free your brain from the mundane task of getting somewhere on campus might en-

able us to engage in higher cognitive thinking. The hippocampus may not grow, but some other regions of the brain may expand.

Another example of 'modern' technology that changes our brain is the invention of the Gutenberg printing press in 1450. Our brains evolved to respond to and produce speech, but reading is a relatively new cultural development. Reading requires repurposing brain regions. Children starting to read sound out words phonetically. Children who show the most improvement in their first year of reading possess a larger volume of the left brain region involved in the perception and production of speech than children who show less improvement. After progressing to greater proficiency in silent reading, however, children exhibit a decrease in brain volume in the region associated with manipulation of speech sounds. Very few of us would argue that this shrinkage is bad.

The constant adjustment of connections between neurons to support learning and behavior means that brain regions continuously change their volume and alter their ability to support different functions. The key is always challenging your brain. Although the lack of growth in hippocampal volume correlated with relying on your GPS reduces your ability to develop spatial maps in the brain, hopefully you're building up new abilities with your freed up brain capacity.

Bare legs and short skirts do not actually make Jack a distracted boy



PHOTO CREDIT: KABOOMPICS / PIXABAY

A high school in New Zealand recently required that girls lengthen their skirts to not "distract" male students. These rules create dangerous assumptions about men and women.

By Christopher Leelum
Opinions Editor

How much skin is a woman allowed to show in the classroom? If you're a woman or a regular person, the answer is pretty much anything within the laws of public nudity. If you're a man, the answer, apparently, is "not too much because I'm trying to concentrate, please."

School dress codes are a fre-

quent battleground for gender rights, and it's the women who usually get the short end of the stick and the long end of the skirt.

Just this month, high school teens in New Zealand were told to lengthen their skirts so as to not "distract" their male counterparts. But beyond the distraction aspect, there are a number of claims we are making if we tell our women to watch what they

wear in class. There are assumptions we make and blames we place that, upon even momentary contemplation, any reasonable human would disagree with.

Just days before the New Zealand episode, a high school girl from Texas was sent home for her shirt not reaching fingertip length. The shirt made the distance on the front and back, but the sides of her shirt were up high enough to expose some

scandalous black yoga pants.

Her sister's Facebook post was spot on: "Bottom line, girls cannot go to school in comfortable clothes THAT COVER EVERYTHING because school systems are afraid that hormonal boys won't be able to control their eyes and minds. And that is such a bigger problem than worrying about clothing."

As a guy, I am most concerned with the assumptions the dress code zealots make about men.

I attended an all-male high school and the only skin I saw in that building for four years was the occasional passing penis after gym class. I had only one female teacher, and most of my days were hypermasculine sausage-fests where each student would have to renew his alpha male membership daily or risk being discriminated against.

OK, it wasn't that bad, but if I can make it through a class with a tasty thigh in my peripherals, so can any guy.

Think about what society admits when school officials don't want our young men to be distracted by a high-hemmed skirt. Are all men hormonal time bombs? Either no, or I'm not a man. What if I'm distracted by an ear? Ears have holes, so why not mandatory earmuffs?

On the other end of the distracted-distracter system, we make bold prescriptions on the status of women when strict dress codes are enforced.

In 2014, a group of New Jersey girls started #IAMMoreThanADistracted. As I'm sure you can tell, the campaign is fighting back against the claims made upon women by the orchestrators of strict dress codes.

In the distracted-distracter system, one party inevitably becomes reduced to a nuisance, an omnipresent seduction, and the other is set as the standard. Women, as the distraction, must submit their will to men, as we have seen time and time again.

If we look outside of this system, as we should, we can build a new one where men and women are both the standard rather than the anomaly. The one-sided classroom regime that so many women are subjected to perpetuates a close minded worldview from an early age. Therefore, it is not only crucial to show that these assumptions about men and women are dangerous, but it is also important to destroy these beliefs at the foundation so the myths cannot live on to the workplace.

Famous political pundit Bill O'Reilly, the man who previously insisted that there must be some downside to a woman being president, attended my high school. That kind of intelligence is the product of the system we have in place. We're going to get a lot more Bill O'Reillys if guys are told they can't handle a flash of skin and women are told they have to cover up.

Husband soars to SBU high jump record

By Alex Blanc
Contributing Writer

Stony Brook Track & Field competed in the Wolfie Invitational on Saturday, as both the men's and women's teams came in first in the meet.

"We asked everyone to come with a competitive attitude to this meet, and for the most part that is what we got," head coach Andy Ronan said.

Among the day's stellar performances was a school record-breaking 5-foot-8-inch high jump by junior Dana Husband, defeating a previous mark set by Sara Lechner 27 years ago. Husband now holds the program records for the high jump in both indoor and outdoor settings. Husband's record-breaking day had some company, as sophomore Kaylyn Gordon reached the ECAC meet-qualifying standard with her winning performance in the women's triple jump, leaping 39-feet, 10.5-inches.

Coming off a great weekend last week at the Ocean State Invitational, Gordon and the remainder of the women's 4x100-meter relay team continued to shine, recording a winning time of 47.36 seconds. The young team of the Gordon and a trio of freshmen have already had a lot of success within their short careers. They set a school record last week in the event.

Ronan's teams beat out the



PHOTO CREDIT: STONY BROOK ATHLETICS

Junior Dana Husband, above, cleared a height of 5 feet, 8 inches in the high jump Saturday, setting a school record.

likes of Marist, Farmingdale State, Quinnipiac, Sacred Heart, Fordham, St. John's and Iona. The Seawolves coach seemed to be the most active coach on the field, often running to multiple checkpoints in each of the events to motivate and coach his distance athletes.

The Seawolves were undefeated in the 1,500-meters events, as senior Kate Pouder won the women's 1,500 meters with a time of 4:34.97, and senior Gabriel Vazquez recorded a winning time of 4:00.12.

The results for women's 100-meter race was full of Seawolves. Freshman Chinque Thompson led a pack of five Seawolves toward the finish line, clocking in a 12.04 seconds. The pack included two of her 4x100m relay teammates, with freshman Nikki Fogarty in second

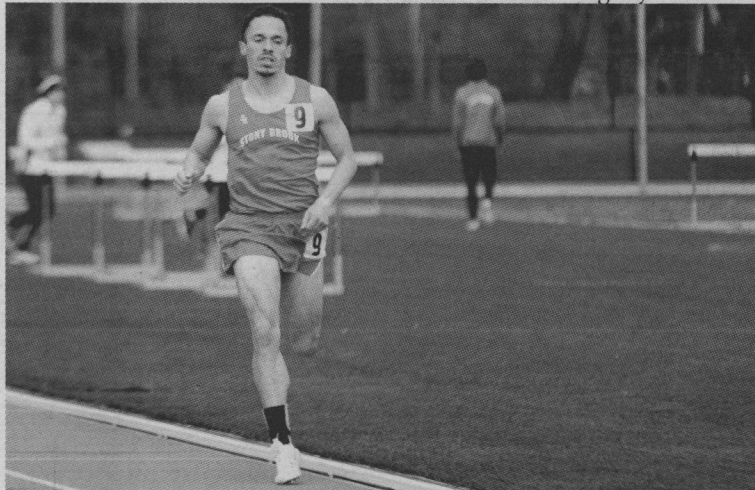
and Gordon placing fourth. Gordon also found herself behind two other Seawolves with a third-place finish in the long jump. Freshman McKyla Brooks took first in 18 feet, 10 inches.

The Seawolves distance runners performed very well this weekend, as the team took the men's 3,000 meters and the top two spots in both the women's and men's 5,000-meters.

Sophomore Michael Watts shifted his impressive indoor season to an outdoor setting with his winning time of 8:38.97 in the men's 3,000-meter event. Senior Mitchell Kun finished over 13 seconds ahead of his sophomore teammate Dan Galford in the men's 5,000-meter event. Kun won in 15:05.84 and Galford placed second with a 15:19.58 time.

The women's 5,000-meter event finished in a similar way, with senior Raven Dorsey placing first with a 18:01.99 time and senior Tara Peck placing second in 18:11.87. Sophomore Darien Sorouri had a winning performance in the men's steeplechase with a 9:52.36 time.

The event was well-represented by the home team this weekend. With both the men's and women's title going to the Seawolves, the team has gained some important momentum as the team heads to the famed Penn Relays in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania on Thursday.



KRYSTEN MASSA/THE STATESMAN

Senior Gabriel Vazquez, above, won the men's 3,000 meter run at Saturday's meet with a time of 4:00.12.

Baseball loses three at Bryant

By Gregory Zarb
Contributing Writer

The Stony Brook Baseball team dominated Bryant University's pitchers during the team's weekend series. Head coach Matt Senk's squad slugged out 15, 11 and eight hits respectively, but those hits were unable to drive in runs as Stony Brook fell to Bryant 14-5 on Friday, lost 8-4 on Saturday and lost 6-2 on Sunday at Conaty Park in Smithfield, Rhode Island.

On Sunday, Stony Brook could not get its offense going. The Seawolves' first hit of the day did not come until the fourth inning on a bunt from junior right fielder Casey Baker. At that point, the Bulldogs were already ahead by three runs, and they continued to score, notching three more runs over the next three innings. The Seawolves got on the board in the top half of the seventh on a double by sophomore left fielder Andruw Gazzo. Stony Brook was only able to drive home one more run in the ninth inning before losing 6-2.

Saturday's loss was a lower scoring matchup with a similar end result. Freshman designated hitter Dylan Resk hit his second collegiate home run, and second of the weekend, and drove in half of Stony Brook's runs in the 8-4 loss. He was one of five players to have extra base hits on the day. Those extra base hits were not able to translate into runs. After fresh-

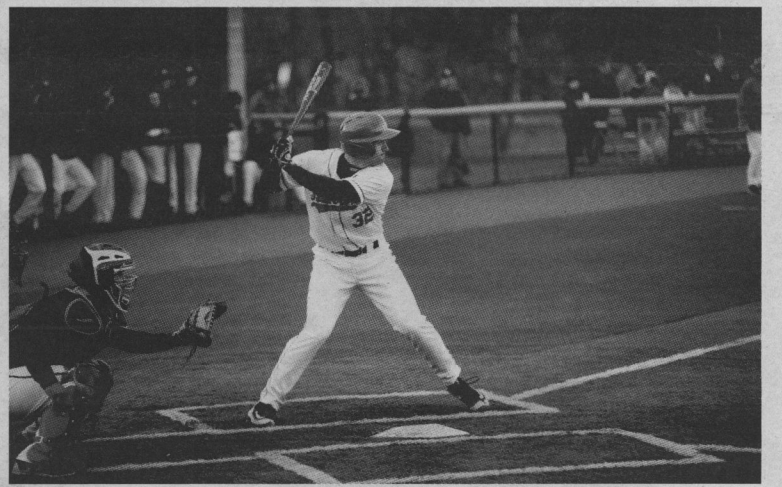
man pitcher Bret Clark pitched six innings and only gave up three unearned runs, and Stony Brook was tied 3-3 entering the seventh inning.

Sophomore pitcher Teddy Rodliff replaced Clark in the seventh inning, and the Bulldogs took advantage. Rodliff gave up four runs in the top half of the seventh to put Bryant up 7-3, and the Bulldogs never relented from there. Both teams went on to score one more run, with Stony Brook falling by a final score of 8-4.

Stony Brook started Friday afternoon with its bats flying and runs tallying up, getting four runs on five hits and were leading 4-3 through the first three innings. From the fourth inning on, it was all Bryant. The Bulldogs went on to score 13 more runs, including four runs in the fourth inning and six runs in the sixth to blow the game wide open. Stony Brook eventually lost, 14-5.

The score of the game overshadowed some positives for the Seawolves. Freshman designated hitter Dylan Resk hit his first collegiate home run to lead off the seventh inning and also drove home two runs for Stony Brook. Senior second baseman Jack Parenty collected three hits, which moved him to fourth place on the career hit list with 236 career hits. runs in three and a third innings.

Stony Brook will host Marist Tuesday at 3:30 p.m. at Joe Nathan Field.



KRYSTEN MASSA/THE STATESMAN

Freshman designated hitter Dylan Resk (No. 32, above) hit the first two home runs of his career this weekend.

Seawolves win pair as Murphy inches closer to Stony Brook, NCAA records

Continued from page 16

injuries, things could have unraveled. But the seniors held things together, helped us get healthy, evolve, get rolling a little bit."

After the contest when Hofstra had left the field, the team huddled at midfield, watching the stadium video board play a photo reel of the seniors, the winningest class in Stony Brook history.

The class was especially stout on defense, as Fleming and Meritz led a unit that has been atop the nation in scoring defense each of the last three seasons.

"They're lock-down, they're incredible," Spallina said. "They know the system, they have strong personalities. ... We have a real chance to make a significant run here at the end of the season, and I want it so badly for them."

Murphy, who now has 81 goals

this season, is quickly approaching some significant numbers: 90, the Stony Brook single-season goal record; 98, the NCAA record; and 100, a mark that has never been reached in Division-I lacrosse history.

With the Seawolves likely to make the NCAA Tournament, the team could have four or more games remaining this season, putting all of the goal totals in reach. But when the prolific goal scorer steps between the lines on game day, she is not thinking about the numbers.

"I have them on my mind, but definitely not on the field," Murphy said. "When I'm on the field, I'm just trying to make the best play possible to help my team win."

Murphy entered Wednesday night's game against Binghamton needing just three goals to become the first player in Stony Brook history to reach 200 career goals.

NCAA Division-I Women's Lacrosse Leaders

Goals Scored, 2016 Season

1. Courtney Murphy, Stony Brook	81 goals
2. Lauren Day, Campbell	64 goals
3. Megan Whittle, Maryland	56 goals
5. Michaela Michael, USC	56 goals
5. Allison Gionta, Marist	55 goals

Statistics based on games through April 24.

It took her less than nine minutes to reach the milestone.

Murphy netted the third of her eight goals with 21:13 remaining in the first half, giving No. 6 Stony Brook an early 4-0 lead on the road. The Seawolves would not surrender a goal the entire game, as they defeated the Bearcats, 16-0.

Freshman goalkeeper Anna Tesoriero stopped all six of Binghamton's shots on goal, including two free-position attempts, as the Bearcats were kept off the scoreboard. The Seawolves' shut-

out was the second in school history, with the first coming in a 2014 win over Monmouth.

Murphy started the scoring for Stony Brook, taking a page out of sophomore teammate Kylie Ohlmiller's playbook to put in a goal behind her back just 87 seconds into the contest.

From there, the junior could not be stopped, as she scored seven more times to extend her NCAA-leading goal total.

Murphy has 34 goals in America East play, breaking the league's previous record of 30, while still

having one more regular season conference game to play.

Van Dyke scored three goals and two assists for the Seawolves while Guido had a goal and four assists — three of which set up Murphy.

Tesoriero joined former Stony Brook goalkeeper and current assistant coach Frankie Caridi as the only players to ever complete a shutout for the Seawolves. But the freshman was not alone in the effort; the Stony Brook defense forced Binghamton to commit 17 turnovers in the game.

Attention now turns toward Albany, where the Seawolves will face the Great Danes on Saturday in the regular season finale. The winner of the game will host the America East Tournament on May 6 and May 8.

"I think they're going to try to slow things down," Spallina said. "If they try to run with us, I think you're going to see a score that doesn't benefit them."



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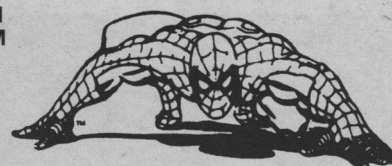


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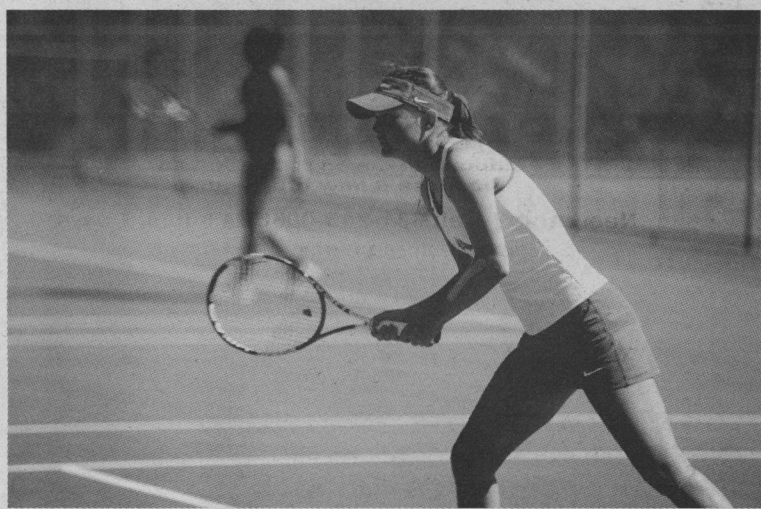
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SBU beats UMBC in semis before losing in finals



KRYSTEN MASSA/THE STATESMAN

Sophomore Elizabeth Tsvetkov won her singles match in the America East semifinals 6-4, 6-3 on Saturday.

omore Charlotte Tonjann, 7-6 (8) after winning a lengthy 10-8 tiebreak. The victory gave the doubles point to the Seawolves, propelling them to a 1-0 lead.

At singles, Stony Brook made quick work of UMBC.

Nikolaeva won the No. 1 match, 6-3, 6-3, over freshman Maria Siopacha.

The Seawolves added victories at the No. 2 and No. 3 singles matches as well, as Tsvetkov and Bhimjiyani won, 6-4, 6-3 and 6-2, 6-3, respectively.

The prolific play from Stony Brook's top players deemed the conclusion of the No. 4-6 matches unnecessary.

Stony Brook concludes its 2016 season 10-7 in dual matches. The Seawolves will return four of their six regular singles players next season.

The Stony Brook Men's Tennis team will be in action next weekend, when the Seawolves partake in the Missouri Valley Championships in Wichita, Kansas.

Stony Brook concluded its regular season with a 7-6 dual match record.

The doubles competition was very close between the Seawolves and the Retrievers. Bhimjiyani and Badoche closed out No. 2 doubles for Stony Brook, winning 6-3.

The No. 1 and No. 3 doubles matches each went to a tiebreak. After Nikolaeva and Tsvetkov fell, 7-6 (6) at the top-flight, Smergut and Shtilikind beat UMBC senior Madlena Kurasz and soph-

Continued from page 16

championship in school history.

Tsvetkov was denied a chance to finish her match as she trailed junior Alba Sala 6-4, 5-7, 6-5 in the third set.

The loss against Albany followed a Stony Brook semifinal victory over UMBC on Saturday, which the Seawolves swept, 4-0.

Stony Brook Sports Schedule

Tuesday

Baseball
vs. Marist, 3:30 p.m.

Wednesday

Baseball
at Fairfield, 3:30 p.m.

Thursday

Softball
vs. Seton Hall, 4 p.m.

Track & Field
Penn Relays (Philadelphia, Pa.),
Events begin at 10 a.m..
Meet continues through Saturday.

Friday

Men's Tennis
Missouri Valley Conference
Championships (Wichita, Ks.)
Event continues through Sunday.

Saturday

Baseball
vs. UMBC, 12 p.m.
vs. UMBC, 2:30 p.m.

Women's Lacrosse
at Albany, 12 p.m.

Men's Lacrosse
vs. Hartford, 1 p.m.

Sunday

Baseball
vs. UMBC, 12 p.m.

Softball
vs. Saint Peter's, 12 p.m.
vs. Saint Peter's, 2 p.m.



ARACELY JIMENEZ/THE STATESMAN

Senior catcher Allie Pisciotta, above, hit two home runs for the Seawolves this weekend, but her team was swept.

Softball swept at Binghamton

By David Vertsberger
Assistant Sports Editor

The Stony Brook Softball team was swept in a three-game series at Binghamton this past weekend, 12-3, 6-5 and 3-2. A week removed from pitching two consecutive no-hitters, senior pitcher Jane Sallen allowed 16 runs (13 earned) in 12 innings against the Bearcats, dropping to 14-12 on the season.

Leading the way for Binghamton, the No. 2 team in the America East with a conference record of 10-2, was senior designated hitter Griffin McIver, batting 4-for-9 with three runs batted in on the series. Sophomore second baseman Stephanie Bielec went 5-for-9 with one run batted in, while senior right fielder Sydney Harbaugh drove in three runs on the weekend.

For Stony Brook, senior left fielder Diane Caruso went 4-for-8 while senior catcher Allie Pisciotta recorded two home runs and three runs batted in. Junior shortstop Lexie Shue and senior first baseman Melissa Phelan added two runs batted in apiece.

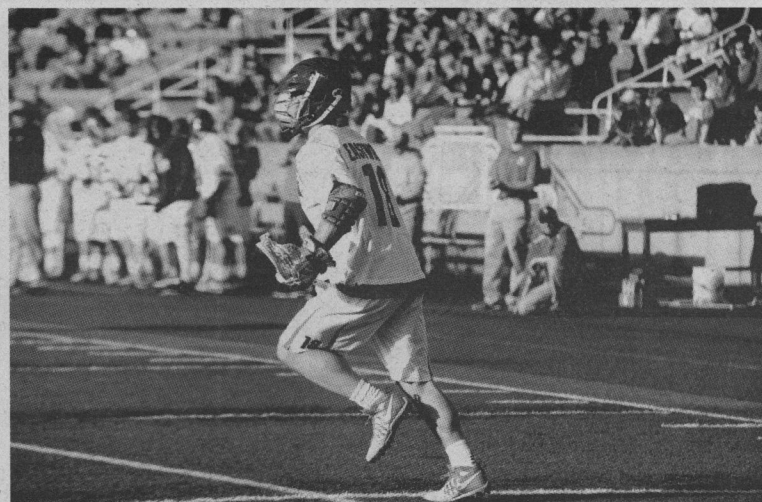
Sunday's contest had Stony Brook on the ropes heading down the stretch, with Binghamton up 3-0 entering the seventh inning. A Pisciotta solo home run cut the deficit to two, then freshman outfielder Katelyn Corr scored Caruso on a single,

but the Bearcats would not allow another run.

Game 2 — the second of Saturday's doubleheader — was a close affair, with the Seawolves falling 6-5. Binghamton led 2-0 entering the sixth inning, when a freshman designated hitter Irene Rivera double into center and Phelan single to left tied the game at 2-2. The Bearcats responded in the bottom of the inning with two runs of their own off a triple from and Harbaugh sacrifice fly. With the Seawolves trailing 4-2 entering the seventh, Pisciotta hit a two-run home run and Shue singled to score senior right fielder Kellie Reynolds to take a 5-4 advantage. However, an error by Shue in the bottom of the seventh led to runs by junior left fielder Gabby Bracchi and sophomore third baseman Kate Richard, giving Binghamton the win.

Game 1 was much more one-sided. The contest started off in Stony Brook's favor, with the Seawolves up 3-0 at the top of the third inning behind runs batted in from Evans, Shue and Phelan. But the Bearcats responded with nine runs in the bottom of the inning, then tacked on three in the fourth to cruise to the 12-3 win.

Next up for Stony Brook is a home game against Seton Hall on Thursday at 4 p.m.



BRIDGET DOWNES/THE STATESMAN

Senior attackman Brody Eastwood (No. 18, above) passed Jordan McBride as Stony Brook's all-time goals leader.

Eastwood breaks goals record as Stony Brook cruises at Binghamton

By Christian Peraino
Staff Writer

With both players starting since their freshman year, rooming with one another and hailing from British Columbia, the tandem of senior attackmen Brody Eastwood and midfielder Challen Rogers have grown side by side to produce two of the most storied careers in Stony Brook lacrosse history.

Rogers's facilitation, which pegs him as the team-leader in assists, seamlessly complements the finishing ability of Eastwood, who led Division I lacrosse in shot percentage for three straight years.

And with a 16-11 win Sunday afternoon over conference foe Binghamton, the pair each cemented their names in men's lacrosse record books.

Eastwood is now in sole possession of the program's career goal record, while Rogers became just the fifth Seawolf to tally 200 career points in the program's 37-year history.

After freshman long-stick midfielder Ryland Rees scored unassisted 15 seconds into the game, Eastwood responded to a 10-minute scoring drought with his 176th career goal off of a dish from senior midfielder Chris Hughes.

Eastwood, who entered the game tied with 2011 graduate Jordan McBride for 175 goals, capped off the afternoon with three goals and an assist.

The No. 8 Seawolves went on to score seven unanswered goals, establishing a commanding 7-0 lead with 11:46 left in the second quarter.

Each team then traded three goals, the last of which coming

off of the stick of Rogers, good for his 200th career point that sent his team into the locker room ahead 10-3.

Rogers would lead all players with six points, finding the back of the net three times and feeding dishes another three.

The Bearcats owned the third quarter, posting three points and preventing the Seawolves from scoring, cutting their deficit to four.

But senior attackman Matt Schultz answered with three fourth quarter goals, leading way to an eventual 16-11 finish.

Schultz notched a career-high five goals, coupled by one assist, and now leads his team with 34 scores on the season.

The Seawolves dominated groundballs, a primary focus in practice, scooping 29 to Binghamton's 17.

Senior goalkeeper Zach Oliveri stopped nine shots for the Seawolves in goal, as he played an important role in the team's dominant first half.

With this win, Stony Brook clinched an America East playoff berth. The Albany Great Danes have eliminated the Seawolves in the past three playoffs, preventing them from reaching the NCAA Tournament.

But with two-time Tewaaraton winner Lyle Thompson having graduated, Stony Brook has its best chance in years to eclipse their America East playoff hump.

Stony Brook hosts Hartford on Saturday, April 30 for its final regular season game.

The Seawolves will be tested on faceoffs against the Hawks, who lead the nation in controlling the draw.

The America East playoffs begin Thursday, May 2.



BRIDGET DOWNES/THE STATESMAN

Senior midfielder Challen Rogers (No. 23, right) led all players with six points, including the 200th of his career.

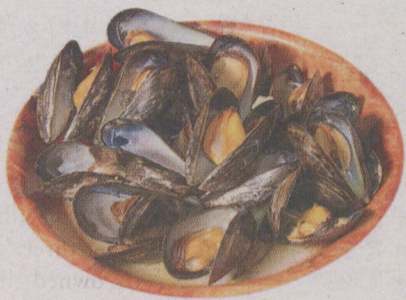


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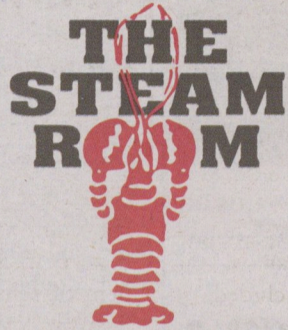
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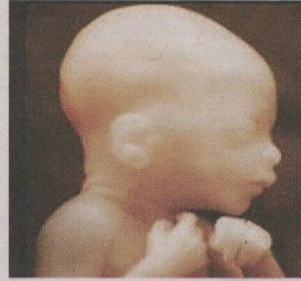


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SPORTS



CHRISTOPHER CAMERON/THE STATESMAN

Senior running back Donald Liotine (No. 33, above) on Nov. 23, 2015. He ran for 41 yards on six carries, including a 25-yard run in Stony Brook Football's annual spring game on Saturday.

Defense dominates in Spring Football Game

By Kunal Kohli
Staff Writer

The Stony Brook Football team held its annual spring game on Saturday afternoon at Kenneth P. LaValle Stadium. Team Black, the Seawolves' defense, defeated Team Red, the Seawolves' offense, 18-7.

Ranked as the number one defense in the entire Football Championship Subdivision last season, Stony Brook looked for its next big time player after All-American defensive end Victor Ochi's career ended last fall. In the first quarter, junior defensive back Tyrice Beverette looked like that player, tallying a sack and a pass deflection in the first quarter.

"We just have that attitude over here that the next person has to fill in and step up," Beverette said. "We're not going to hold ourselves back just because we lost a good player. We're just going to mold that person to the player or just somebody has to step up and be that player."

However, it was senior captain and defensive back Jaheem Woods who stepped up the most for the Seawolves' secondary. After failing to pick off a single pass last fall, Woods intercepted a fourth down pass attempt by senior quarterback Joe Carbone. The interception brought the defense's lead to 10-7 in the first quarter.

The defense scored a point on each stop after the 50 yard line, two for each stop before the 50 yard line and turnovers after the 50 yard line and four points for turnovers before the 50 yard line.

On the defensive line, redshirt sophomore Josh Valentin dominated. He had two sacks in the first half. His second sack forced a three-and-out and pushed the defense's lead to 14-7.

Junior defensive back Marvin Hart, who missed much of last season with injury, intercepted a deep pass along the sideline in the second quarter. Hart caught

the ball off a deflection by teammate redshirt freshman defensive back Synceir Malone.

On offense, head coach Chuck Priore looked to air out the ball. Carbone threw 28 passes and completed 16 of them. He threw a 30-yard touchdown pass to junior wide receiver Julius Wingate and was picked off twice.

"[Passing] is something there's an emphasis on working on," Priore said. "In spring ball you want to get a chance to evaluate that part of your game."

If it were not for Wingate, Carbone's 57 percent completion may have been much lower. Wingate caught 10 passes for 120 yards.

"I'm a small piece of the puzzle for the whole entire plan of the whole offense," Wingate said. "We're going to keep working as a team and we're going to make it happen this year."

Redshirt freshman wide receiver Andrew Trent caught two passes for 28 yards.

Carbone was not the only quarterback to see action. Redshirt sophomore Pat Irwin and redshirt freshman Hasan Faraj also saw some playing time under center.

Last year, Stony Brook was a rushing team. The Seawolves amassed 1,527 rushing yards total, thanks to the running back trio of redshirt senior Stacey Bedell, junior Isaiah White and

senior Donald Liotine.

White rushed for 54 yards on 10 carries, while Liotine added 41 yards on six carries, including a 25-yard run. Aside from the pair, no other running back made much noise for the Seawolves.

Bedell was the only one of the three featured backs who did not play. He is still healing from injuries sustained last season, Priore said. Bedell missed most of the 2015 season with a severe shoulder injury.

Senior wide receiver Ray Bolden, the Seawolves' leader in receptions, receiving yards and receiving touchdowns last season, did not play for Stony Brook either.

The Seawolves will look to improve upon the 2015 season, where they finished 5-5 after starting the season 2-0. After suffering a five-game losing streak, Stony Brook went undefeated in its last three games of the season.

"Spring ball, it's 14 hard practices and you get a chance wind up with a game," Priore said. "They're just excited about playing."

Stony Brook will begin its 2016 season on Sept. 1 in a home game against North Dakota.

The Seawolves and Fighting Hawks last faced each other in a 2014 nonconference game in Grand Forks, North Dakota. Stony Brook lost that matchup, 13-7.



CHRISTOPHER CAMERON/THE STATESMAN

Junior wide receiver Julius Wingate (No. 19, above) on Sept. 12. He caught 10 passes for 120 yards in the spring game.

Women's Tennis falls to Albany in America East Championships

By Skyler Gilbert
Assistant Sports Editor

For the first time since 2011, the Stony Brook Women's Tennis team did not hoist the title trophy at the America East Championships.

On Sunday, Albany unseated Stony Brook from its championship throne, as the Great Danes defeated the Seawolves, 4-2, to win the conference tournament and advance to the NCAA Championships beginning in Oklahoma in three weeks.

The match had a promising start for Stony Brook, which had won four consecutive conference championships entering the tournament. Sophomores Yana Nikolaeva and Elizabeth Tsvetkov won their doubles match, 6-2, then freshman Devanshi Bhimjiyani and senior Louise Badoche won 6-2 to clinch the doubles point, giving the Seawolves a 1-0 lead.

At singles, Albany won three quick matches, as sophomore Ana Glumac, freshman Jovana Kenic and sophomore Paulina Torres won the No. 5, No.

1 and No. 3 singles matches over Badoche, Nikolaeva and Bhimjiyani, respectively.

Stony Brook junior Nadia Smergut won a three-set match, 6-3, 1-6, 6-2, at No. 4 singles over Albany senior Dajana Ognjenovic to cut the Great Danes' lead to just 3-2.

Two matches remained, deep in the third set, at No. 2 and No. 6 singles, as Stony Brook needed to win both contests to prevail as champions.

Tsvetkov and senior Becky Shtilkind both won their second set to tie their respective matches at one set apiece, but Shtilkind caved first in the third set of the No. 6 match. The senior had multiple match point opportunities to tie the team score, 3-3, but she failed to capitalize.

It was in the final-set tiebreak that Albany freshman Isidora Pejovic clinched her match over Shtilkind to give her team the championship. Pejovic won the match, 6-2, 4-6, 7-6 (6), as the Great Danes won their first

Continued on page 14



BRIDGET DOWNES/THE STATESMAN

Senior defender Maegan Meritz (No. 12, above) was one of six seniors honored on Women's Lacrosse's Senior Night.

Women's Lacrosse earns wins against Hofstra, Binghamton

By Skyler Gilbert
Assistant Sports Editor

On Stony Brook's Senior Night, as she has done time after time this season, it was junior attacker Courtney Murphy that stole the show.

Murphy netted eight goals, leading her team to a 16-5 thrashing of Hofstra, the team's 11th victory in a row, on Friday night at Kenneth P. LaValle Stadium.

After leading its Long Island rivals 7-4 at halftime, a familiar theme unfolded. Stony Brook exploded with offense in the second half, tallying nine unanswered goals to put the game far out of reach.

The Seawolves controlled eight of 12 draws in the second half, sparking their run.

"It was all draw controls," Murphy said of the second-half surge. "Same story, new day. [Freshman midfielder] Kasey Mitchell, [junior midfielder] Dorr[ien Van Dyke], [junior midfielder Kris-

tin] Yevoli, they were all killing it in the circle. ... We were able to come out in the second half, put a punch to them and kill their will."

Van Dyke scored five goals, while junior attacker Alyssa Guido added two.

Sophomore attacker Kylie Ohlmiller wowed the crowd with her patented behind-the-back shot early in the second half.

But for many, the game will be remembered for the senior class.

The six seniors — attackers Taylor Ranftle and Shannon Coleman, midfielder Lauren Schwalje and defenders Maegan Meritz, Alyssa Fleming and Kelsey Hart — all partook in a pregame ceremony beside their families and were present in the starting lineup for the Seawolves.

"The way we've elevated our program is a direct reflection of them," Spallina said. "Early in the seasons, we had losses, we had

Continued on page 12