

THE STATESMAN

INFORMING STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY FOR MORE THAN 50 YEARS

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Timothy Ecklund replaced by former Dean of Students Jerrold Stein

By Michaela Kilgallen
News Editor

After two years in the position, Timothy Ecklund, Ph.D., will no longer serve as dean of students, according to an email sent to students on Jan. 20.

"I'd like to announce that Dr. Timothy Ecklund will be leaving Stony Brook to pursue other opportunities," the email from Vice President for Student Affairs Peter M. Baigent said.

Ecklund will be replaced by former Dean of Students Jerrold L. Stein until a long-term replacement can be found.

"We are conducting a national search for a Dean of Students to find a suitable candidate that would fit the needs of our diverse campus and serve our outstanding students," Baigent's email read.

Stein served as dean of students for 13 years before retiring in 2014. Since then, he has continued working with the Red Watch Band program and the Division of Student Affairs.

Ecklund was named Dean of Students during the fall of 2014. Before he came to Stony Brook, Ecklund worked as the associate vice president for housing and auxiliary enterprises at Buffalo State College, according to a news release announcing his appointment. He also worked in student affairs departments at the University at Buffalo, the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign and Illinois State University.



ARACELY JIMENEZ / THE STATESMAN

Wolfie greets students as they wander campus on Sunday, Jan. 22. New Student Welcome Convocation was held at the Staller Center with a Campus Community Info Fair taking place at the Charles B. Wang Center.



MEGAN MILLER / STATESMAN FILE

Timothy Ecklund, above, served as Stony Brook University's dean of students beginning in the fall of 2014.

Stanley applauds Gov. Cuomo's tuition plan

By Rebecca Liebson
Staff Writer

Earlier this month, Gov. Andrew Cuomo unveiled a new plan that could potentially help hundreds of thousands of middle class New Yorkers pay for college. Under the proposed plan SUNY and CUNY students whose families make less than \$125,000 per year will be eligible to receive free tuition.

"A college education is not a luxury – it is an absolute necessity for any chance at economic mobility," Cuomo said in a Jan. 3 speech

at La Guardia Community College. "With these first-in-the-nation Excelsior Scholarships, we're providing the opportunity for New Yorkers to succeed, no matter what ZIP code they come from and without the anchor of student debt weighing them down."

The state's existing Tuition Assistance Program, or TAP, provides over \$1 billion in aid annually to students whose families make \$100,000 or less, with grants ranging from \$500 to \$5,165. Rather than replace it, the Excelsior Scholarship will work in tandem

with TAP to pay off the remaining balance of a student's tuition.

The new initiative seeks to address one of the greatest concerns for young voters in the 2016 election: rapidly increasing student loan debt. Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders, who promised to make all public colleges tuition-free during his presidential candidacy, joined the governor onstage for the announcement.

"What Governor Cuomo is proposing is a revolutionary idea for

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FSA seeks proposals for new food service provider

By Mahreen Khan
Assistant News Editor

After an 18-month partnership with global food vendor Sodexo, the Faculty Student Association at Stony Brook University has decided to initiate a request for proposals, or RFP, bid, according to an email sent out to students on Jan. 9 from FSA Executive Director Nadeem Siddiqui.

This means that the five-year contract between Sodexo and the university, which was intended to

last through June 2020, is now at risk of being terminated. Proposals will be solicited from food service providers, including Sodexo, to find better options for student dining.

In the email, Siddiqui wrote that the current service provider Sodexo has "continued to fall short of expectations as demonstrated by quality assurance reports and customer satisfaction data."

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MANJU SHIVACHARAN / STATESMAN FILE

Sodexo, whose corporate headquarters in Maryland are shown above, has received criticism from students at SBU.



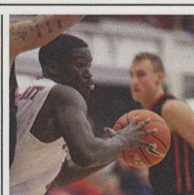
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NEWS

Sodexo promises to improve quality of food service for Spring 2017 semester

Continued from page 1

In the fall of 2016, student feedback was collected through surveys by the National Association of College and University Food Service (NACUFS), the "SBU Eats" texting line, a digital feedback form on the Campus Dining website, surveys conducted by Student Voice on Campus Dining and town hall meetings hosted by the Residence Hall Association and Student Voice. From these sources, it was determined that students were dissatisfied with menu variety and value.

Upon first collaborating with Sodexo, FSA posted on its Campus Dining Frequently Asked Questions webpage that "Sodexo rated highest overall based on its commitment to improving the services it will bring to the Stony Brook students."

Sodexo, an organization that serves a total of 80 countries and 75 million customers, cites a 68 percent employee engagement level as well as a 20.2 billion euro (roughly \$21.5 billion) consolidated revenue on its website.

At Stony Brook, students and staff across campus have voiced their disappointment with Sodexo's services. From heavily satirical opinion articles to disgruntled posts in the Stony Brook Dining Feedback

group on Facebook, students have taken to the internet to express their dissatisfaction with the dining options during the fall semester.

"We are interested in working with a partner(s) that can provide a varied selection of meal plans and food service offerings to serve the broad range of dietary needs and preferences of our diverse student body; deliver consistent high-quality food in a safe and comfortable dining facility, so that students can eat, study and socialize; and, offer meal plan options that adapt to students' busy schedules," Siddiqui wrote in his Jan. 9 email.

Siddiqui will be overseeing the bid process, while a bid selection committee of students, faculty, staff and administrators will be involved in the decision-making process. Once a final decision is made by the FSA Board of Directors following the RFP process, a new campus dining contract is set to be awarded in early May and the transition period is set to commence on June 1. Until then, the FSA claims that dining options will improve in spring 2017, with Sodexo remaining as the university's food service provider – a sentiment the vendor has promised to uphold.

"Sodexo has worked to build a strong partnership for more than 18 months with Stony Brook University," Sodexo's Regional Vice President Dan Auger said in an email. "We are



ARACELY JIMENEZ / THE STATESMAN

Campus Dining hosted a food tasting last semester to showcase new dining choices, shown above. Student criticism has led to FSA seeking a new food service provider.

committed to continuous improvement in quality and service, and will honor our commitment to serve the students, faculty, staff and community at Stony Brook throughout this RFP process."

A tentative bid timeline and feedback forum have been made public at <http://www.stonybrook.edu/commcms/fsa/campusdiningbid-process/index.php>.

News you might have missed over the winter break

On Dec. 22, over 1,600 students received their diplomas at the 19th Winter Commencement ceremony. Of the 1,605 students, 835 received bachelor's degrees, 620 received master's, 120 received doctoral and professional degrees and 55 received certificates.

Stony Brook University cell biologists David Matus, Ph.D., and Benjamin Martin, Ph.D., were awarded the 2017 Damon Runyon-Rachleff Innovation Award. The two discovered that cell division and invasion in cancer progression are mutually exclusive actions. The award is accompanied by a two-year grant for \$300,000 and a subsequent renewable grant of the same amount.

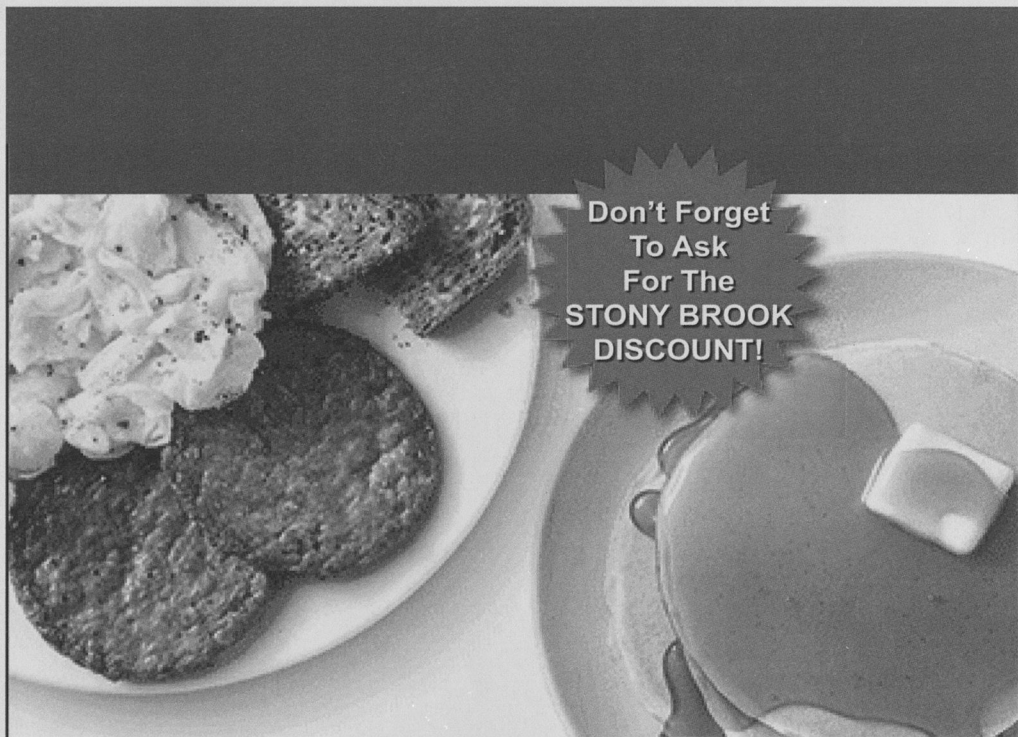
The university announced this year's 40 Under Forty honorees. The list of accomplished alumni includes Purple Heart recipient Jophiel Philips '05, Harlem Hospital's youngest CEO Eboné Carrington '02 and BuzzFeed News White House correspondent Adrian Carrasquillo '09. Of the 40, 10 Long Islanders made the list. A ceremony will take place in New York City on Jan. 31 to recognize the honorees.

Stony Brook Medicine named Peggy Maher the new assistant vice president for medical advancement and chief development officer. Prior to coming to Stony Brook, Maher held positions at Columbia University, the University of Arkansas and Weill Cornell Medicine.

Forbes named Stony Brook alumni Jonathan Gottfried '11 to the 2017 "30 Under 30" list in education. Gottfried is cofounder of Major League Hacking, a student hackathon league. MLH supports invention competitions aimed to encourage computer education. The organization has raised over \$1 million in funding.


A task force comprised of Stony Brook community members raised \$25 million in support of Stony Brook Medicine's new children's hospital, which is scheduled to open in 2018. Two separate donations from an anonymous donor and the Knapp Swezey Foundation helped aid the group's fundraising efforts. The new 71,500-square-foot building will feature a pediatric intensive care unit.

The College of Engineering and Applied Sciences graduated the first class in its department of civil engineering in May. In December, the university announced that 100 percent of students were offered engineering jobs or were pursuing further education. Some firms that hired graduates include: AECOM, Turner Construction, Arcadis, General Dynamics and the Metropolitan Transit Authority.



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Tuition-free SUNY proposal still requires approval from NYS legislature

Continued from page 1

higher education,” Sanders said at the event. “It’s an idea that’s going to reverberate not only throughout the State of New York, but throughout this country.”

Before any action can be taken, the program must be approved by the state legislature and included in the budget for the upcoming fiscal year. So far, the proposal has been met with mixed reviews from lawmakers. Among those who have expressed reservations about the plan, including Chairwoman of the Higher Education Committee Deborah J. Glick, the primary criticism seems to be that it may end up exceeding the projected annual cost of \$163 million.

This sentiment was echoed by sophomore computer science major Tom Vetere, who called the plan infeasible.

“New York is already losing business and people at an alarming rate due to extremely high tax rates that only keep increasing,” Vetere said.

On the other hand, some students, like freshman health science major Thanh Kha, were more focused on the potential benefits of Cuomo’s plan.

“I think it will positively impact a lot of students here,” Kha said. “It will open up a lot of opportunities for lower and middle class families.”

Stony Brook University President Samuel L. Stanley expressed optimism but stressed the importance of distributing financial aid



KRYSTEN MASSA/THE STATESMAN

New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo during a news conference at Stony Brook University on Feb. 18. The governor claims that nearly 1 million families will qualify for free SUNY tuition under the proposed Excelsior Scholarship.

in a way that would benefit schools as well as individual students.

“We applaud Governor Cuomo’s proposal to make public higher education more affordable for families in need, his focus on the academic excellence of New York’s public higher education sector, and

his emphasis on the importance of completion,” Stanley said in a statement from the president’s office. “It is also important to maintain the quality of our public institutions as we increase access, so we are hopeful that any aid strategy be coupled with the predictable

tuition methodology proposed by SUNY and/or a base increase for the campuses.”

If it is approved, the Excelsior Scholarship Program will launch in the fall of 2017. Initially, only students with an annual household income of less than \$100,000 will

qualify, but by 2019 eligibility will be extended to include anyone within the \$125,000 bracket. The governor’s office estimates nearly one million families will be eligible, but the actual number of students receiving free tuition by 2019 will be closer to 200,000.

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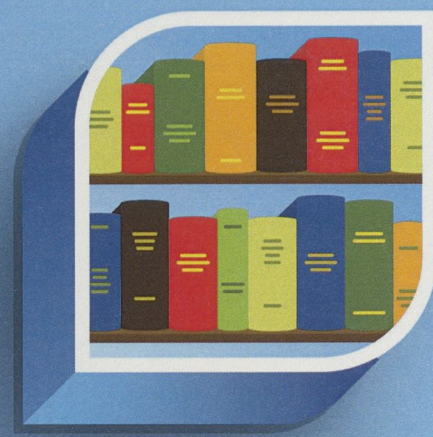
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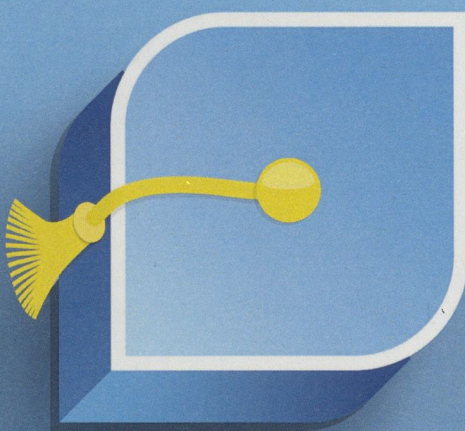
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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Staller screens untold story of '76 Olympics women's swim team

By David Pepa
Staff Writer

As Stony Brook students dive into the spring semester, they can come and enjoy a screening of "The Last Gold" at the Staller Center.

The documentary centers around the U.S. women's relay swim team that competed in the 1976 Summer Olympics in Montreal and its journey to race against the East German team for the gold medal.

The U.S. team was led by captain Marcia Morey and was comprised of swimmers Shirley Babashoff, Wendy Boglioli, Jill Sterkel and Kim Peyton.

"It's about teamwork and the riveting story of the '76 Olympics," Julie Greene, director of marketing and public relations for the Staller Center, said.

Brian T. Brown, a 15-time Emmy-winning director, said he created this documentary in order to record a special event in history and wanted to show it to everyone in the local community.

At the 1976 Summer Olympics, the U.S. women's swim team faced a tough challenge. While the men's team won nearly every race, the women had little to show for their hard work.



Jill Sterkel, Wendy Boglioli, Kim Peyton and Shirley Babashoff of the gold medal-winning women's 4 x 100 meter freestyle relay team at the Montreal 1976 Olympic games.

Then the women's 4 x 100 meter freestyle relay race put four contestants together and led the U.S. to victory against the East Germans, who were later revealed to have used performance enhancing drugs during the competition.

"What the USA swimming team wanted was a price of cheating," Brown said.

Babashoff was described as the fastest swimmer of her time, having set several American records and one world record in the 800 meter freestyle

final. Fellow teammate Sterkel was just 15 years old and in her first Olympic games when she won the gold. She would go on to set multiple world records and be inducted into the International Swimming Hall of Fame.

Boglioli won her gold medal at 21 years old. Peyton set a new world record during the final race with a time of 3:44.82. Unfortunately, she passed away ten years later due to an inoperable brain tumor.

Brown has made other documentaries in the past, but this film stands out because he focuses on each of the team members individually and showcases their personal strengths.

The Staller Center has established a tradition of presenting a film series each fall and spring semester.

Alan Inkles, the director of the Staller Center, is in charge of choosing films from a wide range of movies such as recent theatrical releases, documentaries, foreign films and films with limited runs in theaters.

"The Last Gold is an excellent documentary and is a good addition to the mix of films," Greene said.

The Staller Center rarely holds Q&As for movies on campus, but after this film screening, the director will host a session for any curious moviegoers.

For those interested in watching Olympic history being made, "The Last Gold" will screen on Friday, Jan. 27 at 7 p.m.

EP Review: local band MJT's 'The World is a Broken Toy'

By Justin Lerner
Contributing Writer

After the release of its 2016 EP "Nightmares and Daydreams" featuring catchy grooves such as the track "Daydreamer" and the soulful and spacey "Tales," Long Island's own MJT is set to make its return on Feb. 25 with its EP, "The World is a Broken Toy."

MJT is a Long Island trio band made up of Godfrey brothers Matt, David and JoJo. The band uniquely combines elements of hard rock with soul, providing an alternative vibe to their music.

The booming intro song "Revolution" kicks off "The World is a Broken Toy" in a grand fashion, with elements of pounding rock laid over the tasteful organ effects of keyboardist Matt. The mix is also paired with guitars and a groovy verse.

"Revolution" makes the listener want to get up and dance one minute then sit in their chair nodding their head to the beat the next.

"Revolution" starts off the EP with power and versatility, to lead into the following song, "Something Like Us."

A more straightforward rock-and-roll tune, "Something Like Us" provides a mid-tempo vibe to the EP with bursts of pounding rhythms. Just when you think it's finished, the song picks up again and ends with a surprising reprise.

The middle track, "Broken

Toys," starts with an eerie tone, like a jack-in-the-box about to pop out in a room full of broken toys. This speaks to MJT's excellent use of musical structure to set the tone for the title and vibe of the track.

JoJo's drums hit you over the head with force, resolving into a spacey verse with David's soulful singing that allows for a moment of relaxation. A bluesy guitar solo takes out the song and leads into the first of the EP's two smoother songs.

"Tonight" begins as a ballad with a sense of heartbreak in the vocals. The theme, the desire for love, is conveyed through the lyrics, along with David's passion-filled voice, which carries the theme beautifully.

JoJo's work on the drums provides vigor behind the song while David's vocal melody adds fluidity to this relaxing, head-nodder track.

"The World is a Broken Toy" ends on a calming note with the ballad "Those Were The Days." David's vocals complement his clean guitar and delay effects. With clean waves of soft melody and passionate singing, this track allows for a pleasant conclusion to the EP.

The uniqueness and soul-driven alternative rock style of MJT make the Long Island group worth the listen. If you are looking for something catchy yet different, be on the lookout for the release of "The World is a Broken Toy" on Feb. 25.



From left to right, David, JoJo and Matt Godfrey make up the Long Island band MJT.

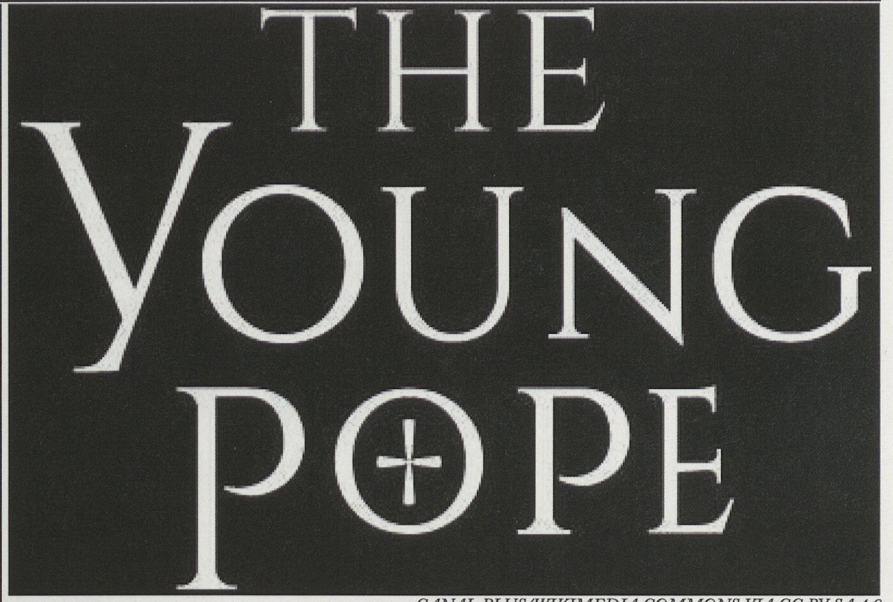


MJT's latest EP "The World is a Broken Toy" is set to be publicly released on Feb. 25.



CHRISTOPHER WILLIAM ADACH-FLICKR VIA CC BY-SA 2.0

Jude Law stars in HBO's new series "The Young Pope." Law plays Lenny Belardo, a former archbishop who becomes the first American pope in history.



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"The Young Pope" is directed by Paolo Sorrentino and features Diane Keaton as Sister Mary. It airs Sunday and Monday night at 9 p.m.

"The Young Pope" offers a provocative look into the Vatican

By Ryan Williams
Contributing Writer

Hot off the heels of the sci-fi hit "Westworld," HBO premiered its latest big-budget series, "The Young Pope," on Jan. 15.

While the series' eccentric atmosphere may stop it from becoming the network's next crowd-pleaser, "The Young Pope" has enough intrigue to become the newest and potentially weirdest entry into the world of prestige television.

The new series from Oscar-winning filmmaker Paolo Sorrentino stars Jude Law as Lenny Belardo, a 47-year-old former archbishop from New York who is elected pope. Taking the name Pius XIII, Belardo navigates Vatican City politics while trying to establish his own unique and modern touch on the papacy, much to the dismay of Catholic traditionalists.

The series also features Diane Keaton as Sister Mary, a nun who raised Belardo and enters his inner circle.

Both lead actors give strong performances, though they are far from subtle. Law especially errs on the overdramatic side, though his penchant for the theatrical suits his larger-than-life character. Even during some of the show's cornier moments, Law's performance as the roguish pope never ceases to be entertaining.

Like its performances, "The Young Pope" tends to be exaggerated and flamboyant, in both its dramatic and comedic aspects. While certain scenes are elevated because of its garishness,

the transition between comedic and dramatic moments is jarring. The opening scene in particular shows an awkwardness as it rapidly shifts from tense drama into farcical satire. And while much of the music is quite beautiful, there are moments where it becomes overbearing and overshadows the characters. Still, much of the show's grandiosity is fitting, considering the extravagance of Vatican City and its many picturesque locations. This is the one area where Sorrentino truly shines. From the costumes

to the cathedrals, "The Young Pope" is nothing short of stunning. At the very least, the series is premium eye candy.

In addition to its striking visuals, the series boasts a tense atmosphere of political scheming that fans of "House of Cards" or "The Borgias" will eat up. The show veers into the abstract and artistic with its surreal dream sequences and flashbacks. Only time will tell if "The Young Pope" can pull off this odd genre coupling.

ARTSY EVENTS

Jan. 24 Abstract Expressionism: Works on Paper

The Clyfford Still Museum Research Center and the Pollock-Krasner House and Study Center are hosting a free, full-day symposium at Stony Brook Manhattan on Jan. 24 to discuss Clyfford Still's graphic art and its context to his artistic colleagues. The event will feature nine preeminent scholars, networking opportunities, a round table discussion and a closing reception. The symposium begins at 9:30 a.m. and ends at 5 p.m. Advanced registration is required.

Jan. 24 Cookies, Cocoa and Cappuccino

Come to the SAC Ballroom A and learn about campus resources and departments while enjoying delicious goodies. The Department of Student Activities is hosting the event on Jan. 24 at 5 p.m. and encourages all students to attend.

Jan. 27 Staller Film: The Apprentice

The Staller Center is screening "The Apprentice" on Jan. 27 at 9:15 p.m. The movie centers around a young correctional officer who is transferred to a maximum security prison where he gains the notice of the prison's long-time executioner. It will be screened in Malay with subtitles.

Jan. 27 Mind Games: Interactive Stage Hypnosis Show

Paul Ramsay will be playing mind games with select Stony Brook students during his interactive hypnotic performance at 8 p.m. on Jan. 27 in the Student Activities Center Auditorium. Students in the audience will have the chance to influence what happens on stage. The event is organized by the Weekend Life Council.

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

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

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

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First issue free; additional issues cost 50 cents.



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About 44.3 percent of American New Year's resolutions, like completing a reading list, relate to self-improvement or education, according to the Statistic Brain Research Institute.

New year, new semester, same problems with procrastination

By Emily Benson
Opinions Editor

The end of winter break is always a time of strange crossroads. The end of a month-long vacation from school, as well as the end of the first month of the year, comes alongside a new semester of opportunity and possibilities. I thought about this as I went through my list of New Year's resolutions I kept in my notes on my phone: I hoped to write more, read more and finally learn how to play the piano. (My real goal is to take at least one lesson and hope that I can manage Hot Cross Buns, but that sounds almost too lame to admit.)

As I looked upon my hopes for my future self, I couldn't help noticing some repetition in my list. Haven't I always been telling myself I need to write more? And why is it that, despite making a reading list every summer, I seldom seem to finish more than two books? This isn't the first, second or even third time I've set out to accomplish these seemingly easy goals and have failed to do so. Yet every year when the calendar starts fresh, I feel compelled to try again, thinking that this time things might be different.

While it sounds discouraging

to keep attempting something that may never come true, setting goals – even unrealistic or overly optimistic ones – is better than starting off a new year or new semester with no expectations for yourself.

Setting goals for yourself, even those you understand may not be met, can increase motivation and lead to higher achievement rates, according to a study released by Harvard University.

People who explicitly make resolutions are 10 times more likely to attain their goals than people who don't explicitly make resolutions, according to a study by the Statistic Brain Research Institute. It sounds like common sense, does it not? By telling yourself "hey, you should really learn more about astronomy," there's a better chance that you may actually set aside time to learn about astronomy.

But the problem is never in setting the goal. The issue with accomplishing goals comes with having to change your lifestyle to complete a task with an arbitrary deadline and no repercussions for not meeting those goals.

Tim Urban, a blogger and writer, gave a TED talk about the mind and thought process of a procrastinator. Hilariously, he

used stick-figure monkey doodles as a demonstration for how a procrastinator's mind works, and how procrastinators often don't worry about things until that looming deadline that seemed ages away is tomorrow. Then it's panic time. It's something that every college student has gone through. You had all semester to start this project. Why start it now when you could spend eight hours watching DIY face mask tutorials on YouTube? Only when all those seemingly countless weeks ahead of you have dwindled down to a few days do you start actually working on that assignment. It's the deadline that encourages you to move forward.

So what about the tasks that don't have deadlines? Those resolutions that we say we will work on in the coming year but can always be pushed back and back and back if we want to? After a while, it gets discouraging to not meet these goals we continue to set for ourselves. Our intentions are good, and all we're trying to do is improve ourselves, but finances, mental and physical health, work, school, family or any other of a countless num-

Continued on page 9

Our dependency on deadlines is hindering us

Continued from page 8

ber of factors end up hindering us from accomplishing what we want.

Regardless of this, we should continue to set goals and strive to find new ways of motivating ourselves. Maybe you want to allocate more time for friends, start working out at the gym more or learn how to cook. Think of what your goals are for the semester and how you can work harder to make them happen. Try telling a friend about your ambitions so they can help keep you on track and remind you of your goals. Set reminders on your phone or Google Calendar to work a little bit each week on your goal. Offer rewards to yourself for any improvements you make toward your goal.

I told a friend of mine I wanted to work on writing a blog for this year just as a way to improve my writing. He began badgering me every day to start one, and even after I finally sat down and made one, he continued to message me about when my next post would be or why I hadn't posted anything new in a while. He was my constant deadline, and without him, I don't think I ever would have worked on my blog as hard as I did. (Shout-out to Saffi for being such a dope friend).

Even if I don't read every book on my list, I want to at least say that I tried. Maybe not every goal you make will be met, but some will. Pushing yourself and aiming to improve your work ethic is what will make the difference between "I'll do it next year" and "I can't believe I got this done."

Politicians use devotion to derail criticism

By Nick Zararis
Staff Writer

What could possibly possess a person to go topless in subfreezing temperatures simply to get maybe two seconds on national television? Fandom. That person usually has a Green Bay Packers logo crudely scrawled across his gut and is a shade of purple often reserved only for crayons.

The power of being a vehement supporter of anything is a unique phenomenon and is something that a person unfamiliar with the sensation could feel threatened by. It's why a lot of the Iraq War patriotic chest-banging still resonates today, nearly 14 years later. It's why if you questioned the intentions of the Patriot Act, you supported terrorism. It is also where the genesis of Donald Trump's political career lies, in the "no one does anything better than me" philosophy. From his standpoint, you're either his fan, or the enemy. There is no room for criticism. This ugliness is not anything new, but it was formerly reserved for hooligans chanting crass things at each other at soccer matches.

The political forum was once a realm for ladies and gentlemen, but it has disintegrated to the point of questioning the president's place of origin and devotion to his country. The way to churn up support from constituents isn't to propose a vision for leadership but to simply minimize the opposition's beliefs. This is something that organized religion, politicians and sports fans are all using.

Rudy Giuliani, formerly "America's mayor" and now a babbling madman, really said, "I do not believe that the president loves America," and that "he doesn't love you. And he doesn't love me.



PUBLIC DOMAIN

The American flag is often used as a symbol of patriotism. Politicians are using the devotion implied in patriotism to discredit all critics rather than addressing the criticism they receive.

He wasn't brought up the way you were brought up and I was brought up through love of this country," about President Obama. He said this to a conservative audience at a Scott Walker campaign event.

This is where the right has truly embarrassed itself, cloaking everything in patriotism to the point that if it is questioned in the slightest bit, you're immediately a traitor that should fester in Guantanamo. When France was opposed to the invasion of Iraq in 2003 to remove Saddam Hussein from power, it incited those who supported the war. Republican congressmen responded by acting like petulant children having the House of Representatives' cafeterias remove references to "french toast" and "french fries" in favor of "Freedom Fries"

and "Freedom Toast." With the French not interested in a likely quagmire, American opponents sought to shame their lack of devotion to freedom which is preposterous.

All too often this is the avenue of approach to validate one's own views instead of actually disproving the opposition. It is common practice within sports fanbases to cannibalize themselves by questioning others' devotion to the team. The most common insult is "you're not a real fan," that you haven't been through the ringier when the team was bad, so you don't get the right to enjoy the team's success. By being a facetious fan you're undermining what it actually means to be a fan.

And of course most recently Meryl Streep's lecture

from her soapbox about the evils of MMA and football plays on this blind devotion. She shared her opinion that the arts were far superior and more important than sports, followed by asking how the country could possibly support someone who wants to get rid of the people who make artistic productions? This is the wrong avenue of approach – by attacking a perfectly legitimate form of entertainment, Streep came off as holier than thou.

Questioning someone else's devotion and trying to insult or bully your way into being right is the easy way out. It's unbecoming to argue in such a fashion because it doesn't provide credence to the point you were trying to make. It just undermines the debate and turns adults into children.

Student thoughts and reactions to weekend protests

This weekend, more than one million people took to the streets across the United States to protest the inauguration of Donald Trump, according to an article by CNN. The Women's March on Washington was held alongside countless other "sister marches" in cities across the country, including New York City. We spoke with a number of Stony Brook students and students from various other colleges who attended the marches to ask what they thought of the experience. Quotes have been edited for grammar and length.

I thought the march was awesome, just seeing all these people come together for a common cause. It didn't matter what your gender, age, sexual orientation, religion or ethnicity was. It was a place where everyone belonged and could share their ideas and fears with one another.

- Alicia Bermudez, senior, journalism.



MOBILUS IN MOBILI/FLICKR VIA CC BY-SA 2.0

Americans from all walks of life, including students, protested the inauguration of President Donald J. Trump at the Women's March on Washington and "sister marches" on Jan 21.

Honestly, I wasn't sure what to expect, and I was really nervous, but everyone was so supportive and respectful. I loved looking around, seeing families and so many kids. It gave me hope

for the future. Not once did I feel unsafe; there was just way too much love.

- Emily Hard, junior, Suffolk County Community College.

We got into D.C. and the metro was packed. You had to wait to get down the escalator just to get onto the train platform. It was just in total gridlock,

so many people there, and it was beautiful.

- Sarah Eller, senior, political science.

Going into this protest, I had no intentions of stopping Trump's presidency and neither did the people around me. Protesting, for me and all the people I met, was protesting against the hate and ignorance that Trump has spread. Trump isn't our country. The people at these protests are, and it's truly inspirational and eye-opening to see so many people feel so enraged about a president

- Will Burger, senior, Guilderland High School.

I think it showed how incredible a movement can be and what it means to be a part of history.

- Shaminy Anne, senior, Emory University.

To see more student quotes, go to www.sbstatesman.com

After the Buzzer: Woodhouse's ball security sparks winning ways

By Skyler Gilbert
Sports Editor

The Stony Brook men's basketball team finally dropped an America East game on Sunday — a last-minute loss at Binghamton — but the team's 5-1 start to the conference season still has to be seen as a major success, especially given the Seawolves' expectations. Before the season began, Stony Brook was picked to finish seventh in the nine-team league.

As of Sunday night, Stony Brook sits in second place, trailing only Vermont, six days ahead of the teams' America East rematch at Island Federal Credit Union Arena on Saturday night.

So how has first-year head coach Jeff Boals so thoroughly exceeded the lowly predictions of his talent-stricken roster? Turnover differential. Let's demonstrate through some math, shall we?

According to Kenpom.com's Pomeroy College Basketball Rankings an online database for advanced statistics in Division-I men's basketball, Stony Brook ranks No. 6 of 351 teams in the nation in turnover percentage, losing the ball on 14.5 percent of possessions. The median team in the category, Appalachian State, has a turnover percentage of 18.9, meaning that Stony Brook creates a shot attempt on 4.4 percent more possessions than average.

Data from the same source indicates that the Seawolves have 66.1 possessions per basketball game, meaning that the team creates 2.91 extra shots (4.4 percent of possessions) per game based on its ball security.

Stony Brook averages 1.235 points per non-turnover possession, meaning that its tendency to not turn the ball over gives the team about an extra 3.6 points per game (the product of 2.91 and 1.235).

On the defensive end, the Seawolves force turnovers on 19.9 percent of possessions, 1.0 percent better than average. Doing the same math with corresponding inputs, one can figure that Stony Brook's defensive turnovers win them an extra 0.8 points per game.

Adding the figures, Stony Brook creates a swing of 4.4 points in the scoring margin on the virtue of turnovers alone. This season, the Seawolves have won four games by less than that margin, so if one were to assume average performance in offensive ball security and defensive ball hawking, it would figure Stony Brook to have a 6-13 overall record and 3-3 America East record, instead of the 10-9 and 5-1 records the team presently has.

Much credit to this phenomenon can be attributed to Stony Brook senior point guard Lucas Woodhouse, who has 101 assists

and 34 turnovers this season, a 2.97 assist-to-turnover ratio, one of the best in the nation among qualified players in a crucial statistic for point guards.

Of the 26 players in the country with an assist rate of at least 36 percent, Woodhouse commits turnovers at the very lowest rate.

Carson Puriefoy, the former Stony Brook first-team all-America East point guard, had a 1.32 ratio in the same category. Perhaps it's unfair to compare Woodhouse to Puriefoy, who always was more of a score-first guard.

But if we look at another pass-oriented point guard, Trae Bell-Haynes, the junior point guard of the America East-leading Vermont Catamounts, has an assist-to-turnover of 2.08 this season, still well behind Woodhouse's mark.

With the depletion of talent from Stony Brook last season, it was essential that the Seawolves improved their fundamentals to make up for the lack of scoring ability.

Woodhouse has been the catalyst of the team's fundamentally sound play, emerging as one of the best pass-first guards in the entire country this season. The guard has missed just four free throws on the season, shooting at a 94.7 percent clip that ranks No. 3 in the country.

On the floor, Woodhouse has shown the leadership and poise that any head coach would want out of his floor general. His calmness is evident, during even the most manic of situations, best seen in Stony Brook's 19-point comeback over Albany.

For Stony Brook to compete for another America East championship, Woodhouse must continue his dominant — and responsible — play.



ERIC SCHMID/THE STATESMAN

Junior runner Christine Eisenberg pictured in August.

Women's Track posts four victories at Penn 8-Team Select meet

By Kunal Kohli
Assistant Sports Editor

The Stony Brook Women's Track and Field team had four first place finishes as both the men's and women's track teams competed in the Penn 8-Team Select in the Ocean Breeze Athletic Complex on Staten Island on Saturday.

Senior Christine Eisenberg posted a time of 9:56.01 in the women's 3,000 meter race, good for a first place finish. The time beats her previous best of 10:37.93 that she ran at a 2016 meet at Yale. Junior Kaylyn Gordon won two events, placing first in both the women's long jump and the women's triple jump. She leapt 5.79 meters to win the long jump and 12.08 meters for the triple jump victory.

Junior Jane Clark and the sophomore trio of Annika Sisson, Melissa Riback and Alexandria Ortega captured the fourth win for the Seawolves, finishing with a time of 9:18.21 in the women's 4 x 800 meter relay. Sisson also finished second in the women's 800 meter race. She completed the race with a time of 2:12.37.

In the women's one mile race, senior Christina Melian took second place with a time of 4:53.95. Classmate Dana Husband came in second in the women's high jump at 1.65 meters.

While the men's track team did not have any first or second place victories, it did have a pair of third place finishes. Sophomore Kevon White had a time of 22.71 seconds in the men's 200 meter race, good for third place. Freshman Khadim Ndoye also had a third place finish, marking 13.61 meters in the men's triple jump.

White, along with fellow sophomores Shane Harris and Wayne Williams and freshman Raymond Gorzela, finished fourth in the men's 4 x 400 meter relay. They had a time of 3:21.03. Williams came in fifth in the men's 400 meter race, crossing the finish line with a time of 49.77 seconds. Junior Danny Connelly won fifth place in the men's 3,000 meter race with a time of 8:31.88.

Both the track teams will head to Boston to race in the John Thomas Terrier Classic next weekend, on Jan. 27 and 28.

Seawolves lose two, play UMBC Wed.

Continued from page 11

allowed early in the first quarter, the Seawolves had to claw their way back to contention. Senior forward Elizabeth Manner found a cutting Wingate to close Hartford's lead to seven. Scognamiglio swiped the ball and passed it to senior guard Kori Bayne-Walker, who laid the ball up and put the game within five.

Sophomore center Ayshia Baker scored in the paint after missing a layup earlier and senior forward Anamaria Skaro hit a free throw to make it a two-point deficit. While a Hartford free throw extended the Hawks' lead to three, it looked like the momentum was on the Seawolves' side going into the second quarter.

But after sitting out most of the first quarter due to picking up two quick fouls, the Hawks' leading scorer, guard Deanna Mayza, took control of the game as soon as the second quarter started. She powered through a foul to score a layup and knocked down the ensuing free throw.

On the next possession, Skaro answered with a three from the corner to make it a three-point game once again. The two teams battled until junior guard Aaliyah Worley hit a shot from downtown to give the Seawolves a one-point game, their first lead since the first few minutes of the game. Stony Brook closed out the first half with pace, scoring four fast break points in the last minute and a half of the second quarter.

Stony Brook will look to rebound when the team goes on a roadtrip to Baltimore this week. The Seawolves will face the UMBC Retrievers on Wednesday afternoon at 12 p.m.

Stony Brook to retire Jameel Warney's No. 20 jersey on Feb. 18

By Kunal Kohli
Assistant Sports Editor

Stony Brook Athletics will retire former Stony Brook Men's Basketball star and three time America East Player of the Year Jameel Warney's No. 20 jersey. The halftime ceremony will take place during a game between Stony Brook and Binghamton on Feb. 18, when a banner will be unveiled at Island Federal Credit Union Arena.

Warney is the second player in Stony Brook history to have his number retired. The first was baseball star Joe Nathan, whose No. 22 was retired in 2006.

"Obviously, it's a great honor," Warney, who will be in attendance for the ceremony, said in a phone interview. "There's two of us, so it's a really small group of retired numbers. I'm honored. I'm happy."

During his four years at Stony Brook, Warney was a standout player. He is one of 108 players in NCAA history to score 2,000 points and grab 1,000 rebounds. He was an AP All-American honorable mention in his senior year.

Not only did he win three America East Player of the Year awards, tying him for the most in conference history, he also won



ERIC SCHMID/STATESMAN FILE

Jameel Warney shoots a layup in a 2016 game against New Hampshire. Warney graduated Stony Brook last year as the Seawolves' all-time leader in points, rebounds and blocks.

three straight America East Defensive Player of the Year awards, making him only the second player in America East history to have won consecutive Player of the Year and Defensive Player of the Year awards.

Most importantly, Warney led the Seawolves to their only

NCAA berth. He scored 43 points, the most in school history, to help Stony Brook beat Vermont in the 2016 America East Championship game.

"I put in a lot of work these last four years," he said. "I had a lot of great teammates, a lot of great coaching, a lot of great

experiences at Stony Brook."

Warney currently plays for the Texas Legends of the NBA Developmental League. He played for the Dallas Mavericks during the NBA Summer League. He is averaging 14.7 points per game and 6.6 rebounds per game with the Legends.

Women's Basketball offense falters in losses against Binghamton, Hartford

By Skyler Gilbert and Kunal Kohli

Sports Editor and Assistant Sports Editor

At the conclusion of Sunday's first half, junior guard Lauren Williams stole the ball, ran forward two steps and uncorked an errant half-court heave toward the basket. The ball landed on the baseline with six seconds remaining on the second-quarter clock. The Stony Brook guard rested her hands on her head in disbelief, as she had apparently mistaken the game clock for the expiring play clock of Binghamton's previous possession.

SBU	BING
40	48

It was that sort of game for the Stony Brook Women's Basketball offense, whose six-game home winning streak was snapped as Binghamton took the matinee, 48-40.

"For whatever reason, we just couldn't pass or catch very well," head coach Caroline McCombs said. "Credit Binghamton with their defense. We just really struggled. ... Even in our transition game, we couldn't just pass and catch in our lanes or score easy baskets."

Scoring was scarce for Stony Brook in the opening half in particular, as the team notched 10 points, its worst output in a half this season. The team shot 3-for-21 from the field, missing all nine of its three-point attempts. The Seawolves committed 14 turnovers in that time, as assistant coach Dan Rickard's face reddened with frustration.

Junior center Alyssa James, the reigning America East Defensive Player of the Year, roamed the



ARACELY JIMENEZ/THE STATESMAN

Sophomore guard Jerell Matthews shoots a layup against Binghamton on Sunday afternoon. Matthews scored a career-high 15 points, but the Seawolves lost the game, 48-40.

interior of the Bearcats' 2-3 zone, her lankiness denying any driving lanes for the Stony Brook offense. The defensive scheme was also run against the Seawolves by Hartford in the previous game, deeming the offense ineffective in each case.

"We were just out-of-sync," McCombs said.

Binghamton's offense had also faltered to that point, though not quite as dramatically. The Bearcats scored 20 points on their 40 first-half possessions. Their 10-point halftime margin seemed modest given an absent Seawolves offense.

But in the third quarter, the deficit quickly swelled to 18. Binghamton took a 38-20 advantage behind

the efforts of sophomore guard Jasmine Sina, who led all players with 15 points in the game. Sina made four three-point field goals on the afternoon.

Entering the final quarter of play, the Stony Brook program record for fewest points in a game — 30, set in 2011 against Seton Hall — seemed more in reach than the win, but the Seawolves bench unit had other ideas.

Sophomore guard Jerell Matthews scored seven of her career-best 15 points in the fourth quarter, helping her team cut the lead to as few as five points. The late offense was too little to overcome the preceding basket-making woes,

however, as Binghamton was able to close out a victory.

"For Jerell, she's somebody that has continued to get better at practice," McCombs said. "We've continued to get her more minutes... We're working on getting her into that scoring mentality."

Stony Brook's defense, which entered the contest as the second-ranked unit in the America East, played well, particularly against Binghamton junior guard Imani Watkins, the conference's leading scorer with 19.6 points per game.

Watkins was primarily defended by Stony Brook junior guard Christa Scognamiglio, who held her to

seven points on 1-for-8 shooting and six turnovers.

On Thursday night against Hartford, with Stony Brook leading by four early in the third quarter, sophomore guard Davion Wingate streaked across the court to score a fast-break layup, good for two of her game-high 23 points.

While the Hawks answered with two points of their own, Scognamiglio scored a layup of her own to increase the margin.

With a six-point lead, the largest advantage the Seawolves would hold, Stony Brook upsetting the No. 2 team in the America East conference seemed likely. But the Seawolves soon fell apart, as the Hawks soared to win Thursday night's game, 65-52.

Stony Brook only scored once after Scognamiglio's layup. In the final six minutes of the quarter, Stony Brook shot an icy cold 1-for-6 from the field.

SBU	HART
52	65

The cold streak continued into the fourth quarter as the Seawolves shot 5-for-17 from the field. The scoring came from the backcourt as Scognamiglio and Worley both hit shots from behind the arc while Wingate and freshman guard Giolibeth Perez showed off their speed, scoring on consecutive fast breaks. However, it was not enough as Hartford built a double-digit lead throughout the period.

After facing a nine-point deficit, in thanks to an 11-0 run they

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SPORTS

Men's Basketball splits pair of conference games against Binghamton and Hartford

By Tim Oakes
Staff Writer

It was just what the Stony Brook men's basketball team hoped for as Binghamton's junior forward Bobby Ahearn began his free throw shooting motion: the shot was off target, bouncing off the front rim. Up 67-66 with just 24 seconds left, the Seawolves were poised to grab the defensive rebound that commonly follows a missed attempt at the line. Surely they would be fouled immediately, an advantageous scenario for Stony Brook.

SBU	BING
71	67

However, uncommonly, the ball landed right back into Ahearn's hands.

After a series of passes, sophomore guard Timmy Rose netted a wide open three point shot with 14 seconds left in the contest, a nail in Stony Brook's coffin. On the final possession, the Seawolves attempted another late game comeback, but a corner three-point attempt from senior guard Lucas Woodhouse was blocked by Bearcats junior forward Willie Rodriguez. Binghamton went on to defeat Stony Brook 71-67 at Binghamton University Events Center.

Rose was not too involved in the offense throughout the game, but he was clutch when his team needed him most. The sophomore had already connected on a pivotal three point shot to regain the lead with 2:05 remaining in the second half. Despite finishing with eight points, he was Binghamton's catalyst in fending off a Stony Brook team that stormed back from being down 11 points earlier in the half.

The Seawolves began an 11-2 run with 12:23 remaining in the second half when freshman forward Akwasi Yeboah hit a mid-range jumper, the first of his seven points during that span. Yeboah finished the game with 14 points and seven rebounds off the bench, allowing his team to compete until the end of the game.

Woodhouse was also a big part of the comeback attempt. Reminiscent of recent games against Brown and Albany, Woodhouse was aggressive from three-point range and hit back-



ERIC SCHMID / THE STATESMAN

Junior forward Tyrell Sturdivant backs his man down in the post in a Nov. 28 game versus Northeastern at Island Federal Credit Union Arena. Sturdivant scored 7 points on Sunday.

to-back threes in the final three minutes of the game to briefly give his team the lead.

Woodhouse was a 4-5 from beyond the arc, finishing with 15 points and six assists in the game. He has now hit 24 of his last 35 three point attempts, a 68 percent shooting percentage. Entering the game, Binghamton's junior guard Yosef Jacob's 58 percent shooting percentage lead all of NCAA Division I Men's Basketball. Through his last seven games he is shooting at a 10 percent higher clip than the highest three point percentage shooter in the nation.

But it was junior guard Bryan Sekunda's clutch three-point make with 49 seconds remaining in the game that gave the Seawolves their final lead. Sekunda got hot and hit all three of his three-point shots in the second half, finishing the game with nine points.

Stony Brook found itself down two points at the break. The Seawolves turned the ball over two more times than the Bearcats and shot five percent lower from the field. Stony Brook's defense helped keep them in the game early on, holding Binghamton to just 28 first half points. But

credit can not be taken away from the offensive hustle displayed from the Bearcats.

While Rose was the hero of the night, Ahearn lead all scorers with 21 points, going three for three from downtown. Rodriguez finished with 15 points and Jacob, the sharpshooter, finished with 14.

Stony Brook's conference record falls to 5-1, while the win was Binghamton's first conference win at the season, now 1-5. Despite the loss, the Seawolves remain in second place in the America East Conference standings.

Stony Brook entered Thursday night's game against Hartford on a hot streak, coming off of five consecutive wins. Woodhouse led the Seawolves with four three-point shots en route to an 80-64 win over the Hawks. He has now hit 20 of his last 30 shot attempts from beyond the three-point arc.

Woodhouse also helped get his teammates involved, tallying six assists. His team-high 18 points made him one of four Seawolves to score in double figures in the win over the

Hawks, the team's sixth consecutive victory. Stony Brook improves its conference record to 5-0, second only to Vermont, who leads the conference, 6-0.

"I've been getting up extra reps after practice. I think that's been helping a lot," Woodhouse said. "I'm locked and focused when I'm out there, shooting good open shots and they've been going in."

The Seawolves had 25 second chance points compared to the eight second chance points the Hawks converted. Stony Brook was dominant on the offensive boards, pulling down 17 of the rebounds to help set up second chances. Stony Brook collected a season-high 46 rebounds while Hartford pulled down just 28.

"Offensive rebounding is just about effort," Sturdivant said. "We have to set the tone from the beginning."

However, Sturdivant shined brightest in the paint where he had 14 points on 5-for-7 shooting, including 10 second half points that helped close the door on Hartford.

While Sturdivant typically leads his team in rebounding, it was junior forward Junior Saintel and Yeboah

who stepped up to grab 10 and eight rebounds respectively, both of which were season-highs.

Saintel's 13 points and 10 rebounds accounted for his first double-double with the Seawolves. He also showed off his alley-ooping ability and continued to display a frequent connection with Woodhouse on lob passes. Yeboah further solidified his role off the bench scoring 14 points in addition to his performance on the boards.

The Seawolves closed in on the America East Conference's top scorer, senior guard Jalen Ross, who was held without a field goal until 2:47 was remaining in the first half. Ross finished with 14 points despite shooting 25 percent. Head coach Jeff Boals had an ensemble of guards including junior guard Roland Nyama, senior guard Kameron Mitchell and Woodhouse that helped contain Ross throughout the game. Together they held him to 3-12 with just 12 points, well below the 21 points per game he averaged earlier in the season.

Sophomore guard Jason Dunne kept the Hawks in the game early on in the first half. In fact, he scored his team's first 13 points in the first 6:29 of the game. The sophomore finished with a game-high 22 points, along with five three-point makes.

The victory was Stony Brook's ninth straight win over Hartford, the Seawolves last lost to the Hawks in February 2013. Hartford became Stony Brook's fifth victim as the program continues to roll despite being picked seventh in the conference in the America East Preseason Coaches Poll.

"We had a coach tell one of our coaches we wouldn't win more than three games," Boals said. "Everyday we worry about us. We have a motto that we want to be better today than we were yesterday."

The team will head back to Stony Brook tonight to prepare for the start of classes and the upcoming game against the University of Maryland-Baltimore County who sit tied for third in the conference standings. The game will tip off on Wednesday at 7 p.m. at Island Federal Credit Union Arena. UMBC is currently tied for third in the America East.

SBU	HART
80	64

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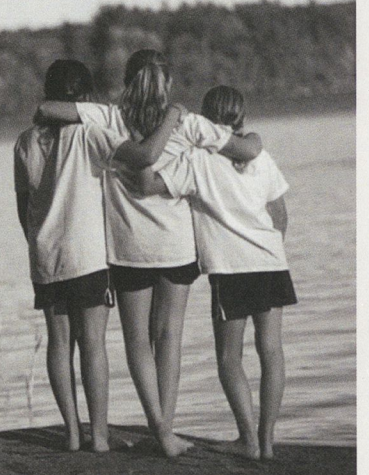
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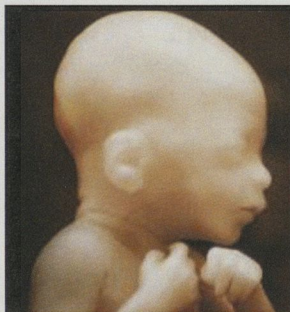


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