

THE STATESMAN

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USG and MSA join hands for prayer circle

By Stephanie Yuvenico
Contributing Writer

The Stony Brook Muslim Student Association welcomed the campus into their weekly Jummah Prayer at the Staller Steps on Friday, April 7.

Despite the light rainfall and nippy temperature, students and faculty formed a prayer ring around people participating in the Jummah Prayer, a congregational prayer that Muslims hold every Friday after 12 p.m..

"We invited the whole campus so we could show face through these hard times," Anika Amin, a junior sociology major, said. "Muslims are just regular people. We wanted to spread love and show who we are."

Fears of compromising public safety hindered USG staff from immediately approving the proposal for the event.

"There were concerns of safety hazards, and you never know with these recent hate crimes," Amin said.

ThinkProgress, a political blog founded in 2005 by lawyer Judd Legum, has tracked the activity of hate crimes since Donald Trump was elected president. New York came out on top with the highest number of hate incidents since November. 26.8 percent of incidents targeted the Jewish com-



LUIS RUIZ DOMINGUEZ / THE STATESMAN

Students participate in the second annual Dance Marathon on April 8 at the LDS Center. The 12 hour event raised money for the Cohen Children's Medical Center.

munity and 11.8 percent targeted Muslim groups.

Despite these worries, MSA eventually gained permission to collaborate with USG for Friday's event.

"Even if there are precautions and risk factors, there are so many people here to support us like UPD, USG, our Chaplain and the Dean of Students. All of these allies came to stand around," Amin expressed.

MSA promoted the event through social media such as Facebook and through word of mouth. The group is also now involved with a coalition, tentatively called the Stony Brook University Progressive Student Coalition, with organizations on campus to promote social advancements.

Stephen Hanna, a junior double majoring in sociology and

biochemistry and member of the Young Democratic Socialists of America, attended the event after the MSA reached out to the coalition for support.

"Showing support is going to help the Muslim students be more comfortable with being on campus and expressing their religion freely," Hanna said.

The air felt heavy with the expectation of downpour, but allies stood firmly in place. When former MSA President Zain Ali began speaking, the tiny droplets, once falling briskly on the faces of the attendees, ceased.

"Sometimes hate might seem louder, but just because it's louder, it doesn't mean it's stronger," Ali said.

People simply nodded their heads or looked down in reflection during the prayer.

"The beauty about the congregational prayer every Friday is that it is positive advice and positive generation of the good emotion and Muslim traditions," Sister Sanaa Nadim, the Muslim Chaplain for Stony Brook's Interfaith Center, said. "The sermon has to be a positive experience to the masses about revival and reminder of the holy Qur'an's moderate perspective on life, on community, society, respect and healing others."

After the prayer, everyone lifted their heads.

"I think it was really good idea to put it out in the open because a lot of people have misconceptions about Islam," Stephanie Catarino, a senior studying sociology, said. "Showing that it's a religion like any other else, and that people have the right to practice it out in the open is a beautiful experience."

UPD deploys body worn cameras

By Josh Farber
Contributing Writer

The Stony Brook University Police Department has deployed a fleet of new body worn cameras, intended to increase transparency.

The initiative, which began on March 27, also aims to reduce unfounded allegations against officers and to increase protection of the campus community. After conducting a pilot program in the fall 2016 semester, the department settled on the Axon Body 2 camera.

During the pilot phase, officers tested three different camera models and gave feedback to the department about their ease of use in the field. Back at headquarters, officers analyzed the cameras based on their evidence and records collection and the impact of the cameras on privacy.

The cameras will run in a "passive mode," according to Deputy Chief of Police Bruce Redden. This means that cameras will run in a 30 second loop throughout each officer's shift, which is recorded over unless the officer presses the record button. When this happens, the preceding 30 seconds of video are saved, as are the video and audio of the event that takes place after officers hit record.

"Officers will use the cameras during all traffic stops, and depending on what the situation is, something more active," Redden said.

The cameras will not be on when officers are responding to a call about a lost wallet but will be on for more significant calls.

If an officer's body camera has a blinking light, it is recording. Individuals can also ask the officer if the officer's camera is recording.

Recordings from the cameras will be saved for 120 days, unless a file is needed for evidence. Files stored longer will be stored "consistent with current retention laws," according to the UPD website.

"It's a very robust system, we know everything that has gone on from every aspect," Redden said.

Concerns about privacy have made the use of body cameras in law enforcement a controversial subject.

"I guess it's preventative, it's good to take initiative," Kathleen Folan, a sophomore atmospheric and oceanic sciences major, said. "It will probably make people feel safer, especially since this is such a diverse campus."

Khadajah Lopez, a senior psychology major, agreed that the transparency can put an end to speculation.

Theater course stages socially conscious performances on campus

By Anna Correa
Contributing Writer

On Thursday, Feb. 23, a whiteboard in the SAC lobby presented onlookers with a mathematical equation asking them to solve for "n."

Although it may have appeared to be a math problem, the equation — Rape × White = 3 months, Weed × "n" = 156 months — sought to explore why black and white individuals who commit criminal offenses receive unequal treatment.

The performance references Brock Turner, a white student athlete from Stanford University who raped a woman and was given a sentence of three months for his crime. Here, Turner's case was contrasted with Bernard No-

ble, a black father of seven who is serving 13 years with no possibility of parole for possessing the equivalency of two joints of marijuana.

Some students and staff stopped to take photos of two students with signs summarizing the facts behind the Brock Turner case and the Bernard Noble case. Others actively participated by writing on the whiteboard equations like n = anyone not white and n = an unfair justice system.

Students in THR 351: Acts of Race and Justice are speaking up about racial injustice with performances throughout the semester. The 10-15 minute performances have sparked conversations about topics considered taboo by society, such as racism.



ANNA CORREA / THE STATESMAN

Eunice Asare, left, and Kristin Clark, right, wear signs during a performance in the Academic Mall on March 30.

The following week, a performance by Eunice Asare, a black sophomore English major, and senior psychology major Kristin

Clark stirred both participants and audience members alike

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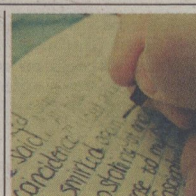
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NEWS

UPD to continue body camera rollout in coming weeks

Continued from page 1

"It's good to have something where people can see what's going on and not hearsay," she said.

Officer feedback has been positive as well, according to Redden.

"There was concern about how bulky the cameras would be, but overall everyone seems to be positive," he said.

UPD plans to have a camera for every officer, depending on the number of cameras the department has, according to Redden.

Each camera costs upwards of \$800 a piece, not including the cost of software and storage.

While Stony Brook has already begun using the cameras, police departments on Long Island can still participate in the program. As of October 2016, the Suffolk County Police Department does not yet have a body camera program, despite applying for a grant in 2015 to add body cameras to their force, Newsday reported.

UPD will continue to roll out their body cameras in coming weeks, Redden said, and welcomes any feedback from the campus community.

Students plan large-scale final performance

Continued from page 1

when Asare wore a for-sale sign asking, "What would you pay?" A string was binding both the girls' legs, appearing as though they couldn't move at the March 30 protest outside the library.

"It was like a throwback Thursday," Asare said. "If you would have seen an auction scene back then, what you would do? The slaves used to be naked in front of people. I wasn't even naked, but I felt humiliated because I had all of those people gazing at me. Even people I knew were staring at me, and I had to look at the sky. I couldn't look at them."

A student reposted a picture of the two girls wearing the for-sale signs on Instagram.

User stephie_r0se posted "This stopped me dead in my tracks and made my heart skip a beat. #drivenbysocialjustice #findyourvoice351 #stonybrookuniversity."

"I felt really moved," Alexander Varga, a junior health science major, said. "All I could think about when viewing the presentation was ... the magnitude of suffering people of color in this country have went through, and how the oppressive forces responsible still exist today to some

extent, just much more covert. Aside from empathy, I feel a responsibility as a privileged member of our society to contribute in some way, any way that I can to make a difference. Exposing people unaware of these injustices continuing under our noses is the first step."

EGL 388: American Narratives of Race and Justice is a think tank where students learn about prejudiced ideas and discuss solutions based on acts of racial injustice.

EGL 388 requires students to read scholarly works, analyze history and current events, and watch films and uncut, unedited interviews of NYPD officers. The students also study psychology to better understand the differences between implicit bias — unconscious stereotyping — and institutional racism.

THR 351 is the second part of a two-part sequence. THR 351 allows students to take concepts they learned from EGL 388 and express them through live performances.

These types of demonstrations, known as "Pop-Up Awareness Theatre," are meant to spark conversation and keep Stony Brook students and faculty informed.

"We need to have a thorough exploration that's root-

ed in knowing. It's been a real challenge ... We need to breathe in and digest some things before we breathe out," said Elizabeth Bojsza, co-instructor of THR 354. "There needs to be an understanding of the issues to create art. It's not just emotional reactions to stimuli. Without a foundation of knowledge, it doesn't yield a good artistic project."

The process of making a presentation is a collaborative effort. A student will bring up an idea, then the class of 15 looks at the situation from multiple perspectives, challenging each other's thoughts and analyzing the meaning behind each piece. The discussion process helps break down defensive barriers between individuals, Stephanie Walter, co-lecturer of EGL 388 and THR 354, said. The dialogue also elicits empathy and understanding between the two opposing parties and brings the students together.

"There is a natural bridge between literature and theatre. Each story is connected because life is a narrative," Walter said.

At the end of the semester, the group will stage a final performance. In the meantime, students are planning several other socially conscious performances before the end of the year.



ARACELY JIMENEZ / THE STATESMAN

The Axon Body 2 camera worn by a UPD officer. The new cameras are meant to increase transparency on campus.

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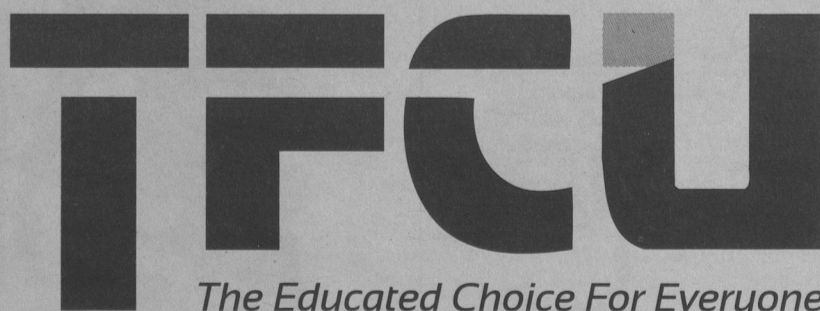
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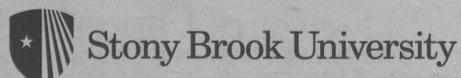
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Health Sciences schools Candidates may purchase cap and gown packages at Shop Red East.



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Monday, April 17

- **Lecture: Assemblyman Steven Englebright "Contemporary Environmental Issues and Policies"**
Endeavour Hall, Room 120, 5:30 pm
- **Art Exhibit: "Symbiosis"**
Tabler Center for Arts, Culture and Humanities, Art Gallery, 5:30 pm
- **Workshop: "Shamanic Drumming Meditation – Experience Your Connection to the Universe"**
Charles B. Wang Center, Chapel, 6:30 pm

Tuesday, April 18

- **Talk: Erica Cirino**
Freelance science writer and artist, "Go and See Tour." Cirino will share highlights from her ocean voyage to the Great Pacific Garbage Patch.
Student Activities Center (SAC), Room 306, 2:30 pm
- **Panel Discussion: "Adapting to a Changing Climate – Coastal Infrastructure and Sustainable Cities"**
Humanities Building, Room 1006, 5 pm

Wednesday, April 19

- **Bramble Rambles: Guided Nature Walk Through the Ashley Schiff Park Preserve**
Meet at the Northeast trailhead to the preserve along Circle Road next to the wooden kiosk (across from Roth Quad), 1 pm
- **Panel Discussion: Sustainability Studies Alumni**
Javits Center, Room 111, 1 pm

Thursday, April 20

- **Music and Presentations – "Roadshow of Resistance: Saving the Planet, Indigenous Rights and Standing Rock"**
Learn about Standing Rock and environmental justice issues through the poetry and hip-hop music of Native American Lyla June Johnson; the songs of Casey Neill; speeches by Cheryl Angel, a Standing Rock Lakota witness; and Brytnee Laurette, from the Center of Biological Diversity.
SAC, Sidney Gelber Auditorium, 3 pm

FRIDAY, APRIL 21

Earthstock Festival Activities

Academic Mall

- **Pride Patrol, 10 am**
- **Farmers Market, 11 am**
- **Environmental and Educational Displays and Exhibitors, 11 am**
- **Live Music and Dance Performances on Two Stages, 11:30 am**
- **Scavenger Hunt, Hosted by National Residence Hall Honorary, 11:30 am**
- **Opening Remarks/Green Pledge Ceremony, 12:15 pm**
- **Friends of Ashley Schiff Park Preserve Walk, 1 pm**
- **Rubber Duck Races, 2 pm**
- **Ice Cream Social, 2:30 pm**
- **Drum Line and Color Guard Showcase, 3 pm**

Saturday, April 22

- **Stony Brook Long Island Rail Road (LIRR) Spring Cleanup**
(RSVP: tinyurl.com/lirrspring2017) Stony Brook LIRR Train Station, Stony Brook, New York, 8 am to 11 am
- **Live Music and Exhibits: BIKEFEST**
South P Lot, 11 am to 4 pm
- **Celebration: Environmental Club's Green Gala**
SAC Ballroom B, 8 pm



Stony Brook University

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Beauty Con 2017 shows students how to pamper themselves

By Antonia Brogna
Contributing Writer

Who said beauty has to be difficult or expensive? Beauty Con 2017, held at the HDV and GLS Center on April 6, proved that taking care of yourself can be easy, fun and inexpensive. The event, which was hosted by resident assistants from Roosevelt and H Quad and Tubman and Chávez Halls, boasted six tables of do-it-yourself beauty products such as face masks, body butter, detox water and hair masks. Each attendee received a small mason jar so they could try out a recipe and bring it home.

This is not the first time this event has taken place. One of the founders, Ramsha Perwez, a senior applied math and statistics and biology major and RA in Wagner College, said that last year, she had initially planned to bring this program to Wagner College only. "But then, my RHD said, 'No, why don't you make it bigger?'" Perwez said. The event then became a collaboration between Roosevelt Quad RAs.

Beauty Con 2016 was such a hit that the organizers decided to expand it this year by doubling the budget and asking groups

like Students Helping Honduras and the Pipettes to participate as well. Students Helping Honduras had a table for donations and cupcake decorating, and the Pipettes performed some a capella selections at the event.

"It's twice as big, so we put more together, and we're hoping for twice the amount of people," Perwez said during the first hour of the event.

And the event came at a great time for Seawolves, too. When tests and projects are starting to pile up, sometimes you just need to pamper yourself.

"I feel like I needed it," Kelly Smith, a junior Africana studies major, said. "It's that point in the semester where you're starting to get stressed and need to relax."

Smith made a coffee and cocoa face mask, which consisted entirely of edible materials that most people already have in their kitchens.

"I think we should come up with recipes where we can go in the kitchen and put what you made on your face," Misha Mehta, a senior pharmacology major, said.

Mehta, an RA in Wagner College, ran a table with two different face masks, one with yogurt and honey and another with aloe.



LUIS RUIZ DOMINGUEZ / THE STATESMAN

Students who attended Beauty Con were able to make their own face masks, body butter, detox water and hair masks. Products were put into mason jars for students to bring home.

"It's easy. We want it to be easy," she said.

And where did they find these easy, do-it-yourself recipes?

"Google is your best friend," Lindsay DeFilippis, a junior linguistics major and RA in Chávez

Hall, said. "We tried to look for unique recipes and something for every skin type."

That means it is just as easy for anyone who could not make Beauty Con 2017 to pamper themselves at home by simply

surfing the web for new and creative recipes.

Your mental and physical health are just as important as your grades, so gather your friends and some basic kitchen ingredients and treat yourselves.

Student gains a following with his distinct rap style

By David Pepa
Staff Writer

Shayan Afridi is known by his professors as a senior honors English major, but his thousands of SoundCloud followers know him as the rapper "Samsa."

Afridi, a Pakistani Muslim, grew up in Bayside, Queens. Over the last two years, he has released over 20 rap and hip-hop tracks on his SoundCloud, most recently "butterflies" and "haunt me," and has culminated nearly 9,000 followers.

He has been working on some new music in the past five months while simultaneously finishing up his final year of college.

Afridi is working on his honors thesis on South Asian-American rap in the post-Trump era.

Five years ago, Afridi was creating what he described as "silly songs and poetry."

He used to perform his work at the Nuyorican Poets Cafe in Manhattan on Mondays. On Halloween 2016, he released a song called "tinder samurai," which is about online dating and those who are interested in it. Only five months later, the song has nearly 260,000 listens on SoundCloud.

"The music scene that I've managed to dip my toes into, namely lo-fi hip-hop, has been super kind about embracing my voice and cartoony writing style, and I've managed to amass a healthy and fervently loyal following," Afridi said.

He gives his followers the opportunity to send him original beats by putting his email on his SoundCloud page.

Afridi said his interest in rap music was inspired by the Reagan era, a time when the administration pushed for social conservatism. Two things became important to the artist: social protest and negotiation of identity.

"I've always been interested in the cultural power that rap music carried; from its conception in the West Bronx to its employment in the Reagan era," he said.

"I'm excited to continue wielding rap music as a tool for political critique and as a way to negotiate my cultural identity and the way that others might perceive me as a Pakistani Muslim."

He also used to write criticisms on various rap topics on the website for his record label, Off The Jump.

The rapper is currently collaborating on an EP with THIAGO, a Brazilian rapper from North Carolina, about cultural identity in the post-Trump era. Some of the songs have already been uploaded on Afridi's SoundCloud,

and each is named after a Desi or Portuguese dessert like "kulfi" and "burfi."

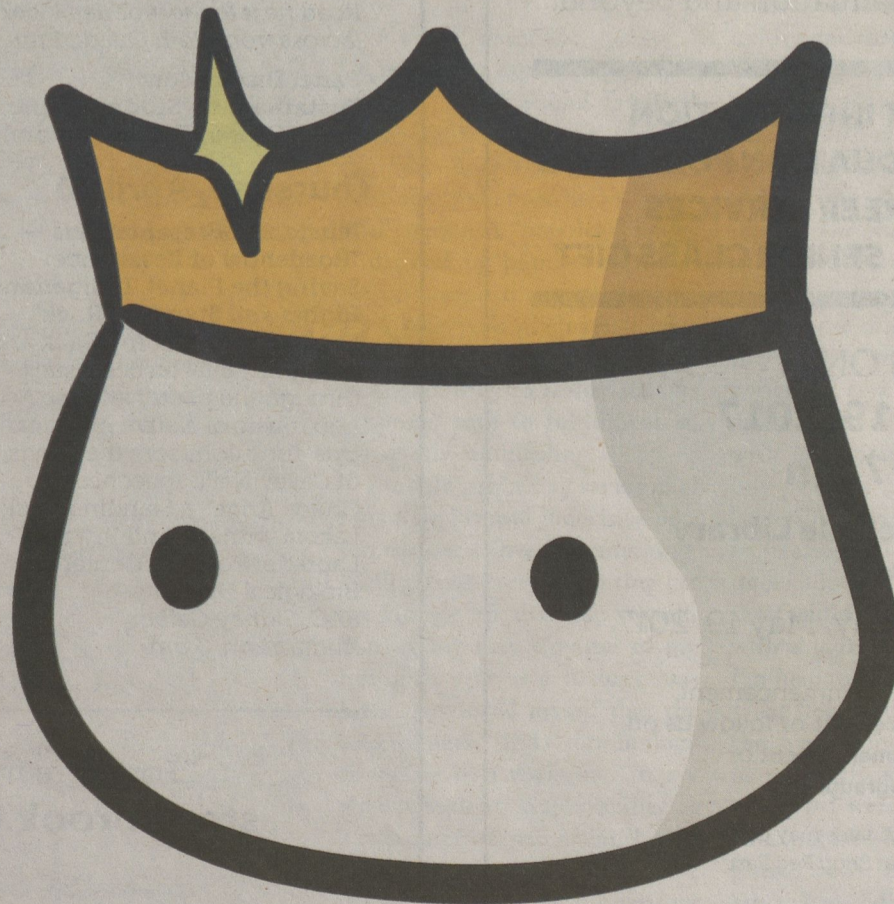
"Each song is a digestible slice of life from both my and THIAGO's respective cultural experiences and we wanted to reflect that in the song titles," Afridi said.

"The whole thing is really an honest depiction about the subtle, funny ways that the election has changed our personal lives, the way our families interact with politics and our cultural identifications."

As part of his honors thesis, the rap artist will give a presentation at the SUNY Undergraduate Research Conference about how South Asian-American rappers are negotiating identity with rap music in the post-Trump era. The event will take place on April 21 at the Suffolk County Community College-Ammerman Campus in Selden. He said he will be performing "burfi," one of the songs he made with THIAGO.

"The talk is titled 'Strategic Essentialisms: How South Asian American rappers negotiate identity in the Trump Era,' and it's about the specific cultural strategies these rappers [and I] use to renegotiate identities past canned stereotypes of the 'immigrant,' the 'threat to be expelled,' the 'model minority' and the 'emasculated male,'" Afridi said.

Afridi hopes that he can inspire more artists to share their experiences from the post-Trump era and engage in the current political climate.



COURTESY OF SHAYAN AFRIDI

Shayan Afridi uses the logo, above, as the physical representation of his rap persona "Samsa." He used this pseudonym as a way to hide his identity and release his music.

Balance and Composure to kick off its spring U.S. tour this month

By Kayla McKiski
Staff Writer

Emo revivalist Balance and Composure will kick off its spring U.S. tour on April 20, at Revolution Bar & Music Hall in Amityville, New York.

Since its 2007 formation, the five-piece Pennsylvania rock band has tapped into the angsty chambers of listeners' hearts. Through harsh riffs, slashing drums and singer Jon Simmons' self-criticizing screaming, the group has asserted its place as a representative of teen rage.

Balance and Composure's third studio album "Light We Made," released in 2016, is a dive into instrumental experimentation. The band's past albums used electron-

ic sounds sparingly and its latest album has these same elements that are no longer decorative, but instead foundational.

"This record isn't sonically as aggressive, but it's heavier in a different sense," Bailey Van Ellis, drummer for the band, said.

Tracks like "Midnight Zone," "Spinning" and "For a Walk" are candles of amorousness, flickering in the dark space the band has commanded from the start. However, the rougher tunes from its past, like "Tiny Raindrop" from its sophomore album "The Things We Think We're Missing," which was released in 2013, will not be entirely forgotten in the wake of the creamier sound. In its upcoming tour, the band will play both old and new music.

"[We'll perform] half and half," Van Ellis said. "We don't want to piss off our old fans."

Van Ellis said the shift in style has been accompanied by a shift in crowd manner as well — less "agro masculinity" through moshing and stage diving, and more dancing. Indie-pop groups From Indian Lakes and Queen of Jeans will open for the band, creating an energetic space early on in the night.

Balance and Composure will not have a formal meet and greet, but band members will rotate selling merch to mingle with concertgoers.

"It's F**king stupid to pay to meet a band," Van Ellis said of their decision not to have a meet and greet.

General admission tickets to the 7 p.m. show can be found on Ticketfly for \$18 to \$20. The event is 16 and over with ID.

"We're excited to play and eat the dope-ass pizza you have there," Van Ellis said, in reference to Little Vincent's cold cheese slices. "It's kind of like lunchables, but it's still dope."

Balance and Composure has 28 dates scheduled for its spring tour so far.

"It'll be nice to start with a five-hour drive [from Pennsylvania]," Van Ellis said. "It might be longer with traffic on that expressway of yours."



BAND C. JASON COX/FLICKR VIA CC BY-NC-ND 2.0

Alternative rock band Balance and Composure, above, performing at The Royale in Boston, Mass., in 2013.

World-class taiko group drums up cultural rhythms

By Stephanie Yuvienco
Contributing Writer

One of Japan's top-ranking taiko groups, Tamagawa University Dance and Taiko Group, performed at the Charles B. Wang Center Theatre on April 5 as part of their 10-city tour to celebrate the beginning of spring with the campus community.

This event featured the art form of taiko drumming, a mixture of musical technique, tight choreography and cultural dancing.

"What amazes me is their energy," Jinyoung A. Jin, the director of cultural programs at the Wang Center, said. "They will be bringing this wonderful thunder to open up our spring."

Attendees filled the theatre, eagerly waiting for a vivacious performance. The speakers played uplifting Japanese music, covering the thin layer of voices and preparing the audience for the cultural display.

"I've been to other Japanese drummer shows," Elena Pavlenko, a post-doctoral researcher in physics and chemistry, said. "I'm really excited for the good rhythm. I don't really care what it looks like."

Eva Nagase, a professor in the Asian & Asian American studies department and faculty advisor of Stony Brook's Taiko Tides, brought the Tamagawa group to the university last year for a similar performance.

"I reached them through the drumming network," Nagase said. "My friend teaching in Columbia University got me in contact with them."

The dim lights and music grabbed showgoers' attention to the stage. Once the spotlight hit the center drum, silence quickly spread through the room.

Audience members who merely expected to see men in cultural garb hit drums with a stick were proven wrong. Throughout the evening, the taiko drumming and cultural dancing rotated to keep the audience on their toes. They were also treated to elegant and graceful performances by the women on the team wearing traditional Japanese attire. Their bodies flowed in synergy with each other and the music.

Every performer's calculated movement contributed to an overall jaw-dropping exhibition.

"The girls playing taiko was something we didn't see last year," Helena Lancin, a sophomore mathematics major, said. "I was really happy to see them play in such delicate attire while incorporating the dance. I felt chills."

Each performance hailed an uproar of applause from the house. For the final act, the whole group gamboled around the stage, igniting a heightened exaltation as the audience gave a standing ovation for their memorable show.

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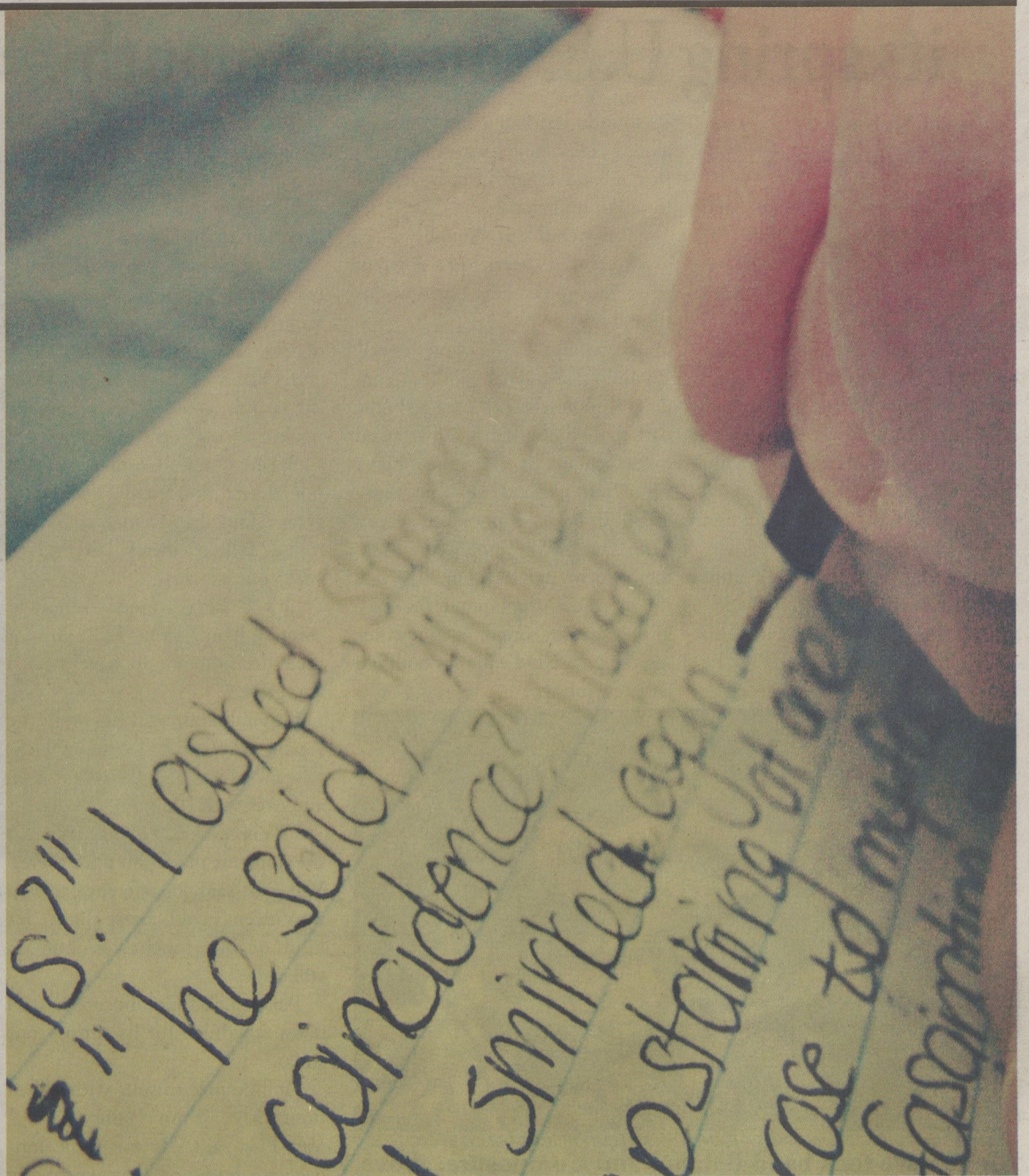
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Certain majors, like English, are stereotyped as offering little opportunity for employment. But students that follow their passions may be more competitive for jobs in the long run.

Following passion is practical; pick a major you really love

By Scott Terwilliger
Contributing Writer

"I could never do _____." "How do you expect to get a job with _____?" Sound familiar? From the second your feet hit the ground at college, you are continually shunted into a "practical" major. A "practical" major is defined by pundits of mediocrity as one that will get you a job after you graduate. I have fallen victim to this dogma time and again only to realize that its supposed path to fulfillment is, conversely, unfulfilling.

I should preface by saying that I am a flighty and indecisive person. Before I invest in anything, I will peruse every dissenting list on Google to dissuade myself. During my first semester of my freshman year as a biology major, I convinced myself that the long hours and terminology would be overwhelming. In my next pursuit of employability as a computer science major, I convinced myself that I didn't have the proper mindset for writing code. This frustration culminated during spring break, when I wanted to drop out and pursue music. After my emotions had equilibrated, I chose to major in

a subject that has fascinated me since I was young: English.

This is one major that I become excited about when I wake up. It's one that lends no qualms, and fills me with enough certainty to drive the rest of my life. When I'm not in class, I'm always doing something related to English, whether that's writing for *The Statesman*, designing the school's new literary magazine *Stargazer* or writing music. I juxtapose this assuredness with the distress and hesitance I experienced as a computer science major. Had I not been blessed with reasonable parents, these four years of my life could have been filled with self-doubt and frustration. While my parents understood, others still fear that their child won't be successful with a more creative major, and I'm here to dispel that.

To free people from this toxic sheep mentality, I think it would be most efficacious to view myself as if I were a newly-graduated candidate for a STEM job. I glance down at my application. Since I was dispassionate about STEM, I only earned a 3.0 GPA, not particularly stellar, but entirely disqualifying. My internships are scarce, and I've failed to secure competitive advantage

over my intrinsically motivated colleagues who study each aspect of the field until their eyes grow weary. Did I network? I made a few connections here and there, but only the bare minimum because the subject did not interest me enough to go further. Theory purports that I should still get a job because "I majored in something employable." The underlying absurdity lies in its lack of consideration for passionate and driven applicants who vie for the same positions in the job market. I am "employable" in the sense that there are job openings, but not necessarily "employable" in a company's eyes since I have a lukewarm interest and less experience. What would my application look like if I were applying for an English teaching position with an English degree?

I'll save you a paragraph: probably a lot better.

The shunning of any creative major, like English, creates a society in which passion is only valid if it is scientific. Promoting this narrative is dangerous, as it can veer people away from jobs at which they may have excelled. After that, the theory crumbles: the job market for scientific jobs becomes oversaturated, and we're left starving for more creativity.

Professional Fridays puts students inside madness of the media

By Scott Terwilliger
Contributing Writer

My alarm let out its usual discordant screech at an unusually early time on a Friday – 6:30 a.m.. My sore throat struggled to utter “Alexa, stop,” and my flu-ridden body drained every reserve of energy to free itself from the grasp of my cozy linens. Despite my less-than-ideal health, a desire to travel to New York City lingered. After all, today was the last Professional Friday of the semester and my first chance to try it.

After a shower, breakfast and a healthy dose of contemplation about why anyone wakes up this early, I boarded the Long Island Rail Road with my fellow journalism fanatics.

Professional Friday is a day on which Stony Brook journalism students explore the media giants of New York City. It is a special day of the month for the School of Journalism’s faculty, too. All faculty members on the trip exude the same ambition and energy as their undergraduate counterparts.

Professional Fridays resonate so deeply with students and faculty because they do what any other journalism program cannot. Not only does the School of Journalism take students to the



ERIC SCHMID/STATESMAN FILE
Scott Pelley, left, the anchor and managing editor of the CBS Evening News, speaks with professor Jonathan Sanders on a Professional Friday trip in November 2015.

city, the largest media hub in the world, but it also lets them see the inner workings of media organizations and meet the people behind them.

Jon Friedman, a journalism professor and writing aficionado, guided our herd of students

through the pouring rain to the first stop: Univision.

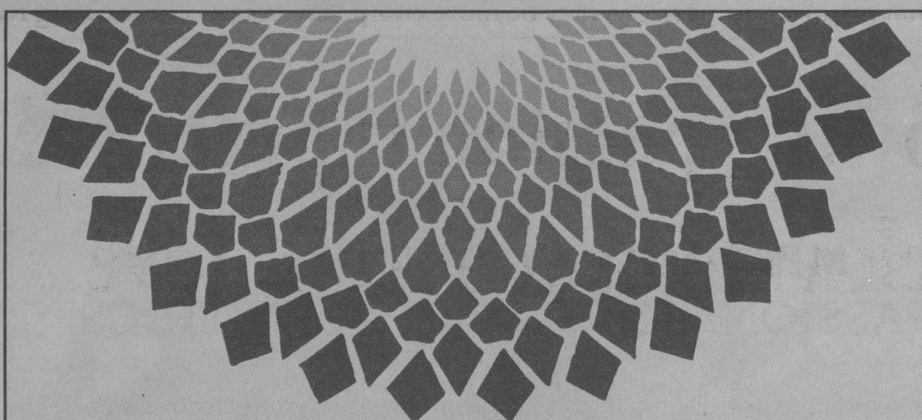
Univision is a Spanish-language network founded 50 years ago, and its New York location stands tall at 605 Third Ave. For our meeting, the team at Univision focused on the com-

pany’s mission to reach the Hispanic-American population, as well as the employees’ commitment to journalism despite its perilous nature. The journalists candidly discussed documenting the Sept. 11 attacks and their inner con-

flict between safety and news coverage. They also discussed the difficult work-life balance many journalists face and the sacrifices that they have to make in order to keep pace with the endless pile of news. One of the women said that she had to miss several of her daughter’s plays at school due to the sheer volume of incoming stories. The team was truly sincere, and it set a difficult precedent to beat for the next company, Business Insider.

Headquartered at 150 Fifth Ave., Business Insider looks as one would expect from a brand founded in 2009. Everything is modern: the furniture, the technology, the employees and the governing ideals. Business Insider’s fresh-out-of-college employees spoke the features of the company’s millennial-centric operation, including its team-oriented workplace, interactive learning and less-centralized leadership. They emphasized the independence and the democratic work environment. They extended advice on applying to internships, and a recruiter offered business cards to students in case they ever decide to apply.

If you are at all intrigued by the people behind the media companies you know, I would highly recommend Professional Fridays. Just make sure that you can get out of bed.



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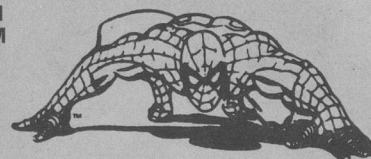
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Gubitosi carves name for self as defensive playmaker

By Skyler Gilbert
Sports Editor

It all started in math class at Northport High School, five years ago.

That's where Brooke Gubitosi bugged Dorrien Van Dyke, her classmate, best friend and teammate on the Tigers, every day to play college lacrosse at Stony Brook. At the time, the university was an upstart local program with head coach Joe Spallina just being hired after winning three straight Division-II titles at Adelphi.

Gubitosi had already committed to be a Seawolf, and with enough persistence — “even my dad was bugging Dorri,” the defender recalled — she convinced Van Dyke to be a Seawolf too.

For Stony Brook, Van Dyke, a midfielder, was an immediate star. She won America East Rookie of the Year in 2014, while Gubitosi was forced to sit out with a medical redshirt for a stress fracture in her shin.

But since then, Gubitosi has proven that she was not a mere recruitment tool; she can play herself. Now in her second season of starting for the Seawolves, the redshirt junior ranks eighth in the NCAA with 2.67 caused turnovers per game, the most by a player at a ranked school.

“She's one of the best defenders in the country,” Spallina said after a recent game against Colorado.

On the Stony Brook defense, the No. 5 unit in the nation, Gubitosi plays the role of a “backer” in the zone, patrolling in front of the goal with freedom to read plays and in-



ARACELY JIMENEZ / THE STATESMAN

Redshirt junior Brooke Gubitosi attempts a pass against USC on March 24. Gubitosi ranks eighth in the NCAA.

tercept passes. She has no specific responsibility to stay guarding an individual player or area of the field.

“She's someone who can see the play develop beforehand then close in, make a good angle, and make the play that's in front of her,” Spallina said. “She directs our defense and takes away the inside players of the other team, which has been a big advantage for us.”

Gubitosi, who at 5-feet-9-inches is the fourth-tallest player on the Stony Brook roster, uses her length and athleticism to leap and snatch cross-field passes with her stick to spark a breakout for the offense.

“I think my wingspan helps me out,” Gubitosi said, spreading her arms to her side. “I play with my stick up a lot.”

She and the Seawolves defense faced difficulties last month in a game at Florida, the No. 3 team in the country. The Gators clouded

the team's trip to the Sunshine State, scoring 22 goals, 15 of which came in the first half.

“We just had to learn from it,” Gubitosi said. “We had to get back to what we're good at: make teams adjust to us, instead of adjusting to them.”

Since the loss to Florida, the team's defense, under Gubitosi's lead, has been dominating. In five games, the Seawolves have allowed only 31 goals. Gubitosi has recorded 19 ground balls and 18 caused turnovers over the stretch, being named the America East Defensive Player of the Week twice this season.

Spallina described his player's leadership as coming from her contagious passion. Her Instagram bio simply reads, “Don't forget to live.”

“She's loosey-goosey but she cares,” Spallina said. “That's kind of a rare trait when you have a kid who can laugh and change gears on the fly.”

Davion Wingate, basketball star, to transfer

By Gregory Zarb
Staff Writer

Stony Brook Women's Basketball sophomore guard Davion Wingate is leaving Stony Brook to pursue the rest of her college career at another school.

“We can confirm that Davion Wingate is planning to transfer,” Stony Brook Athletics said via email.

All America East Conference teams, Manhattan College, Hofstra, Wagner, Syracuse, Harvard, Yale, Cornell, Central Connecticut State, Georgia Southern and Iona have been prohibited from recruiting the 5-foot-6 shooting guard, A.J. Schaufler, Stony Brook's coordinator of eligibility and recruiting, said in an email.

This past season, Wingate was tied with senior Kori Bayne-Walker as the Seawolves' leading scorer, averaging 11.8 points per game.

In her two years as a Seawolf, Wingate played in all 62 games, starting in 36 of those games.

Wingate is known as an apt offensive rebounder. After recording a mere six offensive boards in her freshman year, Wingate came out and recorded a career high 36 offensive rebounds during the 2016-17 campaign — good for fourth best on the team.

Wingate scored a career-high 25 points in a game against Florida A&M on Dec. 20. Her previous career high of 19 points came in a comeback win against Binghamton during her freshman season.

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Stony Brook
Medicine

Dylan Resk has three HRs and game-winning hit in four-game sweep of Sacred Heart

By Tim Oakes
Staff Writer

Stony Brook Baseball swept Sacred Heart in a four-game series this weekend, playing the first three games at Stony Brook and the final game at Sacred Heart. With the sweep, the Seawolves extend their winning streak to seven games.

Game 1: Stony Brook 9 - Sacred Heart 3

Freshman starting pitcher Sam Turcotte returned to his role as a starting pitcher to open the series against the Pioneers after not being called on to start a game the previous weekend. The hard-throwing right-hander racked up a season-high nine strikeouts in six and two-third innings pitched to lead the Seawolves to a 9-3 win at Joe Nathan Field Friday.

"I just took advantage of [the start]," Turcotte said. "I worked on staying down in the zone and I think it really helped this week."

His nine strikeouts Friday were the most by a Seawolf in a single game this season. He only walked two batters. Turcotte has had command issues this season despite striking batters out at a high rate. He has walked 24 batters in 31 innings this season.

Turcotte was tagged for just three runs in the game, giving his lineup plenty of breathing room.

The Seawolves already had a 3-0 lead when senior center fielder Toby Handley hit a RBI triple down the right field line. The senior also added an RBI double in the fifth inning. Junior third baseman Bobby Honeyman had two hits and two RBIs.

Sacred Heart scored two runs in the top of the seventh inning to cut Stony Brook's lead to 7-3. Handley drove in his third run of the game and sophomore second baseman Brandon Janofsky had a sacrifice fly to bring the game to a score of 9-3.

Game 2: Stony Brook 11 - Sacred Heart 5

Sophomore outfielder Dylan Resk was in a different zone for the entirety of Saturday's doubleheader against the Pioneers. He had two home runs and three RBIs in the first game to help lead the Seawolves to an 11-5 victory.

Head coach Matt Senk got to the athletics facility around 8:05 a.m. on Saturday morning, but he was not the first one there.

"I was in early today and I heard someone in the hitting facility. Dylan was in there doing some extra hitting," Senk said. "He put the extra work in this morning and today's performance was the result."

Resk hit a two-run home run over the left field wall in the fourth inning to tie the game at three. His second home run was an opposite-field home run to right, giving him a team-high six home runs. He is now in a three-way tie for the most home runs in the America East.

"I am not necessarily looking to hit for power," Resk said. "I was definitely just trying to get good contact on the ball the whole [game]."

Resk's performance helped overshadow freshman starting pitcher Brian Herrmann's worst start of the season. He allowed a season-high 10 hits and five earned runs before junior Teddy Rodliff relieved him in the fifth inning. His earned run average dipped to 3.10 following the performance.

Senior shortstop Jeremy Giles hit a two-run double in the fifth inning to start a five-run inning to pull away. Rodliff filled in to pitch the final 2.2 innings of the game, allowing no runs

and striking out two batters en route to earning the win.

Game 3: Stony Brook 6 - Sacred Heart 5

Despite already hitting two home runs earlier in the day, Resk was saving his most memorable moment for the final play of the day. He capped off an eventful doubleheader by hitting a game-winning RBI single to left field.

"It definitely felt good," Resk said after the game. "I just shortened up at the plate and put a good swing on a slider."

Resk had six total hits on Saturday, including a season-high four hits in the second game. His final swing ended the game in the bottom of the ninth inning at a score of 6-5 to complete the doubleheader sweep of the Pioneers.

"It's one of the greatest things to get six hits in two games," Resk said. "Especially when the whole team is there to back you up. Everyone was hitting and everyone was contributing."

The Seawolves entered the bottom of the fourth inning trailing 4-0. Sophomore catcher Sean Buckhout hit a bases-clearing three-run double to right-center field to cut the Pioneers lead down to one.

Senior first baseman Casey Baker helped his team take a 5-4 lead with a two-run home run in the fifth inning, his third of the season. Baker reached base in all five plate appearances, racking up two hits and drawing three walks.

Stony Brook could have ended the game earlier if junior closer Aaron

Pinto did not throw a wild pitch in the sixth inning, allowing a Sacred Heart base runner to cross home plate and tie the game.

Luckily for the Seawolves, Resk was hitting nearly everything he saw at the plate on Saturday. He had no problem coming up in the clutch once again.

Game 4: Stony Brook 11 - Sacred Heart 5

Sophomore starting pitcher Bret Clarke entered Sunday's game with a 9.74 ERA, the highest among Stony Brook pitchers who have made a start this season. But Clarke appeared to have put his rough start to the season in his rearview mirror, allowing no earned runs and striking out a season-high nine batters in six innings on the mound.

The Seawolves lineup backed up Clarke's pitching performance, helping him earn his first win of the season, as his team went on to defeat Sacred Heart, 11-5. Clarke's win-loss record stands at 1-3 on the season and his ERA dipped to 8.45.

Freshman designated hitter Michael Wilson scored the team's first run in the top of the second inning on a sacrifice fly. He came up to the plate to add a two-run single. The freshman finished with a game-high three RBIs and also scored on a wild pitch in the fifth inning.

Resk hit a two-run home run in the top of the fifth inning, his third of the weekend, to give his team a 10-3 lead. Resk is now tied with UMass Lowell's Chris Sharpe and Hartford's Erik Ostberg for the America East lead in home runs.



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Sophomore outfielder Dylan Resk touches home plate. Resk had three HRs in four games against Sacred Heart.



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SPORTS

Women's Lacrosse nets 20 goals against Binghamton, wins sixth straight game

By Joseph Konig
Contributing Writer

At first, during the Saturday matchup with America East rival Binghamton, Stony Brook's women's lacrosse team did not look quite like the dominant force they have been all season. In the fourth and fifth minutes of the game, the flat-footed defense allowed two goals in 82 seconds.

Then the Seawolves appeared to remember who they were and scored 11 straight goals on their way to a 20-4 victory, improving their conference record to 3-0 and their overall record to 11-1. Binghamton dropped to 1-1 in conference play and 5-8 overall.

"We're not gonna go down to anyone else's level," junior midfielder Samantha DiSalvo said. "We're going to play like we're known to play."

And that they did. DiSalvo, scoreless in her last four games, scored four times, tying her season high in goals.

Eleven players scored goals in the rout, more than in any other game this season. The victory is also tied for Stony Brook's highest scoring effort of the season, due to the team's 15 assists, something head coach Joe Spallina happily emphasized.



ARACELY JIMENEZ / THE STATESMAN

Junior midfielder Samantha DiSalvo charges down the field in a March game against USC. DiSalvo scored four times against Binghamton Saturday, tying her season record.

"Coach was saying it in the locker room before, if some of our big scorers aren't really scoring that much, can't find the cage, we have got back-up scorers," junior attacker Kylie Ohlmiller said. "Sammy [DiSalvo] and [Kristin] Yevoli had huge games today."

Senior midfielder Kristin Yevoli and freshman attacker Taryn Ohlmiller each added three goals apiece in the effort. The younger Ohlmiller sister notched four assists.

Meanwhile, the elder Ohlmiller had her lowest goal total since the first game of the season, scoring only once.

She did, however, add seven assists to put her nation-leading point total at 85 this season. Her 133 career assists now place her as 17th all-time in NCAA Division I history.

"You gotta have that maestro," Spallina said of Kylie Ohlmiller's play creating ability.

Spallina also said that she was "like one of the Beatles," but that was referencing the throng of adolescent girls waiting for autographs after the game, a now normal sight at home games for the Seawolves.

"To have all those little girls looking up to you, it's awesome," Ohlmiller said. "It's awesome for us to be able to know we're role models for them because we know when we were little we

had girls that we looked up to and wanted to sign lacrosse balls for us."

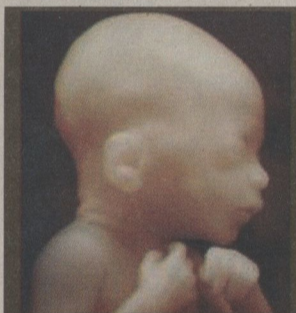
Kylie Ohlmiller, in between appearances on ESPN, has firmly supplanted herself in the conversation for the Tewaaraton Award, the college lacrosse award for most outstanding player. This, coupled with the team's rise to the top of the national rankings, has encouraged hundreds of young fans to show up weekly to watch the "maestro" at work. The official attendance at Saturday's game was 1077.

"Defensively we can be better," Spallina said after the team's 16-goal victory and 17th straight home win. "I think we play with so much emotion and fire, there are times, without realizing it, you can lose that killer instinct."

Does that mean Spallina is worried about the intensity of play the players will take into their next matchup at Johns Hopkins?

"Nah," Spallina said. The Ohlmiller sisters and DiSalvo, sitting beside him, laughed in agreement.

After facing Johns Hopkins on Tuesday, a game which will be nationally broadcast on ESPNU at 5 p.m., the Seawolves will travel to Vermont for a Friday game. Then, following an eight-day break, they will travel to UMBC on April 22 and Hofstra on April 28.



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