

THE STATESMAN

INFORMING STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY FOR MORE THAN 50 YEARS

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ANNA CORREA / THE STATESMAN

"Culper Spy Day: Our Revolutionary Story" attendees examine documents about George Washington's spy ring. The event took place on Sept. 16 in Melville Library.

Stanley's plan to address \$35m deficit draws anger from faculty

By Rebecca Liebson
Assistant News Editor

President Samuel L. Stanley, Jr. and other top administrators met with the University Senate Monday, Sept. 11 to discuss a plan to balance Stony Brook University's nearly \$35 million deficit over the next two to three years.

Aside from divulging details about the budget, Stanley was forced to address grievances from faculty members, many of whom complained that the impending cuts would contradict the university's alleged commitment to diversity in education.

"I think one thing that we know, that every educational institution knows, is that almost no place can be excellent in all areas," Stanley said. "We really have to make decisions and set priorities of where we're going to invest."

One of the changes being made is a cut to personnel spending, which will likely result in terminations. The plan calls for a three percent decrease in personnel for academic programs and a six percent decrease for administrative units. There will also be a 10 percent reduction across other spending areas.

Stanley stressed the fact that administration would be facing the brunt of the cuts. A broad variety of jobs, including positions in operations and maintenance as well as clerical work, fall under the umbrella of administrative units.

The president urged faculty to use the unfortunate situation as an opportunity to reassess their academic programs. "What are programs that are high quality, that have high demand from students, or are good and can become great?"

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New policy lets students choose preferred name on ID cards

By Evelin Mercedes
Contributing Writer

A newly implemented policy, enacted in August 2017 and known formally as the "ID Card Replacement Policy," will allow Stony Brook University students, faculty and staff members who would like to change their legal names on campus ID cards due to transitioning purposes, to obtain new ones.

"Being able to be correctly addressed in class is affirming to personal identity," Chief Deputy to the President Judith B. Greiman said. "We want all of the

campus community to feel supported and seen while at Stony Brook, empowering them to take full advantage of all the opportunities and services that Stony Brook has to offer."

To be granted permission to change one's name on their campus ID card, individuals must meet with the coordinator of Stony Brook University's LGBTQ* Services Chris Tanaka and request the change via email or personal visit. The policy states that the first card replacement will be granted at no cost.

"University policy states that we're supposed to have our ID

cards on us at all times," junior Spanish language and literature and psychology double major Allison Link said. "I think this policy helps validate the trans community on campus by allowing them to obtain an ID card that matches their identity."

The original "Chosen or Preferred Name Policy," approved in October 2016, allowed students, faculty and staff members to set either their chosen or preferred names on SOLAR, thereby allowing the Office of the Regis-

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UPD's Zacarese wins in Suffolk County Republican primary

By Joseph Konig
Assistant Arts & Entertainment Editor

Assistant Chief of Police and Director of Campus Emergency Management Lawrence Zacarese came out on top against State Senator Philip Boyle in the Republican primary for Suffolk County sheriff on Tuesday night. The polls closed at 9 p.m. and Zacarese declared victory shortly after.

"We have a lot of work to do for the general election, of course," Zacarese said in a video posted to his Facebook page at 10:18 p.m. on Tuesday. "But tonight we celebrate a hard fought victory."

First-time candidate Zacarese defeated Boyle with 56 percent of the nearly 22,000 votes cast, according to the Suffolk County Board of Elections. If elected in November, Zacarese's new position as sheriff will bring along the prestige of being the highest-ranking law enforcement official in Suffolk County. The county jails and 250 sheriff deputies are housed within the sheriff's office.

Boyle, who served in the state assembly from 1994 to 2012, has been in the state Senate ever since. According to Newsday, Boyle conceded shortly after 10 p.m., but did not rule out seeking the Democratic endorsement in the general election in November.

Zacarese ran after Vincent DeMarco, the current county sheriff and a member of the Conservative Party, who opted not to seek a fourth term. DeMarco's decision came after he angered party leaders for launching an investigation that sent the Suffolk County Conservative Party boss

Edward Walsh to prison. Walsh, who was a lieutenant within the Suffolk County Sheriff's Department, was convicted on federal charges of wire fraud and theft of government services.

Boyle was endorsed by the Conservative Party and was the favored candidate by Republican Party officials. The state senator represents District 4, which encompasses parts of Jones Beach, Brentwood, Ronkonkoma and Bay Shore. He has no law enforcement experience, but cites his decades-long career of working alongside law enforcement as a legislator as qualification for the job.

Boyle's campaign was marred in scandal, including the belief by some that he was Walsh's handpicked favorite for the job – in part because Walsh's wife, Patricia, works in Boyle's office.

Newsday's editorial board endorsed Zacarese in the primary because "the circumstances that set up Boyle's candidacy reek, and should offend anyone who believes in elections of integrity and openness."

Zacarese joined the University Police Department in 2009 after serving in the New York Police Department for 11 years. It is unclear at the time of publication whether Zacarese will continue his work with UPD if he wins in November. His connection to the university dates back to the '90s, when he worked as a paramedic for two years. He has a law degree and a master's degree in public administration and started a Smithtown-based law firm in 2015.

The general election will take place on Tuesday, Nov. 7.



SAHER JAFRI / STATESMAN FILE

Assistant Chief of Police Lawrence Zacarese defeated opponent Philip Boyle with 56 percent of the vote.



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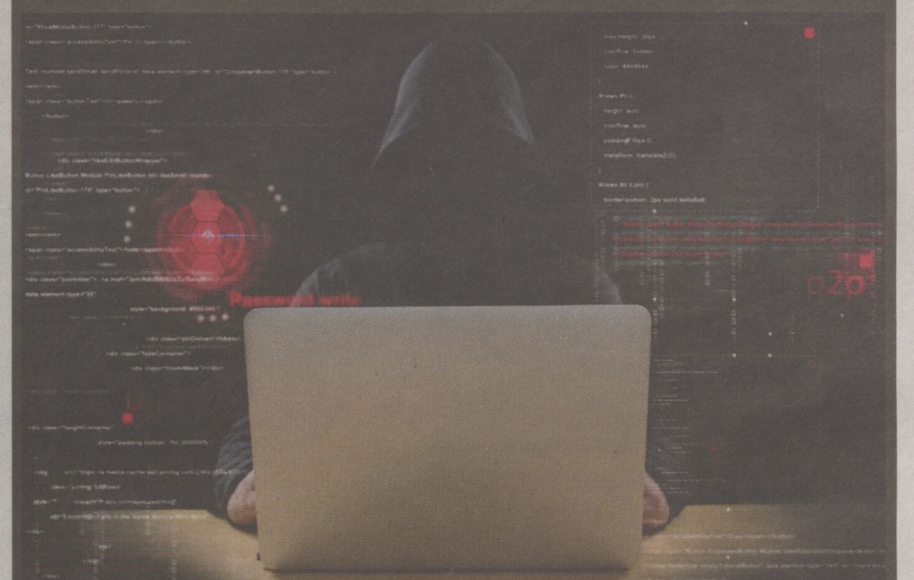


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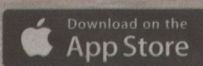
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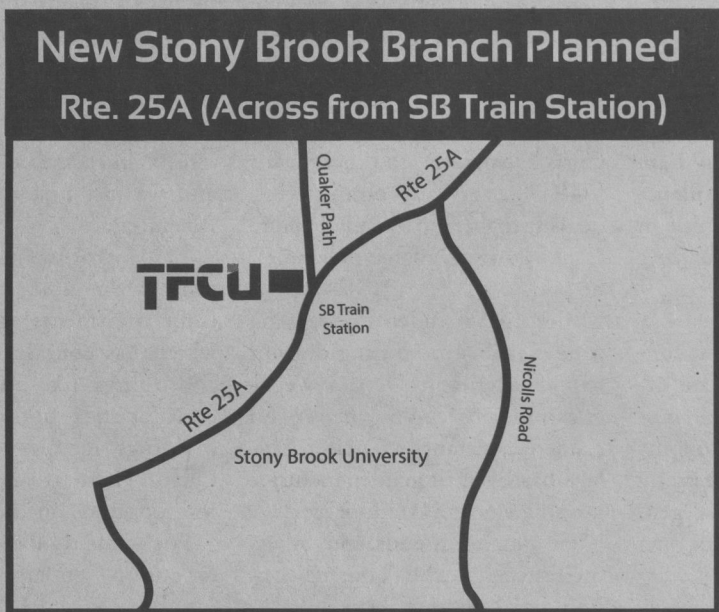
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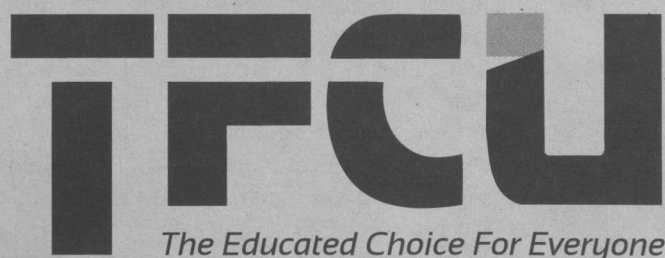


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Diversity issues dominate University Senate meeting

Continued from page 1

Those are programs we can be invested in. And there may be other programs we can no longer be invested in," he said.

Various faculty members' comments drew an emotional response from the crowd of nearly 200. But the standout moment of the afternoon came from Mireille Rebeiz, an assistant professor in the department of world literature, which was formed following the recent downsizing of humanities programs at Stony Brook.

"The most vulnerable among us are from the underrepresented groups," she said, referring to programs in fine arts and humanities. "If you look at the rate of lecturers, it's mostly women or people of color...the higher in administration we go, the more white males we have." Rebeiz's comments reflected concerns from faculty that those in lower-level teaching positions would be hit the hardest since tenured professors are legally protected against termination.

The audience began to cheer and clap, but Rebeiz was far from finished. "The way I hear it, you used your savings on a swimming pool, on raising your own salary, on 'Far Beyond.' Far Beyond what?" she asked, mocking the university's newest branding campaign.

Rebeiz stood up and left the room in frustration after the president failed to respond to her comment, which was met with thunderous applause from the audience.

Stanley kept his head down for the majority of the meeting, both literally and figuratively, standing on the far left side of the room, his hands tightly clasped. Although he often deferred to Senior Vice President for Finance and Administration Robert Megna and Provost Michael Bernstein, one of Stanley's most direct answers came in response to a criticism that cuts to faculty teaching various topics in world literature was counterintuitive to other measures being made to promote diversity, including the appointment of a chief diversity officer.

"It's difficult when one gets down to the areas of teaching, to me, to say that we're going to keep one area and not another area just based purely on content. I think we really have

to make decisions based on enrollment, based on scholarly impact," Stanley said, immediately after reiterating the university's commitment to diversity.

Although Megna identified several causes behind Stony Brook's current budget woes, the primary reason seemed to be the end of the NYSUNY 2020 Challenge Grant Program. The plan, passed by the state legislature in 2011, provided \$140 million in grants across four SUNY schools, including Stony Brook. This allowed the university to hire around 240 new faculty members, and make sizable investments in infrastructure and student advising.

"The challenge when you invest in any situation is that you face the possibility that revenue will decline," Stanley said. In Stony Brook's case, this is exactly what happened.

The approval of a five-year predictable tuition plan following the end of SUNY 2020 capped tuition hikes at \$200 per year, \$100 less than the years prior, according to a presentation distributed to Senate members. This amounts to a loss of around \$2.6 million for the first year, Stanley said. Additionally, an agreement between the legislature and the SUNY system will ensure that tuition rates remain flat for the 2017-18 school year, further decreasing revenue.

Mandatory pay increases for state employees will also pose a threat to the budget, since these raises are no longer factored into the state's annual allocation for SUNY schools. "Stony Brook now has to pay that increase," Stanley said. "So a two percent increase, which is about what they've been over the past few years, translates to about eight to nine million dollars in additional costs."

Despite his attempts to frame the issue in the best possible light, this was not enough to win over the sympathies of much of the audience.

As Rebeiz wrapped up her final statement before exiting the room, the faculty's collective exasperation became abundantly clear. "I moved my family here from Ohio and the only thing you have to tell me is that I'm not essential to the mission of the university? That I have no role to play and you have no commitment to me and your reputation will be fine? That is shameful."

Increase in gender-inclusive housing raises student concerns

By Rawson Jahan
Assistant News Editor

The start of the semester at Stony Brook University brought with it the largest group of students to move into gender-inclusive housing in the program's 10 years of existence. But with this growing number of residents comes a growing number of concerns.

Gender-inclusive housing allows students of any gender to live together and express their chosen gender identities without confinement, in a safe haven. All students living in these spaces must sign a contract requiring them to respect the privacy and values of those in their suite, Catherine-Mary Rivera, the director of residential programs, said.

"So, it could be friends, allies, those students who are transgender, anyone could live there," Rivera said. She added that everyone who lives in gender-inclusive dorms understands that their roommate or suitemates might express a different gender than the one they were given at birth.

Students like William Argenzio, a senior cinema and cultural studies and respiratory care double major and president of the university's Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Alliance say this is not always the case.

"I will always say that I am happy students have this option to live in, but I will also say I am disappointed in campus residences," Argenzio, who lives in one of Chavez Hall's gender-inclusive suites, said.

"There seems to be no real way for students to voice their concerns that the people they are living with are aggressive and emotionally abusive to them on the basis of their gender, which pretty much defeats the purpose of gender-inclusive housing in the first place."

Argenzio said these issues likely stem from the fact that many of his friends who live in gender-inclusive housing never received the necessary contracts.

"If the person who signs the contract does not uphold the standards described, they can be removed from the space and placed into a different living option," he said. "Understanding this, I was ready to sign, but neither me, my suitemates [nor] other students across campus received this contract."

Rivera says the gender-inclusive housing contracts are available on the housing portal and that students must sign when choosing their housing, or else they cannot continue to the next page.

"It is actually embedded in the housing portal. When you choose it, there's a link to click on the gender-inclusive housing contracts," Rivera said.



LUIS RUIZ DOMINGUEZ / THE STATESMAN

Chavez Hall is one of the many buildings on campus that offers gender-inclusive housing options for students.

"However, given this feedback that students are saying they didn't see it or know, we are going to change the process moving forward. There will be a hard stop that you cannot progress unless you open it up and read it."

Despite his concerns, Argenzio says that he is incredibly happy his friends and members of the LGBTQ* community have this safe space — one he says is safer to live in than other spaces on campus.

"As the semesters went by more and more LGBTQ students tried to get into GIH [gender-inclusive housing] and with a lot of work done by the students and by Chris Tanaka, the coordinator for LGBTQ* services, campus residences stepped up and made more GIH options available to people," he said.

The rise in students occupying gender-inclusive housing did not happen overnight. Derrick Wegner, a senior psychology major and resident assistant in Dreiser College has lived in gender-inclusive housing since his freshman year.

He got his friends and others interested in the housing option, and spoke to Alan deVries, the associate director of residential programs and administrative services and director of conference housing, about expanding the number of gender-inclusive dorms available.

"My first year there were only two gender-inclusive suites and I was a pretty queer guy; I'm trans and I thought 'Oh, will I be placed in an all women's suite? That would be really weird,'" Wegner said.

"My friends and I and a lot of other people were interested and we got a third one started, which is really cool."

"Now there's more than 200 people in gender-inclusive housing. We were like 'Hey more people need this, and Al deVries who is an amazing human being, was like 'The people need this,' and so it happened," Wegner said.

According to Rivera, the catalysts behind the program were a

group of six students and a faculty member from the Undergraduate College of Human Development, who pitched the idea in 2007.

"Ten years ago it was already a conversation happening nationally, gender-inclusive housing for students was already being talked about. And Stony Brook also wanted to provide housing that our students felt safe and comfortable in," Rivera said.

Now the program has expanded, from 42 students last year to over 200 students this year — offering not only suite and apartment-style living, but corridor-style as well.

"I think over the years the interests have ebbed and flowed and we just met that demand," Rivera said.

"This year we're thrilled because we're able to add, aside from apartments and suite-style which has contained bathrooms and things like that, our first corridor-style options in a few buildings in Eleanor Roosevelt Quad. There are multiple bathroom options on the floors."

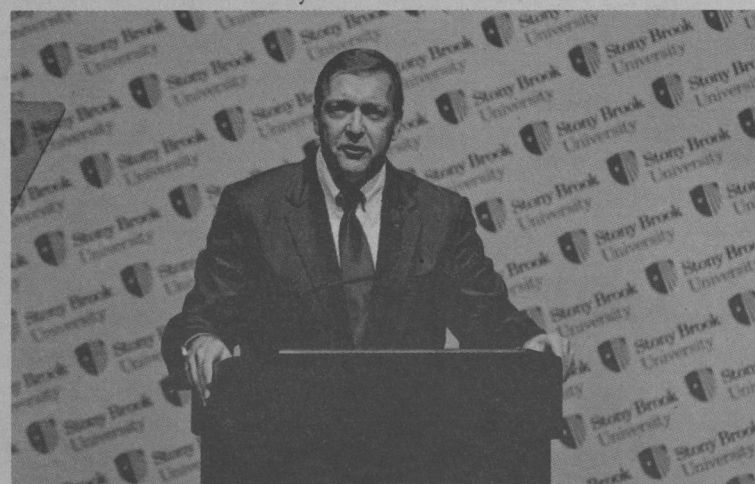
For students like Wegner, the expansion sets up more spaces for those in the LGBTQ* community, and brings awareness to those who identify with different pronouns than the ones assigned to them at birth.

"In a lot of queer spaces, people make less assumptions about your identity," Wegner said.

"When you walk into this space, they ask you what your pronouns are so they address you correctly. I really like it because people are just automatically aware and it's not frustrating or stagnant or awkward, it's just part of the culture."

In regards to the housing expansion, Rivera says she hopes a message is sent to students that Stony Brook is committed to providing a safe environment for all of its students.

"This is a safe environment, you can feel free to express yourself in any way you feel comfortable and there's a place for you here," Rivera said.



EZRA MARGONO / THE STATESMAN

The end of the NYSUNY 2020 Challenge Grant Program was identified as a cause behind Stony Brook's deficit.

Students show support for new campus ID card policy

Continued from page 1

trar to use that name for future correspondence. This name would also be used on class rosters, final grade rosters and on Blackboard.

"IDs were a priority because they're used to swipe in for events, credit, into your building and to buy food," Tanaka said. "Over the summer we were able to finalize a plan for the ID cards following the 'Chosen or Preferred Name Policy.' That led [to] the groundwork for this."

One issue the registrar and other administrations faced after students began changing their preferred names on SOLAR, was that Blackboard displayed one name, while students' ID cards displayed another. On top of that, if a student were to be stopped by officers of the University Police Department (UPD) and their ID was their only form of identification, they would need to have proof of their legal names available in some form.

For some students, campus ID cards are their only form of identification. Those with new IDs will be able to easily identify themselves, but anyone with an outdated ID that does not reflect the proper name would need to have alternative forms of identification available to them.

"The solution we came up with is that we would print double-sided IDs," Tanaka said. "The front would have chosen or preferred names and the back has their legal name."

The policy is also making it possible for transitioning students to change their Stony Brook email addresses, in the case that they would like their preferred name to match the one on their new ID cards. In response to an email sent to the campus community by LGBTQ* Services about the policy, some students say they are in favor of it.

"When I first heard about this policy, I was overjoyed," senior chemical and molecular engineering major, Jessica Hofflich, said. "No more will I be wrongly named by that one cashier at the [Student Activities Center] who calls people by the names on their IDs."

This policy, which fights for the rights of transgender people, has the potential to become a reality at other universities as well.

"If student organizations across different campuses can try and make this policy commonplace, then hopefully other universities will follow suit," Link said. "It's all up to the students, and right now, Stony Brook is doing its part."



ARACELY JIMENEZ / THE STATESMAN

The "ID Card Replacement Policy" will allow Stony Brook campus IDs to show a student or staff member's preferred name on the front and legal name on the back.

In regard to how other campuses can promote LGBTQ* inclusivity, Greiman said she hopes other universities make similar policy changes.

"While it may take a while to change all of the many systems, our underlying philosophy of inclusion and affirmation is evidenced in the policy, and

we have prioritized the list of changes that need to be made," Greiman said.

"I urge other campuses to take this same approach."

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Post Malone to play upcoming Back to the Brook

By Joseph Konig
Assistant Arts & Entertainment Editor

Post Malone is coming to Stony Brook for the annual fall concert, Back to the Brook, and students could not see the hip-hop artist at a more perfect time in his career than right now. The “Stoney” singer has reached a career peak and the next few months will determine if he will be able to find continued success in his so-far short stint in the spotlight.

Just in the last few days, Post Malone, aka Austin Post, has contributed to two singles that will garner a significant amount of hype in the coming weeks for their crossover appeal. His lamenting, brooding verse on the remix of Lorde’s “Homemade Dynamite” is the strongest in a song that features verses from critics-darlings Khalid and SZA. And “rockstar,” the first single from his sophomore album, “Beerbongs & Bentleys,” dropped on Friday, with a feature from 21 Savage.

The duo of Post and 21 Savage is a successful one, as most of Post’s collaborations with trap rappers have been. 21 Savage’s monotone verse meshes well with the beat and Post Malone’s dreamy, slightly auto-tuned vocals on “rockstar.” On the track, the two rising stars bemoan the trappings of their newfound fame — a musical trope for sure, but one they execute effectively. Think “White Iverson” meets Future’s “Perkys Calling.”

Hip-hop legend Lil Wayne was in talks to perform at Back to the Brook, according to the Undergraduate Student Government. However, a disagreement over security policy at Island Federal Credit Union Arena doomed the deal. The “A Milli” rapper would have been the biggest performer to grace the stage at Stony Brook in years, despite struggling to maintain relevance thanks to a drop in quality and issues with Cash Money Records.

But Post is a solid replacement (with a price tag of \$102,000, according to USG) in the midst of his prime. He has hip-hop and popular



THE COME UP SHOW / FLICKR

Rapper Post Malone performing at the Veld Music Festival back in 2016. He and electronic music producer Slushii will be performing at Back to the Brook at the Island Federal Credit Union Arena this upcoming Friday, Sept. 22.

appeal, a solid middle ground between the usual rapper or pop band debate that occurs around nearly every university concert.

Ever since Post dropped his debut single, “White Iverson,” on SoundCloud in February 2015, he has been on an upward trajectory. The music video was posted on YouTube in July and a month later, Post signed with Republic Records. The music video has over 400 million views on YouTube and the song has gone platinum four times.

Post’s debut album, “Stoney,” dropped in December 2016 and was certified platinum by the Recording Industry Association of America in April. The album had five singles, four of which went platinum. “Congratulations,” featuring Quavo, went platinum five times.

Missing cohesion as a project, “Stoney” still highlighted Post’s hit-making ability and appeal as a singer despite not having the stereotypical top-40 sound or appearance.

Despite his popular appeal, Post’s personality would be unrecognizable to those who know him from his music. His often melancholic, woeful sound hardly reflects the goofy, creative artist displayed in interviews and at live shows.

Outside the recording booth, Post’s uninhibited and silly disposition has forged relationships with a variety of characters ranging from Justin Bieber (featured on the “Stoney” single, “Deja Vu”) and Kanye West to Indonesian tee age rap phenom Rich Chigga and YouTube comedy duo h3h3Productions.

Post comes across a tad more mature than your average 22-year-old in interviews, but only because fame forces him to be. In Ottawa on Wednesday, Post Malone started a “F*ck Jake Paul” chant, poking fun at the Vine star turned wannabe rapper and former Disney Channel star who has been entangled in multiple scandals.

Raised in Texas, the braid-wearing, grill-adorned singer is a huge fan of country and has a wide range of musical influences that are not always obvious in his biggest songs. Just this past Tuesday, Post performed an emotional and riveting version of Nirvana’s “All Apologies” on an acoustic guitar at Boston’s House of Blues.

Coming off a strong first two years in the public eye, this year’s Back to the Brook is the ideal

time for students to see Post. He has two years of live performances under his belt, has dropped a platinum debut album littered with platinum singles and is marching ahead toward his second album. If he continues his success, Stony Brook students will get to see an artist on the rise and in his prime. But if “Beerbongs & Bentleys” disappoints, students will have still seen an artist at the height of his prime.

Post Malone will take the stage at Island Federal Credit Union Arena on Friday, Sept. 22. EDM DJ Slushii and student DJ Ardit Prioli will open the 7 p.m. show. While floor tickets have sold out, stand tickets and non-student tickets will be on sale all week at the Student Activities Center ticket booth.

Slushii, 20-year old DJ, set to open for Post Malone

By Joseph Konig
Assistant Arts & Entertainment Editor

The opening act for Back to the Brook 2017, EDM DJ Slushii, aka Julian Scanlan, is younger than many of the students he will be performing for on Friday.

Quite like Back to the Brook headliner Post Malone, 20-year-old Slushii emerged as a name-to-know in his musical community within the last two years. The New Jersey expat made his name orchestrating SoundCloud trap remixes of songs by artists like marshmello and the Chainsmokers. Over the last year he dropped his debut studio album, “Out of Light,” and received cosigns from notable EDM artists, including Skrillex.

Slushii, who is based out of Los Angeles, grew up in Mount Laurel, New Jersey. He began

making music as an outlet for stress. Diagnosed with Aspergers’ Syndrome, Slushii was often bul-

lied in middle and high school. In his junior year, he began making connections through music which he credits with helping him overcome social anxiety.

In February of 2016, Slushii lived at home with his mother and worked at Best Buy. Then, his music was discovered by famed EDM manager Moe Shalizi and his career took off.

Slushii’s Stony Brook performance comes after a week in Asia, where the DJ has been traveling from one Ultra Music Festival to another. Starting on Sept. 7 in Mumbai and ending on Sept. 17 in Tokyo, Slushii performed across the continent, making stops in New Dehli, Bali, Shanghai and Tapei.

Slushii will be preceded by Stony Brook DJ Ardit Prioli, a

senior psychology and applied mathematics and statistics double major. He was contracted by the Undergraduate Student Government and will play music up until Slushii takes the stage. USG Vice President of Student Life Jaliel Amador said the transition away from student opening band, and solo acts was both a cost-saving measure and an evaluative one.

“The [Student Activities] Board and I felt that the student openers have not been receiving the attention they deserve,” Amador said in an email. “It seems as though the opening student act is viewed as elevator music.”

Slushii will receive a \$50,000 payout for his performance. Prioli will not be compensated for his set, according to Amador.



THE COME UP SHOW FLICKR VIA CC BY 2.0

Slushii performs at Toronto’s Mad Decent Block Party in 2016. The DJ will perform at Stony Brook on Sept. 22.

Film adaptation of "It" successfully aligns with novel

By Claudia Motley
Contributing writer

So far, 2017 has been a year gifted with some of the most iconic – and unfortunately, some of the most disappointing – horror movies. Stellar films such as “Split,” “Get Out” and – dare I say – “A Cure for Wellness” graced the big screen, while other horror movies like the “The Ring” remake and “Bye Bye Man” flopped. But since Sept. 8, there has been a new film on the rise, and “It” has just made its big debut.

Before seeing the movie, I was already feeling pretty excited. I have read the original Stephen King novel “It” and the 1990 miniseries adaptation has been a part of my Halloween ritual for years. Upon news of a new movie, I could not help but fangirl.

The new adaptation, as different as it was from the book, drew a lot more plot and character development from the story than the miniseries did. A lot of information that was glazed over in the adaptation is somewhat recognized in the new movie, including more on the lives of the members of the Losers’ Club and their bully.

The audience learns more about the family life of psychopathic bully Henry, played by Nicholas Hamilton. We are given dark in-

sight into the Losers’ Club’s lone girl, Beverly, portrayed by Sophia Lillis, and her relationship with her father. We also get more background on the pragmatic Stan, played by Wyatt Oleff, and his family life.

In the 1990 adaptation, all of this add-on character information is brushed over, and in some cases, completely avoided. However, it must be taken into consideration that at the time of release, some of the material, especially in regard to Beverly’s abusive father and Henry’s aggressive streak, may have been a bit too sensitive for an early nineties audience.

Perhaps one of the most obvious examples of the film aligning with the novel is the new rendition of the death of Georgie, portrayed by Jackson Robert Scott, the younger brother of Losers’ Club ringleader Bill, portrayed by Jaeden Lieberher. In the miniseries, Georgie’s disappearance is creepy, but not gruesome. For those that are familiar with Stephen King’s writing – particularly in novels like “Dreamcatcher” – it is known that King would not dare miss a chance to get gory. Because of this, I am happy to admit that this newer rendition is, without a doubt, a fairer representation of the book’s description.

The dialogue and excellently ex-

ecuted punch lines deserve praise as well. The kids in this movie are half my age, but they pull jokes only angsty college students could appreciate.

What went wrong? The film fed into the trap of generic modern day horror: quick, blurry scenes, a few jump scares and too much CGI.

The most terrifying aspect of the miniseries’ rendition of Pennywise, the evil clown, was that he was creepy. The villain, played by Bill Skarsgård, did not twist limbs or open half of his face to expose a skull of teeth. Pennywise was simply a creepy clown that did creepy things. Special effects back then were minimal, and if there were any, it ensured that the money used on the effects was well spent. Nowadays, it is too easy to make things stretch far beyond reality, which is why the new Pennywise is not that scary. Yes, he jumped out after long pauses. Yes, he grew limbs from his mouth and convulsed into the camera. But after seeing similar visual concepts in almost every cliché, 21st-century horror flick, the idea of some gymnast-clown that runs at you with a mouth of gaping teeth does not strike as nightmare-inducing.

Then there was the movie’s structure. Aside from the generic and unrealistic presentation of a horror icon, the entire layout of the

new film was far from the original. Both in the book and in the 1990 rendition, the older and younger versions of the main characters are shown throughout the story. The book is built around the adult versions of the characters returning to Derry and regaining their memories of It, as well as their memories of being together. The contrast between the past and future played upon the novel’s themes of maturity, nostalgia and growing up.

The new movie, however, is split into two chapters – a method of money-grabbing in the film industry, seen with blockbusters such as the “Twilight Saga,” “The Hunger Games” and the

“Harry Potter” series. The first chapter only covers their young lives and the second chapter will continue with them as adults. This decision takes away from that powerful theme of aging, of the loss of one’s childhood and the nostalgia of revisiting the past.

Generic traps and structure aside, “It” is worth the watch. Though not very terrifying, the film is a fun fall horror flick and it is great to see more of the main character’s background. For those who get squeamish easily, or for those faint of heart, I suggest dragging along a friend or two. In fact, in respect to Stephen King’s sensational novel, make it seven.



GAGE SKIDMORE / FLICKR

Bill Skarsgård, above, played Pennywise, the evil clown in the new adaptation of Stephen King’s novel “It.”

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U.S. Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos speaks at the 2017 Conservative Political Action Conference in National Harbor, Maryland. DeVos is reviewing Title IX.

Don't mess around with Title IX

By Genie Ruzicka
Contributing Writer

Chances are, you have heard of Title IX. If you competed in college athletics, went to college while raising a child, received student health insurance or simply attended a college or university, you have probably benefitted from it as well. Title IX has slowly begun to be dismantled by Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos.

In February, she rescinded the protections that Title IX provided for transgender students. This month, protections for sexual assault survivors are in her line of sight. On Thursday, Sept. 7, to an invitation-only crowd at George Mason University in Fairfax, Virginia, DeVos announced her plan to review Title IX's sexual assault guidelines that were put in place under the Obama administration.

The guidelines, known as the "Dear Colleague Letter," made it clear that it was each university's responsibility to prevent sexual assault, and that even one instance of sexual assault constitutes a hostile environment. DeVos announced that she plans to launch a "notice-and-comment" process which would entail the Department of Education reviewing comments it receives from the public and deciding the best possible action. There has been no word as of yet on when this process will start or how it will be implemented.

If this sounds like a harmless process where the voice of the people will win out and justice for survivors will prevail, do not be so sure. In May, DeVos met with "Men's Rights Activists" who, on their website, label all women "false accusers." She has also stated that Title IX protections are unfair to both survivors and those who have been "falsely accused." In

her speech to George Mason, she declared that "One rape is one too many, one assault is one too many, one aggressive act of harassment is one too many, one person denied due process is one too many." This might seem like a positive statement and that her crusade to dismantle or "review" Title IX is just a byproduct of her quest for justice. However, in this statement, she gives being the victim of a "false accusation" (or being denied "due process") the same weight as being a survivor of sexual assault. It positions false rape accusations as a problem of society, a society in which 80% of college sexual assaults go unreported, according to the Rape, Abuse and Incest National Network.

There is no "rape-accusation culture" in America. The percentage of "unfounded" reports (of the assaults that are actually reported to the police) is somewhere between 2 and 10 percent, according to the National Sexual Violence Resource Center. However, to be categorized as unfounded, the report has to be found false, baseless, unsubstantiated or recanted. This means if there is not enough evidence, the victim takes back the accusation (even if they do so under threat or coercion), or if the police do not believe the reported incident meets "the element of the crime," the accusation is deemed unfounded or false. This means that the 2-10 percent number from earlier may, in actuality, be much lower.

Meanwhile, there is a rape culture in this country and throughout the world. Victims of all genders are blamed for their own assault. They are questioned; they are disbelieved. They often suffer in silence with the physical, emotional and psychological effects of their trauma because they think no one will believe them, and sadly, in many ways, they are

right. Rapists, on the other hand, convicted or accused (especially cisgender men) can go on to lead productive lives. They can continue on to graduate college, win Oscars, play for their team and even become president of the United States. To confer the same status to those who have been "falsely accused" as those who have survived sexual assault or harassment is outrageous and offensive. But sadly, from this administration, it is not all that surprising.

However, lawmakers and activists across the country will not let Title IX go down without a fight. Twenty-nine senators signed a letter to DeVos urging her to keep the current guidelines in place. Activists and assault survivors have also been speaking out, specifically about how the "revision" or revocation of the 2011 guidelines could affect the lives of other survivors.

Some are saying this is a giant step (or many steps) back. Handling of campus sexual assault is already far from perfect. Enhancing the rights of the accused and possibly decreasing the rights of the victims is not the way to improve it. Many activists are taken aback by DeVos' false equivalency between rape victims and those accused of rape. They are not hopeful that her handling of this matter will be anything but detrimental to survivors, especially considering that her family has donated at least \$25,000 to the Foundation for Individual Rights in Education, an organization that provides, among other things, legal support to those accused of sexual assault.

Maybe someone should tell DeVos that one donation to an organization that supports changing the standard of evidence for campus rape investigations, as well as holding many other troubling views on sexual assault, is one donation too many.

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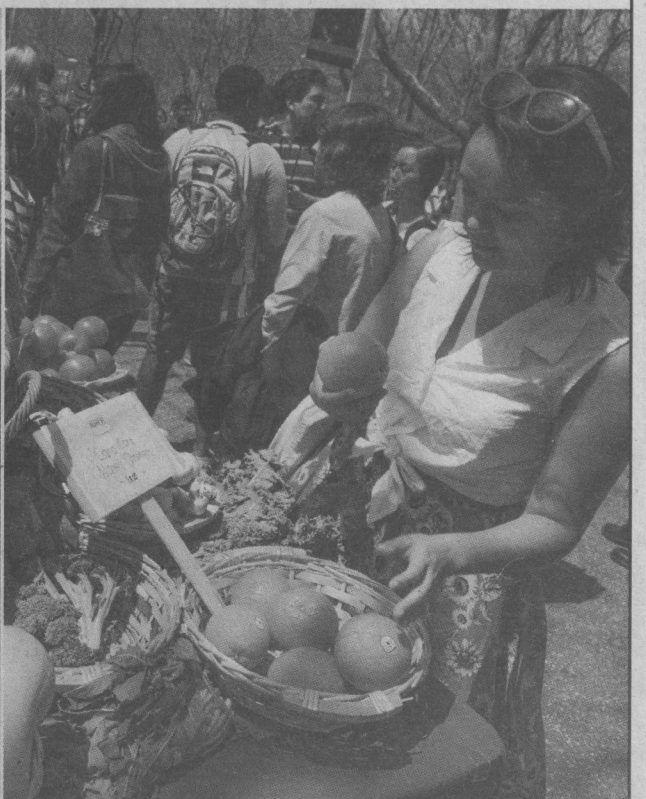
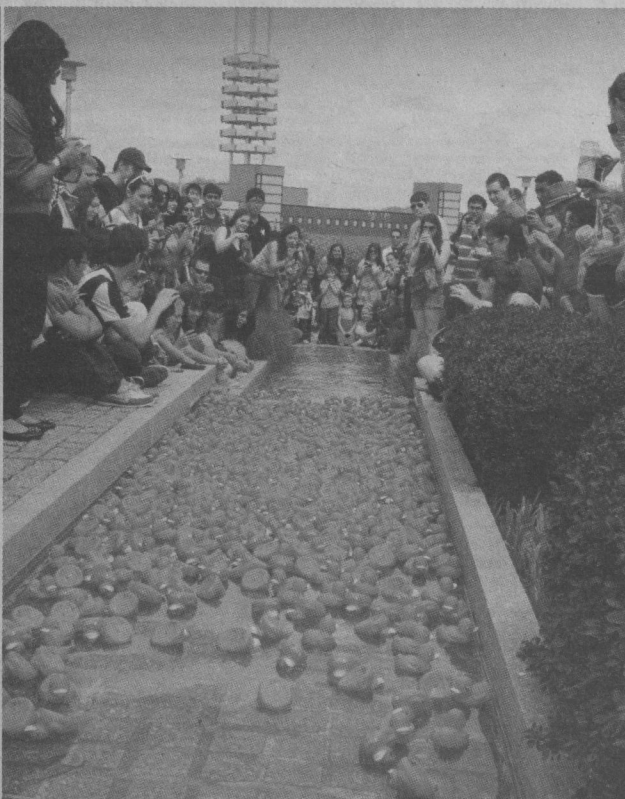
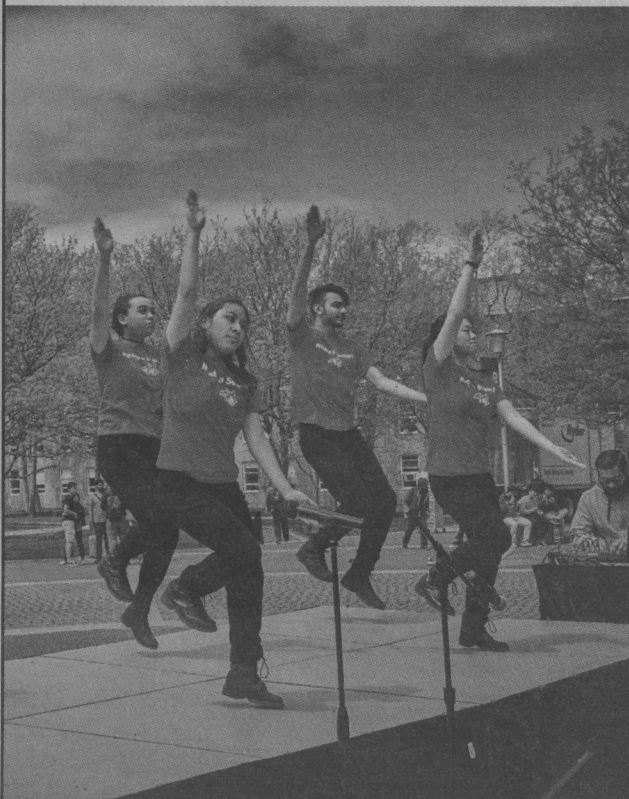
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Gamwanya's penalty kick leads Men's Soccer past Bryant

By Ryan Pavich
Contributing Writer

Holding onto a thin lead, the Stony Brook men's soccer team outlasted the Bryant Bulldogs 1-0 at Bulldog Soccer Field in Smithfield, Rhode Island on Saturday. The team continued their hot streak, not losing any of their last five matches.

The decisive play came in the 44th minute, as junior midfielder Serge Gamwanya scored a goal on a penalty kick to give his team a 1-0 lead. Stony Brook received the penalty kick on a handball call while play was inside Bryant's box. The goal was Gamwanya's first of the season, improving Stony Brook's overall record to 5-1-1.

Prior to the penalty, the Seawolves faced a tough task generating opportunities despite spending a majority of the first half inside Bryant territory. Graduate forward Robin Bjornholm-Jatta had several chances within the first eight minutes, but was unable to convert. The other first-half shot attempt by Stony Brook was graduate defender Eric McKenna.



ANNA CORREA / THE STATESMAN

Junior midfielder Serge Gamwanya runs upfield in a 2-1 win over NJIT last Wednesday. Gamwanya scored the decisive goal via penalty kick in the win over Bryant on Saturday.

While Bryant did not produce the pressure that Stony Brook did, the team did manage to remain competitive. Bulldogs freshman forward

Jared Lee received the ball in the 28th minute off a Seawolves turnover and placed a shot that hit off the left post. In the 51st minute, Bryant senior

defender John Conry found room to shoot, but his shot ricocheted off the crossbar. Bryant attempted 10 other shots but none came as close as the

team continues to search for its first goal of the season

While Stony Brook managed to pull out the victory, the team did not come out unharmed. Redshirt-senior goalkeeper Tom McMahon went down in the opening of the second half, and was helped off the field by the training staff. The team did not disclose what type of injury McMahon had suffered. Sophomore goalkeeper Jacob Braham subbed in for McMahon and helped keep the shut-out intact.

In the last 20 minutes, Stony Brook changed its strategy from aggressive pushing to a conservative, slower-paced game to help minimize Bryant's chances of scoring. This made Bryant find a groove late in the game, testing Braham with a few shots, but the goalie was unfazed by the last-ditch effort.

Stony Brook will head to Washington D.C. for a match against the Georgetown Hoyas on Wednesday, Sept. 20 at 4 p.m. at Shaw Field. The game will be the first time Stony Brook has played Georgetown in men's soccer before.

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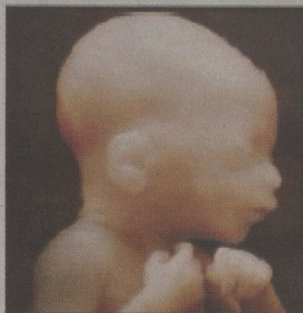
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SPORTS

Football's offense erupts, bullies Sacred Heart in 45-7 win

By Joseph Konig
Assistant Arts & Entertainment Editor

Fifty-one weeks ago, Stony Brook Football hosted Sacred Heart University at Kenneth P. LaValle Stadium and lost 38-10. On Saturday, the Seawolves flipped the script and dominated the Pioneers in nearly every aspect of their 45-7 victory.

"To sit here and say 'Oh, it doesn't feel any better' because it's them out there is a lie," fifth-year wide receiver Ray Bolden said. "Before the game I seen guys come in here smiling at me, winking, things like that. So definitely put me on a little edge."

The edge was evident throughout the game for Stony Brook. The offense ran for 294 yards, junior quarterback Joe Carbone threw a career-high three touchdowns and the punt return team scored a touchdown on a blocked punt for the second time this season.

"I don't want to call it a vengeance game, but we definitely came out ready to play tonight," Carbone said. "We remembered what happened last year. Tonight we had a better handle."

Up by a touchdown at the midway point of the first quarter, redshirt-freshman linebacker EJ Fineran made his way into the backfield and blocked Sacred Heart's junior punter Ryan O'Dowd's punt attempt from the 12-yard line. The ball ricocheted into the Pioneers' end zone, sending both teams scrambling. At the bottom of the scrum, freshman wide receiver Seba Nekhet secured the ball and the Seawolves' second touchdown of the game. Special teams also recovered a blocked punt for a touch-



ARACELY JIMENEZ / THE STATESMAN

Junior quarterback Joe Carbone (No. 10) finishes following through on a touchdown pass to junior tight end Cal Daniels. Carbone had three touchdown passes in the game.

down in week one against the University of South Florida.

The momentum built from there. At halftime, Stony Brook lead 35-7, the team's biggest halftime lead since they led Pace University 49-0 on Sept. 8, 2012. Last year, the score was 14-14 at the half and Sacred Heart went on to score four straight, unanswered second-half touchdowns.

"We had 19 seniors that got stung a little bit, [358] days ago," head coach Chuck Priore said. "Their leadership is tremendous. And that's what it takes to win. What's positive right now, it's all three units together."

All three units — offense, defense, and special teams — outperformed

their Sacred Heart counterparts throughout the game. Seawolves senior defensive backs Darin Peart and Travon Reid-Segure each intercepted Pioneers senior quarterback Kevin Duke. Sacred Heart's lone touchdown came in the first quarter, on a one yard rush from fifth-year running back Ose Imeokparia.

Meanwhile, three Stony Brook running backs had 65 rushing yards or more. Senior running back Stacey Bedell opened a second quarter drive with a 52-yard sprint for the end zone. Junior running back Jordan Gowins ran for 78 yards and scored the Seawolves' final touchdown of the game, bucking defenders off him on a 10-yard trudge for the end zone.

Carbone had a career day for the second week in a row. Last week at Rhode Island, Carbone threw for more passing yards than he has ever thrown in a single game. This week, his career-high three touchdowns increased his season total to five in three games. Entering the season, Carbone completed only five touchdown passes in 19 games.

"He's playing with a very great and high level of confidence," Priore said. "He's got players around him making plays. It's good. Throwing the touchdown passes and being efficient, allows us to convert things on third down."

Carbone was very efficient on Saturday, throwing only 99 yards on 9-14 passing. He connect-

ed with Bolden four times for 43 yards and a touchdown. Junior wide receiver Donavin Washington had three catches for 29 yards and a touchdown. Junior tight end Cal Daniels caught one pass for a nine-yard touchdown.

As well as Stony Brook played, injuries on the offensive line clouded the otherwise impeccable Seawolves performance. Senior left guard Armani Garrick collapsed to the turf early in the second quarter with an apparent knee injury and did not return to the game. Garrick and senior left tackle Timon Parris, who limped off the field late in the third quarter, started 35 consecutive games entering Saturday.

Sophomore offensive lineman Joe Deterie also left the game with an apparent knee injury and was replaced by redshirt-freshman Anthony Catapano. Sophomore right guard Mason Zimmerman switched over to left guard for Garrick and redshirt-freshman offensive lineman Ian McLean filled in on the right side. Senior Chris Infantino replaced Parris as left tackle.

Stony Brook's offense has long relied on a strong run game and appears to now be trying to incorporate more passing as Carbone matures as field general. Neither will be successful in their implementation without a strong offensive line. If any of the three who departed with injuries miss games, the depth of the Seawolves bench will determine the future of the offense.

Next Saturday, Stony Brook hosts Colonial Athletic Association rival Towson at LaValle Stadium. Kickoff is at 6 p.m. against the Tigers, who lost to the Seawolves 27-10 last season in Maryland.

Bjornholm-Jatta takes Men's Soccer offense to the next level

By Gregory Zarb
Assistant Sports Editor

The Stony Brook men's soccer team has been budding and is slowly working its way into the America East title conversation. That is because head coach Ryan Anatol has stuck with the same group of players in the same formation for most of the past few seasons.

One offseason acquisition has changed that system for the Seawolves: transfer and graduate forward Robin Bjornholm-Jatta in the starting lineup.

"It was a big positive getting [Bjornholm-Jatta] here in January," Anatol said. "The big challenge with college soccer sometimes is getting time with the new players. So it was a big positive to get him here and getting him accustomed to the way we play, the way we practice, getting to know the guys and building relationships."

Since the arrival of Bjornholm-Jatta, Stony Brook is having its best start since 2004, opening the season with a 5-1-1 overall record. Bjornholm-Jatta's skill set and style of play has given the team another striker to play up top alongside senior forward Vince

Erdei, who was the lone striker during the 2016 season.

"I think it's getting better every day. We're starting to bond more and get into the plans and tactics more," Bjornholm-Jatta said on his relationship with Erdei. "We're all on the same page. We're still improving, and I think that's a good thing because there's more good to come from us, so that's very positive."

The forward's stats are not reflective of to the way he has impacted the Seawolves. Despite having two goals on the season, Bjornholm-Jatta has been one of the most consistent players on the field.

His ability to find the open man on the field, his strength in getting past defenders hunkering down on him, his speed and his soccer IQ all come into play the moment he steps on the field. That has not gone unnoticed.

"Robin fits into how we want to play," Anatol said. "He's understanding how we want to play. In soccer, you can play so many formations, so many different styles and everybody does it differently. We knew the qualities he had, so it was just him needing to understand how we play. The more games we are getting under his

belt, the more he's understanding how we play."

While Bjornholm-Jatta needed to quickly build a relationship with Erdei, he was not coming over to Stony Brook without any connections.

The forward played alongside junior midfielder Serge Gamwanya and fifth year defender Lars Togstad as part of Rosenborg BK, the most successful Norwegian professional soccer team. There, Bjornholm-Jatta played for Rosenborg BK for five years and helped the team win the 2011 and 2012 Eliteserien league championships.

Several games into his Stony Brook career, however, Bjornholm-Jatta noticed some differences in the style of play of college soccer.

"In Norway, the general player is more tactical. While here, the player is more physical," Bjornholm-Jatta said. "You have more extreme players. Either they're small and tactical, or they're big, strong and fast. The biggest difference is also the rules. There's high tempo throughout the game because of unlimited subs. I'd say that's a big difference for me."

The physicality of college soccer players in the United States does not phase the forward, but devel-

oping the endurance of playing multiple games in a week is something he is still getting adjusted to.

"I think, for me, that's kind of the way I played back home," Bjornholm-Jatta said about his style of play. "So the transition for me wasn't that big. However, I'm not used to playing the amount of games in the fall in that short time period. So the fact that you have to get your body back into shape so quickly is the biggest difference for me."

While Bjornholm-Jatta is still getting accustomed to the college

soccer schedule, he has shown no signs that the work rate is holding him back. As an experienced player overseas, Bjornholm-Jatta has quickly found a place on the offense alongside Erdei. His play has greatly benefitted Erdei, as Erdei has already netted four goals on the season. Erdei co-led the team with senior midfielder Thibault Duval with six goals last season.

As conference play gets closer, Bjornholm-Jatta continues to work his way into the team and help the team become better.



GARY GHAYRAT / THE STATESMAN

Robin Bjornholm-Jatta (No. 14, above) attempts to escape multiple defenders in a game against Seton Hall on Sept. 1.