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LOOK INSIDE FOR THE 2018 YEAR IN REVIEW

SJP criticizes Interfaith Center's Muslim Chaplain

By Rebecca Liebson
News Editor

Stony Brook University Students for Justice in Palestine (SJP) released a statement via Facebook that compared Zionists to Nazis and KKK members and criticized Stony Brook University's Interfaith Center's Muslim Chaplain for supporting their cause.

"...We ask the university: if there were Nazis, white nationalists, and KKK members on campus, would their identity have to be accepted and respected?" the group questioned in its Wednesday, May 2 post. "Then why would we respect the views of Zionists?"

The post was made in response to an April 25 letter from the Interfaith Center. The letter condemned statements SJP made to *The Statesman* calling for Hillel to be removed and replaced with what one member of SJP described as a "proper Jewish organization."

"Such a statement is not only offensive but in direct opposition to the basic principles of respect



EMMA HARRIS / THE STATESMAN

Students participating in the spring festival Holi on Saturday, May 5. Often referred as the "festival of colors," it is mostly celebrated across India.

and diversity that are the cornerstone of our University community," the co-signers of the letter wrote. "This is not about the political cause of Students for Justice in Palestine, but about their attempt to undermine the identity of Jewish students and dictate to them how to observe their faith and express their cultural and national identity as they see fit."

In its response, SJP argues that there is a way to repre-

sent Jewish voices without supporting Zionism.

"Regarding our statement about wanting a proper Jewish organization, any proper organization regardless of religion, should not prescribe to any denomination of racism, colonialism, or imperialism, including Zionism," SJP wrote.

Although the letter was signed by all members of the Interfaith Center, SJP's recent post zeroed in on the Islamic Society and Muslim Student Association (MSA),

calling their involvement in the letter "disheartening."

One portion of SJP's post was aimed specifically at Muslim Chaplain Sanaa Nadim.

"You have reached a heinous level of betrayal to the Palestinian people by working with and aiding Zionists on their endeavors," SJP wrote. "For 3 years we have been on this campus, you have not only helped Hillel

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Students propose new LGBTQ+ Greek life organization

By Gary Ghayrat
Assistant News Editor

Stony Brook students are trying to bring an all-inclusive Greek-lettered service organization dedicated to the LGBTQ+ community and its allies on campus, called a diaternity.

Neither a fraternity nor a sorority, the organization is meant to be inclusive to all genders, sexualities and races, said its main organizer Annalisa Myer, a sophomore psychology and political science double major.

"I think it's a good place to start it at Stony Brook, because we have been making great strides in terms of increasing awareness and giving students more options," Myer said.

Myer went on a Washington D.C. conference with the Feminist Majority Leadership Alliance over spring break, and said she was inspired by another university's organization that was also all-inclusive. Myer said she's trying to start a chapter of an existing diaternity, but didn't disclose the name because she's still in the process

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Students, organizations and faculty honored at 2018 Student Life Awards

By Brianne Ledda
Staff Writer

Students and faculty were honored at Stony Brook University's Jerrold L. Stein Student Life Awards on Monday, April 30, in the Sidney Gelber Auditorium. Award recipients won for their outstanding contributions to university life through "leadership, campus programming and advising throughout the academic year," according to the website.

Twenty-eight individuals and 39 organizations were nominated by fellow students, faculty and staff. Thirty-six awards were given out in total. Specific programs such as the Avi Interfaith Meal (Shabbaton) from the Muslim Students Association, Newman Club and Hillel were also recognized at the event.

"Student Life Awards is one of the major recognition events here that celebrate the contribution of all the ways of all the folks who come to build community and make Stony Brook a fun, a vibrant, and an exciting place to be," said Jeff Barnett,

interim associate dean of students, when introducing the event.

The Stony Brook women's lacrosse team was honored with a special recognition, receiving the first ever Trailblazing Seawolf Award. The team, number one in the nation, was the first from Stony Brook to finish with an undefeated season.

"It's been a really exciting time for me," Brooke Gubitosi, a redshirt senior currently in the School of Professional Development and defender on the team, said. "I've been here for five years now. We've been working hard for a really long time and you know, going into the post-season, we have a lot of unfinished business to take care of."

The award is meant to recognize the team's accomplishments in academics and campus involvement, in addition to its athletic prowess, and will become an annual installment at the Student Life Awards.

"The plan is that [the award will] go to an athletics team, for a combination of on and off the field work," Richard Gatteau, the interim vice president for student affairs and

dean of students, said. "That was, I think, one of the things we wanted to highlight about women's lacrosse. It's not just about their athletic ability that makes them so special, it's also their academic work that many of them have such strong GPAs, and have done incredible community service activities."

The team held an average 3.3 GPA in Fall 2017, and three individuals earned 4.0s, according to Gatteau. Team members are also involved in several campus organizations, such as the One Love initiative, Red Watch Band CARE team and the Student Life Advisory Council.

Cheerleaders and a drum line performed in front of the stage as the award was presented, and Wolfie made an appearance. The audience stood, giving the performers and recipients a standing ovation.

"We're just thrilled, it's really exciting to you know, find this emerging sport at Stony Brook, that everyone's rallying around," Gatteau said at the reception following the event. "We're thrilled that Wolfie



ARACELY JIMENEZ / THE STATESMAN

The Stony Brook women's lacrosse team is the first-ever recipient of the Trailblazing Seawolf Award.

was here, and the band was here, and the director of Athletics was here, and the women were here because it's almost truly unbelievable that they're undefeated. They haven't lost a game. That doesn't happen. It's incredible."

Two clubs — the Peer Mental Health Alliance and Lambda Theta Alpha Latin Sorority, Inc. — also

stood out at the ceremony, winning two awards each.

"They say it takes a village, and here at Stony Brook, we have wonderful people who every day in many ways express their willingness to support each other, to advocate for each other and to create a sense of community and a cultural connectedness," Barnett said.

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Wolfie Seawolf
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NEWS

SJP members compare Zionists to Nazis and KKK members

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normalize their Zionist agenda, but also suppressed your own Muslim students from speaking out against the state which has killed our Palestinian brothers and sisters. You have continually harassed our members and slandered our organization with claims of terrorism.”

Nadim has since denied SJP's claims. “There's so many things that I have done to support the Palestinian people and bring their plight and bring their story to light,” she said, pointing to the fundraising work she's done through the United Nations to provide aid to Palestinian refugees. “But all my life I have always learned that hate is never a component of peace and never creates a platform for a productive solution.”

In Nadim's eyes, the actions of SJP run counter to the message of tolerance and unity that the Interfaith Center has tried to promote.

“They should use the good energy and the opportunities that we have on campus to create a unified climate that can work on bringing the attention to a resolution for an independent Palestine,” she said.



GARY GHAYRAT / THE STATESMAN

Members of Students for Justice in Palestine (left) protest the 70th anniversary of Israel's Independence Day. SJP later criticized the Interfaith Center Muslim Chaplain.

But President and Founder of SJP and senior political science major, Shehran Uddin, said working with Hillel would defeat the purpose of his organization.

“Everything that we do is in accordance to every other student movement and every other activist group that has come throughout history,” he said. “You don't work with your oppressors to defeat them

and you can't because it's not in their interest to drop their Zionist agenda.”

Uddin doubled down on the claims made in the Facebook post, adding that he and the rest of SJP are pushing to have Nadim replaced with a chaplain whose beliefs are more closely aligned with their own.

Despite the backlash against her, Nadim said she respects

SJP's right to express their views on campus, adding that they should afford this same respect to the students in Hillel.

“We as a people cannot create an agenda of hate or alienation, dictating to our fellow colleagues on campus what to believe in and how they should go about observing their religious convictions,” Nadim said.

VESO supports student veterans and military members

By Anna Correa
Contributing Writer

David Rampil isn't your traditional college student. He is a seasoned veteran of the United States Marine Corps. He has had direct encounters with the Taliban in Afghanistan. He conducted operations in West Africa following the 2012 coordinated terrorist attacks on the United States' diplomatic compound in Benghazi, Libya.

Rampil and other student veterans, as well as civilians showing support for the troops, are part of the Veteran Students Organization (VESO), a group dedicated to uniting veteran students with each other and the campus community, and bringing awareness to social issues and difficulties that concern veterans during their college careers and post-service lives.

VESO has on-campus and off-campus trips, fundraisers, graduate student internship opportunities and social events like meditation, outdoor excursions and video-game mixers to help build a stronger sense of community for veteran students at the university.

“The organization is basically a support system for student veterans,” Rampil, president of the club and a senior anthropology major, said. “Seasoned students know tips and tricks around the school that are passed down.”

Club members meet up on Wednesdays in Roth Cafe to swap stories, make jokes, talk about the news and ask for homework help. Many veterans in VESO are slightly older, non-traditional students with families, jobs and responsibilities.

The majority of the civilian students who participate in the group join because they have family members that have served or are currently serving in the military.

Eric Cipriani, an active member of the military and senior psychology major, said VESO helped him find his bearings at the university. He moved here from a different state but was willing to take the risk since the school's reputation spoke for itself.

Cipriani and other veterans benefit from the GI Bill, which covers education costs for active duty service members, selected reserve and national guard armed forces and their families.

“The paperwork that is required to go to school under GI Bill benefits can be intimidating if you don't know what to do,” Cipriani said. “VESO assisted me with that process when I first got here and it made my life much easier. Everyone in the club is great.”

Marquis Cunningham, a student in a post-baccalaureate health science program and former medic in the army, said his experience in the army helped him realize that he wants to be a doctor instead of an international lawyer.

He condensed what other undergraduates in the pre-med track do in three to four years to just a year and two summers.

Since Cunningham has credits that are over six years old, admissions committees may be reluctant to accept them since the information he learned then is becoming exceedingly outdated. Because of this, he is trying to do as much as he can in a short period of time. In addition, the GI Bill covers only 36 months of tuition,

so he wants to take advantage of the opportunity.

“I literally took physics, chemistry, bio and stats last semester,” he said. “This summer I'm taking organic one and two, and two bio labs and biochem. I've already sacrificed my soul. I told people don't call me. Don't text me. No, I'm not going out. I'm studying.”

Oftentimes, students in the reserves or national guard who are on active duty are sent abroad, forcing them to take time off from school.

“We have one student deploying to Afghanistan this week, but I cannot mention his name for operational security purposes,” Rampil said.

The club shows its support for these students by writing them handwritten letters and sending them care packages filled with snacks and treats.

VESO was recently awarded the Educational Program of the Year at the Stony Brook Student Life Awards for its Tent City homeless veteran program from last semester. It was a collaborative event with the Stony Brook School of Nursing's Student Nursing Association. On Veterans Day, 60 participants set up tents in Mendelsohn Quad and braved the cold from 6 p.m. to 6 a.m. to raise awareness for homeless veterans. A large crowd also stayed to watch the event.

Alex Safran, a senior psychology major, former third generation army paratrooper and retired police officer, said that there are misconceptions about veterans. Safran said he believes the current generation has seen how prolonged war has drained society and how the veteran system hasn't taken care of its veterans.

Students show support for all-inclusive Greek life

Continued from page 1

of making the organization recognized at Stony Brook.

Assistant Director for Fraternity & Sorority Life, Samantha Thompson, and LGBTQ+ Services on campus could not comment in time for publication.

“I've thought about joining Greek life on campus before, but, in particular, I didn't feel like those spaces were good for someone like me,” Myer said.

As someone who identifies as a lesbian, Myer said she could relate to students who had to choose between a fraternity and a sorority. She said what she wants is a more welcoming organization for all students, including people who are non-binary or gender non-conforming.

Kaitlyn Compitello, a junior biochemistry, and women's, gender, and sexuality studies double major, said they found out about the organization through a Facebook interest meeting post by Myer, and jumped on board to help set up the organization as much as they can.

“It's actually something I wished we had for awhile because I feel like Greek life is so gendered.”

- Kaitlyn Compitello
Junior

“It's actually something I wished we had for awhile because I feel like Greek life is so gendered,” Compitello said. “You can join a frat or a sorority, but, you know, there's nothing really for anyone that falls in between.”

During one of the interest meetings, Jocelyn Adams, a junior biology major and a member of Epsilon Sigma Phi Sorority, Inc., said she and a few other members came out to support the new Greek life organization and collaborate to help build their chapter here at Stony Brook University.

As a member of one of the few Greek life organizations on campus that advocates for diversity, “it's important to really get people from all different walks of life, so that you can learn from them and promote diversity,” Adams said. “But those same issues aren't always applied when it comes to sexual orientation and LGBTQ rights. So, we hope this is going to be even more inclusive than we are.”

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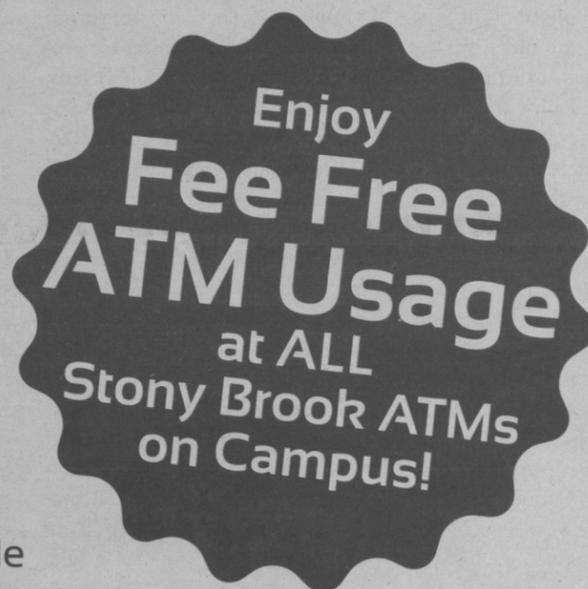


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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Painting with a Twist combines wine and art in Selden

By Brittany Bernstein
Contributing Writer

Painting with a Twist, a paint and sip franchise, opened its first Long Island location in Selden on April 9.

The studio will offer what the website calls “fun art, not fine art.” Paint and sip classes feature an artist who teaches a class how to paint one pre-selected painting step-by-step to wine sipping attendees.

“We’re not teaching how to paint,” Selden Painting with a Twist owner, Nancy Loguercio, said. “It’s not about teaching how to paint, it’s about walking them through something fun — it’s not an art class, it’s a fun time.”

Loguercio was a graphic design artist for 15 years before she made the decision to switch to a more stable job in healthcare after being laid off in 2001. However, she decided she wanted to get back into art and open a business to afford her family more financial security.

Faced with a plethora of options, as many paint and sip franchises have popped up in the past decade — Muse Paintbar, Pinot’s Palette, Paint Nite and Wine and Design — Loguercio ultimately chose Painting with a Twist because of the company’s “Painting with a Purpose” program.

The program requires each Painting with a Twist location — there are more than 340 locations in 39 states — to hold a fundraiser for a local or regional non-profit organization each month. On April 25, the Selden franchise raised \$1,500 for Stony Brook Cancer Center patient programs.

As a mother of a disabled son and a daughter who is a cancer survivor, Loguercio said she ap-



Painting with a Twist opened its first Long Island location in Selden on April 9. The paint and sip franchise combines art and wine to raise money for charitable causes.

preciates the opportunity to give back. Through the program, Painting with a Twist has donated over 4 million dollars to non-profit organizations like Habitat for Humanity, National Multiple Sclerosis Society and the Vera Bradley Foundation for Breast Cancer, according to the company’s website.

Aside from the company’s charity, Loguercio hopes that Painting with a Twist will be a fun, therapeutic place for members of the community to gather and create.

However, some artists criticize paint and sip businesses for sucking the creativity out of painting.

A quick Google search for “artists against paint night,” brings articles like “A Critique of Paint Nite in 14 Points” and “Paint Nite — Where Anyone Can Be a Really Bad Artist.” Some artists choose to rage against the paint and sip

machine that cranks out generic, paint-by-numbers-type paintings, but Loguercio and former Wine and Design teacher Erin Bogosian say these artists are missing the point of paint and sip, which is its fun, stress-relieving nature, as well as its ability to employ artists who may otherwise struggle to make ends meet.

“No one is going to Vincent Van Gogh their way out of Wine and Design,” Bogosian, who is also a junior 2D animation student at Pratt Institute, said.

“I kind of compare it to yoga in a weird way,” she added. “A very, very low stress [activity] meant to clear the mind. The experience itself is not exactly meant to make you a fantastic artist it’s supposed to help you relax and let the stress out.”

There is a growing body of research that suggests that

painting and other forms of art are indeed therapeutic, according to a report by Harvard University Women’s Health Watch.

“Studies have shown that expressing themselves through art can help people with depression, anxiety, or cancer, too,” the report said. “And doing so has been linked to improved memory, reasoning, and resilience in healthy older people.”

Bogosian said that though teaching the same simple painting over and over again may be boring for the artists, they have the benefit of making money while creating art.

“A lot of artists just end up working at Starbucks and you know doing nitty-gritty things to pass the time and make money,” Bogosian said. “I wanted to find a way to let artists make money

based on art and things that they enjoy doing.”

As a teacher, Bogosian found she could express her creativity by submitting paintings to the Wine and Design corporate office to be used as teaching materials for classes. When a painting was accepted, the artists would be paid \$50 to \$60 for their work and then would make another \$50 for each class they taught — whether it was their own painting or another accepted painting.

She stressed the importance of simplicity in these sample paintings, explaining that the first painting she created was “too advanced.”

“I went a little bit too hard trying to impress [the owner]. I did a lot of blending and stuff and [the owner told me] these are going to be very drunk city moms, you can’t ask them to blend stuff.”

At Painting with a Twist in Selden, Loguercio employs eight local artists, whom she found through a Craigslist ad that received 150 applications. Some of the artists are moms, some are students, but all are true artists, she said.

The walls of the Selden location are covered with sample paintings, the teachers’ self-portraits and paintings that encourage painters to share their work on social media. The hashtag “Painting with a Twist,” has been used about 340,000 times on Instagram.

“Basically it’s just a fun place,” Loguercio said of her business. “With everything going on in the world right now, you just need a break from it all. It forces people to unplug and detox from [their] electronics and breaks people away from that. I don’t think we get enough of that in this society.”

Review: "Avengers: Infinity Wars" is a middling effort

By Matthew Rainis
Contributing Writer

We’re currently living in the golden age of comic book movies. I’m not saying that all of the comic book movies that are coming out right now are brilliant, but a decent amount of them are certainly serviceably good. “Serviceably good” is an adequate term to describe “Avengers: Infinity War” and my feelings on the long-awaited crossover event.

While certainly not one of Marvel’s strongest efforts, the movie proves sufficiently fun and hits most of the right beats one expects from a superhero movie. There are thrilling action sequences, quips and famous characters who we’ve never met before finally coming face to face. What more can you really ask for?

Picking up from where the brilliant “Thor: Ragnarok” left off, the film begins in the midst of an attack by the notorious Thanos (Josh Brolin). Thanos is on a quest to retrieve all six of the legendary Infin-



Chris Hemsworth, Tom Hiddleston and Chadwick Boseman speaking at the 2017 San Diego Comic Con.

ity Stones. If he were to obtain all six of the stones, he would become the most powerful being in the universe, able to bend time and reality at his will. Unluckily for him, standing between him and holding all of the stones are “Earth’s Mightiest Heroes,” the Avengers. Due to the film’s action-packed nature, it’s hard to say much more about the plot without giving anything away, so I’ll just leave you with that.

The film is helmed by Joe and Anthony Russo, both seasoned Marvel veterans who have experi-

ence stuffing a lot of heroes into one movie, like “Captain America: Civil War,” but even that probably didn’t prepare them for a film that is jam-packed with characters, all vying for valuable screen time. While a few characters are allotted enough screen time to really be able to shine during the movie, Thor (Chris Hemsworth) has a predominant character arc in the film while other major characters are limited to just a few lines and maybe one cool fight scene. There are simply too many char-

acters being juggled and the film suffers for it despite its lengthy two and a half-hour runtime.

Another of the film’s major flaws is its relative lack of accessibility to fans who haven’t seen most or all of the Marvel Cinematic Universe films. There are a plethora of off-hand references to previous Marvel films and their plots, and personally, although I am decently well-versed with what’s going on in the Marvel universe, I could definitely understand a new or more casual viewer being overwhelmed and confused by the film’s lack of exposition.

Despite these flaws, I still enjoyed the film a good amount. The Russo brothers’ previous experience working on “Arrested Development” shines through in some of the comedic scenes, scoring a handful of big laughs in the theater. While there isn’t exactly a stand-out climactic scene similar to the “Captain America: Winter Soldier” elevator scene, the film is chock full of creative and entertaining battles. It’s a fun film, but it just

lacks the depth that separates Marvel’s best efforts from the field.

In just 11 days, Infinity War crossed \$1 billion in worldwide box office sales. This was a record time and the fastest in film history. It also had the biggest global opening in film history and the biggest domestic opening weekend.

Overall, the film’s scale ended up being its greatest weakness. Marvel’s best films are typically the ones in which there’s more focus on a couple of main characters, where you can really watch their characters and relationships develop. Due to the film’s absurdly large cast, no one character or relationship was given enough time to really be explored.

It’s most definitely a fun popcorn movie. It’s a movie where all of the superheroes meet up and fight together. It’s hard to completely mess that up. Marvel has mastered the formula for fun and serviceable superhero films, but despite its scale and ambition, “Avengers: Infinity War” fails to propel itself above middling Marvel fare.

Preview: new anime this spring

By Kraig Klein
Contributing Writer

The spring semester has almost drawn to a close, and with the approaching terminus comes that bane of all students' existences: finals week. Make sure to take a break from studying, and when you do, why not check out a new Japanese animated series? Here is a brief list of what to watch during finals week and what to avoid.

First off is "Uma Musume Pretty Derby," based on a mobile game that has yet to be released. This show takes place in a world where humanity has branched off into two species: regular humans and horse-human hybrids (who are predominately female for unexplained reasons) that are identifiable by their horse ears and tails. The protagonist of this particularly saccharine anime is Special Week, one of the aforementioned hybrids, who moves to Tokyo in order to register in a global racing tournament.

"Uma Musume" is a mixed bag: although it has surprisingly smooth animation and vivid visuals, its story is average and shows little originality. It is also strangely dystopian — the show glances over the fact that the hybrids are indoctrinated into believing that their only goal in life is to become essentially Olympic champions and that the only career path offered to them is to become athletes who are forced to put on lavish concerts should they win. Indeed, the show dismisses the zabsolutely terrible lives of the horse-girls in favor of telling the tried-and-true story of a transfer student trying to adapt to life in a new town.

The short series "Aggretsuko" is also light-hearted like "Uma Musume," but it has a more meaningful story. "Aggretsuko," whose characters are simplified bipedal cartoon animals, focuses on the everyday life of office worker Retsuko, who deals with the burdens of monotonous and oppressive office work by roaring death metal songs. The series is easy to get into as Retsuko is easy to sympathize with — particularly for students whose workloads seem to be never-ending due to finals and for students

who have trouble socializing in general. Despite this, the show suffers from a weird animation style where characters' mouths and facial features are distorted to show emotion, which is a bit unnerving.

The most prominent issue with "Aggretsuko," however, is its handling of workplace harassment. Retsuko is constantly being belittled by her boss, a literal sexist pig, who views women as tools whose only purpose is to do "womanly things" like brewing tea or secretarial duties. The show could be considered feminist since Retsuko fiercely refuses to be overwhelmed by her boss' sexism and uses the bonds she forms with others in the office to mentally overcome his microaggressions, but active feminists in movements such as #MeToo and #TimesUp might object. Contrary to what those two movements encourage, Retsuko never reports her boss for sexual harassment, nor does she try to spread awareness by posting her experiences online like the countless women who have detailed their horrific stories as part of #MeToo. Consequently, "Aggretsuko" is only for people who are able to put aside their feminist passions in order to enjoy a workplace comedy about the burdens placed upon the individual.

"Caligula," unlike the previous two shows, aims to be a surreal horror story rather than light-hearted fluff. In this show, a virtual celebrity singer known as Mu wreaks havoc on Tokyo due to her supernatural powers, which grant people's inner desires at the cost of turning crowds of people into what appears to be crystallized purple goo monsters. The main protagonist is Shikishima, a high school student with an obsession with studying psychology who is unfortunate enough to be the only person seemingly aware of those monsters.

The show has decent animation and interesting, surreal visuals, but it is all ruined by one thing: Shikishima's never-ending monologues. Whenever something important happens, Shikishima takes it upon himself to loudly declare his thoughts on the matter to the

audience, never allowing the audience to observe the action on-screen for themselves. When there's nothing happening, he continues talking to himself anyway, usually discussing psychological terms and theories that would only interest psychology majors — and even then, given that finals are coming up, they probably don't want to be reminded of schoolwork when trying to relax. Although the show doesn't quite break the rule of "show, don't tell" by allowing the audience to observe some scenes without interruption, Shikishima's endless speeches do hinder the show greatly.

"Persona 5: The Animation" has the same surreal horror effect "Caligula" aims for, but unlike "Caligula," it is actually entertaining. Based on the critically acclaimed PlayStation 4 game of the same name, it follows the adventures of Rem Amamiya, a gentlemanly juvenile delinquent who leads a bunch of robbers known as the Phantom Thieves in "heists" where they target surreal manifestations of people's vices. He does this by using a smartphone app that brings him into a supernatural world where he can summon a monster known as a Persona to fight off monstrosities embodying the dark aspects of humanity.

The show's theme of dubious morality and the questioning of the definition of "good" and "evil" make it an interesting, albeit laid-back, study of ethics, particularly with its Robin Hood-esque protagonist.

Despite the fact that it is an adaptation, the anime avoids dumping tons of exposition about the original game and allows the viewer to draw their own inferences by observing characters' movements and interactions, a stark and relieving contrast to "Caligula's" never-ending dialogue.

The smooth, vivid animation adds greatly to the overall atmosphere, making for an engaging experience. The only aspect of "Persona 5: The Animation" that might dissuade viewers is that it is an adaptation — there is little reason for people who played the original game to watch it since they already know the story.

ARTSY EVENTS

May 10

Dallae Story: A Puppet Show

Korean professional performing arts company, Art Stage San, will be performing a nonverbal puppet show about a child and her family growing up during the Korean War at the Charles B. Wang Center Theatre at 6 p.m. General admission tickets are \$20. Student and senior tickets are \$10 for students.

May 10

Undergraduate Recitals

Undergraduate music majors and minors will be performing solo and chamber works at the Staller Center Recital Hall on Thursday, May 10 and Friday, May 11. The recitals are free to attend and are scheduled throughout the day. Performance times can be found on the music department website.

May 10

Roots Ensemble

The Stony Brook Roots Ensemble will perform "Songs of the Wild and Free," featuring the music of Montana, on Thursday, May 10 at 6 p.m. in the Charles B. Wang Center Chapel. The group will perform Bluegrass, Country, Western Swing and Blues standards.

May 11

Hellenic Film Festival

Several Greek and Cypriot movies will be shown by the Center of Hellenic Studies, in collaboration with the Hellenic Film Society USA at the Charles B. Wang Center Theater: "Rose of Smyrna" on Friday, May 11 at 7 p.m., "Family Member" on Saturday, May 12 at 5 p.m., "Polyxeni" on Saturday, May 12 at 7:30 p.m. and "Worlds Apart" on Sunday, May 13 at 5 p.m.



CHAMBER MUSIC OC./WIKIMEDIA COMMONS VIA CC BY-SA 4.0

Music professor and cellist Colin Carr performs at Chapman University in 2014.

Colin Carr

May 11

World renowned cellist and Stony Brook professor of music Colin Carr will be performing with the Piano Trio Intensive at the Staller Center for the Arts on Friday, May 11 at 8 p.m.

May 18

Commencement

Stony Brook University's Commencement Ceremony will be held at Kenneth P. LaValle Stadium on Friday, May 18, 2018 at 11 a.m. Poet Tracy K. Smith, the 22nd poet laureate to the Library of Congress, will receive a Doctor of Letters. Stony Brook alumna Atefeh Riazi will receive a Doctor of Science. Riazi is the chief information technology officer for the United Nations and the founder of CIOs Without Borders.

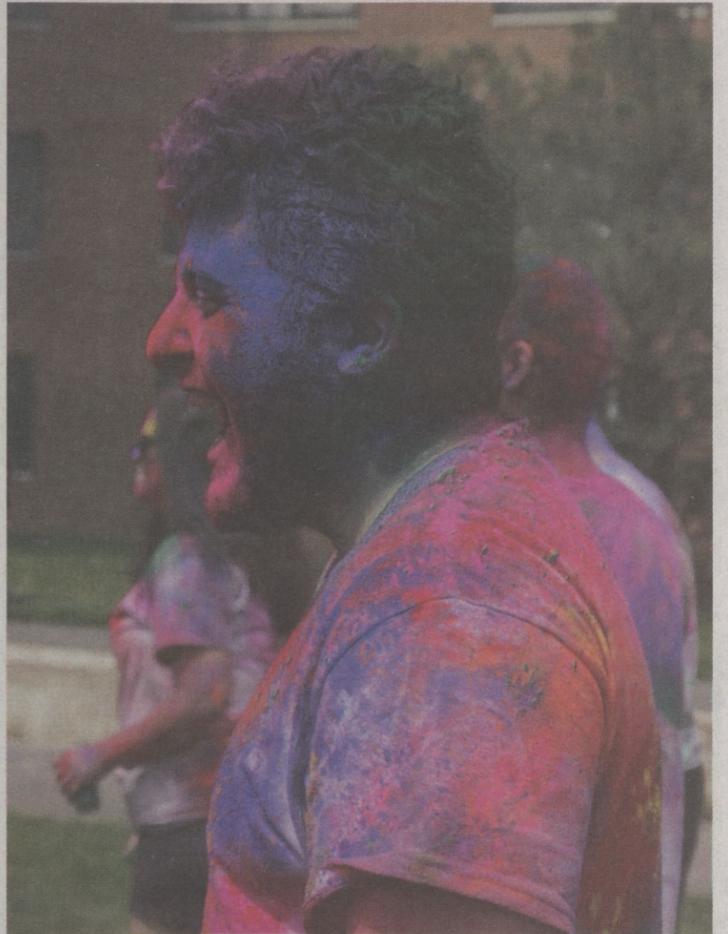


BAGOGAMES/FLICKR VIA CC BY 2.0

"Persona 5: The Animation," an anime based on Atlus Games' popular role-playing video game "Persona 5," premiered in America on April 7, 2018.

MULTIMEDIA

Holi Festival 2018



Stony Brook's Hindu Students Council hosts the annual "Festival of Colors" in the Mendy Pit. Attendees throw, blow and smear the vibrant Holi powder on each other. The festival is a celebration of fertility, color and love, as well as the triumph of good versus evil.

PHOTOS BY EMMA HARRIS





Year in Review 2018

The top stories of 2017-2018



GARY GHAYRAT / THE STATESMAN

DACA decision leaves Stony Brook's Dreamers in flux

BY MIKE ADAMS / SEPTEMBER 9, 2017

President Donald Trump's announcement of plans to rescind the program within six months and leave its replacement to Congress' discretion, has left the program's nearly 800,000 participants, including SBU students, also known as Dreamers, frightened for their future and unsure of what will come next.



CHRISTOPHER CAMERON / THE STATESMAN

President Stanley's plan to address \$35 million deficit draws ire of faculty

BY REBECCA LIEBSON / SEPTEMBER 13, 2017

President Samuel L. Stanley, Jr. and other top administrators met with the University Senate 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 various faculty members.



CHRISTOPHER CAMERON / THE STATESMAN

55 distinguished professors voice concerns about SBU administration

BY REBECCA LIEBSON / DECEMBER 3, 2017

Since the first cuts to academic programs were announced in Spring 2017, Stony Brook has become engulfed in a wave of opposition. Various petitions and demonstrations have emerged at the forefront, but behind closed doors, Stony Brook's most prestigious faculty members have organized their own protest movement.



GEORGES SEGUIN/WIKIMEDIA COMMONS VIA CC BY-SA 3.0

Patrice Nganang speaks on time in Cameroonian prison, governmental discrimination

BY MIKE ADAMS / JANUARY 16, 2018

The 37-year-old professor of the Comparative Literature and Cultural Studies program at Stony Brook was released from prison in Yaoundé, Cameroon by a court order on Wednesday, Dec. 27, after being detained by judiciary police since Dec. 6.



ARACELY JIMENEZ / THE STATESMAN

Women's Swimming and Diving head coach not renewed by Athletics

BY GREGORY ZARBA / JANUARY 27, 2018

Stony Brook Athletics will not renew employment for Women's Swimming and Diving head coach Janelle Atkinson or assistant coach Jordan Bowen. The Jan. 26 decision comes after receiving complaints by athletes, alleging mental abuse.



PHOTO COURTESY OF STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY

Sacha Kopp to resign as dean of College of Arts and Sciences

BY MIKE ADAMS AND GARY GHAYRAT / FEBRUARY 26, 2018

College of Arts and Sciences (CAS) Dean Sacha Kopp announced that he will leave his position on July 1 in an email sent out to faculty. Kopp did not provide a reason for his resignation in the email, and the university did not respond to requests for comment before the time of publication.

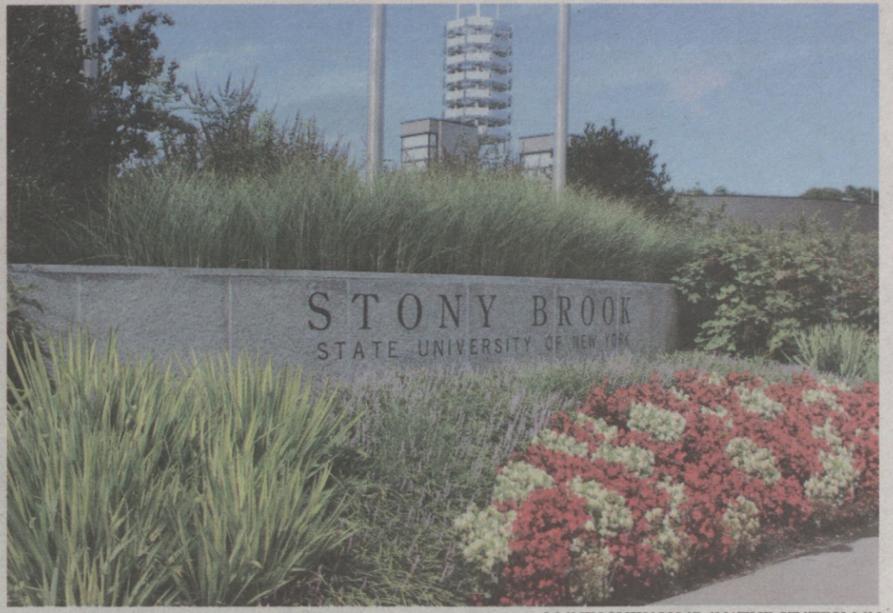


GARY GHAYRAT / THE STATESMAN

Stony Brook students say "Me Too"

BY BRIANNE LEDDA / MARCH 2, 2018

The Feminist Majority Leadership Alliance (FMLA), organized a #MeToo march during Campus Life Time on Feb. 28, giving students an opportunity to add their voices to the national movement supporting survivors of sexual assault.



MANJU SHIVACHARAN / THE STATESMAN

Stony Brook Foundation's business practices called into question by State Comptroller

BY REBECCA LIEBSON / MARCH 7, 2018

Two high level Stony Brook officials received \$300,000 each in housing loans from the Stony Brook Foundation (SBF) that they were not required to pay back, according to a recent New York State Comptroller's report.



EMMA HARRIS / THE STATESMAN

Stony Brook students march for gun control, disarmed UPD

BY MIKE ADAMS / MARCH 31, 2018

Student activists and political leaders joined together to demand gun control reform in a march on campus on Wednesday, March 28. This march was the latest in the worldwide series of March for Our Lives protests that erupted following the Feb. 14 mass shooting in Parkland, Florida, where 17 people lost their lives.



ANNA CORREA / THE STATESMAN

Brookfest a success despite last-minute lineup change

BY JOSEPH KONIG / APRIL 8, 2018

For the most part, the excitement at the 2018 Brookfest occurred offstage. The spring concert featured entertaining, relatively uneventful sets from headliner 21 Savage, EDM artist Crankdat, rapper Jay Critch and last-minute substitution, A Boogie wit da Hoodie.



Thank you for a
great year!



OPINIONS

THE STATESMAN

INFORMING STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY FOR MORE THAN 50 YEARS

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

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

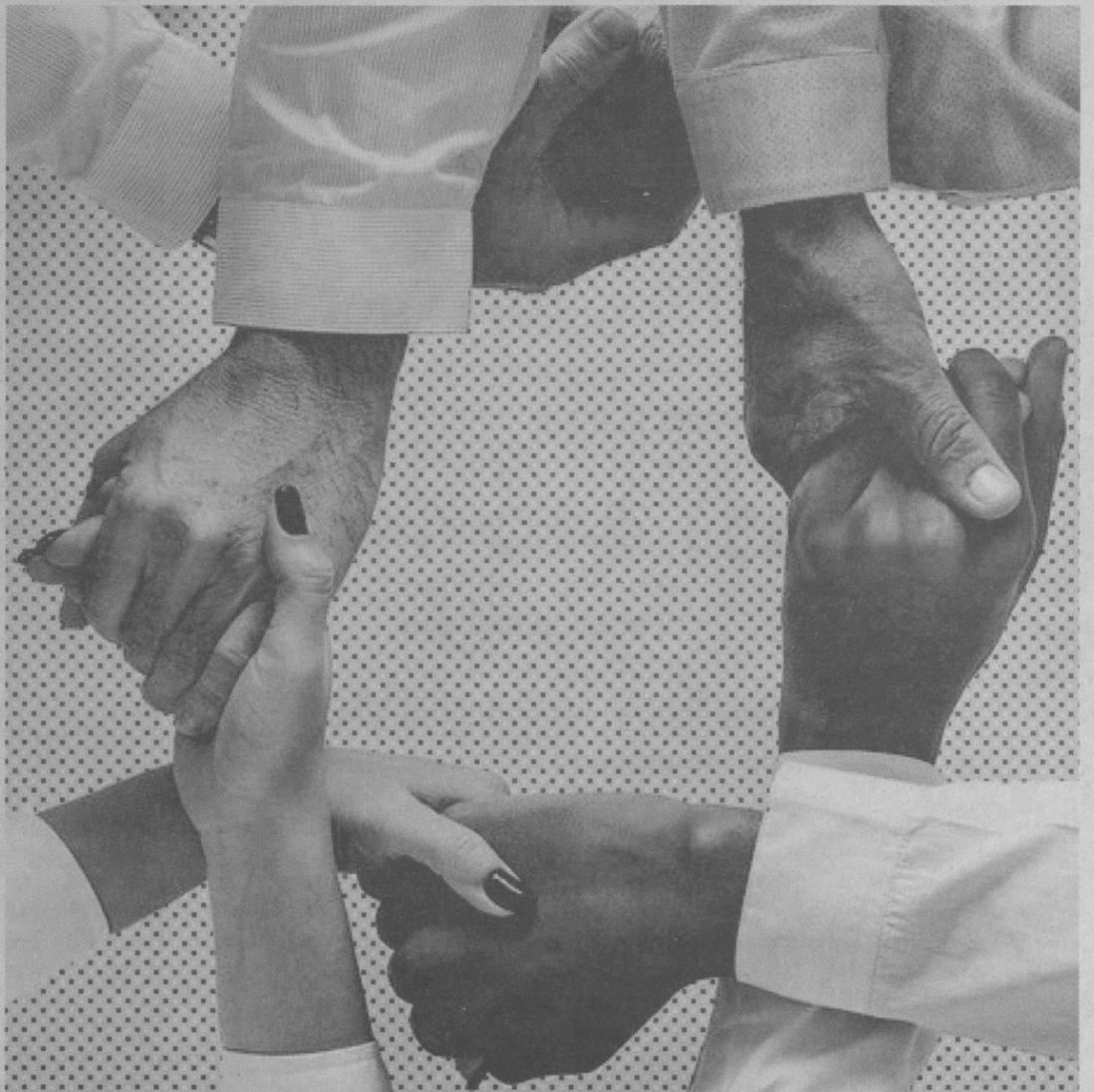
The Statesman and its editors have won several awards for student journalism and several past editors have gone on to enjoy distinguished careers in the field of journalism.

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First issue free; additional issues cost 50 cents.



PUBLIC DOMAIN

People from different backgrounds, ages and genders holding hands. A study found that films that cast more people of color had higher median global box office returns.

Of course diversity really matters

By Genie Ruzicka
Contributing Writer

Let's get one thing out of the way. When many of us use the term "diversity," what we really mean is "reality." Diversity both in front of and behind the screen, pen and computer is important and does matter, because it is not realistic to have a New York City filled with only white people or to go to work and only interact with straight, cis people. It is also not realistic to expect a straight, white man to accurately write a black, queer or female character. People are the experts on their own experiences, so providing opportunities for marginalized groups to create content is paramount to changing the status quos of many industries.

Some people might counter with the argument that if people want to be represented, they can create their own representation. However, that completely ignores the systemic barriers to anyone who isn't a white, straight man.

For example, marginalized groups are given significantly less funding and opportunities to produce movies, plays, art and books. It might not cost anything to write a script or draw a comic book, but in order to commit enough time to it so it might have a chance to become known, a certain level of financial security is needed. People who might not be able to devote the time (for financial and employment reasons) are denied the opportunity afforded to other, less marginalized groups.

To those who say that the push for diversity may be harmful, I

agree. If your "diversity" is on the surface only, if it can be reduced to a "token" marginalized person, or if you are using it solely to increase your profits or your credibility, then it is most definitely harmful.

Additionally, if your attempts at diversity do not take into account and seek to rectify the institutional oppression, systemic barriers and economic disenfranchisement that many marginalized groups face, it is just as (if not more) harmful. But if your argument is in defense of the status quo, if you feel diversity is harmful and unnecessary because it takes attention, time and funds away from groups who have been historically privileged, centered and considered the default (white, cis, straight men), then I can say with all certainty that I do not agree with you. I would want you to ask yourself why you think this way.

Why is it a bad thing that groups that have been catered to for so long are no longer catered to with the same intensity? What is the harm in shifting the focus? There is little risk of these groups becoming marginalized. "Black Panther" isn't going to cause white people any harm. We all survived having a black stormtrooper and a woman Jedi. We'll find a way to make it through this, too.

There are some people who are wary of Hollywood's (and other industries') push for diversity. I am one of them. Surface level attempts at diversity, that focus on on-screen (or page) characters without allowing for the same

diversity behind the scenes is not a step forward. When people from non-marginalized groups write or create the stories of marginalized groups, something is always missing, may it be nuance, authenticity, empathy, understanding. For example, the history of white people writing and directing movies about black people has been littered with racism, white saviorism, an over-representation of tragedy and black pain and cringe-worthy "color-blind" morals.

The adage "you can't be what you can't see" is wrong. Marginalized people have been what they have been told they could never be throughout history. However, this saying still has resonance. There are some children who grow up without having to think about whether they can follow their passions and achieve their dreams. However, there are countless other kids who grow up not knowing if it will be possible to pursue their goals.

There are also countless children who are actively discouraged, be it due to cultural expectations, societal barriers and even the school-to-prison pipeline. If art, literature and media showed traditionally marginalized and oppressed groups in all aspects of life and society, living as whole individuals, and if these groups have the opportunities to write, draw, film, speak and direct their stories, it may just become normalized to the point where we don't see it as "diversity" anymore — we see it as real life.

The Onion Bagel: Steroids are the answer to athletic apathy

By Mike Adams
Assistant News Editor

It's no great secret that Stony Brook University is lacking in athletic fervor.

This has never been a very sports-centric school. Expensive stadiums aside, the collective history of Stony Brook athletics isn't much to gawk at. We've managed to earn a few championships, we've sent a handful of student athletes to professional leagues. But beyond that, our fandom is basically Wolfie and that Madwolf guy on 94.3 The Shark.

From the outside, our athletic apathy is something of an enigma. Despite our Division I status, despite our teams bringing home three America East conference titles and three NCAA tournament berths this year, most of the student body just can't be bothered to care. Whatever the quality of the on-field product, the stands at Kenneth P. LaValle Stadium remain largely empty.

College sports are stupidly popular across the country. College football and basketball games are broadcast nationwide to millions of people. Top-class programs routinely draw in billions of dollars for their universities from ravenous fans eager to see the physical exploits of the super-toned, the living gods that take to the court for schools like Duke and Ohio State.

So why not us?

Forget the implicit sexism in disregarding our highly successful women's athletics programs for their lack of Y chromosomes alone — let's blame the players.

Our players just can't match up. Sure, they might be skilled, but what's all the skill in the world worth if it's packed into a decidedly human-sized frame?

There's a simple solution to all of this: we just need to give all our student athletes steroids.

Steroids have gotten a bad rap these past couple of decades, but their impact on the sports world has been immense.

Lance Armstrong, Roger Clemens, the entire NFL, America's athletic past is littered with steroid-fueled success stories. Something as simple as amphetamines helped propel Mickey Mantle to an all-time great baseball career, while Barry Bonds (allegedly) has HGH to thank for four MVP awards and the career home-run record.

Steroids have won trophies, lifted up entire nations, even slowed the march of aging itself. Imagine what they could do for our student athletes.

You think you like Kylie Ohlmiller now? Well, imagine if Kylie Ohlmiller was eight stories tall and had biceps the size of California Redwoods.

I'd pay money to see that. I would pay all the money to get a chance to witness the feats of a women's lacrosse team shot full of every bodybuilding chemical mankind can manufacture.



NARA HWANG / THE STATESMAN

Stony Brook University athletics reported \$29.1 million in revenue in 2015, according to Newsday. Duke athletics reported \$91 million in revenue during the same year.

We would kill in football and basketball too. And by kill, I mean we would literally kill opposing players until our teams stood as national champions atop a pyramid of limbs and torsos. After all, who among us isn't big enough to admit that contact sports are great because they feed off bloodlust?

The financial incentives alone are too good to resist. Even if those pretentious moralizers in the

NCAA find out and come down on us, it's not like we'll have to forfeit our winnings or our newfound prestige. You know what makes Barry Bonds feel better about not being in the Hall of Fame? Literally tens of millions of dollars.

We might not ever get to see the Loch Ness monster in person, but if we could just stuff our rosters with athletes that are closer to being Klingons than human beings, then that's good enough.

So let's stop pretending. Let's give the campus something to be proud of, something to rally around.

Let's take the best and brightest biochemists Stony Brook has to offer and put them to work juicing our players all the way to the halls of Mount Olympus.

Let's push the boundaries of human evolution and let's have some fun in the process.

Nothing good can come from a Facebook dating app

By Andrew Goldstein
Opinions Editor

I've dabbled in dating apps throughout college. They were a fun way to meet people, make friends and start relationships that lasted anywhere from a dinner conversation to multiple years.

As the cycle usually went, I'd make an account, try to find halfway decent pictures and think up a witty bio, swipe around, talk to a few people and meet a few more before getting bored and deleting my account. I liked that I could erase everything. I know that if I actually asked one of these apps for my info, I'd get a creepy amount of information. But at least my information seems to be safe.

Weeks after apologizing to Congress for the Cambridge Analytica scandal, where about 87 million users' data was acquired by a political data firm hired by Donald Trump's 2016 election campaign, Mark Zuckerberg announced that Facebook is planning to offer an online dating service. Please don't.

Facebook wants to buy Instagram? That's cool. WhatsApp? Okay. They want to copy Snapchat features into Instagram to compete? That's fair. But the last thing I need is to get push notifications about matching with people the way I get push notifications about



MANJU SHIVACHARAN/STATESMAN FILE

Someone using the dating app Tinder. Facebook announced its intentions to provide an online dating service to compete with other apps, such as Bumble and Tinder.

people I might be interested in becoming friends with.

This would be the equivalent of my friend asking me out after sharing an embarrassing secret I told them in hopes of secrecy. You need to build up my trust again before I would be willing to consider getting into a

relationship that requires a higher level of trust and vulnerability.

Since I opened my current Facebook account, I've gotten hateful messages, links to propaganda videos and creepy "flirtatious" messages from random people I'm not friends with. At least on an app like Tinder, if I

unmatch, they only have my first name to look for me. The Facebook app will match based on elements like groups you're both a part of or events you've both attended.

I also don't want to see that part of the college or young adult experience Facebook-ized. I love that there's a dating app that

matches people based on mutual hatred. I appreciate the different feel between Bumble and Tinder. The laziest way for me to find possible dates for myself is through Jswipe, an app that takes Jewish religious preferences into account when matching. I haven't really gotten into Shapr, the dating-app-style networking app. Facebook will turn all of this into a blob.

Now, Facebook is a strong and wealthy company. There's a possibility that they could figure out a way to do this all appropriately. But it feels like the overwhelming strategy at Facebook is to either buy out the competition or copy it poorly while being an easier app or website to use overall. Dating apps already play on my laziness by introducing me to people without me having to leave my bed. There's a line I should draw somewhere.

I like that when I find someone I connect with, I can delete whichever app I'm using and start heavily investing in that relationship. I don't think a Facebook dating app would be conducive to that at all. Let me spend some time away from Facebook.

I will say, the best thing to come out of this was Joey Levin, chief executive of InterActiveCorp, which owns match.com, saying in a statement, "Their product could be great for U.S./Russia relationships."

The freshman 101 class positively impacts new students

By Gabby Pardo
Assistant Opinions Editor

I am currently finishing up my freshman year and I couldn't feel more accomplished and blended into this university. In the past year, I started writing at *The Statesman*, became an Undergraduate College Fellow and joined Greek life. My diversity in involvement can be attributed to how Stony Brook provided many resources for freshmen to handle the transition from high school to college.

One of the ways Stony Brook eases freshmen into the college scene is assigning them to an Undergraduate College (UGC). The university has six UGCs — Global Studies, Human Development, Science and Society, Arts, Culture, and Humanities, Information and Technology Studies and Leadership and Service — that provide a central theme for the First-Year Seminar 101 class in addition to activities throughout the year. Incoming freshmen rank the UGCs based on the location of the dorms associated with the UGC, whether they want to live in corridor or suite style, the theme and what First-Year Seminar 102 classes are offered in the spring semester.

I chose Global Studies (GLS) because of the theme and because someone told me about Yang Hall's luxuries. I didn't end up living there and lived in a triple most of my first semester and a double in the same building. Even though the building isn't what I wanted, I was pleased with what the GLS 101 class offered.



EFAL SAYED/STATESMAN FILE

Stony Brook University students make their way to class. The Stony Brook Curriculum requires all freshmen to take a 101 course associated with their Undergraduate College.

The class may only be 53 minutes long and have under 20 students in it, but it is extremely beneficial to attend and take seriously.

Graduating senior and biology major, Tracey Rosenlicht, feels that her freshman experience — especially her 101 class — allowed her to grow. "As I look back on freshman year I felt that my 101 class was helpful in terms of academic success and focused a lot on how to navigate the academics of Stony Brook," Rosenlicht said. "Otherwise, I felt that given the size of the class, I was able to make friends which helped me become more social in my other classes."

The fall semester's 101 class also contains a fellow, who is

typically a sophomore serving as a teaching assistant and mentor for freshmen. They act as a "go-to" person in case students are having trouble adjusting to college. Fellows also push students to get involved on campus, which is actually enforced in the class. All of us students know that it's essential to get involved in something on campus; if not, it will slowly become lifeless.

Students have to attend four events for the class throughout the course of the semester. One event that all freshmen are required to go to is Commons Day, where the author of the required summer reading book gives a talk. This day unites students from all of the

UGCs in one place. For the other three required events, students can attend general events meant for anyone; for example, one can attend a seminar on study habits or an event for their quad such as a Kelly and Roosevelt Quad mixer. The class only has students in the same UGC, which is beneficial, especially for those freshman who live on campus, because students in the class all live in the same quad, making it a little easier to make friends.

These events may be a drag (at least they were for me because I was outgoing and always went to things on my own), but they convince those who just want to coop in their bed to get involved

on campus. In addition to going, students have to journal about their experiences at the events and other class lectures.

The last part of the class pertains to completing a final project based on the UGC theme — Global Studies' project relates to human rights. This project helps students understand the theme better and allows them to work as a community to learn. My project involved the international water crisis, the severity of which I didn't even understand until I did the research for it. Other UGCs such as Science and Society had to debate about a topic related to gene therapy. The project brings back the idea of why we have UGCs in the first place: to have a small community inside a large public university. Having a small knit community can help those who went to smaller high schools or haven't really been away from home adjust smoothly.

Personally, I thought the GLS class was just plain cheesy. The class, however, introduced me to the Fellows program and inspired me to take more of a leadership role. If I were to be even more cheesy, you can see that the quieter students all came out of their shell — at least a little. The class helped transition everyone to take a step out of their comfort zone and get strapped into the roller coaster we call college. Without this class, some freshmen might have no idea that important programs such as CAPS exist and how to plan their course schedule with Stony Brook's custom schedule builder. Thank you, GLS 101, for allowing me to conquer my freshman year. Here's to the next three.

Kanye West's "free thought" is a dubious break from facts

By Thomas James
Assistant Arts & Entertainment Editor

It has become commonplace for the people that command our media platforms to shill opinions as facts. President Trump constantly spins his textual vomit in an effort to never seem wrong and validate his own ego.

Within the last month, Kanye West has made several statements that shun reality. It shouldn't be a surprise that the two biggest narcissists in the country support each other. But the foundation of West's Twitter resurgence, the concept of "free thought," is a dangerous substitute for rational thought.

After meeting with West while recording the single "Ye Vs. the People," rapper T.I. said he asked West if he knew what Trump's travel ban was when he endorsed the president and spoke highly of the president's personality. West asked T.I. what it was, showing his general lack of knowledge about Trump's policies.

Forming opinions without sufficient information is like eating food without nutrition. Without digesting factual information, we lack the proper energy required to make informed, valid arguments. That type of thinking leaves the mind bloated and incapable of doing the research to integrate valid outside perspective

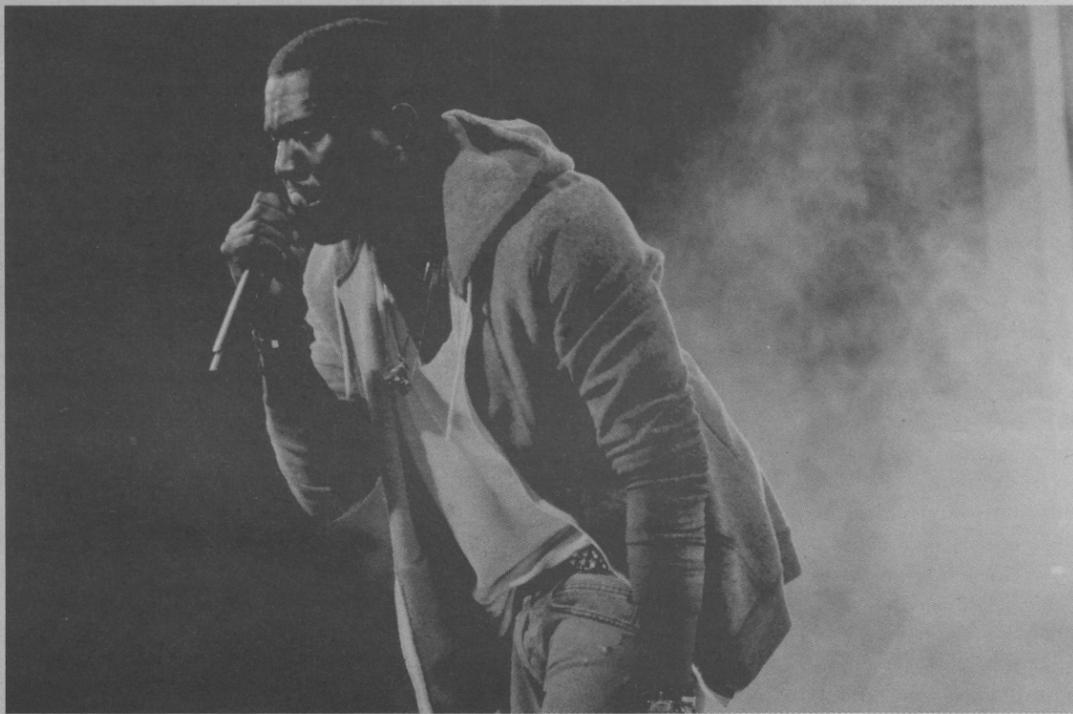
into one's own ideas. In essence, West's free thought has a quality of an opinion not substantiated by fact.

Informed thought backed up with facts is a productive form of discussion that can lead to action, while West's free thought is corrosive. One thinks that they are doing something positive without actually doing anything at all.

West said that slaves chose to remain slaves for hundreds of years, without acknowledging the systematic oppression and violence that they faced, in a TMZ interview. West said that if he had been alive 148 years ago he would have been like Harriet Tubman. Yet, West has seldom used his platform to make considerable contributions to bettering impoverished and disadvantaged African-American communities.

His former best friend in the rap industry, Jay-Z, has his hands full in community outreach. He has bailed out imprisoned fathers for Father's Day and produced socially-conscious documentaries such as the upcoming documentary series, "Rest in Power: The Trayvon Martin Story," premiering in July 2018. West has not come close to the same involvement in improving the black community.

In an almost two-hour long conversation with radio host Charlamagne tha God,



JASON PERSSE/FICKR VIA CC BY-SA 2.0

Kanye West performs at The Museum of Modern Art. The rapper has recently taken to Twitter to express support for the president, warranting a mixed response from his fans.

West diagnoses the fault in his communication. He explains that "a lot of times words can get in the way" of his innate feelings about ideas and concepts. This isn't a problem exclusive to West. There are times in all our lives where if we do not understand a problem enough, words fail to fuel the point that we are trying to make.

Yet for someone like West, who likens his influence to Harriet Tubman's in this era of "mental slavery," that is not an excuse when he has millions of people listening to what he chooses to say.

West has a propensity for aligning his personal controversies with the release of a new album. His new untitled album will

be released June 1. A lot of his fans, including myself, know we will listen to it despite his demoralizing comments. That's just the unfortunate result of not finding a way to separate the artist, as a person, from his art.

West demands attention like a pampered toddler and sacrifices reality to do so.

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— Linda Bily, MA Program Graduate

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**Stony Brook
Medicine**

Men's Lacrosse falls short in America East semifinals

By Chris Parkinson
Assistant Sports Editor

Nearly a week after claiming the co-regular season title with Albany, Stony Brook Men's Lacrosse ended its season with an 8-4 defeat to the Vermont Catamounts on Thursday, May 3 at Casey Stadium in Albany.

"I'm proud of this team," head coach Jim Nagle said in a press release. "It's a young team that was co-regular season champions and the future is really bright. Hats off to Vermont today, we just couldn't seem to put the ball in the cage."

The two teams' last matchup was on April 14, when Stony Brook got the upper hand in an 8-7 double-overtime victory. Sophomore midfielder Wayne White notched two points on goal and an assist in Thursday's matchup, just as he did when the two teams last faced each other. White scored the final goal of the season for the Seawolves with 8:10 remaining in the fourth period.

Freshman midfielder Mike McCannell displayed a dominant offensive presence, netting the first two Stony Brook goals which put his team ahead by one. The team's offensive unit put pressure on the Catamounts, notching a total of 20 shots on net; however, only four shots found the back of the cage.

Sophomore goalkeeper Michael Bollinger was awarded the starting spot in net. Bollinger saved nine shots on 17 shots on goal, posing a save percentage of 53, the highest since the team's



ARACELY JIMENEZ / THE STATESMAN

Freshman midfielder Mike McCannell cradles the ball in a game against Vermont. The Seawolves' season ended Thursday with their America East semifinal loss to the Catamounts at the tournament in Albany.

last matchup against Vermont when he tallied a save percentage of 70.

Stony Brook appeared to have been keeping up with Vermont for a majority of the contest, yet the team failed to capitalize on its opportunities around the net. Vermont sophomore goalkeeper Nick Washuta stopped numerous high-quality Stony Brook oppor-

tunities and saved 16 shots on the day while allowing just four past.

"They scored about the same as the last time we played, and we didn't," Nagle said. "We had a lot of opportunities but weren't able to convert."

Going into halftime, both teams were even at three goals apiece. Vermont led Stony Brook in shots by one and in saves by the same total.

The Seawolves and Catamounts both turned over the ball five times. The Seawolves led in faceoffs 4-3, which they have struggled with throughout the season.

The Seawolves were awarded five man-advantage opportunities throughout the game, but only scored on one opportunity thanks to McCannell. The Catamounts converted on 50 percent of their

man-advantage opportunities, capitalizing with 13:29 left in the fourth period on Catamounts redshirt-senior midfielder Ian MacKay's goal.

The win qualified Vermont for the America East Championship, where it fell 14-4.

Stony Brook finished the year off with a sub-.500 winning percentage for the first time since 2014.

Softball clinches No. 3 seed with series win over Maine

By Kenneth Fermin
Staff Writer

The Stony Brook softball team completed its regular season this weekend, taking two of three games over America East rival Maine Black Bears to cruise to third place in the conference standings.

"It was great to see our team respond after yesterday's loss and play so well today," head coach Megan T. Bryant said in a press release. "[Sophomore pitcher Melissa Rahrlich]

threw a solid game, the defense backed her up and we did what we needed to do offensively."

Stony Brook's offense sprung out quickly in Saturday morning's matchup, scoring in the first inning for the fifth consecutive game. The Seawolves loaded the bases on back-to-back walks after senior left fielder Ileana Torres doubled to center field and advanced to third on a ground ball. Torres scored in the following at bat to give the team a 1-0 lead after Maine senior pitcher Molly Flowers

hit freshman second baseman Nicole McCarvill with a pitch.

The Seawolves picked up where they left off in the bottom of the second. Senior shortstop Chelsea Evans reached base on a walk. Junior centerfielder Katelyn Corr ripped a hit down the left field line for a triple, driving in Evans and extending the Stony Brook lead to 2-0.

Neither team was able to bring home a run despite having runners reach base through the next three-and-a-half innings. Maine struggled

defensively in the bottom of the sixth and allowed Stony Brook to load the bases off two infield errors and a walk. Rahrlich took advantage of the rattled Black Bears freshman pitcher Kyleigh O'Donnell and crushed the ball over the left-centerfield wall for her first grand slam of the season to give the Seawolves a 6-0 lead.

Maine had an offensive resurgence in the top of the seventh inning and loaded the bases. Junior shortstop Laurine German hit a single up the middle, driving home two runners and cutting the Seawolves' lead to four runs. Junior third baseman Alyssa Derrick attempted to further cut into the lead, but she popped out to Evans for a 6-2 Seawolves victory in the rubber game.

Stony Brook got off to a good start in the second game Friday afternoon. Rahrlich led off the bottom of the first inning with a walk before advancing to third on a single to left-center by Corr. Rahrlich scored later in the inning on a wild pitch by O'Donnell to give the Seawolves a 1-0 lead.

Maine responded in the top of the fifth inning after Stony Brook junior pitcher Lindsey Hughes allowed two runners to reach base. German capitalized on a Stony Brook pitching substitution and singled through the right side of the field to tie the game at 1-1. Senior right fielder Erika Leonard pounced on a pitch by sophomore pitcher Taylor Pechin with a two-run triple to right field after Pechin allowed the go-ahead run to score on a wild pitch, increasing

the Maine lead to 4-1, the eventual final score.

Rahrlich ignited the Seawolves' offense with a double down the left field line in the bottom of the first inning on Friday to begin the series. Junior catcher Irene Rivera doubled to left field and drove in Rahrlich after she advanced to third on a ground out by Corr to take a 1-0 lead.

The Seawolves' lead-off batter reached base for the second straight inning when Torres took first on a Black Bears error. Evans singled up the middle to bring home Torres and extend the lead to two runs. Derrick struggled defensively and committed another error in the bottom of the third, allowing Rivera to score and increasing the lead to 3-0.

Stony Brook delivered in the bottom of the fourth, beginning with sophomore right fielder Jourdin Hering's infield single. Rahrlich advanced Hering to second before both advanced on a ground out by Corr. Rivera capitalized on the scoring opportunity and blasted a three-run home run over the right field wall to give the Seawolves a 6-0 lead.

Maine scored a run in the top of the sixth to draw within five runs, but it was the closest the team would get. Stony Brook earned the run back in the bottom of the inning and went on to win the game, 7-1.

Stony Brook will begin its playoff run against the UMBC Retrievers on Wednesday, May 9 at 1:30 p.m. at the Bearcats Softball Complex in Ithaca, New York.



ARACELY JIMENEZ / THE STATESMAN

The Stony Brook softball team gathers into a huddle during a game. The Seawolves won two out of three games this past weekend against the Maine Black Bears.

SPORTS

Women's Lacrosse captures sixth straight America East title

By Gregory Zarb
Sports Editor

It may be fair to say that the Stony Brook women's lacrosse team played its worst game of the season Sunday against Albany. The Seawolves allowed 14 goals to the Great Danes and trailed for most of the first half.

Head coach Joe Spallina, however, was not worried about his team.

"I trust our kids," Spallina said. "We are a team that can beat you in different ways. We play a team-based offense predicated on quick decisions, attacking hard and moving the ball forward. We talk about being triple threats all the time; dodge, shoot or pass. They can do that."

The Seawolves used an 11-2 run that lasted until midway through the second half to launch themselves ahead of the Great Danes and went on to win their sixth straight America East Championship by a 22-14 final score at Kenneth P. LaValle Stadium.

"I'm really proud of our team, winning a conference championship is not an easy thing," Spallina said after the game. "Albany was on its game today, so I tip my cap to them, I thought they competed well. Our leadership had to step up and emerge, and I'm really excited for our seniors. This was another great day for our program, and it gets us one step closer to our overall goal."



ARACELY JIMENEZ / THE STATESMAN

Sophomore attacker Taryn Ohlmiller scores a free position goal against Albany during the America East Championship game. The Seawolves beat the Great Danes 22-14.

Stony Brook was not playing its best lacrosse through the first 25 minutes of the contest and Albany led 7-6 with 6:19 remaining in the first half. The offense was lethargic and they weren't scoring as often as they usually do. It took about seven minutes for the Seawolves to score their first goal, while the team typically scores within the opening minute of the game.

"We played zone, and they were

dodging the zone," Spallina said. "I can tell you it's something we're going to fix this week."

Sophomore attacker Taryn Ohlmiller had a career day, stepping up when the team was not playing well. She had two goals and a career-high seven assists, tying her career-high with nine points.

She took advantage of her team's struggles, moving to play behind the

cage where her sister, senior attacker Kylie Ohlmiller, usually plays during the game. Taryn Ohlmiller thrived in the position, as did Kylie, who scored a team-high seven goals and recorded one assist.

"They were blocking off Kylie [Ohlmiller's] dodge, so that was our cue to put her in the middle and have her cut," Taryn Ohlmiller said after the win. "If you lock up her dodge,

you put her in the middle and use her in different ways."

Redshirt-senior attacker Courtney Murphy netted five goals and had one assist in her fifth America East Championship game. Very few athletic programs have players with four conference championships to their credit in four seasons played, but Murphy is a rare athlete, having won her fifth conference trophy Sunday.

"I think to have that dominance in conference is something special," Murphy said. "It doesn't come around too often, but that was just our first step in our big vision."

The team achieved a feat which has never been accomplished in the history of Stony Brook Athletics. Not only did the team go undefeated in the regular season and the conference playoffs, but they are the only undefeated Stony Brook Division I team in both men's and women's lacrosse program history. Kylie Ohlmiller gave one final sales pitch to the selection committee after Sunday's victory.

"I think we've done everything we can in our conference and out of conference," Kylie Ohlmiller said. "We have the number one RPI in the country. Not our conference, the country. It's something we don't have much control over at this point, but I think we are excited to see who we play next weekend."

Baseball wins two of three games in weekend homestand

By Ryan Pavich
Staff Writer

The Stony Brook baseball team hosted Bryant and UMass at Joe Nathan Field over the weekend in their final non-conference games of the regular season. The team took both games against Bryant on May 4 and 6 and dropped May 5's game against UMass, capitalizing on bursts of scoring and home runs in their wins.

Friday's game featured a marvelous pitching performance from sophomore starting pitcher Greg Marino. Marino tossed seven innings, allowing four hits to the Bulldogs before exiting in the eighth inning with a runner on. The leftover runner eventually scored against sophomore pitcher Aaron Glickstein for the Bulldogs' lone run in the game.

Stony Brook's offense was stymied by Bryant junior starting pitcher Steve Theetge early on. The left-hander held Stony Brook scoreless through the first four innings but quickly got into trouble in the fifth. Sophomore outfielder Chris Hamilton led off the inning with a homer to right field. Stony Brook loaded the bases after a strikeout, and junior infielder Brandon Janofsky singled home another run to make it 2-0.

The Seawolves put the game away in the seventh inning, exploding for four runs. Junior outfielder Dylan Resk drove a one-out double down the left field line, scoring sophomore outfielder Michael Wilson. Janofsky then lifted a sacrifice fly to left center to score a second run. Senior outfielder Andruw Gazzola delivered a single up the middle to drive home two more runs, giving the Seawolves a 6-0 lead.

Stony Brook went back to the bats one more time in the eighth inning. Hamilton led off the inning with a double to right-center, and Wilson drove him home on a double down the right-field line after a walk from junior designated hitter Michael Russell. Resk singled home Wilson and Russell two batters later, giving Stony Brook a 9-1 lead which would become the final score.

The second game of the weekend on Saturday was decided in the final innings. Sophomore starting pitcher Brian Herrmann couldn't escape the fifth inning, and the Seawolves trailed 4-1 after six innings. Hamilton led off the seventh inning with a triple to center field and junior infielder Brandon Alamo lifted a sacrifice fly to left, closing the gap to 4-2.

UMass errors helped the Seawolves get closer in the eighth inning. Janof-

sky began the inning with a single and attempted to steal second base. The throw to second went into the outfield, allowing Janofsky to reach third. The subsequent throw to third went wide as well, scoring Janofsky and making it 4-3 Minutemen. The two errors drew Stony Brook within one run, but the team went down in order in the ninth inning.

Stony Brook briefly held the lead in Saturday's game. Alamo hit a one-out single to left field in the second inning and scored on a triple from Wilson in the next at-bat.

The final game of the weekend on Sunday capped off the Seawolves' non-conference schedule in dramatic fashion. Resk slammed a one-out, two-run home run to left field in the eighth inning to break a 3-3 tie. Senior closing pitcher Aaron Pinto completed a four-inning relief appearance in the ninth with a 5-4-3 double play to secure a 5-3 Stony Brook victory.

Pinto came on in relief of junior starting pitcher Bret Clarke in the sixth inning after a leadoff single. Pinto was uncharacteristically off with his command, walking the first batter he faced on five pitches. The senior made things worse for himself, botching a throw to first on a bunt in the next at-bat, allowing the run-

ner from second to score and tie the game. Senior outfielder Malik Daley struck out two batters later, but the ball was dropped allowing Daley to reach base and another run to score, giving Bryant a 2-1 lead.

The Seawolves fought back in the seventh inning on another blast. Sophomore infielder Nick Grande hit a one-out single through the left side and stole second base to put himself in scoring position. Senior infielder Bobby Honeyman scored Grande along with himself, drilling the second pitch he saw to right field and giving the Seawolves a 3-2 lead.

The Stony Brook lead briefly dis-

appeared in the top of the eighth inning. Pinto allowed the leadoff man to reach first base on a walk and advance to second on a ground ball that narrowly avoided his glove. Sophomore catcher Gaby Cruz singled down the right-field line, scoring the runner and knotting the game at three runs apiece. Resk's blast in the bottom of the inning restored Stony Brook's lead, which the team would never surrender.

The Seawolves improved to 26-20, guaranteeing at least a .500 record in the regular season. The team's final homestand will be on May 12-13 in a series against first-place Hartford.



ARACELY JIMENEZ / STATESMAN FILE

Junior outfielder Dylan Resk at bat in a game last season. Resk scored two home runs this weekend at home.

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