

# THE STATESMAN

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## Hospital's toxic sewage found in Port Jeff Harbor

By Joe McQueen  
Contributing Writer

A toxic chemical found in Stony Brook University Hospital's sewage is being emptied into Port Jefferson Harbor. Experts from the School of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences (SoMAS) say this could potentially harm marine life in the harbor.

The radioactive isotope, called iodine-131, is used to treat patients with thyroid cancer. Even after being processed at a sewage treatment plant, traces of the isotope can still be found in the hospital's sewage.

Malcolm Bowman, a distinguished service professor at SoMAS, raised this issue at a Sept. 10 Faculty Senate meeting.

"When sewage is discharged from the hospital, it goes through the treatment plant on Stony Brook's campus where it enters a process called tertiary treatment," Bowman told *The Statesman*.



EMMA HARRIS / THE STATESMAN

**Port Jefferson Harbor on Sept. 28. Iodine-131, a radioactive isotope used to treat thyroid cancer patients, has been found in the harbor by SoMAS researchers.**

The tertiary treatment reduces nutrients in the sewage, which is then pumped along a pipeline buried near Highway 25A. From there, the sewage goes through the Port Jefferson treatment plant before reaching the harbor.

Bowman said the type of sewage produced by the hospital requires special care.

"Conventional sewage treatment does not take out toxic chemicals and heavy metals in the waste stream which might come

from university laboratories," he said.

A 2012 report from former SoMAS graduate student Paula Rose confirmed that the hospital's sewage contained iodine-131. The report cites several past investigations which found that more than 75 percent of the iodine-131 that enters sewage treatment plants remains in the sewage after it has been treated.

In 2011, the Long Island-based conservation group, Citizens

Campaign for the Environment, released a report card about the sewage treatment plants and the water quality on Long Island. Stony Brook received a "D" for its water quality.

"Pharmaceuticals, including antibiotics, are showing up in both our groundwater and estuaries, providing evidence that their source is anthropogenic

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## Charles B. Wang, Stony Brook patron, passed away

By Rebecca Liebson  
News Editor

Charles B. Wang, the founder of computer company CA Technologies whose donation helped fund the Charles B. Wang Center at Stony Brook, died on Sunday.

The 74-year-old spent his final hours surrounded by family in his Oyster Bay home, according to a statement from Wang's attorney John McEntee. No cause of death was given.

"[Wang] was an entrepreneur, visionary, author, and philanthropist but will be remembered most affectionately by those who knew him for his love of life, family, and friends," the statement read.

Born in 1944, Wang spent the first eight years of his life in Shanghai, China before immigrating to the United States.

Wang co-founded Computer Associates International (now known as

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## Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor visits Stony Brook University

By Sara Ruberg  
Contributing Writer

Stony Brook University freshmen and other outside guests filed their way into the Island Federal Credit Union Arena to listen to a Q&A between President Stanley and U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor on Tuesday.

Sotomayor was the featured guest for this year's University Commons Day. Over the summer, the freshman class was asked to read Sotomayor's memoir, "My Beloved World," in preparation for her visit. Students then submitted questions for her to answer regarding her life, college, career advice and overcoming obstacles.

"This book was my therapy," Sotomayor said. After her first year on the Supreme Court in 2010, she decided to write "My Beloved World" to reflect her accomplishments as the first Hispanic justice to be appointed to the highest court in the United States of America. "In the process, I could hold onto who I was and why I was where I was."

Sotomayor left her seat on stage to walk around and engage with the audience. She continued to address student questions read by Stanley while shaking hands with everyone she could reach.

"I thought it was very inspirational," freshman biology major Afua Agyekum said on the event, "I'm also somebody who's from the Bronx, so I understand where she's coming from in her childhood and her upbringing. It's also hard these days being a woman and a minority, and being in that high position is very inspiring to see her like that."

In Sotomayor's memoir, she speaks about her journey from the housing projects of the Bronx to the nation's capital. During her talk, she held up her children's book "Turning Pages," to show students the illustrations depicting all the meaningful places in her life including the Bronx, Princeton and the Supreme Court steps.

"It is not where you start. It's not even where you end up. For me it's all about the process, the process of growing up,

the process of changing your world each little step at a time," Sotomayor said.

Many of the freshmen who wrote questions asked for Sotomayor's advice on how to be successful in college and the future. She touched on a variety of topics ranging from when to get involved in extracurriculars to dealing with difficult people, using her coworkers on the bench as an example.

"Some of those guys really talk trash," Sotomayor said, evoking laughter from the crowd. Later, she explained how she has learned to deal with people who offend her: "I found out that when people do that, taking them on in that moment is usually a bad idea. Let it simmer down... and then find a moment to have a quiet conversation."

Freshman computer science major Leo Suppa said he took Sotomayor's advice to heart. "A lot of it was relevant to us as college students," he said. "I wasn't sure how she was going to relate but talking about her experience in college, especially that question about



SARA RUBERG / THE STATESMAN

**Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor speaking at the Island Federal Credit Union Arena on Oct. 16.**

[which] organizations she joined, that really I think helped me formulate my opinions on what I'm going to do in the future."

Other students were not as satisfied with her answers, including freshman biology major David Richard Woodson. "These answers she gave seemed very scripted, they did not seem like they came from the heart," said Woodson.

"[I wanted] some good advice, not generic advice I can get from my mom."

Sotomayor closed by encouraging the students to go to the polls this November. "I don't care who you vote for, I just want you to be a voice of change."

The audience responded with a standing ovation as Sotomayor left the arena.



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**Former NYT public editor speaks at SBU.**  
Margaret Sullivan discusses Trump media coverage.  
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# NEWS

## Former NYT public editor weighs in on Trump media coverage

By Mike Adams  
Opinions Editor

The Washington Post media columnist and former public editor of The New York Times, Margaret Sullivan, recounted her experiences critiquing journalism during Donald Trump's presidency on Tuesday night in the Student Activities Center as part of the School of Journalism's "My Life As" lecture series.

As he introduced Sullivan, School of Journalism Dean Howard Schneider joked that he was happy he had failed to bring the "watchdog of the watchdogs" in as a speaker in previous years, since her job in Washington has made her position more fascinating than ever.

"I have tried for several years to lure Margaret here to speak, but now I'm happy we waited," Schneider said. "I can think of no more appropriate time for her to be here than in the midst of one of the most tumultuous periods in the history of the Republic and the news media."

The former editor of the Buffalo News left The New York Times to take her current job in the nation's capital in early 2016. While she spent her early months covering a variety of topics, Sullivan said her job became dominated by the coverage of then-Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump around the time of candidate nomination conventions.

Since then, Trump has continued to dominate the media spotlight. Sullivan said she finds his combative relationship with the press paradoxical, since he seems to thrive on their coverage and gives the media more access than many of his predecessors.

"The president commonly talks about the news media as the enemy of the people," Sullivan said. "He's referred to reporters as the scum of the Earth. And yet, he actually loves the press in many ways. He thrives on the attention, he enjoys the interplay and he knows how to work the media."

Though she said any one story on Trump from a major media outlet tends to be unbiased, Sullivan said the sheer quantity of media coverage Trump receives gives some merit to his claims that he is being covered unfairly.

"Sometimes I look at major news sites and it seems as though every headline is about Trump, especially if the opinion content is kind of mixed in with the news content," Sullivan said. "It comes off as sort of a groundswell of negative coverage. Is each one of those stories or opinion pieces solid on its own? Maybe so. Does it add up to something greater than the sum of its parts? I think it might."

Sullivan said her colleagues as a whole had failed to take Trump's campaign seriously and were caught off-guard when he won the election.

"Many journalists thought that it was kind of a sideshow," Sullivan said. "That 'how could this reality TV star who had no political experience, no military experience and had been a developer in New York City, how could he possibly be president?' Because many journalists thought that it would not be a good idea for him to be president, they somehow transmuted that into 'and therefore he can't be president.'"

The columnist was particularly critical of CNN's coverage of the Trump campaign, which



GARY GHAYRAT / THE STATESMAN

The Washington Post media columnist Margaret Sullivan during her School of Journalism's "My Life As" talk in the Student Activities Center on Tuesday, Oct. 16.

she felt was more motivated by a push to attract viewers than a desire to inform the public.

"CNN essentially supported his ambitions to become president in every way they possibly could," Sullivan said. "I mean, they filmed the empty podium before he came out and gave his speeches at his rallies. Trump has called himself a ratings machine, and he is. And CNN wanted those ratings, so they covered him in a very credulous way."

Since Trump became president, Sullivan said she is troubled by the frequency with which journalists covering the Trump White House publish anonymously-sourced stories, likening the thrill of an off-the-record exclusive to an addiction.

"It's almost an addiction among reporters to get their sto-

ries, to get that access to the powerful people," Sullivan said. "To protect their people by allowing them to speak anonymously."

Sullivan feels this oversaturation of anonymously-sourced stories has hurt the public's trust in the media.

"When we talk about anonymous sources, very often news consumers think that means that even the reporters themselves don't even know who these people are," Sullivan said. "This is not the case... but nevertheless I think that it cuts into our credibility when we use anonymous sources too much."

Former Houston Chronicle opinions editor, James Gibbons, who lives in Miller Place and sat in on Sullivan's talk, agreed with Sullivan's assessment of anonymous sources after the lecture.

"I particularly agree with her point that journalists should be very reluctant to go off the record and use anonymous sources," Gibbons said. "Beat reporters have to come up with the story before their competitor does, so they're likely to do anything."

Near the end of the lecture, when an audience member asked Sullivan how the media could regain the public's trust, she implored the media to listen to their readers' concerns and to try to be as up front as possible about the reporting process.

"I think we have to do our jobs better, we have to figure out how to deal with this new environment, which is all digital," Sullivan said. "If we could form a closer relationship with our readers and listen to them more, and also be more transparent about how we do our jobs, then that might help."

## Wang was a businessman and philanthropist

Continued from page 1

CA Technologies) in 1973 along with Sanjay Kumar and Russell Artzt, and served as chairman until 2000. Under his leadership, CA Technologies became the first software company to reach \$1 billion in revenue. Seven years later, the company's board accused Wang of accounting fraud. Wang denied the board's claims and was never charged for any of the crimes he was accused of.

In 2000, Wang and Kumar teamed up to buy the New York Islanders hockey team. Wang bought Kumar's share in 2004 and served as the team's sole owner until 2014. He made the executive decision to move the team from the Nassau Coliseum to the Barclays Center in Brooklyn in 2015.

Aside from his business ventures, Wang was a well-known philanthropist. He endowed the Charles B. Wang International Foundation in 1998 and founded the non-profit, Smile Train, the following year to provide free surgeries for children with cleft palate.

A \$500 million donation Wang made to the Center for Missing and Exploited Children allowed the organization to build a new headquarters in Alexandria, Virginia, which they named after Wang.

In 1996, Wang initially pledged \$20-\$25 million to build an Asian American cultural center at Stony Brook. At the time, this was the biggest ever donation made to SUNY by an individual. By the time the building opened its doors in October of 2002, Wang said he and his foundation put more than \$52 million into the project.

"I am a firm believer in public education and the fact that a public university like Stony Brook is uniquely capable of building cultural connections as it has an incredibly diverse student population," Wang said in a 2006 interview with *The Statesman*.

Stony Brook University President Samuel L. Stanley Jr. gave the following statement about Wang's passing in a press release: "Charles' legacy will live on at Stony Brook University in the iconic and vibrant Charles B. Wang Center... I will never forget



STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY

Businessman Charles B. Wang died on Oct. 21.

time spent with him; his poignant remarks at Stony Brook's 55th Commencement when he joined the class of 2015 as an honorary degree recipient."

Wang is survived by his wife, Nancy Li, his children, Kimberly, Jasmine and Cameron, his mother, Mary, his brothers, Anthony and Francis, his grandchildren, Charles, Kingsley and Kendall and his nieces and nephew. His memorial service will be private.

## Sewage threatens ocean life

Continued from page 1

ters including residential, industrial, and agricultural," the report reads. "These unnatural additives to our coastal environments are causing biological problems including endocrine disruptions that result in the feminization of fish."

Bowman echoed this sentiment. "[Iodine-131] compromises the health of fish and shellfish in the harbor and makes them unfit to be eaten by humans," he said. "It also means that sometimes the beaches are closed in summer because of high levels of bacteria."

SoMAS professor and Director of the Waste Reduction and Management Institute at SBU, Larry Swanson, said that steadily increasing enrollment at the university could exacerbate the harmful effects of the sewage.

"As the school continues to grow, the volume of sewage will increase," he said. "The question is, what is the [Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)] going

to allow us to put into the Port Jefferson Harbor in terms of volume and they may decide to limit how much the university will be allowed to release."

A representative from the EPA said they were not aware of this matter.

Port Jefferson Mayor Margot Garant gave a similar response.

"This is the my first time hearing this from anyone and I find it alarming," she said. "We hire an outside consultant to manage our stormwater. In the past, we have requested that the Stony Brook hospital discharge their sewage into the Long Island Sound instead of the [Port Jefferson] Harbor."

When asked if Stony Brook plans to take action to address this issue, University Media Relations Officer Lauren Sheprow provided the following statement via email: "The Stony Brook hospital complies with both state and federal regulations along with other hospitals across New York State," she wrote. "They go through the proper discharge of sewage and do so under state guidelines."

# Professor Stephanie Kelton debunks the national debt

By Lisseth Aguilar  
Staff Writer

Stony Brook economics and public policy professor Stephanie Kelton discussed how the political debate surrounding the United States national debt hinders policy making in the Staller Center for the Arts on Oct. 15. Her talk was the first of many in this year's Presidential Lecture Series.

Kelton served as a chief democratic economist on the U.S. Senate Budget Committee in 2015, before serving as a senior economic advisor to Senator Bernie Sanders' presidential campaign. In her talk she argued that the national debt, the historical record of all the unpaid money borrowed by the federal government, is necessary for economic growth.

"We get bogged down over whose taxes should go up and by how much," Kelton said. "There is an ideological framework that presupposes a concern over where that money is coming from and how the should government use it. Instead thinking of that as a problem, I want to shed a different light on it."

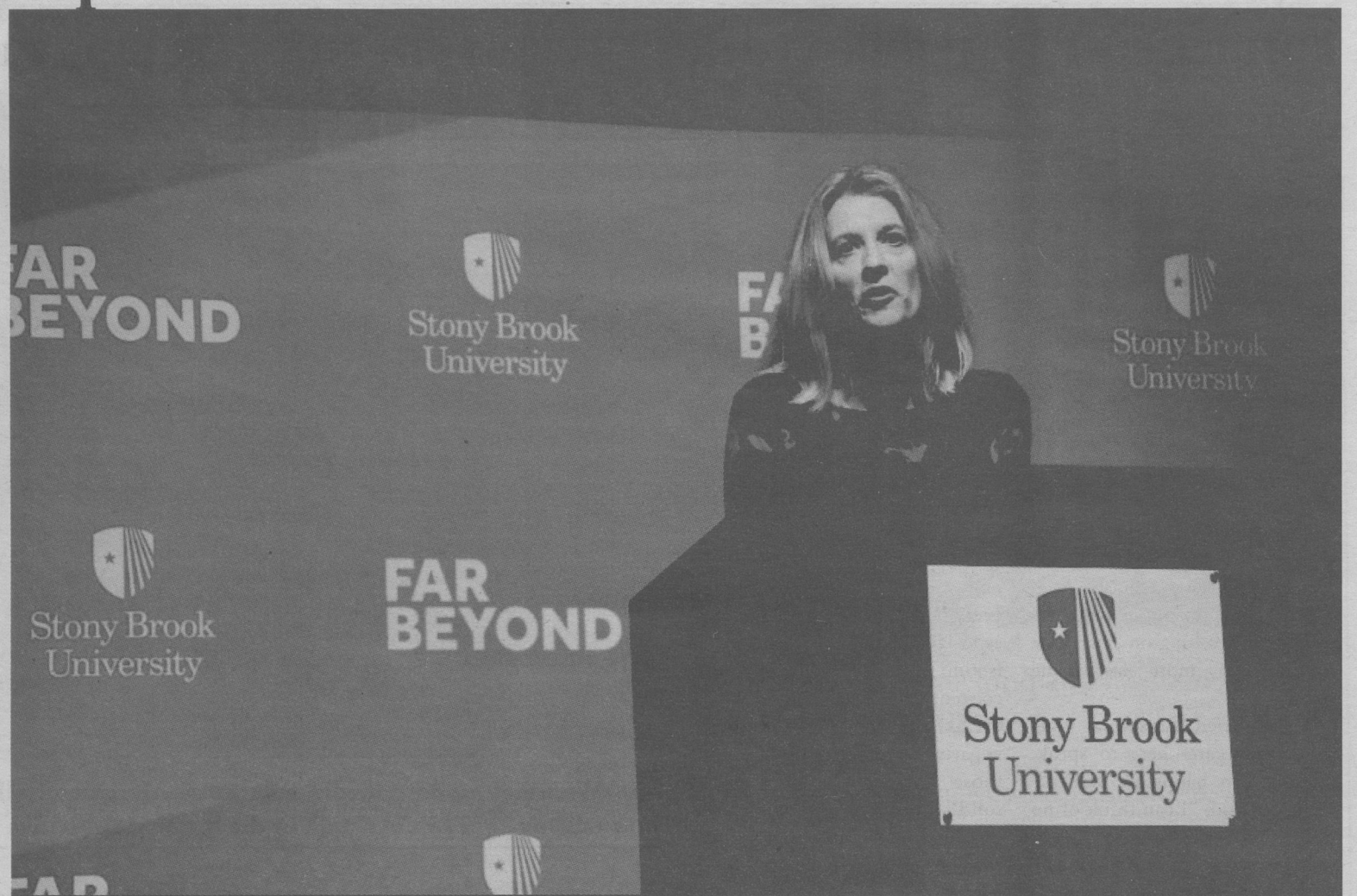
She demonstrated how the debt works by taking out \$10 and giving \$4 to an audience member.

"I [was] taxed a total of \$4, which leaves me with \$6," she said. "Normally that is recorded as a budget deficit, but what it really means is that \$6 is deposited into the economy and allows the government to spend more."

Currently, the U.S. national debt stands at around \$21 trillion and counting, according to the U.S. National Debt Clock.

Kelton described the debate over the national debt as a "bipartisan chorus," since both parties in Washington believe that having such a high debt will produce dangerous economic consequences for future generations. But disagreements over what to cut from the budget creates an endless cycle of finger-pointing, she said. "Both parties blame each other over who's responsible for driving up the debt," Kelton said. "They will tell you that it is a disaster for the nation. This idea that the 'sky is falling' does not paint the entire picture."

Democrats argue that the Republicans' recent tax cuts have contributed to the deficit while Republicans



NOOR LONE/THE STATESMAN

Stony Brook economics and public policy Professor Stephanie Kelton during her lecture in the Staller Center for the Arts on Oct. 15. Kelton served as a chief democratic economist on the U.S. Senate Budget Committee in 2015.

pin entitlement programs as the real culprit. In Kelton's eyes, both parties have overlooked the benefits of having a deficit. "The national debt is an important factor that helps secure U.S. treasuries that investors like to keep in their portfolios," she said. "The private sector—that is all American households and businesses—benefit from it."

Kelton said she believes deficits can easily become surpluses and therefore should not be feared. When the government creates deficits, the private sector gains the surpluses, which are regarded as "assets" for the economy to thrive.

Referring back to the \$10 she started off with, Kelton explained, "although the government recorded minus \$6, someone else in the economy will collect plus \$6."

Yet the question "How will you pay for it?" makes the national debt an obstacle to passing legislation, for fear of adding to that deficit.

"It isn't a concern about its merit or why it should be addressed, which is why we don't end up having real conversations" about policies that matter, she said.

According to The New York Times, the budget deficit for the 2018 fiscal year was \$779 billion, the largest since 2012.

This past June, the Congressional Budget Office projected that by the end of the next decade the national debt could reach the equivalent of 100 percent of the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

With higher entitlement spending toward programs such as Social Security and Medicare projected to increase as well, Democrats and Republicans have different attitudes toward how much to spend.

"We have demographic changes in this country that are placing the labor force into retirement every year," Kelton said. "The people that are left are producing less, but that

doesn't mean the [retirees] won't stop consuming."

Referring to the response that Alan Greenspan, Former Chairman of the Federal Reserve gave regarding this issue, she added, "Greenspan is saying 'How do you protect these assets — the production — until it is time to hand out those benefits for the retirees to spend money in a productive economy without running into inflation?'"

Kelton pointed out, however, that completely paying off the national debt would also have negative consequences because it would prevent the federal government from selling bonds. Since bonds are essentially loans paid for by the public that provide spending money for the government, the economy can remain afloat — the more bonds sold, the more Congress can spend.

Kelton stressed the importance of utilizing resources that can fund policies before turning to money. "If we

need a trillion dollars for infrastructure, instead of asking how much money you need to pay for it, say that you'll need 300,000 construction workers, steel, and factories to manufacture those products. Unless you have the economy at its full capacity, then you can say that you can't afford it."

Kelton emphasized that people should not be alarmed by the national debt, as it is not always an indicator of the economy. She said that the last time the national debt was balanced, in 2001, a recession hit later that year.

"Whenever revenue is raised, we tend to think that the government must be broke if they are increasing taxes," Kelton said. "That is not true, because the United States is a scorekeeper for the dollar. We can never run out of numbers to measure the debt as it increases. As long as we continue to use the dollar, the federal government will never go broke."



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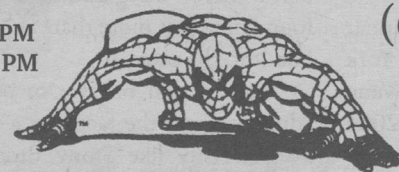
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# ARTS & CULTURE

## SBU graduate student will run for Miss NY in 2019

By Rachel Parker  
Contributing Writer

While most students wind up scrambling for internships or joining various clubs to boost their resumes, graduate student Holly Leffhalm has got a showstopper: she's competing in Miss New York USA.

For Leffhalm, pageants are about a lot more than physical beauty — they're a platform to present a message. She wants children to stay motivated throughout their hardships and stay in school, and hopes to inspire them to do so through her pageantry, because she knows firsthand how difficult one's circumstances can be.

"A month after my 17th birthday, I became a homeless youth of New York State. I had to put myself through my senior year of high school, as well as attempting to apply to colleges in hopes of continuing my education," she said.

Leffhalm recognizes the platform she has been given competing in Miss New York, and wants to take advantage of that in a positive way by sharing her story.

Leffhalm moved 16 times, changed school districts three times and had to help raise her three younger siblings, all while going through the normal everyday stresses of a high schooler.

"It would have been easier to give up and not graduate, not continue my education or

possibly become an addict or a teen mother," Leffhalm said. "I knew my only way to a healthier and better life was to stay in school and work as hard as I could to have some sort of successful future."

She began competing in pageants as a child, when her mother entered her in local competitions. Leffhalm met people from all over the map and has made lifelong friends. She continued competing through high school, eventually going on to win the title of Miss National All American in 2015.

Leffhalm transferred to Stony Brook as a junior and graduated in 2016 with a bachelor's degree in sociology. She's currently completing her masters at the School of Social Welfare.

Emily Pulver, a junior human evolutionary biology major, knows Leffhalm through the equestrian team and she believes that Leffhalm is a perfect candidate to inspire others in the Miss New York pageant. Pulver recounted an instance when Leffhalm volunteered to judge a local pageant and said that Leffhalm's passion for helping others really shone through.

"As long as I have known her, she has always given her all to helping her teammates and friends through any challenge," Pulver said.

Leffhalm's compassion extends to her fellow competitors as well, as she readily admits the shortcomings of the pageant industry.



PHOTO COURTESY OF HOLLY LEFFHALM

Leffhalm knows that this decision was to win the public's favor more than anything else. "What they don't tell you is that there is still a swimsuit competition at the state level, which completely negates the entire point of removing the competition at the national level," Leffhalm said. "If Miss America truly wants to make an impact, removing it entirely would've made more sense."

When Miss America announced earlier this year that it was getting rid of the swimsuit portion of their competition, many rejoiced. However, as an insider,

Leffhalm acknowledges the improvements being made to pageant conditions, but remains aware of the industry's weaknesses. She recognizes that a field she sincerely cares about has the potential to progress and wants to be an active part of that growth.

Leffhalm acknowledges the improvements being made to pageant conditions, but remains aware of the industry's weaknesses. She recognizes that a field she sincerely cares about has the potential to progress and wants to be an active part of that growth.

While studying social work has motivated her to stay driven toward creating change, particularly in addressing and advocating for the homelessness population, her pageantry escalates that drive.

"Despite the fact that there is a long way to go, the industry has begun to embrace women of all shapes and sizes, as well as include individuals who are a part of the LGBTQ community," Leffhalm said. "So many people look up to these competitions as platforms of what it means to be considered beautiful."

Bridget Vaher, a 2016 alumna from the Stony Brook School of Social Welfare master's program, took classes with Leffhalm. She said "I think the world needs to hear what Holly has to say."

Miss New York USA will be held at the Purchase College Performing Arts Center, from Jan. 18 to Jan. 20, 2019.

One pageant can make all the difference in the authentic representation of women that people can identify with and admire.

"It was a long and difficult road, with many things I had to overcome to keep pushing forward and go after my dreams," Leffhalm said. "I am living proof that regardless of what area you grew up in, what you may have been through, or challenges you've been faced with, you can do it."

## "Starry Nights" orchestral showcase lights up the night

By Arielle Cheshire  
Contributing writer

"Starry Nights," an artist's journey celebrating the classical works of Mendelssohn, Aperghis and Beethoven, was an orchestral blend of two ensembles driven by acoustic, dynamic performances by world-renowned artists that are also university staff and students, on Wednesday, Oct. 17 at the Staller Center for the Arts.

Under the direction of music professor and world-renowned cellist Colin Carr, the classical pieces were performed acoustically in an intimate setting of a recital hall, including professor in graduate performance and violinist Arnaud Sussmann, doctoral alumna and violinist Joanna Kaczorowska, doctoral students and violinists Brian Bak and Anna Tsukervanik, professor in graduate performance and violist Matthew Lipman, violist Larry Dutton, doctoral alumnus and cellist Sean Hawthorne and doctoral student and pianist Miki Aoki.

The night started with the violin and cello performance of Mendelssohn's Octet in E-flat major op. 20, featuring the songs Allegro Moderato ma con fuoco, Andante, Scherzo: Allegro Leggerissimo and Presto.

"I love Mendelssohn and always enjoy coming here to see it performed live," Alfred Lieffrig, a vascular surgeon from Smithtown, said.

His daughter, Selene Lieffrig, said that her father is a fan of Mendelssohn. "Ever since he was five, he always enjoyed playing the piano," Lieffrig said. "He has always been

a huge fan of the classical works by Mendelssohn, and to see it perform live was very special."

There was a drastic change in musical direction from moving classical pieces to erratic percussion sounds performed on bongos in the second set. The percussionist trio of Department of Music Professor Eduardo Leandro, masters student John Ling and Shane Mulligan creatively demonstrated their view on how we perceive sound through the works of Georges Aperghis, a Greek composer famous in the field of experimental musical theater and composer of non-programmatic chamber music.

During the Georges Aperghis set, there were various rhythms, shouting and yelling and occasional explanations of the purpose and meaning of various parts of the performance. That was something the audience did not expect to hear but was truly interesting and educational, bringing awareness to how everyone perceives sounds differently.

Considering there weren't any sound enhancements, the power of the combined acoustic instruments alone was incredible. It really made you think how we, as a society, have forgotten the simplicity of musical performances without these aids.

While observing the audience, there were people mumbling that this performance was an odd collection of bongo noises and an array of abstract sounds. Like some other audience members, the Lieffrigs didn't like the second act.

"We did not understand the second act," Selene Lieffrig said. "It was a bunch of noise."



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE STALLER CENTER

Professor of Music, Cello and Chamber Music Colin Carr is the artistic director of the "Starry Nights" program at the Staller Center for the Arts.

However, the point was to highlight how we don't think when there is noise. They tried to show the audience how exposure to loud and busy sounds opens our minds to having a single focus. When introduced suddenly to silence, our minds are released to many patterns of thinking. The audience didn't quite capture this idea and most of them did complain leaving the theater afterwards.

The second act had both funny and serious moments throughout, which was entertaining because of the odd and confused facial and body reactions the performers displayed, along with the sounds that they made during the percussion performance.

The last act featured the three piece ensemble of violinist Sussmann, cellist Carr and pianist Aoki, that again was magnificent with Beethoven's Piano Trio in B-flat Major op. 97. The featured Beethoven songs — Allegro moderato, Scherzo Allegro and Andante cantabile — can be easily described as blissful, tranquil melodies. Like the first act, this trio performed with a passionate drive, receiving in a standing ovation and cheers of excitement from the audience.

"Most musicians if they had to choose an influential composer, you're going to hear Beethoven most of the time," Carr said

after a rehearsal for the show on Tuesday, Oct. 16. "Now, more than 200 years later, it still resonates and shocks you which was his intention."

Carr expressed appreciation to the Stony Brook community for their involvement in classical music. Faculty and students collaborated in both the production and the performance of the "Starry Nights" event.

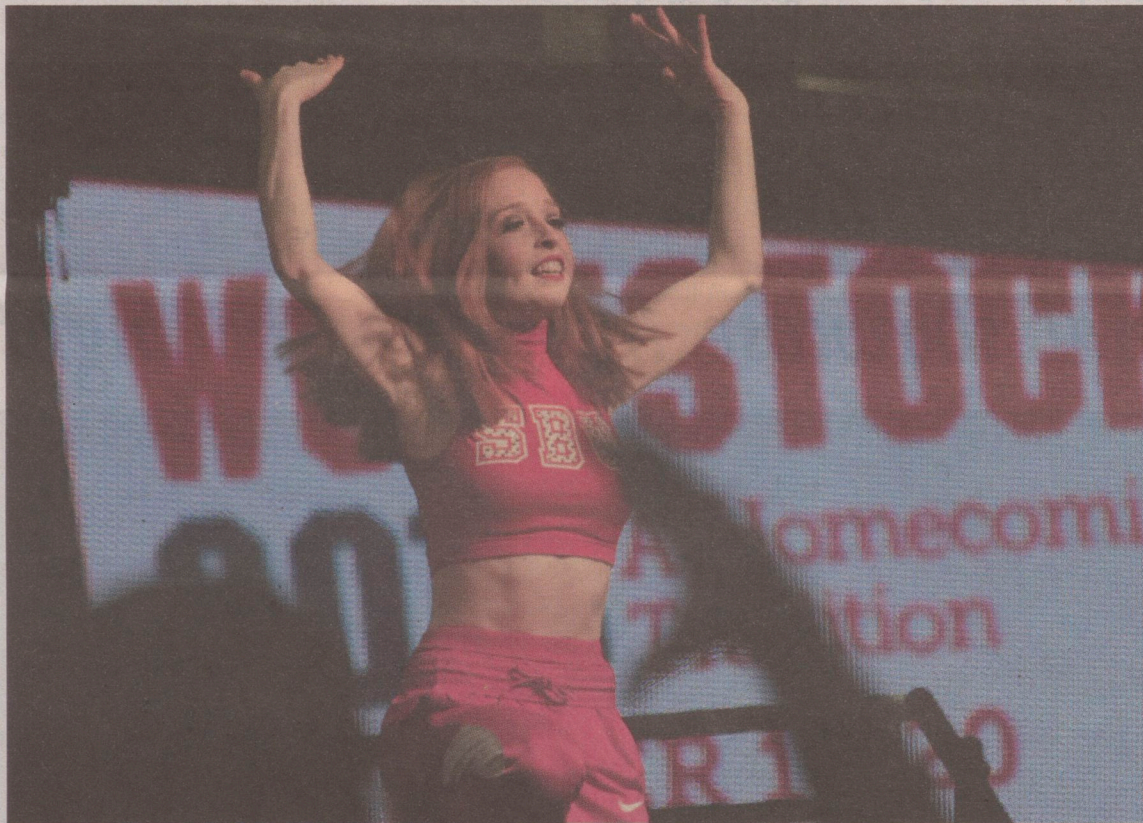
"The outside community has very much embraced it, and they love it," Carr said. "It is also educational for students because in every piece we have the faculty and students working together."

# MULTIMEDIA

## Stony Brook Homecoming festivities 2018

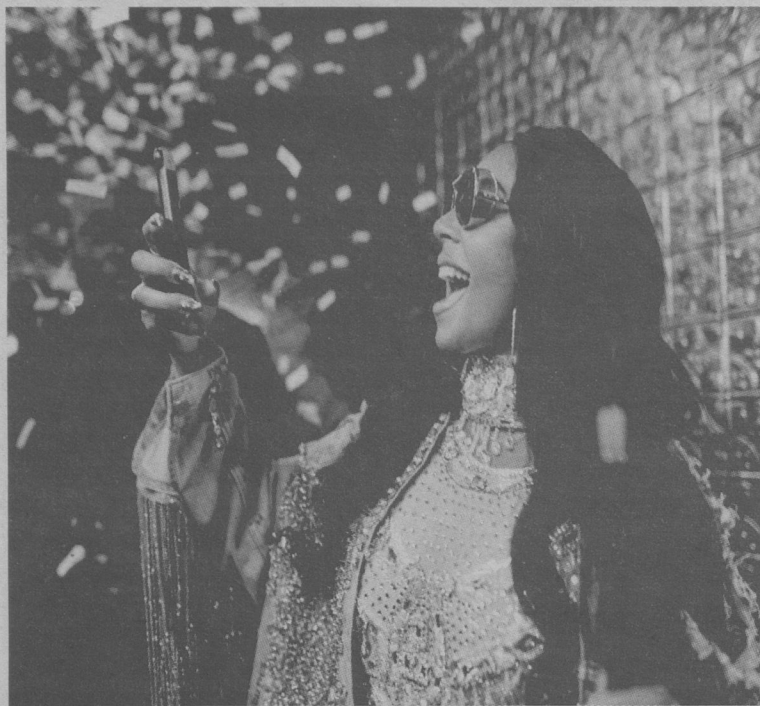
There was a week of festivities on campus leading up to Homecoming on Saturday, Oct. 20. Students showed their school spirit during the Homecoming Hoopla Carnival on the Academic Mall, and watched their peers perform at the Seawolves Showcase and Creative Explosion. Fans filled the Red Zone on Saturday to cheer for the Seawolves, who dominated the Homecoming game with a 52-14 victory over Rhode Island.

Photos by  
Luis Ruiz Dominguez,  
Sara Ruberg  
and Noor Lone





# Back to the Brook Vol. 1 canceled



ASHANTI/INSTAGRAM

Ashanti at a party in Los Angeles, California. She was to headline Back to the Brook Vol. I on Oct. 25.

By Luis Ruiz and Aleeza Kazmi  
Managing and Multimedia Editor

Rumors have been circulating since the start of the semester that Back to the Brook was canceled and on Thursday, Oct. 18 they were confirmed.

Upon requesting press passes for the concert, The Statesman received an email on Wednesday, Oct. 17 from the Assistant Director of Student Media, Isobel Breheny-Schafer, stating that the concert was canceled.

The Statesman reached out to the Undergraduate Student Government (USG) for confirmation but did not receive a response until after USG confirmed the cancellation of Vol. I of the concert via their social media accounts on Thursday, Oct. 18.

USG announced on their Facebook page that Back to the Brook Vol. I was canceled. "I cannot confirm that [Back to the Brook Vol. II] is still on because details are still not set in stone," USG Pres-

ident Justas Klimavicius said via Facebook messenger.

Unforeseen problems haunted Back to the Brook since its early stages. The original opener, Teyana Taylor pulled out of the concert "due to unforeseen circumstances two weeks prior to the concert," and only 24 tickets were sold with only a week left before the concert, according to USG's Facebook post.

The reasoning behind the cancellation of the concert came down to the financial impact. It would be cheaper to cancel the concert rather than to continue to "promote and execute the event," according to USG.

Stony Brook Student Life announced the artists chosen for the first part of the two-part concert in an email sent to students on Oct. 9. It was scheduled to be held at the Staller Center for the Arts Main Stage on Thursday, Oct. 25 and Ashanti was to be the first female to headline the concert series since it began.

When announced, the concert received mixed feedback from students. On their Oct. 9 Facebook post, one student commented, "Just got off the phone with Stanley, chief said this ain't it." Another simply commented "weak," which received 21 likes, eight "haha" reactions and one love emoji response from other students.

The money that was allocated for the concert will remain in

**"Only 24 tickets were sold... It would be cheaper to cancel than to 'promote and execute the event'... tickets will be reimbursed"**

-Undergraduate Student Government (USG)

the Student Activities Board for future events and the students that purchased their tickets will be reimbursed.

"Ticket office will be available for refunds starting tomorrow during normal business hours," Klimavicius said. "An email was sent to all of those who purchased a ticket."

USG guarantees that "steps will be taken in the future, such as polls and collecting more extensive feedback from students, to ensure a situation such as this will not transpire again."

## The Potluck Hindu festival of Navarti

By Rohani Sharma  
Contributing Writer

Navratri, a nine-day-long festival, is celebrated in honor of the Hindu Goddess Durga. Navratri is literally translated to nine nights and it symbolizes the purity and power of goddess Shakti. Navratri puja (prayer ceremony) combines multiple aspects such as fasting with a ritualistic prayer ceremony and is accompanied by impressive celebrations for each night. Navratri in India follows the lunar calendar and falls in March/April and again in September/October.

The background story follows the Goddess Durga slaying the demon "Mahishasura." It represents the victory of good over evil and how a divine female goddess was able to vanquish a demon which no other "man" was able to do.

It is very important in every Hindu household but it is very special for my aunt so all the celebration planning is left to her. She plays religious music and cook meals every night.

We follow Sikhi (which is the proper way to say sikhism) and Hinduism so we are very aware of both religions and their teaching. It is mostly my aunt who celebrates this since her childhood. She has a small temple built in her living room where she keeps a lamp lit for nine nights and even sleeps by it for the duration of the holiday and makes sure the fire never burns out.

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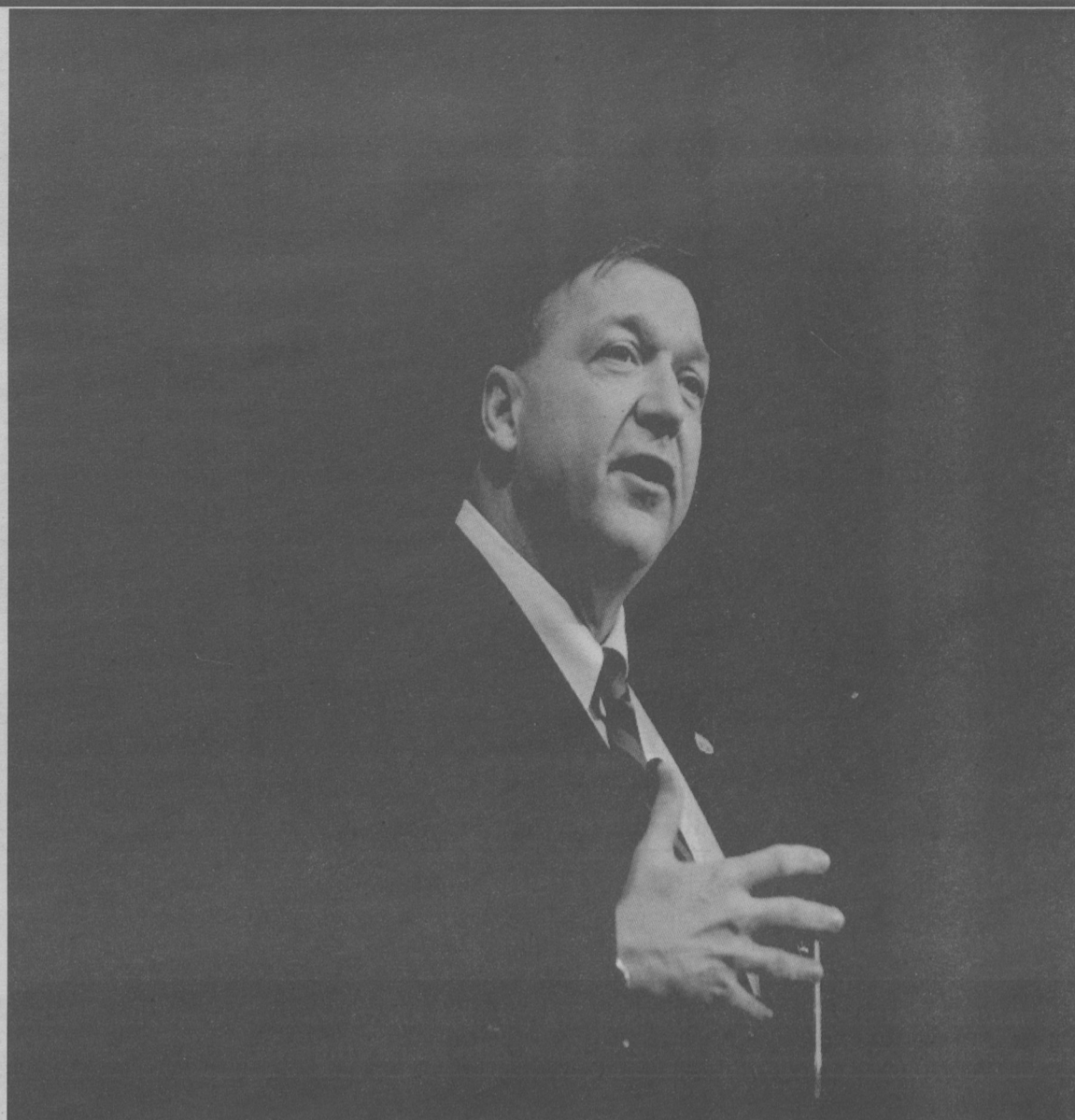
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**Stony Brook University President Samuel L. Stanley Jr. at Brookhaven National Laboratory in 2013. Stanley holds office hours to meet with Stony Brook students.**

## My thoughts after talking to President Stanley

By Vincent Sparanga  
Contributing Writer

I scheduled a meeting with Stony Brook University President Samuel L. Stanley Jr. during his office hour sessions open to students on Tuesday, Sept. 18.

Early on, I asked, "What are some of the school's primary goals going forward [and] What are you allocating your resources to?"

Stanley highlighted that the school hopes to continue improving graduation rates (as Stony Brook's four-year graduation rate has increased from 48 percent to 68.6 percent from 2013 to 2018), opening up research opportunities for students (as research grew by 6.7 percent last year to Stanley's delight) and improving the diversity and continuity on campus, as to ensure no feelings of isolation and improve the sense of a campus community.

I pushed back a bit on Stanley's reply, and asked if the uptick in graduation was due to better students or lower standards from the university.

Stanley replied that student input has improved over time, and there's no evidence to suggest that the standards for graduation have come down. He added that Stony Brook is actually outperforming the initial quality of its input. Stanley noted that the grade point average for incoming freshmen is approximately 3.8, but each class has shown higher graduation rates than would be predicted by the quality of the class based on GPA, SAT scores and other variables.

Stanley further asserted that the third way to improve the four-year graduation rate is to help existing students thrive at Stony Brook, as achieved by improving advising, scheduling and academic support.

This response impressed me, as Stanley seems to have a good grasp on the school's current academic standing and data relevant to markers of student success.

Then I asked, "What are the biggest issues that Stony Brook faces in managing its budget?"

Stanley claimed that many budgeting problems come from the fact that the university's costs are increasing faster than its revenue.

"The revenue we have has come through state allocation, which hasn't gone up since 2007," Stanley said. "In 2007, we received \$200 million a year from the state to help manage Stony Brook. We now receive \$157 million dollars a year, and its been frozen since 2009."

The lack of state aid, coupled with increasing salary demands, has left the university in a position where it needs to cut its budget even with marginal increases in tuition.

"We have seen some increases from the state for fringe benefits to cover salaries," Stanley said. "But the salaries themselves Stony Brook covers through state funds. And the other way we get money is through tuition and we've had recently a tuition increase of \$200 per year in this class. Every year the current contract for UUP will increase the cost of salaries by about \$10 to 12 million. What we'll gain for the [tuition] increase is about \$2.3 million per year,

a \$10 million gap. That means we have to take spending out of the budget."

I think this is an interesting dilemma, if what Stanley describes is accurate. Budget constraints can be difficult to manage and I sympathize with the situation, but certainly don't want to pay much more in tuition. It seems unfair that individual students have to deal with the repercussions of these macro-level budget maneuverings, but ultimately Stanley is left to choose between the most pragmatic of several unfavorable options. It's not an easy situation to handle.

In closing, I asked President Stanley, "What keeps you up at night, and what wakes you up in the morning?"

Stanley responds, "The things that keep me up at night are all about safety on campus... making sure the campus is as safe as possible. What gets me up in the morning is students, working with students, you know commencement day is my favorite day of the year... research is number two and students are number one."

Assuming that Stanley's response was sincere, I think it's a noble one. However, in recalling this response now, it seems somehow pre-planned or generic, as it's so fitting for his role as president. I suppose it's good that the president cares for students so much.

Ultimately, President Stanley's responses impressed me and it seems like the school is under the supervision of a very thoughtful, intelligent individual. I anticipate Stony Brook will continue to improve in the coming years.

## The gender gap in the classroom

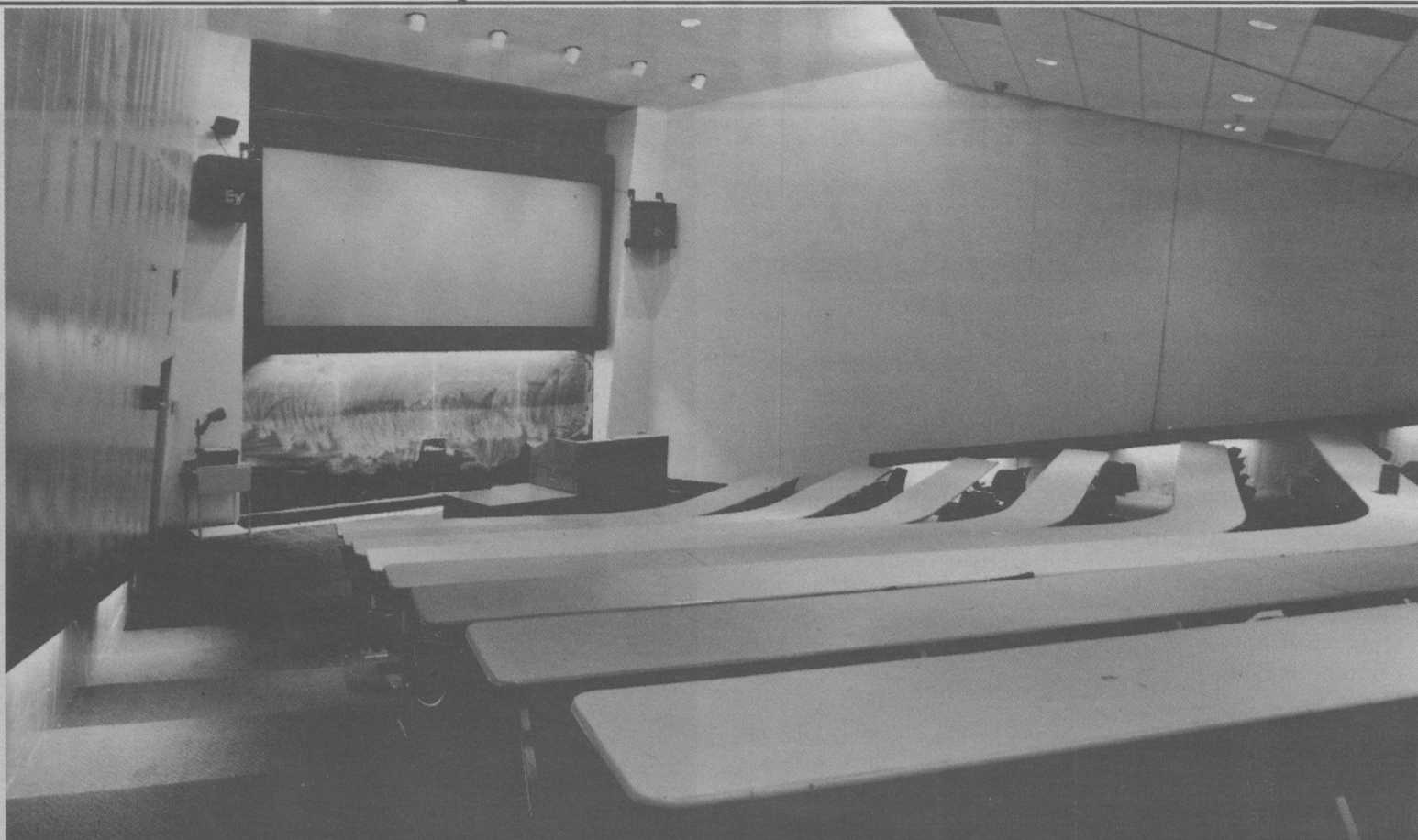
By Samiha Ahmed  
Staff Writer

Stony Brook University's undergraduate population is 53 percent male and 47 percent female. The split is not 50/50, but it is close enough to being even. Still, in terms of classroom participation, there seems to be an overwhelming presence of male voices.

During three semesters at Stony Brook, I have noticed male students raise their hands more often than female students when a question is posed to the class. This does not only happen in science classes; males are dominant in STEM fields, so they generally fare better in those situations. However, even in the business, philosophy and creative writing classes that I have taken, I've noticed that male students participate more often than female students. In my accounting class, many male students have taken advantage of the fact that not enough students are participating and resort to shouting out answers instead of raising their hand. In my organizational behavior class, some male students have interrupted other students, taking away the attention from the other student.

When a student raises his or her hand to participate in class, it shows that the student believes he or she has something valuable to add to the discussion and is confident enough to share it with the class. Therefore, since males raise their hand more often, they feel as though they can add more value to the class than females.

This gap in participation between males and females is present in



EZRA MARGONO/STATESMAN FILE

**An empty classroom after a lecture in the Javits Lecture Center at Stony Brook University. The gender distribution in Stony Brook's undergraduate student population is 53 percent male and 47 percent female.**

school settings across the world due to the patriarchal ideas ingrained in these institutions. "Research over the past two decades reveals that from preschool to college, males receive more instruction and teacher attention than females," according to the American Association of University Women (AAUW). Also, because of generational and cultural beliefs that men are more competent in STEM fields compared to women, males are given more motivation and support early on in their education.

To this day, some professors and advisors find it surprising to see women in STEM majors or minors. Anthropologist Dan Grunspan believes positive reinforcement can be crucial to students' success. According to Grunspan, something as easy as a "You can do this," can give both

men and women the motivation they need to push through adversity. Ignoring women's talent "can add up."

In the long run, these little factors have huge impacts on the way that males and females act in higher educational settings and in the workplace.

Not only are there differences in the way that males and females are treated as they grow up, but these stereotypes are supported in the real world. Public figures represented in the media are also treated differently, which impacts the way that we internalize gender stereotypes. One clear example is the incident that occurred at a news conference with President Donald Trump on Oct. 1, 2018.

Trump called on female reporter, Cecilia Vega, from ABC, to ask

a question and said, "She's shocked that I picked her. She's in a state of shock." She responded, "I'm not. Thank you, Mr. President," and he blatantly replied, "That's okay, I know you're not thinking. You never do."

He made the judgment of her "not thinking" before she even got the chance to ask her question, which he avoided answering later on. There have been many instances in which the president has insulted and objectified women in public, so it is safe to say that this insult was motivated by his sexist views. These situations further the narrative that men can use their formal power and masculinity to degrade a woman's worth. In this case, the president is devaluing the reporter's intellect and worth as a news reporter. The

president is a public figure and young people watching his actions might think it is acceptable to treat women like he does. This example is another reason why young girls might not feel comfortable participating or asking questions in class. They might feel as though their questions are "dumb" or "unrelated" and might go unanswered as Vega's question did.

Schools, parents and marketers need to change the patriarchally-laced messages they send to children by fostering gender-equal environments in terms of opportunity, praise and participation. This can lead to a progressive change in the educational and work environment. Women need to start by raising their hands high, fearlessly and assertively voicing their answers.

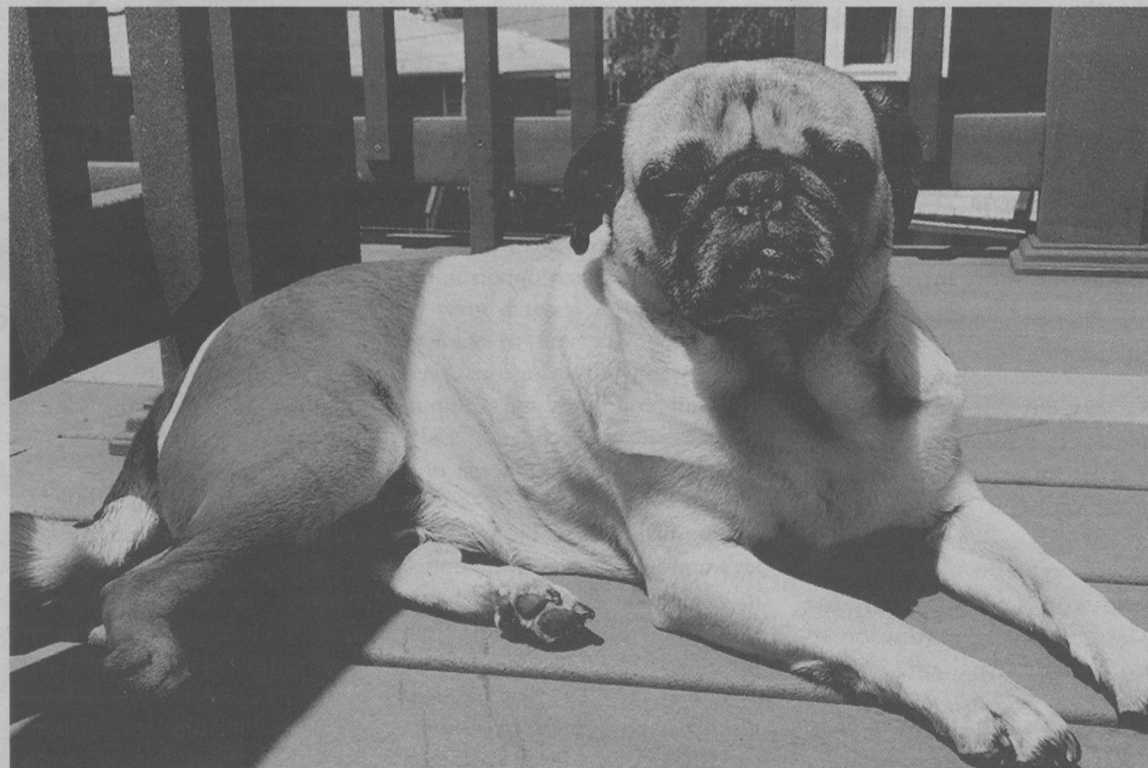
## Why a pet's life matters: Our furry friends provide great health benefits

By Diva Dotson  
Contributing Writer

We all have that special someone in our lives. Whether it be a best friend, family member or significant other, they're here for us when we need them most. Then there's that special someone that shows us the greatest amount of love without saying a word. That's right — I'm talking about pets.

Whether they bark, meow or hiss, pets give you the kind of unconditional love you rarely get from a human. It might seem weird to people without any pets, but that furry friend can have a huge impact on a person's health and well-being. There's plenty of medical data to support just how important pets can be.

Sixty-eight percent of U.S. households have a pet. Even though owning a pet can be expensive, the security and comfort of having an animal can boost your well-being. Owning a cat or dog increases your chances of surviving a heart attack, according to Harvard University Medical School. Owning a pet can actually help lower cholesterol and triglyceride levels, which would otherwise increase the chances of getting heart disease.



GABBY PARDO/STATESMAN FILE

**Assistant Opinions Editor Gabby Pardo's pet dog sits in the sun. Sixty-eight percent of U.S. households have a pet, according to the 2017-2018 National Pet Owners Survey.**

Owning an animal can also help alleviate stress and fight depression. When you interact with your pets, your blood pressure lowers and serotonin and dopamine levels in your brain increase, giving you feelings of satisfaction and security. Studies have

even shown that people recover from stress more quickly when they interact with their pets than with family members or friends, according to The Washington Post. The use of emotional support animals (ESAs) proves this point. ESAs, which consist mostly

of dogs, are used to help people with a disability if they need assistance. They are used by veterans with post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), people with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) and others with a disability that requires assistance through otherwise stress-

ful or triggering situations. Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) offers pet therapy sessions called the PALS Program: Pet Away Life Stress, where you can pet animals to help relieve stress and anxiety, lower your heart rate and help you feel more loved.

Over the summer, my family lost our four-year-old Staffordshire Bull Terrier unexpectedly. Shaka was everything to us. We'll never forget him taking my father's socks, begging for our food and barking at strangers walking past our house. Our house was a completely different place after Shaka passed. When people walked by our house, there was silence. When my mother cooked ribs for dinner, there was no begging. When my father left his socks on the floor, there was no taking. When I came home from doing volunteer work, there was no one to greet me. It was the weirdest part of my life; there was no one to comfort us if we had a hard day. Shaka wasn't just a pet to us — he was part of our family.

Two weeks later, my parents and I went over to our local animal shelter and we adopted a four-year-old St. Bernard-Pitbull mix, Bear. Bear is our new homie, but we will never forget about Shaka, who will always be our forever homie.

# Athletics' fall season teams continue dominance in conference play

By Ethan Tam  
Contributing Writer

The clock reaches zero and the players rush onto the field, celebrating yet another victory. It's been a familiar sight for Stony Brook Athletics so far this fall season. As of Oct. 21, the Stony Brook Seawolves' fall-season teams are 23-3-1 in conference play, with its four pillars — Football, Men's Soccer, Women's Soccer and Volleyball — all experiencing tremendous success this season.

The main attraction of the fall season has always been Football, where Stony Brook is currently 6-2 overall and 4-1 in Colonial Athletic Association conference

play. Ranked No. 18 nationally in the FCS Stats poll, the Seawolves have followed up last season's second-place conference finish and playoff appearance with another strong start.

Stony Brook has done well in the toughest FCS conference thanks to the senior running back duo of Donald Liotine and Jordan Gowins, nicknamed the Long Island Express. The defense has also shown big-play potential, returning turnovers for touchdowns six times. With their eyes set on a return to the playoffs, the Seawolves face formidable opponents like James Madison and Delaware ahead, and will need to

win big games in order to secure a berth.

The men's soccer team, who is currently first place in the America East with a 7-5-2 record (4-1-0 in conference play), clinched a berth in the conference tournament this past Saturday. While the team is relatively younger than in years past, it has improved since an injury-riddled 2017 through building momentum and chemistry between the new players and the veteran leaders. Director of Athletics Shawn Heilbron spoke highly of senior midfielder Serge Gamwanya.

"I think he deserves strong consideration for America East Player of the Year," Heilbron said. "He's a

leader on the team who does so much on the field, with many things that don't show up in the box score."

The women's soccer team, standing at 11-6-1 (6-1-1), has clinched a spot in the America East Championship for the third straight season. Armed with a strong veteran presence, the team shines due to its awareness on the field and its players' support of one another. Currently tied with Hartford for first in the conference, its goal is to win the regular season, host the conference tournament and win out to make the NCAA tournament for a second consecutive year.

The volleyball team may be experiencing the best stretch of them all, currently in the midst of a ten-game winning streak. Its 14-8 record, which includes a first-place 8-0 record against the America East, has proven that the Seawolves are no pretender after winning the school's first conference title last year under newly-hired head coach Kristin Belzung. Heilbron believes it is a good sign that the team is not fully satisfied with its level of play even after consistently sweeping its opponents.

The flourishing of Stony Brook Athletics was envisioned by Heilbron's five-year "Together We Transform" plan, and he points to improvements in facilities, nutrition, strength and conditioning and sports medicine as keys to this successful run. "It comes down to the culture that's been built in this department to believe that we

can win at the highest level and show the nation what we can be," Heilbron said.

Heilbron was named the director of athletics in 2014. Having previously worked at larger schools such as Oregon State and UCLA, he explained that the goals do not change "depending on a university's size.

"You're relying upon a smaller number of people to support student-athletes, to raise money, do all the things necessary to help our student-athletes achieve success," Heilbron said. "The issues are the same."

As a relatively young school, Stony Brook has a lot of room to grow with regards to its athletics department. The university reached Division I status in 1994, meaning it does not yet have the traditions or history that many of its opponents do. It is crucial to build on the success so far and sustain it into the winter, spring and seasons beyond. The theme of "sustainable success" was heavily emphasized as a necessity to help market the school and help its teams grow into some of the country's best.

"We're showing right now what is possible at Stony Brook," Heilbron said. "How do we become a program that perennially goes to the NCAA tournament in men's basketball, that ranks top 10 in football every year?"

For now, the answer is to win the America East regular season and take home the Commissioner's Cup, in which Stony Brook has finished second to Albany for each of the last six years.



HEATHER KHALIFA / STATESMAN FILE

Director of Athletics Shawn Heilbron took his position at Stony Brook in 2014. Heilbron's "Together We Transform" plan has helped Athletics develop into the success it is now.

## SEAWOLVES SCOREBOARD

|   |   |   |  |   |  |
|---|---|---|--|---|--|
| <br><b>HARTFORD</b>    | <b>WOMEN'S SOCCER</b><br>THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18<br><b>1-2</b>     | <br><b>STONY BROOK</b> | <br><b>RHODE ISLAND</b> | <b>FOOTBALL</b><br>SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20<br><b>14-52</b>       | <br><b>STONY BROOK</b>  |
| <br><b>HARTFORD</b>    | <b>WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL</b><br>THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18<br><b>0-3</b> | <br><b>STONY BROOK</b> | <br><b>STONY BROOK</b>  | <b>MEN'S SOCCER</b><br>SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20<br><b>1-2</b>     | <br><b>VERMONT</b>      |
| <br><b>STONY BROOK</b> | <b>HOCKEY</b><br>FRIDAY, OCTOBER 19<br><b>4-2</b>               | <br><b>SYRACUSE</b>    | <br><b>STONY BROOK</b>  | <b>WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL</b><br>SUNDAY, OCTOBER 21<br><b>3-0</b> | <br><b>IONA</b>         |
| <br><b>STONY BROOK</b> | <b>HOCKEY</b><br>SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20<br><b>2-3</b>             | <br><b>SYRACUSE</b>    | <br><b>STONY BROOK</b>  | <b>WOMEN'S SOCCER</b><br>SUNDAY, OCTOBER 21<br><b>1-0</b>     | <br><b>UMASS LOWELL</b> |

# SPORTS

## Football totals for 460 yards, earns Homecoming victory over Rhode Island

By Chuck Hamma  
Assistant Sports Editor

No. 18 FCS-ranked Stony Brook Football dominated the Rhode Island Rams 52-14 in its homecoming game on Saturday, Oct. 20 at Kenneth P. LaValle Stadium.

The best way to head into the biggest game of your season is to dominate the week before in order to build momentum, and the Seawolves did just that. Stony Brook ran for 354 yards and held Rhode Island, a team that was averaging 37 points per game on the year, to a season-low of just 14.

The victory was key in the Seawolves' preparation for their biggest test of the season next week when they go to Harrisonburg, Virginia to play the top-seeded James Madison Dukes.

"You always want to be playing well when you're going to play the best," head coach Chuck Priore said. "That's the best team in our conference. It's nationally ranked in the top five. It won the national championship two years ago and went to the national championship last year."

Senior running back Jordan Gowins plunged in from a yard out to make it 7-0. Both Gowins and fellow

senior running back Donald Liotine went over 100 rushing yards for the fourth time this season.

A 35-yard field goal by senior kicker Alex Lucansky at the end of the first quarter extended the lead to 10-0. The Seawolves then

pushed their advantage to 17-0 about midway through the second quarter when senior quarterback Joe Carbone found redshirt-senior wide receiver Julius Wingate for a 33-yard touchdown pass. That score blossomed into 24-0

with five minutes left in the same quarter when redshirt-sophomore quarterback Tyquell Fields found senior tight end Cal Daniels for a two-yard touchdown. Fields was featured on a handful of plays during the game, and was praised

for his work ethic by Priore following the matchup.

"Tyrell practices everyday like he's the starter," he said. "And we have the ability to use him as a weapon on offense."

The Rams finally cracked the scoring column right before halftime when junior running back Naim Jones pounded it in from a yard out to cut the Seawolves' lead to 24-7. The Seawolves then drove down the field, scoring on a one-yard touchdown run by Liotine to make it 31-7.

Gowins scored his second touchdown of the game on a four-yard run to increase the Stony Brook advantage to 38-7 in the third quarter. The score remained that way until the beginning of the fourth quarter when Carbone took one in from three yards out, making the score 45-7.

A five-yard run by sophomore running back Kameron Pickett with nine minutes left in the game made it 52-7. Rhode Island's other touchdown of the game came on Jones' second rushing touchdown, this time from two yards out, to give the final score of 52-14.

The Seawolves will now hit the road to take on the Dukes on Saturday, Oct. 27 at 3:30.



ANNA COREA / STATESMAN FILE

Senior running back Jordan Gowins rushes into the endzone in a game from last year. Gowins accounted for 122 yards in Saturday's matchup against Rhode Island.

## Eight members of 2018 class inducted into Athletics Hall of Fame

By Kenneth Fermin  
Staff Writer

Stony Brook Athletics inducted eight new members into the Rita & Kurt Eppenstein Athletics Hall of Fame on Friday.

The 17th class is the largest to be inducted in the university's history. The ceremony is the third since its hiatus in 2006 and was held in the Island Federal Credit Union Arena Atrium in front of family, friends and former teammates.

This year's class includes Baseball alumni and current Los Angeles Angels teammates Nick Tropeano and Tyler Johnson, Men's Lacrosse alumnus Jordan McBride, Women's Basketball alumna Jessica Smith, Men's Basketball alumnus Mel Walker, Volleyball alumna Sarah Boeckel, Football alumnus David Bamiro and legendary Football coach Sam Kornhauser.

Tropeano had a tenacity on the field like few other freshmen did in 2009. He made effective use of his 14 appearances by recording 50 strikeouts in 58 innings.

"Coming in as a freshman I was looking for an opportunity to play," Tropeano said. "It was one of my main things and for [head coach Matt Senk], his philosophy was 'the best guys will play.' And that drove me over to coming here."

The following season, he led the conference with 106 strikeouts and ranked 22nd in the country with a

total earned run average of 2.44, numbers that resulted in him being named the America East Co-Pitcher of the Year. Tropeano had a formidable 2011 campaign by setting team and conference records with 12 victories and a 1.84 ERA, and became the first player to earn two conference Pitcher of the Year awards. He was also named to the Louisville Slugger second team All-American and one of 25 finalists for the College Baseball Hall of Fame Pitcher of the Year.

Tropeano elected to skip his senior year and was drafted by the Houston Astros in the fifth round of the 2011 MLB Draft. He made his major league debut on Sept. 10, 2014 and struck out five batters while giving up two runs in five innings en route to a 5-2 victory over the Seattle Mariners. Tropeano was traded to the Angels during the offseason and remains with the team today.

"It was a little bit of a surprise at first," Tropeano said. "I never got traded before and I got a cup of coffee in the big leagues and didn't know how to take it. When it was all said and done, I was happy [the Angels] traded for me and wanted me."

Tropeano was inducted alongside his teammate for three years and Stony Brook's all-time leader in victories, Tyler Johnson. Johnson played an essential role on the

mound in the team's 2012 "Shock the World" NCAA Tournament run by holding the No.1-ranked LSU Tigers to one unearned run off three hits in a 3-1 victory. The senior finished with 12 conference victories, tying Tropeano for the school single-season record, and was selected by the Oakland Athletics in the 33rd round of the MLB draft.

Jessica Smith proved to be a dominant figure on both sides of the hardwood as the star forward/center for the women's basketball team. Smith ranked near the top of conference rankings in several categories and led the 2004-05 season with a field goal percentage of 54.5. She finished her career with 920 rebounds, 1,710 points and shot nearly 49 percent from the field.

Mel Walker served as one of the pioneers for the growth and success that the men's basketball team has earned throughout the years. Walker led the then-Division III Stony Brook Patriots to two straight Knickerbocker Conference championships in 1977 and 1978. He concluded his career with 1,226 points and holds the distinction of being the university's only men's basketball player to advance to the NCAA Tournament in every year he played.

Jordan McBride wasted no time showcasing his attacking prowess

against opposing teams by leading the men's lacrosse team with 44 goals and 55 points in his 2008 rookie season. McBride was the first player to record 40 goals in three consecutive seasons and earned All-America East first team honors each season along with the Player of the Year honors in 2011. He was selected by the Colorado Mammoth as the 13th pick in the 2011 NHL draft.

Sarah Boeckel's ability to set up her teammates to score was second to none. Boeckel was the setter for the volleyball team as it converted to Division I play and was a catalyst for the team's early success, helping lead her teammates to two ECAC championships. She holds the school record with 4,949 assists.

David Bamiro proved he was a one-man wrecking crew from his very first collegiate game in 2001, injuring two different St. John's Red Storm quarterbacks with vicious sacks. Bamiro's intensity on the gridiron earned him 29 career sacks, which was a Stony Brook record that lasted for 11 years.

Bamiro credited much of his success to his coach and the final inductee of the ceremony, Sam Kornhauser. Kornhauser was the first Football head coach in the university's history and led it from Division III to Division I. He finished with 105 career victories and guided the Seawolves to their first-ever Northeast Conference title in 2005.



PHOTO COURTESY OF AMERICA EAST

Nick Tropeano, Stony Brook Baseball alumnus, was inducted into the Athletics Hall of Fame on Friday.

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