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HOOPLA

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Stanley speaks on Simon Award panel

By Rebecca Liebson
News Editor

President Samuel L. Stanley Jr. traveled to Washington D.C. this week to accept the Senator Paul Simon Award for Campus Internationalization on behalf of Stony Brook University. The award from NAFSA: Association of International Educators recognizes outstanding accomplishments in international education.

On Tuesday, Nov. 13, Stanley sat on a panel with presidents from three other Simon Award-winning colleges and universities to discuss study abroad programs, international students and more.

"I think college is about educating students, about expanding their horizons," Stanley said when asked why it's important for U.S. colleges and universities to act as champions of internationalization.



JERROD WHITE/STATESMAN FILE

President Samuel L. Stanley Jr. at the 2016 State of the University address. Stanley accepted the Senator Paul Simon Award on Nov. 13 for Stony Brook University.

"I think their ability to occupy this internationalized, global environment depends very much on their understanding of culture."

The panelists went on to discuss some of the lessons they learned that other educators could benefit from.

Babson College President, Kerry Healey, talked about mea-

sures her school has taken to prevent international students from self-segregating. "We don't have an orientation for international students, we don't segregate them out," she said. "We actually want all of our students to begin understanding that they're all global citizens and that they're all the same right from the beginning."

Stanley highlighted the importance of being strategic when designing study abroad programs on a tight budget, particularly programs involving research. "What are you interested in and what are the outcomes you want to see from this engagement?"

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Students attend active shooter training

By Evelin Mercedes
Contributing Writer

The University Police Department (UPD) and Residential Risk Management hosted their last active shooter training of the semester at Roth Cafe on Wednesday, Nov. 14.

Forty-three students learned about the "Run, Hide, Fight" method and other tactics they can use if they encounter a gunman.

"I've actually looked up this material before, but it's a refresher of what you should do in this kind of situation," Andrew Infantino, a senior physics major, said. "The most important thing we went over is to run, to be as efficient as possible in preserving your life and try not to give the shooter any chance of succeeding."

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Photojournalist Noam Bedein hosts talk about saving the Dead Sea

By Anna Correa
Arts and Culture Editor

Israeli photojournalist Noam Bedein hosted a talk about saving the Dead Sea and how Middle Eastern geopolitics play a role on Wednesday, Nov. 14 in the Student Activities Center.

In 2017, Bedein founded the Dead Sea Revival Project (DSRP), an organization that aims to restore the water levels of the Dead Sea and educate people on preservation of other "water treasures" around the world, using the Dead Sea as a case study. Bedein, who is also a photographer for National Geographic, uses different forms of media to spread awareness of the receding waters of the Dead Sea such as photography of the area, time-lapse photos over years, educational videos, salt layer art, social media tags such as #SaveOurWaterTreasures and virtual reality.

"Usually people like to put the focus on the factories and the industry, which does have a huge part of the receding water level, but it's not really the root of the problem," Bedein said. "The problem isn't really the water coming out of the Dead Sea. There's not water coming into the Dead Sea."

The Dead Sea, also known as the salt sea, is a lake that is at the lowest point of elevation on Earth, bordering Israel, Jordan and parts of the West Bank. It is one of the saltiest bodies of water in the world, with a 33.7 percent salinity. The high salt content makes it difficult for aquatic life to exist, but macroscopic fish and plants and microscopic bacteria still live in the lake, according to Bedein. It is also abundant in minerals which are used in various medicinal and beauty products for their health benefits.

The Dead Sea's surface waters are receding at a rate of 1.5 meters or 5 feet per year, which is equivalent to having about 600 olympic pools of water emptied every day, Bedein said. It is at its lowest point in recorded history and has lost one-third of its surface area.

The receding waters cause sinkholes, which are unpredictable depressions in the ground that make it dangerous for people to visit the area. Entire beaches and resorts have been shut down. The Jerusalem Post reported in 2015 that 5,000 sinkholes have appeared near the Dead Sea and hundreds are created every year.

"I had no idea that this environmental disaster was happening at this part of the world," Taylor Larson, a junior environmental

humanities major and vice president of the Environmental Club, said. "Here in New York, it's very far removed."

Although companies that extract minerals from the lake are partially at fault, Bedein said the sources of water are being dried out because of climate change and lack of water management. In order to restore the Dead Sea, water levels in the Sea of Galilee (the Kinneret) would need to be restored to flow into the Jordan River, then into the Dead Sea. The Sea of Galilee and the Jordan River are in danger as well.

"In the next decade, the water crisis is going to be one of the biggest crises the world is going to deal with," Bedein said. "The project to save the Dead Sea is a symbol in the Middle East. It is only the symbol of the Middle East for cooperation."

The water crisis in Jordan has been exacerbated by the growing refugee population there. According to a 2017 broadcast of Asia Today — a news show from the China Global Television Network — there are 1.5 million Syrians in Jordan and water consumption increased by 22 percent since the refugee crisis began in 2015. Americans on average consume 9,000 cubic

meters of water per capita, while Jordanians use 150.

Jordan has attempted to develop water resources but is reaching its limit on the amount of water that is accessible due to lack of renewable water resources in the country and unsustainable groundwater extraction. Countries like Jordan and Israel have used up most of the Jordan River for agricultural and water needs to meet the population's demands. USAID states the current amount of renewable water resources in Jordan meets only half of water consumption.

The World Bank plans to finance the Red Sea-Dead Sea project, which according to the 2015 feasibility report from French consulting and engineering firm, Coyne et Beiller, aims to save the Dead Sea from degradation, desalinate water and/or generate affordable hydroelectricity and "build a symbol of peace in the Middle East."

The project will bring fresh water to Jordan and Israel and build the world's largest desalination plant, Oded Fixler, director of the Red Sea-Dead Sea project, said in the Asia Today broadcast.

"Water is a common factor in this entire earth and to realize how quickly it hits home is such an eye-opening experience.

Especially when you think about how 'Oh I can just turn on the faucet and drink a glass of water' and not realizing in two years I can't do that anymore because there will be such a drought," Samantha Duarte, a freshman biomedical engineering major, said. "For some people it doesn't hit as hard until you see the actual damage that's being done and how it's affecting my own home town."

For Israeli student Eilona Feder — an Israeli-American Council Mishelanu fellow and senior biochemistry major — the environmental disaster of the Dead Sea hits close to home. Feder visited the Dead Sea many times growing up since her mother worked as a doctor at the local resorts. She organized the event along with Hillel to spread awareness of the issue.

"It is one of my favorite places in Israel. It is such an important place to Israel and the world. It is such a touristic place so people need to know what is happening and think of the solutions," Feder said. "We're the next generation. Informing people, especially educated people, about this problem is very important. Some people study environmental science and engineering. All those classes and all those majors can someday help solve solutions. Even [we] can help."

NEWS

UPD hosts semester's last shooting training SBU accepts Simon Award

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UPD played a video showing an active shooter simulation, filmed in Yang Hall, with student actors demonstrating each step. The three recommended options before police enforcement arrives are to run, hide or fight.

Before you choose to run, you'll need to assess the situation and know your escape routes out of the building. Next, leave your belongings behind, prevent others from entering the area and keep your hands visible. In the event that the shooter is on a lower level of the building than you, it is best to hide in a locked and barricaded room until UPD arrives. This lowers the risk of running into the shooter and needing to rely on the last option — to fight.

Take any nearby objects to use as a weapon to protect yourself and attempt to strike as aggressively as possible. This method requires you to take action against the active shooter as a last resort and only when your life is in imminent danger.

Officer Peter Thomson ensured that students understood that "distance is in your favor." The farther away you are from the active shooter, the higher of a chance you have to survive.

"That's what this training is about," Assistant Chief of Police Eric

Olsen said. "These events are over very quickly, so every second you can buy yourself, it's another second that officers are coming to help you."

The training comes just a week after a 28-year-old gunman in Thousand Oaks, California shot and killed 12 college-aged students in a popular country music bar, before being taken out by a law enforcement officer. This is the 307th mass shooting of the year, according to data from non-profit organization, the Gun Violence Archive.

The officers leading the training used a powerpoint to show how students could react in the initial moments of an active shooter situation to help buy them extra time. They emphasized that the response time of the on-campus police department is only two minutes compared to the Suffolk County Police Department, which is five to 15 minutes.

"If it ever came down to it, I think students should be prepared because, at the end of the day, it's your life," junior anthropology major Jhinelle Walker said. "We all have these assumptions from movies that we're gonna be the hero, and we're gonna take down the bad guys but fighting or taking them on is more likely to get us killed or put other people in danger."

Attendees passed around some of the equipment that police officers have for all types of emergencies: kevlar helmet, ballistic external vest and ballistic shield.

"It would be great if other students were to learn about this," Vamsi Talari, a sophomore computer engineering major, said. "It gave me a sense of safety because I now know they have the best tools that will keep our students safe."

The training mentioned what to expect when law enforcement arrives at the scene. It is best to remain calm, follow the officer's instructions, put down any items in your hands, raise your hands, spread your fingers and avoid making quick movements so they do not mistake you for the shooter.

The officers also told students to be aware of their surroundings. For example, knowing where the exits in a room are, where the nearest landline is and where possible hiding spots are can help save lives if an active shooter situation were to happen on campus.

"We're just trying to teach as many people as possible on campus with this training," Olsen said. "I think students love the class. They also realize that they have a fully vetted police department on campus with the tools to respond to one of these incidences, and it makes them feel safer."

Continued from page 1

he asked. "Because like [with] anything else there's always limited resources."

Texas Tech University President, Lawrence Schovanec, agreed with Stanley. "You must be very intentional in the partners that you collaborate with to make sure that you have a plan that's meaningful and that you can deliver what you say you're going to do."

The panel also took several questions from the audience. One woman asked the panelists to share some specific challenges their schools faced in regards to immigration.

Harper College President, Kenneth Ender, said his school has struggled to address issues related to the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program, which gives undocumented immigrants who came to the U.S. as young children protected status to live, work and attend school here. When the Trump administration rescinded the program last year, it left DACA recipients at Ender's school feeling vulnerable.

"How [do we] support students that are with us and living day to day around the question

of 'how long am I going to be here?' and 'am I safe to be identified on this campus?'" he said.

Stanley touched on two big-picture problems affecting international education at Stony Brook. "One is the uncertainty about what is happening next," he said. "We know there is going to be restrictions potentially on students that are coming down on issues related to security. And the second, I think broader thing is, as was talked about, are we a welcoming environment?"

He noted that as international student enrollment in the U.S. has started to decline, it has become more difficult to spread the message that Stony Brook is accepting of students from all backgrounds.

The Senator Paul Simon Award for Campus Internationalization is named after the late Illinois lawmaker who was "a lifelong advocate for international education and exchange," according to the NAFSA website.

"[Senator Paul Simon] was an inspirational leader and as I think about some of the issues we have now today, we could use more people of his integrity and skill and knowledge and wisdom," Stanley said. "The country misses him."

School of Journalism creates professorship honoring business journalist

By Joseph McQueen
Contributing Writer

Stony Brook University's School of Journalism announced on Oct. 15 that it is establishing a new professorship honoring pioneering business journalist Marshall Loeb.

The Marshall R. Loeb Visiting Professorship in Digital News and Audience Engagement was created after Loeb's son and daughter, Michael and Margaret Loeb, gave funding to the School of Journalism to honor their father's legacy. The professorship will be awarded to a person who has worked in journalism and can engage students and faculty in the practice of digital journalism.

"They'll have access to someone who will be at the forefront of what's happening now in digital innovation and audience engagement. No one on our faculty is actively engaged in those efforts in a newsroom setting. This person can come from either academia or a newsroom," Associate Professor Barbara Selvin said.

Loeb spent his career as a business journalist working for Time Magazine as a writer, later becoming managing editor of both Fortune and Money magazines.

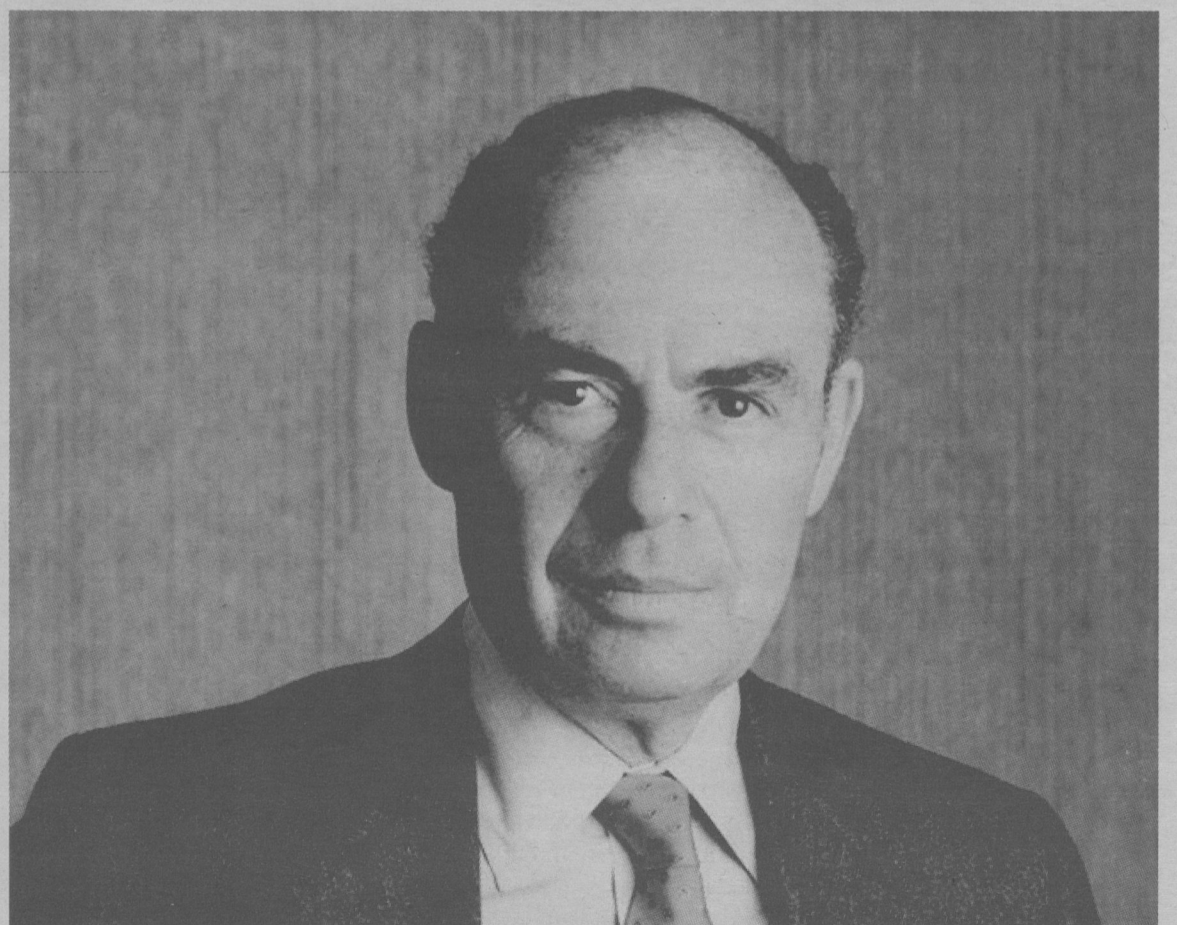
"He was one of the most influential magazine editors of the 20th century. What made him very special was his foresight and understanding that journalists covering business needed to focus on the average person, not just an audience filled with people running businesses," Founding Dean of the School of Journalism, Howard Schneider, said.

Loeb's son visited the School of Journalism and was very impressed with the students and their work ethic. Loeb believed that many of them — first generation college students or paying their way through college — embodied the spirit of his father, who himself had to work his way up in life.

"We developed a relationship with Marshall Loeb's son, Michael Loeb," Schneider said. "He runs Loeb Enterprises in New York City and he's a very successful entrepreneur and he knew a member of our advisory board for our journalism school, Mike Dukmejian, and he introduced me to Michael Loeb. When Marshall Loeb died, we suggested that a great way to honor Marshall Loeb would be to create a visiting professorship at our School of Journalism."

Loeb is the founder and CEO of Loeb Enterprises, a start-up investor and operator of consumer marketing businesses. The company helps businesses that are centered on digital innovation and do almost all of their business online. He helped start websites like priceline.com and scriptreelief.com, a website that helps people get discounts on prescription drugs.

The School of Journalism's search is now underway to find top candidates from across the United States for the new professorship. In addition to teaching, the professor will deliver annual lectures that are open to the public and will act as a bridge between the School of Journalism and the news industry to help students stay ahead of emerging trends.



COURTESY OF STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY

A headshot of business journalist Marshall Loeb. The School of Journalism announced the professorship for digital journalism honoring Loeb on Oct. 15.

"The department checks every step of the way to make sure that we're conducting a fair and open search and that we're treating all candidates equally. We do want to diversify our faculty not just in the School of Journalism, but throughout the university," Selvin said.

This new professorship and subsequent new courses offered in the

journalism program will begin in the Fall 2019 semester.

"I think it's a great thing that the school is honoring such a prominent person in the field of journalism and all of the significant things he has done in the industry," freshman journalism major Lilly Parnell said.

Schneider said that the new professorship will enrich the cur-

riculum in the School of Journalism by adding new courses on how to use digital technology in journalism.

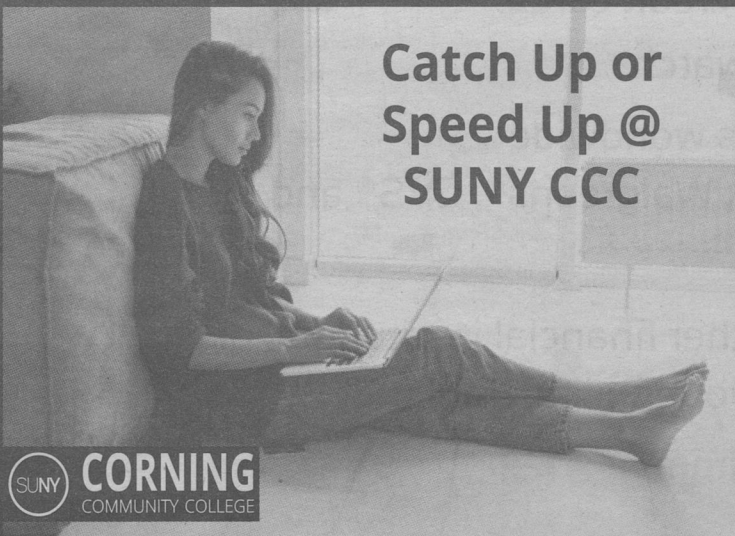
"The real value of this new professorship is that we will have someone who will be on the cutting edge of digital technology and innovation," Schneider said.

Michael Loeb could not be reached for comment.



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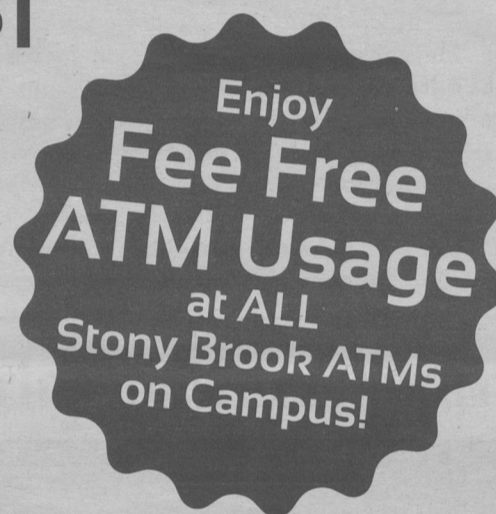


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ARTS & CULTURE

Marvel comic legend and New Yorker Stan Lee passes at 95

By Emily Clute
Contributing Writer

Stan Lee, pop culture icon and leader of a superhero revolution, has died at the age of 95 on Nov. 12.

Lee was immortalized for his part in the creation of Marvel comics, as well as his notorious cameos in the Marvel films.

Born Stanley Martin Lieber on Dec. 28, 1922, Lee was raised by Romanian Jewish parents in New York City during the Great Depression. The struggle of the average man and the grittiness of New York helped to develop a clear style in his early comics and characters. Lee focused more on the idea of a flawed hero than a perfect one, which was rather revolutionary in his day.

Lee started his work with the then named Timely Comics in 1939 at the young age of 16 — but it was not long before he began making history. Just a week into his work, he had already written a two-page Captain America comic. He would go on to write his first full comic script, the fifth Captain America issue, in 1941.

Stan Lee, along with co-creators and artists, created iconic characters from the Marvel universe: Iron Man, Black Widow, Doctor Strange, Juggernaut, the Hulk, Black Panther — but none of his characters symbolized Marvel Comics like Spider-Man. Lee's creation of humanized, relatable characters is what allowed Marvel Comics to surpass DC Comics in the 60s.

Stan Lee has been credited with the creation of hundreds of characters, alongside artist Jack Kirby and Steve Ditko.

With his characters, Lee began to build an entire universe that would enrapture multiple gen-

erations of comic fans. From its early beginnings as Timely Comics to its position as a cinematic giant, Stan Lee has helped mold Marvel Comics into the phenomena it is today. Six out of ten of the top grossing superhero films belong to Marvel Comics, with "Black Panther" coming in first with \$700,059,566.

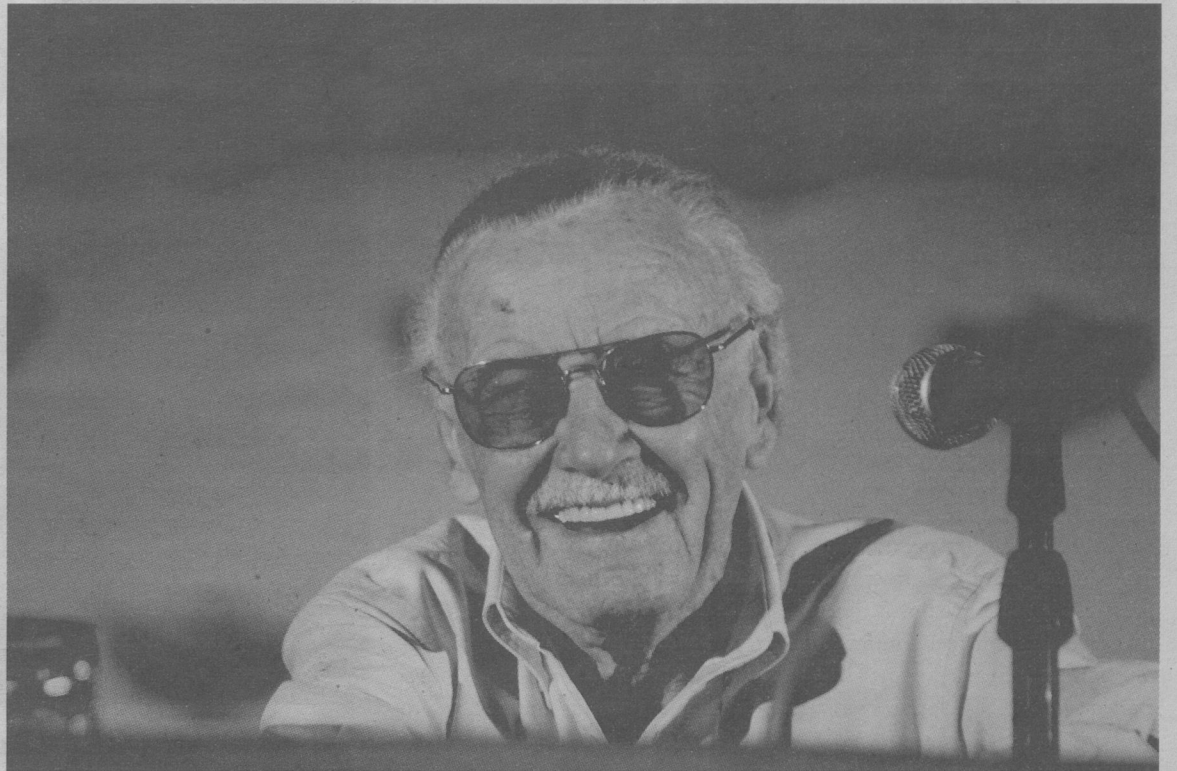
With these figures, it is easy to see that the Marvel Cinematic Universe will forever be a part of cinematic history.

Those who have worked closely with Stan Lee took to social media on Monday to share photos, memories and sweet words.

Tom Holland, the most recent actor to portray Spider-Man, shared a sweet sentiment through Instagram, "How many millions of us are indebted to this guy, none more so than me. The father of Marvel has made so many people so incredibly happy. What a life and what a thing to have achieved. Rest in peace Stan."

Chris Evans, who plays Captain America, wrapped up how we all feel succinctly — "There will never be another Stan Lee. For decades he provided both young and old with adventure, escape, comfort, confidence, inspiration, strength, friendship and joy. He exuded love and kindness and will leave an indelible mark on so, so, so many lives. "Excelsior!!"

As Lee is known for his cameos in the Marvel Cinematic Universe, fans will be relieved to know that he had already recorded his cameo for the unnamed Avengers 4, a bittersweet sight. Due to increasing age and a busy schedule, Lee had taken to recording multiple cameos at a single time, giving fans the possibility for cameos to come after the icon's death.



GAGE SKIDMORE/WIKIMEDIA COMMONS VIA CC BY-SA 2.0

Stan Lee at the Phoenix Comic Con in Phoenix, Arizona in 2011. Lee was a writer, editor and publisher of Marvel Comics for several decades.

"There will never be another Stan Lee. He eluded love and kindness."

-Chris Evans
Actor

To many, Stan Lee was not just a creator of characters, he was the creator of a movement. He gave fans characters they could relate to and made heroism seem all the more attainable for the average man. In Lee's world, there was not

just a single image of heroism; it was the average photographer for the local paper, the deaf master archer, the blind hero of Hell's Kitchen, the son of an African king. Stan Lee gave millions of fans heroes that they could see themselves reflected in. His characters made the powerless feel powerful and inspired so many who felt they had never been represented before in the world of heroes.

In the comic world, Lee was known for breaking convention. In 1971, he wove in an anti-drug message into a Spider-Man comic, despite disapproval from the Comics Code Authority. He created "Black Panther" in 1966 with co-creator Jack Kirby amidst the backdrop of the Civil Rights movement. In 1968, he used his own column to speak out against racism, stat-

ing that, "Bigotry and racism are among the deadliest social ills plaguing the world today."

Lee once summed up his feelings on his life's work, explaining, "I used to be embarrassed because I was just a comic-book writer while other people were building bridges or going on to medical careers. And then I began to realize: entertainment is one of the most important things in people's lives. Without it, they might go off the deep end. I feel that if you're able to entertain people, you're doing a good thing."

Stan Lee will not only be missed as the creator of a pop culture phenomena — he will be missed as an amazing man and friend to all.

May you rest in peace Stan "The Man" Lee and just as he always said, "Excelsior (ever upward)!"

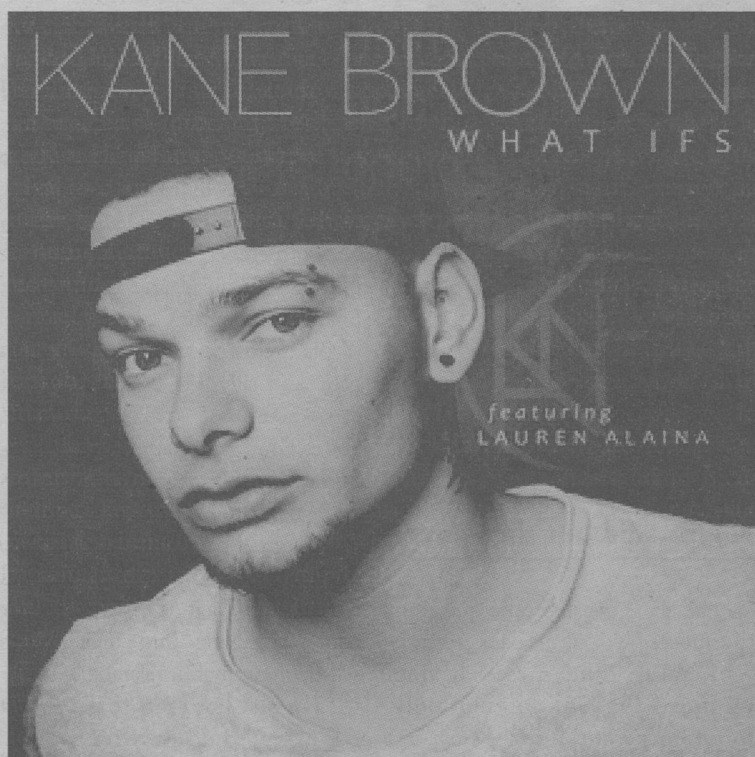
Country singer Kane Brown drops new album "Experiment"

By Evelin Mercedes
Contributing Writer

Kane Brown, one of the hottest country artists at the moment, according to Billboard, has quickly emerged with a loyal fan base and is now spreading a powerful message on equality and overcoming personal challenges with his newest album, "Experiment," released on Nov. 11.

The 25-year-old baritone is breaking the stereotypical country look, so much that's he's been told that he should be rocking cowboy hats and boots, but instead he has gained success with an edgier, swaggier look with many tattoos.

His debut self-titled album, released in 2016, was celebrated throughout many number one hits and award nominations. The album was the most streamed country album of the year in 2018, earning Brown three American Music Awards nominations including Favorite Male



PUBLIC DOMAIN

Kane Brown's single "What If's." His self-titled debut album was 2018's most streamed country album.

Artist, Country — Favorite Song and Country — Favorite Album in October. Brown has continued to appear as country

music's best-selling new artist. He has had 21 songs peak at number one on the Billboard charts, including "What If's" feat.

Lauren Alaina, "Heaven" and most recently "Good As You," his newest single.

"Experiment" is completely different from his self-titled album. This LP is mostly based on love but also speaks on the current state of the country. In "American Bad Dream" Brown describes a world where you cannot go anywhere without getting shot or stopped by the cops. Brown belts out "Wake me up from this American bad dream/ I'm becoming numb to all of this tragedy," seeking a change for the country. On the album Brown speaks about the racism he faced while growing up multiracial in Georgia; his father is black and Cherokee and his mother is white.

He leaves time for his bandmates to shine on each song. The drums, guitars, bass, banjo and fiddle heard on the album get their own time to radiate away from Brown's vocals. Especially in "It Isn't You It's Me," the guitar takes over during the simple love ballad for a quick solo in the middle of the song to set the gentle mood.

Brown has always been open

about his relationship with his wife as he has portrayed his love for her in "What's Mine Is Yours" from his debut album. Even now, he continues to profess his love in the singles "Short Skirt Weather" and "Good As You," which garnered over five million views on YouTube. "Short Skirt Weather" has a groovy sound with a one of a kind ring to it. It is one of the more fun, let loose songs on "Experiment" that grows on you with the sound of the fiddle, piano and quick finish of the drums.

With the signature use of the fiddle and smooth blend of vocals and instruments, Brown captures your attention through it all. There are tons of albums that I cannot get through completely but "Experiment" offers a variety of sounds that I do not get tired of. With a lack of enhancing digital features used in much of today's music, Brown's songs leave his vocals and supporting sounds to fully draw you in.

Africana studies department commemorates memory of Amiri Baraka

By Gary Ghayrat
Assistant News Editor

The Africana studies department at Stony Brook University held a two-day symposium this week in honor of Amiri Baraka, a controversial poet, writer, activist and previous Stony Brook University professor, for its 50th anniversary celebration.

A poetry slam, film screening, panel of scholars and Baraka's son, Newark, New Jersey Mayor Ras Baraka, remembered and discussed the legacy of a political artist who drew both criticism and praise with his poignant personality and work.

"I know there are people in the world who compartmentalize his development and his growth, and they relate to the part of it that either makes them feel comfortable or justifies their narrative of him," Baraka said. "My father was an evolving person, always."

Known for his poems about music, commentaries on society and activism during the black arts movements in the 60s and 70s, Baraka was also criticized and accused of being anti-Semitic over the poem "Somebody Blew Up America" that he wrote after the Sept. 11 attacks.

The Africana studies department released a statement on its website saying, "We reject all forms of rhetoric and speech that would seek to target particular identity groups or individuals, or which might decrease the sense of safety, secu-

rity, or belonging for any in our shared community."

Africana Studies Chair Tracey Walters said she received several emails from fellow professors voicing their concerns, which she replied to with statements in addition to reaching out to the Jewish community on campus to let them know of the event's intent.

"We don't privilege one person's suffering over another," Walters said. "We're not discounting the hurt and the pain that various communities are going through right now by having Baraka's son here or by having a panel on Baraka's works."

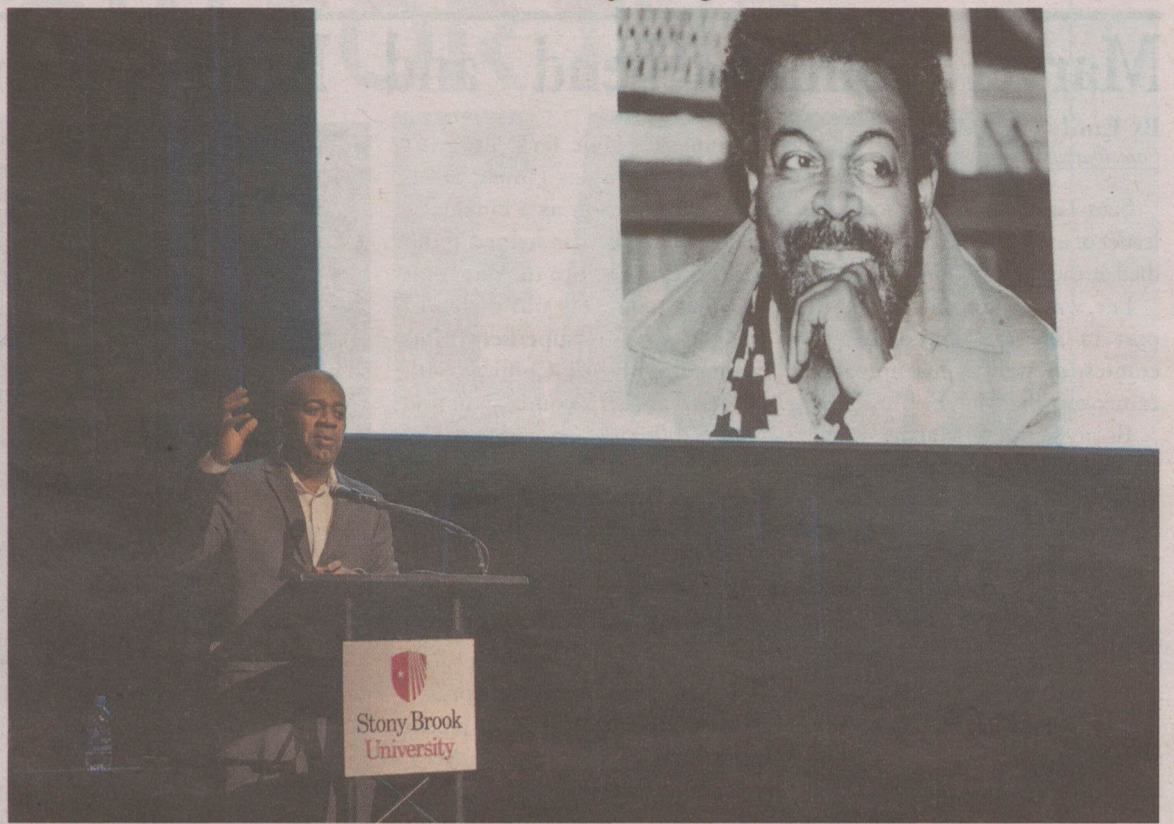
She invited the attendees to start an open dialogue about the complexity of Baraka's artwork and political beliefs.

"The best way to address our differences, the best way to address our pasts, our history, however complex in nature, is to have a public discourse about it," she said.

During a panel discussion titled "An Urgent Voice for Liberation in Times of Trouble: Celebrating the Legacy of Amiri Baraka," Dr. Komzi Woodard, a history professor at Sarah Lawrence College, said some of Baraka's political work might even be instructive today.

"Baraka predicted Trump," Woodard said. "Everybody thought what he was saying, move to the right that would produce white supremacy, could never happen here. Well, here we are."

In 1972, Baraka helped organize and chair the National Black Political



Newark Mayor Ras Baraka discussed the legacy of his father Amiri Baraka, a former Stony Brook University professor and black rights activist.

Convention in Gary, Indiana. With the theme "unity without uniformity," the convention worked to unite blacks politically and to create a third political party.

"A lot of times, one of the issues that come up in the literature is this bashing of the Black Power movement as having killed the Civil Rights movement," Assistant Professor of Africana Studies, Dr. Zebulon Miletsky, said. "Those people haven't looked at the archives."

"We owe the legacy of the founding of Africana studies, in so many ways, to this kind of work," Miletsky said.

Amadi Agbomah, a junior Africana studies major and a poet, said she had studied Baraka's work before but the event taught her new things about Baraka and gave her the chance to take a look at the original copies of his work in the university archives.

"What we have is a man fighting for causes that we all

share as human being: human rights, freedom, independence, dignity and justice," Assistant Professor of Africana Studies, Dr. Shimelis Gulema, said. "That's something we should do in this world, at this time, in this particular moment, when ideas of freedom, ideas of social justice are under serious threat here and all over the world."

"A luta continua," Gulema said. "It means, 'the struggle continues.'"

Two comedians sell out show at Stand Up NY



Michael Blaustein (left) and Daniel Weingarten (right) after their performance at Stand Up NY on Nov. 16. The Los Angeles-based comedians sold out the venue.

By Anna Correa
Arts and Culture Editor

Stand-up comedians Daniel Weingarten and Michael Blaustein sold out their performance at Stand Up NY, a comedy club in New York City's Upper West Side, on Friday, Nov. 16.

Opened in 1986, Stand Up NY is one of New York City's premier comedy clubs, with different acts every night of the week. Stars of tomorrow and famous comedians of today have

performed at the club such as Jerry Seinfeld, Chris Rock, Jon Stewart and Jim Gaffigan, as well as producers from Comedy Central, HBO, NBC and ABC.

Weingarten has been performing stand-up comedy for eight years, doing about 1,500 shows, and is known for his jokes and social media videos about being a Mexican-Argentine Jew who doesn't exactly fit the stereotype of what a Latin American looks like—he has blonde hair and blue

eyes. Often times, people question the authenticity of his background.

"I always find myself having to prove I'm Latino, not only to white people but to Latinos, too," Weingarten said. "I'll meet with a Mexican dude and I'll say 'I'm Mexicano' and he'll say 'No mames güey' (don't pull my leg). Canelo si, y tu no (Canelo yes, but not you).' And he's a ginger. I feel that's farther away."

Friends for three years, both Weingarten and Blaustein are

on separate tours but decided to meet in New York to do a show together. Blaustein has been on about half of Weingarten's recent tour dates. Weingarten was the headliner for the night and charmed the audience with humor that appealed to both Hispanic and Jewish audiences.

Blaustein, an internationally touring comedian, opened the show. He's been doing comedy for nine years and has done over 2,000 shows around the world. He's performed at the Comedy Central on Campus Tour, The College Humor Tour, The Oddball Comedy Fest and The New York Comedy Festival. He was also a cast member of the final season of MTV's Punk'd and developed a Snapchat series for Comedy Central.

Blaustein's performance was energetic and silly. He uses exaggerated movements, noises, different pitched voices, loud and hilarious yet shocking adult humor and interactions with the audience to make everyone laugh. Both comedians use life stories, interactions with family and friends and their identity for their content, mixing into their stories self-deprecating but relatable humor.

"I'm just not built to get into a fight. God did not make me like that. Look at these hands. These are adorable hands. These are not for fighting. These are for catching butterflies," Blaustein said.

Weingarten and Blaustein are best friends that do comedy together. Blaustein said they support each emotionally, artistically and with relationships.

"We work together. We go on the road together and we get to do this thing that we both love and get to help each other along the way and give each other feedback."

Although everyone in the room was laughing that night, Blaustein said it's not always like this, especially when you first start.

"When you first start, most nights up stage are horrible and you have to persevere through all through all that darkness. It's rewarding," Blaustein said.

Blaustein went into comedy because the people around him told him he was funny. He was the class clown type. In 2009, when he moved to New York, he got on stage for the first time and loved it. He lives in Los Angeles now.

Weingarten said he got into comedy because he was an outcast. He started doing comedy at 18 and was really bad at first, but kept going because he loves doing it.

"We're working towards something. Not every night is like tonight. Nights like tonight make it feel like it's all worth it," Weingarten said. "This all comes from just people that follow me online. It's something really cool though—people engaging with me and my content. For them to all come together in real life and share a night of comedy, laughter and joy, despite whatever is going on in life, it's a pretty cool thing."

HOOPLA 2018



RESILIENT MBB JUMPS INTO SEASON

By Chris Parkinson

Confidence has been running through Stony Brook Men's Basketball heading into the upcoming 2018-19 season.

This time however, things are just a bit different.

The Seawolves ended last season with a 71-50 loss to No.1-ranked Vermont in the semifinals of the America East playoffs. The defeat does not seem to be a lingering thought, as the Seawolves kick-started the season with a 2-0 record for the first time since 2013. The wins come against two power conference teams: the South Carolina Gamecocks, who were previously in the NCAA Tournament's Final Four in 2017, and the George Washington Colonials, the winners of the National Invitational Tournament championship the same year.

Records have already been set early in the season. The 22-0 comeback against the Colonials was the biggest in the program's history. The victory against the Gamecocks is the first Seawolves Basketball program win over a Southeastern Conference opponent. The two victories have gotten the team national attention, from highlights on ESPN's SportsCenter to tweets from college basketball analysts across the nation.

"I think the resiliency of our group, having so many new guys, 10 freshmen and sophomores [combined], six being new guys, you don't know what to expect in the heat of the moment," head coach Jeff Boals said. "But our guys fought hard. I was really proud of the way our guys responded to being down 22-0."

The six newest additions to the Seawolves include freshman guards Miles Latimer and Jules Moor.

On his first night in a college basketball contest, Latimer shocked the crowd with a 15-point, four-rebound performance in his 34 minutes on the court. Ten of the points came in the second half of action, where the Seawolves led a comeback by outscoring the Colonials 39-29. Through the first two games, the freshman is second on the team in 3-pointers made and third in scoring and minutes with 26 and 67, respectively.

"Our guys trust him," Boals said. "They have a lot of faith in him and for him to come in here and do what he has done so far is impressive."

Moor scored five points and grabbed four rebounds in the matchup against George Washington. He added a point and three more rebounds in the victory over South Carolina as well. Being the tallest guard on the roster at 6-feet-5-inches, Moor ranks fourth in rebounding on the team and is tied for second among his position with Latimer at 17.

Seven players return for the Seawolves this year, including senior guard Jaron Cornish, sophomore forward Elijah Olaniyi and redshirt-junior forward Akwasi Yeboah. The three were major components of the team's offense last season. Yeboah led the team in scoring with 489 points, nearly doubling former guard UC Iroegbu's second-best total of 260 points. He finished the year with 912 minutes of total playing time while being selected to the America East All-Second Team. Yeboah is currently the team's leading scorer through the first two matchups with 36. In his 24-point performance against South Carolina, he was able to tip in a game-saving shot with 5.9 seconds left in regulation to extend the game to overtime.

Cornish led last year's team in assists with 77 and finished fourth in scoring with 232 points. He shared minutes with soph-

omore guard Jordan McKenzie, who dished out 64 assists last season. This year, Cornish has picked up right where he left off with 11 assists in two games. He has settled in as the team's top floor general once again.

Now considered one of the leaders of this team, Olaniyi sees signs of a good season for his team.

"I give a lot of credit to Jaron [Cornish], Elijah [Olaniyi], Akwasi [Yeboah], Andrew Garcia and a lot of those guys for implementing the work ethic and culture here."

-Jeff Boals
Head Coach

"Everybody really believes in what coach [Boals] is saying," Olaniyi said. "We have shown humility and everyone has been buying in."

The reigning America East Rookie of the Year averaged 14 points per game last season with 249 total points in 713 minutes played. Olaniyi led the Seawolves in field-goal percentage with 55 percent. He was selected to the America East All-Rookie Team at the end of the season.

Olaniyi has 34 total points through the first two games and is tied for first on the team alongside Yeboah in rebounds with 19. He has also seen the most time on the court with 74 minutes played.

Redshirt-sophomore forward Andrew Garcia makes his long awaited return to the court this season. Having dealt with knee injuries the past two seasons, Garcia's initial impact was felt, as he shot 56 percent from the field in his 14-point, four-rebound performance against George Washington. His last time on a court was in February of last season, where he played three minutes against Hartford.

Boals has given props to his veteran players for unifying the team and helping the newcomers to adjust in an expedited fashion.

"I told our guys whatever you do, whatever you say and how you act sets the tone for the guys coming in," Boals said. "I give a lot of credit to Jaron [Cornish], Elijah [Olaniyi], Akwasi [Yeboah], Andrew Garcia and a lot of those guys for implementing the work ethic and culture here."

Overall, the Seawolves are in a position to reach greater heights than some may have expected. The team was selected fourth — along with rival Albany — in the America East Preseason Poll. Yet, following the two power conference victories, many can make an argument that this team has the makings of a top contender in the conference.

Roster

0 Jaron Cornish
Senior Guard 5'11"

1 Jules Moor
Freshman Guard 6'5"

2 Miles Latimer
Freshman Guard 6'3"

3 Elijah Olaniyi
Sophomore Forward 6'5"

4 Jeff Otchere
Sophomore Center 6'11"

5 Corry Long
Sophomore Guard 6'2"

10 Jordan McKenzie
Sophomore Guard 6'1"

11 Hassan Ceasay
Freshman Guard 6'4"

12 Makale Foreman
Junior Guard 6'11"

15 Akwasi Yeboah
Redshirt Junior Guard 6'6"

21 Alex Christie
Freshman Center 7'0"

23 Andrew Garcia
Redshirt Sophomore Forward 6'5"

35 Anthony Ochefu
Sophomore Forward 6'8"

42 Nick Aubry
Freshman Forward 6'7"

OLANIYI EMBRACES LEADERSHIP ROLE

By Kenneth Fermin



Sophomore forward Elijah Olaniyi has already proven himself as a floor general in his short Stony Brook Men's Basketball career. Olaniyi stood out in his freshman season, finishing with 249 points in 713 minutes and eventually won the America East Conference Rookie of the Year. While he has excelled on the floor recently, Olaniyi has not always exerted himself.

Olaniyi struggled as a high school freshman to fit in at his charter school. There was no basketball team and he often ended up getting in trouble in class. His parents reached out to Bryant Garvin, the dean of restorative practices at Newark East Side High School in Newark, New Jersey, inquiring about transferring their son.

"His parents would say Elijah's experience would be better in public school," Garvin said. "The charter school was extremely strict. They would give him detention just for looking the wrong way and [they enforced] ridiculous life skills that would never happen in the real world."

Elijah transferred to Newark East Side the following semester and joined the basketball team co-led by Garvin and coach Anthony Tavares. He picked up the game quickly, earning the reputation of being a fearless player who put his body in the line of fire to earn rebounds and score.

"The one thing that separated him was that he was a tremendous hard worker," Tavares said. "He was not afraid of doing the things needed to get on the court as a sophomore, which was getting rebounds and scoring. As the years went along, he started to improve his skill set, he started to improve his jump shot and his ball handling, which allowed him to get [accepted to] Stony Brook University."

The Red Raiders turned to Olaniyi to lead at both ends as he recorded 928 points and grabbed 588 rebounds in 87 games during his tenure. He played an influential role in contributing to the team's two county championships in 2014 and 2017 and a state title in 2015.

"He was a floor leader," Garvin said. "He learned from the upperclassmen while he was there and became more of a general leader [both on and off the court]. I have nothing but a lot of respect for him — the sky's the limit."

Olaniyi entered Stony Brook with a championship background but quickly learned the difference between the high school and college victory mentality.

"Winning in high school is a lot different than winning in college," Olaniyi said. "Some teams you knew you were going to win by 20 and just handle your business. In college you can literally lose to anybody on any given night. Trying to build a championship culture here is the same principles [as Newark] of buying in and believing in your coach."

Olaniyi smoothly transitioned to the collegiate basketball level early last season, most notably against the No. 2-ranked Michigan State Spartans. He was a key performer coming off the bench and led the team with 12 points along with a steal to

keep the score close in the first half. Olaniyi led the Seawolves with 16 points and four rebounds in what would be a losing effort to the Spartans, but impressed both coaches and his teammates.

"I think after his performance at [Michigan State University] last season we no longer looked at him as a rookie," former teammate Tyrell Sturdivant said. "We looked at him as someone who could help us right away with his energy and effort. He brought that every night in so many ways last year and he overcame challenges and earned our trust."

One of Olaniyi's strengths is his enduring ability to get open and knock down shots around the court. The forward's swiftness in evading defenders resulted in him shooting 45.5 percent from the field last year. He won four America East Rookie of the Week awards before ultimately being named the conference Rookie of the Year. While humbled by the accolades, the sophomore has remained determined to reach his utmost potential for the team's benefits.

"I try not to look at [the] accolades," Olaniyi said. "If I can lead the team and get us to the championship, the accolades will come after."

That championship drive only motivated Olaniyi to progress faster over the offseason. He improved on shooting and gained muscle to become a more imposing figure defensively on the hardwood.

"Elijah has gained 20 pounds of muscle since last year," head coach Jeff Boals said. "He is a different player physically, which gives him confidence. He really worked hard on his shot and defensively he was phenomenal last year."

The hard work has already paid off, as shown in the 2018-19 season opener against George Washington. His 15-point second half woke up a sluggish Seawolves team that began the contest down 22-0 in the first. Olaniyi knocked down two clutch free throws with 0.5 seconds left to bring the score to 63-61 before redshirt-junior guard/forward Akwasi Yeboah tied the game at the end of regulation. Stony Brook went on to pick up the upset victory, 77-74.

"Going into the half, I told the team 'let's cut this to five,'" Olaniyi said. "I knew it was far fetched but we cut it gradually, but then we cut it to five and I said 'let's cut this to two.' A part of that was everybody just listening and buying in."

Olaniyi exemplifies the traits needed to lead the growing team to a championship, something that the coaches from his novice years have preached.


"Corral everyone and put everyone on your shoulders like [Michael] Jordan would and your biggest accomplishment will be winning the Tournament," Garvin said.


Olaniyi's transition into leadership comes at a time when the Seawolves are rebuilding their lineup with a focus on younger players. Ten freshmen and sophomores make up the majority of the team, but their ability to buy into the system exudes confidence in a successful season.




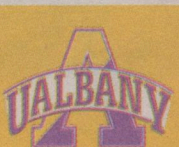
PRE-SEASON RANKINGS





 No. 1 VERMONT CATAMOUNTS

 No. 2 HARTFORD HAWKS

 No. 3 UMBC RETRIEVERS

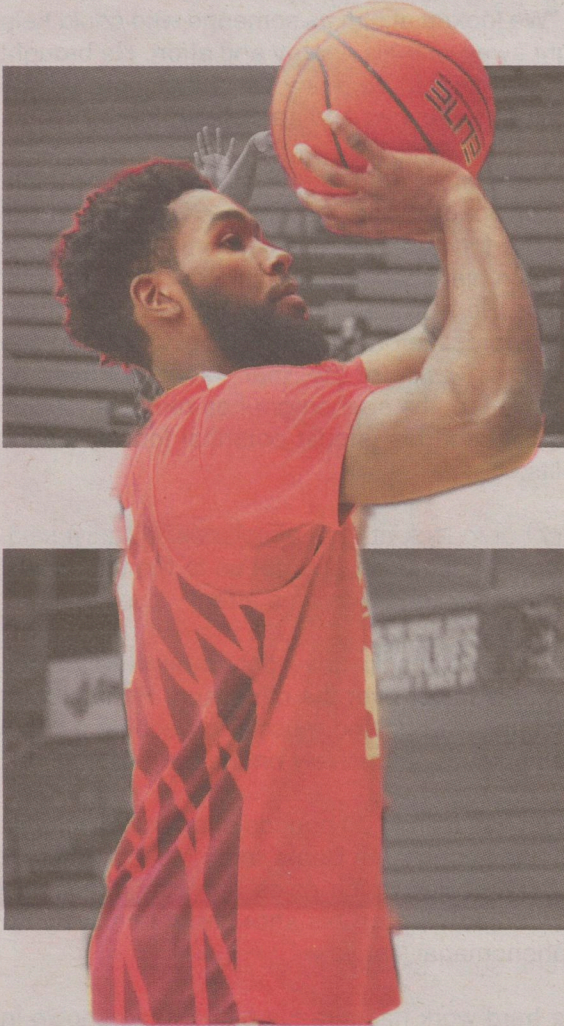
 No. 4 ALBANY GREAT DANES

 No. 4 STONY BROOK SEAWOLVES

 No. 5 BINGHAMTON BEARCATS

GARCIA RETURNS AFTER LONG REHAB

By Gregory Zarb



Redshirt-sophomore forward Andrew Garcia has been a part of the men's basketball team for all the highs, all the lows, all the practices, road trips and games — solidifying his role as a leader on the team.

Even if that means he hasn't seen any game action for nearly two years.

"I've never had a major injury in my life," Garcia said. "Coming from playing basketball in high school and playing basketball everyday during the summer, you have an expectation to contribute to your team everyday. But the only way to contribute is to be on the sidelines and take care of the guys."

Garcia has been fully cleared to play this season for the first time in his Stony Brook career, after sitting out the last two years due to surgeries to fix micro fractures in his right knee. While his return to the court has already been hectic, he couldn't be more thankful and excited to contribute this upcoming season.

"The coaching staff trusts me and they believe in my knee," Garcia said. "They know I'm a hard worker and that I want to play and be on the court, but they've put that trust in me, whenever I have a good day or take that day to rest a little bit. Having the whole summer and preseason to get my timing down has been great too."

Garcia's injury history started back in high school, when he was a senior at The Master's School in Connecticut. Recovering from his knee surgery cost Garcia his entire senior year. Yet,

he was still recruited, and eventually signed, to the Seawolves.

However, the recovery process was another difficult challenge. He re-injured the same knee during the recovery process and had to get the same surgery again, causing him to miss even more time than initially expected.

While he has successfully recovered, Garcia is still adjusting to playing on a surgically repaired knee.

"One of the hard things is knowing when I'm actually hurt and knowing when I'm full-go," Garcia said. "It's still a little swollen, but keeping that toughness to work out and rehab is important, because if I miss one day, my knee can blow up and that could cost me two weeks."

Facing the hardship of rehab yet again, Garcia searched for advice facing the hardship of rehab yet again, finding solace from a confident Stony Brook Men's Basketball head coach Jeff Boals.

"I couldn't be happier for him," Boals said about Garcia's progress. "He basically sat out two years essentially without practicing. It wasn't fair to him last year, coming back in January. But he had a whole spring, summer and fall to work, shoot, get strong and confident."

Garcia battered down the hatches and got back to work with full support from his coach. The sophomore's schedule included daily lifting, running and shooting. All throughout the

summer, he was constantly in the gym doing his absolute best to get back to full health.

Right before training camp started, he finally got the all-clear to participate in all basketball activities.

"I just want to feel comfortable and have no worries out there," Garcia said. "I don't care about the minutes, I don't care about starting or anything like that. I care about winning. That's always been my focus, so when I'm on the court, that's my main goal, to win."

While he has played more than 20 minutes in every game this season, Garcia is aware that being out of the game for nearly two years most likely means that he's not going to perform at the level you did before an injury like his occurs.

The forward year and has been shooting exactly 50 percent from the field through his first four games. Despite those positive signs, Garcia has only averaged just above nine points per game. Still, Garcia is resilient. The forward knows that this team can be special and is excited for continuing to improve in practice and contribute to a team that is firing on all cylinders.

"Everybody is a threat on this team," Garcia said. "We've never had a full team that knows who the shooters are, who know their role, who don't ball hog — there's no energy vampires. Collectively, as a team, everybody knows what we want and everyone is for it. No one looks at the stats, they all look for the win."

LATIMER'S SOFFENISVE STRIDE FELT EARLY

By Chris Parkinson

FELT EARLY

Since the first time he stepped on the floor as a member of Stony Brook Men's Basketball, freshman guard Miles Latimer's presence has been felt.

The freshman is currently the third-leading scorer on the team with 26 points through his first two games as a Seawolf, both against power conference teams in George Washington and South Carolina. Latimer scored 15 points against George Washington in his debut. The team headed into the locker room at half-time down 34-24. Latimer proceeded to score 10 of the team's 39 points in the second half to close the George Washington lead to 8.

"It means a lot to finally been here," Latimer said. "[Stony Brook] has recruited me hard since the summer going into junior year. They didn't sugarcoat anything, they told me what it's going to be like going in and what I'm expected to do. Now to finally be here, I feel like I can build up from where I was."

Head coach Jeff Boals believes this newcomer has the potential to bring something very special to Stony Brook.

"I think Miles [Latimer] is scratching the surface," Boals said. "He is going to have a phenomenal career here at Stony Brook. For him to come in from

day one and do what he has done is very impressive."

Latimer comes from Paul VI, a high school in Fairfax, Virginia. He was coached by Glenn Farello, who is currently in his 12th season as head coach of the Paul VI varsity basketball team. Latimer was surrounded by an abundance of talent throughout his basketball career. Brandon Slater, who is in the same class as Latimer, was ranked the third-best high school player in Virginia, according to ESPN 100. The 6-foot-5-inch small forward currently is apart of the Villanova Wildcats basketball team.

Latimer was apart of the Paul VI squad that ranked second in Virginia. The team finished the season off with a 33-4 overall record as well as a perfect 18-0 record in regional play.

"He is a great teammate," Glenn Farello, head coach of Latimer's high school team, said. "He knows he is apart of something bigger than himself and he just wants to contribute. He is a hardworking, coachable player."

The experience of playing around high-level competition helped shape Latimer into the player he is. Boals believes the level of competition the freshman faced in his high school career gave him a head start at the Division I level.

"I told him after our first practice he should call his high school coach and thank him," Boals said. "[Miles] comes from a phenomenal high school down in Fairfax, Paul VI, had a great coach in Glenn Farello who taught him great defensive principles. He was way ahead of the curve as soon as he got here."

Farello sees Latimer as someone who never folded under pressure.

"On the court he plays with a fast motor," Farello said. "He was always a great shooter for us and made plays. [Miles] is a winner and played with and against a lot of high level players. Those things he did against G.W. and South Carolina he has done that for us plenty of times."

Since joining the Seawolves, Latimer has progressed from his position as a role player and grown as an attacker thanks to his coaches.

"Miles has always been sort of a role player in high school," Boals said. "He played with high level players in high school and on AAU. When he came here we told him 'Hey, you have to change your mentality. We need you to go out there and score and be aggressive.'

Latimer's next trip home will be on Tuesday, Nov. 27. as the team faces Norfolk State at Norfolk, Virginia.



NATIONAL TEAM BUILDS

PAGAN'S SKILLSET

By Ryan Pavich

Sophomore forward India Pagan has taken a leap forward in the beginning of her second season as a Seawolf. The 6-foot-1-inch player, who started half of the team's games last year, averaged just under 18 minutes a game and scored 5.9 per game as she got her first taste of college basketball.

Pagan is now taking full control of her spot in the lineup. She has played in 61 minutes and scored 32 points, through the team's first three games, a significant improvement showing that she is capable of playing consistently among the other starters. Her time spent in Puerto Rico over the summer has played a huge factor in her progression, according to the forward.

"I played at U-18 and U-20, but last year I made the actual national team," Pagan said. "Just being able to play with the adults, 30-year-olds, they have experience. They taught me an unbelievable amount of new things. Then playing in Colombia, playing against older players, experienced players, that just helped me develop more as a player."

One part of Pagan's improved game is her efficiency with her shots after shooting a .55 percent clip last season. Pagan is shooting 58 percent from the field in the first three games, the third most efficient

on the team. She has also shown an ability to earn more free throws, averaging three in the early goings, up from the 1.3 she averaged last year. According to Pagan, it all comes down to confidence.

"Making the national team boosted my confidence," Pagan said. "I'm taking more shots, more confident in my shot. Confidence in my teammates, just trusting them."

That change has also caught the attention of head coach Caroline McCombs.

"With India [Pagan], just having an opportunity to play with her Puerto Rican national team this summer, she really grew as a person," McCombs said. "She's such a dominant scorer, but she's such an unselfish person that she'd rather pass the ball than score the ball."

Pagan agreed with McCombs' assessment of her play.

"That's honestly always been my game," Pagan said. "Ever since middle school, I always looked to pass first. Coach always says I have good hands, good passes, it's just part of my game."

The Seawolves will need a rising player like Pagan to step up at the forward position. Senior forward Cheyenne Clark

is out indefinitely, removing the only forward on the roster that started every game for the Seawolves last season. Pagan is tied for the second most starts with sophomore forward McKenzie Bushee, but Bushee has only played 23 minutes this season.

"We want to defend, rebound, run and play together," McCombs said. "And so whoever that is, I think that's something that we're still trying to put together at this early stage in the game. We have some players that have been on the team but haven't played as much in the past so they're still figuring that out, as I am too."

Pagan explained McCombs' point further, emphasizing the trust and repertoire that she has developed for her teammates throughout the year.

"Many teams lost a bit of their post," Pagan said. "And this year we have two more posts that were injured last year, so now they're back and healthier. Now we have a four post rotation, so that's going to be good on our part. Just keep rotating posts, nobody's going to be able to beat our post."

With the experience she's gained over the summer with the national team, Pagan is ready to prove she can lead her team to a championship based off an experience that will last forever.



DON'T GET CAUGHT IN THE HEIGHT

By Cameron Albert



The Stony Brook women's basketball team may see a change in strategy on the offensive end of the court this season.

Led by senior guards Shania Johnson and Jerell Matthews, the 2017-18 Seawolves finished fourth in the America East with a record of 10-6 in conference play. Johnson and Matthews shined offensively by averaging 16 and 13.9 points per game respectively. It was especially impressive for Johnson, who is the shortest player in the conference, standing at 5' 1". Though the duo dominated offensively last season, the team's scoring workload may be shifted to its taller players for their upcoming season.

"We have a four post rotation," sophomore forward India Pagan said. "By just rotating our posts nobody is gonna be able to beat it."

In the team's first two games, Pagan has contributed to the team's offensive rhythm at a more constant pace. The forward has put up nine and 10 points in Stony Brook's two games thus far, a big improvement on her 5.9 points per game during last season.

Pagan spent the summer with the Puerto Rican national basketball team, something that has not only been an honor for her, but has also helped improve her game. After playing for the nation's U-18 and U-20 teams, a spot in the full squad was certainly a special achievement.

It has been three years since the team's top two in scoring were forwards, with Brittany Snow and Ogechi Anyagaligbo claiming the spots during the 2015-16 season.

Since then, Snow graduated from Stony Brook and Anyagaligbo transferred to the University of Kentucky, shifting the offensive production to come from the team's veteran guards.

Following the graduation of guard Aaliyah Worley in 2018, there is some competition to fill the hole she left in the starting lineup. Junior center Oksana Gouchie-Provencher stands out as a candidate to get starting time this upcoming season, already seeing her time on the court increase in the team's games against Hofstra and Manhattan.

Gouchie-Provencher has averaged 19 minutes in the first

three games, recording eight points in the 79-48 victory over Manhattan on Saturday, Nov. 17.

Since being redshirted in the 2016-17 season, Gouchie-Provencher went on to make 25 appearances during the 2017-18 season. The 6'4" center has not been afraid to shoot the ball from outside the paint, even beyond the 3-point line.

"I have always said my teammate is my strongest competition, that's where I get better in practice," Gouchie-Provencher said. "Hopefully I am able to supply the rebound and the shooting I have worked on over the offseason and play that in the game."

Although the team's starting lineup is still to be determined, the style of play Stony Brook will run seems to be set in stone. With the roster filled with many tall, physical playing forwards, McCombs intends to utilize their abilities to help her team win games.

"We want to defend, rebound, run and play together," McCombs said. "Whoever that is, is something we're trying to put together in this early stage in the game."

"SHORTY" JOHNSON HAS ALL THE ANSWERS

By Charles Hamma

A quick gaze over the Stony Brook women's basketball roster would show that most of the players range from 5'7" to 6'1" in height, giving them a greater chance of getting to where they want to on the court. at any given moment.

However, there is one player on the roster who is the exception to the rule. She's a mere 5'1", but approaches the game with a high level of grit and determination that makes oneyou can sometimes forget about her short stature. That player is senior guard Shania Johnson —, or as she's affectionately known by her teammates and coaches —, "Shorty." Johnson believes that her height helps her more than others mayare led to believe.

"I would say that I am at an advantage because people underestimate me," Johnson said. "I like when people underestimate me because I can come out there and show them what I'm really about."

"We work so well because we are really close off the court. It's not just about what happens on the court because off the court, we are really close friends. We work hard together and we want to win."

**-Shania Johnson
Senior Guard**

Johnson's desire to show people what she was all about started at a young age while growing up in Frederick, Maryland. She grew up watching her favorite player, former NBA point guard and Hall of Famer Allen Iverson, carve up defenses despite only being 6'0", something she wanted to do, too. Yet it was her older brother who helped instill the undying love for the game of basketball that she has now.

"What got me into playing basketball growing up was my older brother," Johnson said. "He got to start playing a year before me and I was jealous. I wanted to play but I couldn't play because I was too young. When I got to the age where I could play in elementary school, that's when it started to develop."

Johnson first made her presence felt playing basketball at Tuscarora High School. She experienced

great success during her tenure there, finishing as a 1,000 point scorer and winning the Frederick News-Post Player of the Year in 2013.

After graduating from Tuscarora, Johnson then took her talents to Monroe College in New Rochelle, NY and again found success, though it didn't happen right away. A torn ACL injury in her right knee sidelined her for the entire 2015 season. She came back with a vengeance as a redshirt sophomore for the Mustangs in 2016, averaging 21.3 points per game along with five assists per game. Her numbers resulted in her receiving both the Region XV Player of the Year and an All-American Honorable Mention by the NJCAA. Johnson said that the atmosphere at Monroe was much different compared to now at Stony Brook.

"It was a different atmosphere over [at Monroe]" she said. "It was much easier playing against other kids. When I transferred over [to Stony Brook], it felt like home. It felt more comfortable here because I felt like I could play in a bigger atmosphere and get people to notice me."

People certainly noticed Johnson in her first season last year for the Seawolves last year. She started all 30 games, averaging 16.0 points, 5.6 assists, and 4.2 rebounds per game. She also knocked down 95 three-point shots, a new single-season program record.

Those numbers led to Johnson being named to the America East All-First Team and the MBWA All-Met Third Team. As Johnson's gets her second season at Stony Brook gets underway, head coach Caroline McCombs can't help but admire how far "Shorty" has come.

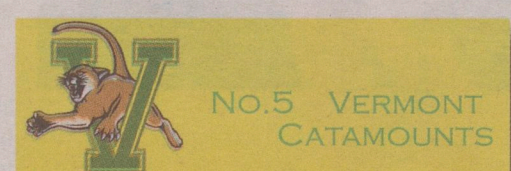
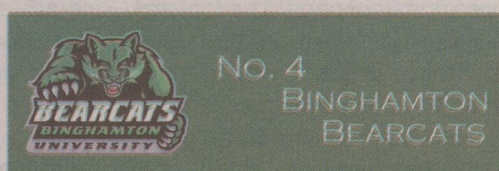
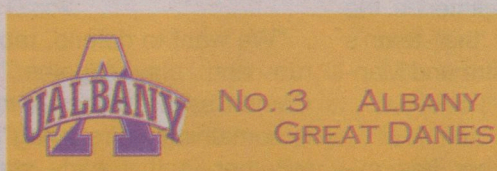
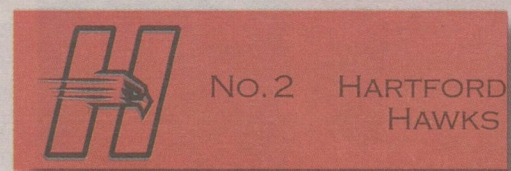
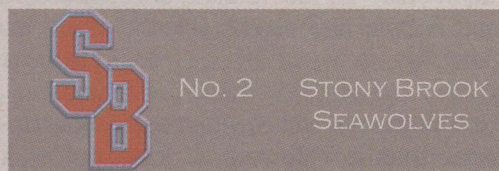
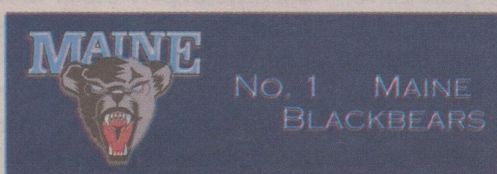
"There has been so much growth from 'Shorty' from year one to year two," McCombs said. "It's kind of like what you see from a freshman to a sophomore. She's very hard to guard."

One of the biggest things that has been most noticeable things during Johnson's time at Stony Brook is the chemistry that she shares with senior guard Jerell Matthews. The galvanizing guard duo has shown to work well together on the court and it's something that Johnson chalks up to their relationship off the floor.

"We work so well because we are really close off the court," Johnson said. "It's not just about what happens on the court because off the court, we are really close friends. We work hard together and we want to win."

In two games so far in her second season at Stony Brook, Johnson is averaging 14.5 points and 7.5 assists per game. With "Shorty" being a senior now, she will be looked at as a leader for the team —, something that she embraces and is thankful for.

"It's kind of nerve racking but really exciting at the same time because you got younger people looking at you," she said. "So I think it's an accomplishment to go from where I came from to be where I'm at today."



PRE-SEASON RANKINGS

SENIOR LEADERSHIP BOOSTS WBB SEASON

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

By Kenneth Fermin

The Stony Brook women's basketball team looks to build off an improved 2017-18 season backed by strong senior leadership.

Senior guards Shania "Shorty" Johnson and Jerell Matthews will set the bar for the team's success based off their consistent shooting. The dynamic duo's strong chemistry contributed to them leading the team in points last season. The guards wasted no time picking up where they left off, with Matthews leading with 20 points and Johnson with 10 assists in their 77-49 victory over Hofstra on Tuesday, Nov. 13.

"This is Matthews' fourth year in the program and Shorty's second," head coach Caroline McCombs said. "There has been so much growth from Shorty — we are both on the same page and thinking of running the same plays. Being her fourth year, I think Jerell has been an example for everyone on the team that did not have an opportunity to play at an early age."

The two will act as floor generals heading the offensive game plan, focusing on connecting 3-point shots. Johnson set a team record last season connecting on 95 3-point shots while Matthews knocked down 63. The duo has already scored 62 percent of the team's points in the first two games.

While the guards have been established, the starting roles at the forward positions are still up for grabs even if the season just started. Juniors Kyra Dixon, Kina Smith and Oksana Gouchie-Provencher all played coming off the bench last season, but were overshadowed by sophomores India Pagan and Hailey Zeise.

"What I like with our team now is the diversity we had at the forward position," McCombs said. "We can go small or big, we have different players that have different strengths. I think matching up with the other team is important but we are understanding what we are really good at."

That diversity will contribute to a mixture of playstyles Stony Brook can utilize this season.

A void that the Seawolves have had to make up for is the absence of junior guard Giolibeth Perez. Her season ended in Vermont after only 17 games last year due to a leg injury and she spent the second half of the season on crutches. While she regained the ability to walk on her own volition, Perez has yet to be cleared for play with no expected timetable to return.

One way the team has strengthened the position is through its three new recruits, all of whom play the guard position. Freshmen Courtney Furr, Laniya Miller and Anastasia Warren joined Stony Brook over the offseason, each participating in at least one game so far this season. Warren has started to establish herself as a prominent figure coming off the bench, finishing with 16 points in the victory over Hofstra.

"Annie was really able to come off the bench for us and make an immediate impact on the court for us," McCombs said. "We were kind of using her at the one and the two spot, helping her build confidence as a point guard. All that

stuff is coming from practice and I think Shorty is taking her under her wing and mentoring."

The Seawolves concluded last season on a five-game win streak and an 18-13 overall record, going 10-6 in the America East Conference. Stony Brook was sent home by the New Hampshire Wildcats in the first round for the second straight year, losing 71-54. The Seawolves were selected to finish second alongside Hartford in the America East Coaches' Preseason Poll, trailing Maine by only nine votes.

"We are on people's radars now," McCombs said. "That is what we have to understand now — there is no surprises or secrets. We got to face that competition now."



"We can go small or big, we have different players that have different strengths."

-Caroline McCombs
Head Coach

Roster

- | | | | |
|----------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| 1 Courtney Furr
Freshman Guard 6'0" | 4 Anastasia Warren
Freshman Guard 5'8" | 12 Kina Smith
Junior Forward 6'1" | 23 Laniya Miller
Freshman Guard 5'10" |
| 2 Cheyenne Clark
Senior Forward 5'11" | 5 Jonae Cox
Sophomore Guard 5'11" | 14 Giolibeth Perez
Junior Guard 5'7" | 24 Hailey Zeise
Sophomore Guard 5'10" |
| 3 Oksana Gouchie-Provencher
Junior Forward 6'4" | 10 Chantz Cherry
Sophomore Guard 5'7" | 15 Shania Johnson
Senior Guard 5'1" | 30 Kyra Dixon
Junior Forward 5'11" |
| 11 Jerell Matthews
Senior Guard 5'9" | 22 McKenzie Bushee
Sophomore Forward 6'1" | 33 India Pagan
Sophomore Forward 6'1" | |

MEN'S SCHEDULE

Nov. 21
vs. Molloy, 6 p.m.
Nov. 24
@ Rhode Island,
2 p.m.
Nov. 27
@ Norfolk State, 7 p.m.
Dec. 1
vs. Quinnipiac, 7 p.m.
Dec. 5
@ Manhattan, 7 p.m.
Dec. 8
@ Brown, 2 p.m.
Dec. 12
vs. LIU Brooklyn,
7 p.m.
Dec. 16
vs. Delaware, 2 p.m.
Dec. 19
vs. Hofstra, 7 p.m.
Dec. 22
@ Quinnipiac, 2 p.m.
Dec. 29
@ Northern Iowa,
8 p.m.
Jan. 5
@ UMass Lowell,
1 p.m.
Jan. 9
vs. Binghamton, 7 p.m.
Jan. 12
vs. New Hampshire,
7 p.m.
Jan. 19
@ Maine, 1 p.m.
Jan. 23
@ Albany, 7 p.m.
Jan. 26
vs. Vermont, 7 p.m.
Jan. 30
@ UMBC, 7 p.m.
Feb. 2
vs. Hartford, 7 p.m.
Feb. 6
@ Binghamton, 7 p.m.
Feb. 9
vs. UMass Lowell,
7 p.m.
Feb. 16
@ New Hampshire,
1 p.m.
Feb. 21
vs. Albany, 7 p.m.
Feb. 23
vs. Maine, 7 p.m.
Feb. 27
vs. UMBC, 7 p.m.
March. 2
@ Vermont, 7 p.m.
March. 5
@ Hartford, 7 p.m.

WOMEN'S SCHEDULE

Nov. 20
vs. Georgia Southern,
7 p.m.
Nov. 25
@ Penn State, 7 p.m.
Nov. 28
vs. New Paltz, 7 p.m.
Dec. 1
vs. Cornell, 5 p.m.
Dec. 4
@ Sacred Heart, 6 p.m.
Dec. 8
vs. Fairleigh Dickinson,
2 p.m.
Dec. 11
@ Iona, 7 p.m.
Dec. 15
vs. Wagner, 2 p.m.
Dec. 18
@ Toledo, 7 p.m.
Dec. 30
vs. Saint Francis,
2 p.m.
Jan. 2
vs. Hartford, 7 p.m.
Jan. 5
vs. UMass Lowell,
2 p.m.
Jan. 9
@ Binghamton, 7 p.m.
Jan. 12
@ New Hampshire,
1 p.m.
Jan. 19
vs. Maine, 2 p.m.
Jan. 23
vs. Albany, 7 p.m.
Jan. 26
@ Vermont, 2 p.m.
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vs. UMBC, 7 p.m.
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Feb. 6
vs. Binghamton, 7 p.m.
Feb. 9
@ UMass Lowell,
1 p.m.
Feb. 16
vs. New Hampshire,
2 p.m.
Feb. 20
@ Albany, 7 p.m.
Feb. 24
@ Maine, 1 p.m.
Feb. 17
@ UMBC, 7 p.m.
March. 2
vs. Vermont, 2 p.m.



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MARIE MATSUNAGA/STATESMAN FILE

If the Supreme Court rules the individual mandate unconstitutional later this year, people with pre-existing conditions could be denied coverage in the near future.

The human cost of cutting health care

By Joshua Blake
Contributing Writer

I've been receiving intravenous Remicade treatment for the last five and a half years, and it's sent my ulcerative colitis into remission. It's allowed me to pursue a college career, and helped me get my life back. Visits to the emergency room are long gone, but not long forgotten.

Every eight weeks, I find myself at the John T. Mather Memorial Hospital Infusion Center in Port Jefferson, where I sit in a comfy, reclining green chair for about three hours. An I.V. is snuggled into a vein in my hand or arm, and every 15 minutes, the beep of the machine on my left tells the nurse it's time to increase the flow of the drug.

"See you in eight weeks," I say after the infusion is complete, feeling like I'm living in an alternate version of "Groundhog Day."

It always leaves me with a feeling that something's missing — as if I should be better, but I'm not... not really. These infusions serve as a reminder of how sick I could be, and seeing my father battle his Crohn's-colitis for the last 10 years puts an added weight on my shoulders that I will never be able to lift. I can't even put into words the amount of immeasurable sadness that brings me.

It hits me even harder once he picks me up from the center after my treatment how different my family's life would be if he could benefit from this

drug. When he got sick a decade ago, he was too far gone to reap Remicade's benefits.

I guess I lucked out.

"Fifty million Americans, nearly a sixth of the U.S. population, could lose part or all of their medical coverage."

-Joshua Blake
Contributing Writer

For a week after my infusions, I deal with side effects that aren't necessarily listed as primary. I'm talking about depression and mood swings, or the flighty feeling I have days afterward. There's also excessive fatigue and a lack of concentration on days where it's sorely needed.

Is it better than being sick? Do I even have to answer that?

Is it better than dealing with cramps, and bleeding when going to the bathroom? The restlessness? Trying to fall asleep after being in the bathroom for 30 minutes, only to lay awake in

pain for the same amount of time afterward — feeling as if someone stabbed you in the gut? Yeah, it's a lot better.

A few infusions ago, a nurse asked me how I feel after getting my treatment.

"Some people say they feel tired or have some pain," she said. I agreed with what others had told her.

"I also get really sad," I said. "For seemingly no reason. I deal with depression, too, so I find it being worse after my infusions."

"How long," she asked. To be honest, I'm not sure anymore.

However, despite everything I've just said, every stabbing pain and sinking feeling and hour after hour spent in the hospital, that treatment is what makes my life liveable. I'm furious about the Justice Department deeming the Affordable Care Act's mandate requiring people to buy health insurance unconstitutional.

Twenty states are suing over the individual mandate. If the Supreme Court rules the individual mandate unconstitutional later this year, people with pre-existing conditions like mine could be denied coverage in the near future. Fifty million Americans, nearly a sixth of the U.S. population, could lose part or all of their medical coverage, or face higher premiums that could cast people just like my father and I out like lepers.

This will hurt people I know and people you know. Don't turn a blind eye to this.

The Onion Bagel: Let's just get rid of Thanksgiving altogether

By Mike Adams
Opinions Editor

The Onion Bagel is a satirical column for The Statesman.

Thanksgiving is a time-honored American tradition that harkens back to the best this country has to offer. Compassion, family and whitewashing genocide — the very pillars of our national identity come to the forefront on the fourth Thursday of November.

Thanksgiving has been a national holiday ever since Abraham Lincoln made it so on Nov. 26, 1863, just one week after he consecrated the Union dead in the Gettysburg Address. Before that, Americans held celebrations of gratitude intermittently dating back as far as the Plymouth Colony in 1621. Like their Civil War counterparts two centuries later, those early settlers were just glad to be alive, and they did their best to share that happiness among each other.

But let me ask you: in these modern times, when our survival is all but completely assured, do we really need to celebrate being alive? Is Thanksgiving necessary in the Era of the Snuggie?

Turkey Day is nothing but a bygone festival for people with buckles on their hats. Like the turkeys bred for the holiday, Thanksgiving needs to die. It's just a waste of a good business opportunity.

We've watched as mega-corporations like Amazon and Walmart have slowly and graciously grant-



STEVE RHODES/Flickr CC BY-NC-SA 2.0

Black Friday shoppers scouring for deals on brand-name clothing at San Francisco's Westfield San Francisco Center in 2009. According to the Black Friday Death Counter website, 10 shoppers died and 111 were injured in 2017.

ed us freedom from the time our old fogey grandparents wanted us to spend with them over the next couple of weeks with extensions on Black Friday and the brand-new Cyber Monday. Who wants to recover from a turkey hangover around an open fire surrounded by their loved ones when they can just murder people for dibs on a new TV?

Let's take a look at the holidays that sandwich our so-called national so-called day of so-called gratitude. Without Thanksgiv-

ing, we could stretch Halloween, the spookiest of jamborees and the sole reason for Party City's continued existence, into a week-long extravaganza. Forget costumes and candy, let's just have a full-on Purge. Costumes stores everywhere would make a killing on those creepy masks. The traffic afterwards would be sublime.

We could take the next few weeks before December to do what we've been building towards for years and stretch out the holiday season into an

all-conquering behemoth of materialistic ecstasy.

Let's just drop the Christian pretenses for Christmas entirely; they get in the way of turning a good profit. Luke 2:14? MORE LIKE LUKE SKYWALKER LIMITED EDITION LEGO FIGURINE! I'd rather listen to Mariah Carey in a church than one of those lame hymns anyway, am I right?

Subsume the entire month of November beneath the hulking treads of capitalism. Crush the

miserly under hordes of Black Friday Walmart shoppers. It'd be perfectly in keeping without our history. After all, the whole reason we celebrate Thanksgiving this Thursday is because FDR wanted to give people more time to shop. So why not take that next step and just eliminate the shopping impediment altogether?

I know this Thursday night, after I yell at my uncle, I'll head on down to Target with a torch and a pitchfork. I'll do my part, what about you?

EVERYONE HAS AN OPINION

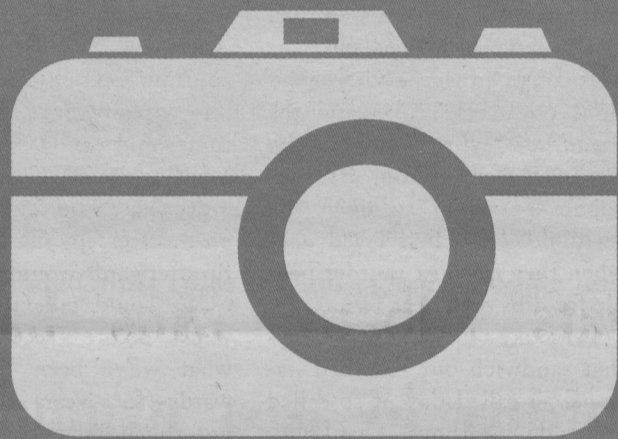
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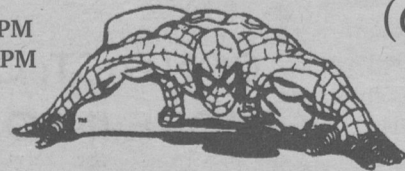
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Men's XC victorious at IC4A Championship



ANUSHA MOOKHERJEE/STATESMAN FILE

Stony Brook women's cross country at a race in 2016. The team placed third at the IC4A Championship.

By Ryan Mahill
Contributing Writer

Both the Stony Brook men's and women's cross country teams came up huge at the IC4A Championships held in Van Cortlandt Park in the Bronx on Nov. 17.

In an impressive showing, the men's team secured the IC4A Championship with a great all-around team effort. Juniors Cameron Avery and Vann Moffett played a significant role in earning the team win in the 8k race, finishing second and third with times of 22:51 and 22:56 respectively. Seniors Darian Sorouri, Michael Watts and Danny Connelly, who fin-

ished fifth, seventh and eighth with times of 23:06, 23:07 and 23:10 respectively, added to the team effort in a big way. Junior Luke Coulter finished ninth with a time of 23:10, and freshman Robert Becker finished two spots behind him at 11th place with a time of 23:14 to round out the team effort. The men's cross country team secured 25 total points and was awarded the championship victory.

"There is a lot of history associated with the IC4A Championships so it was nice to get the win today. Today was a better reflection of the type of team we expected to be all season. The guys got involved from the start and competed all the way," head coach Andy Ronan said in a press release after the race.

The women's team achieved similar success with a third place finish in their 5K race. Top runners for the women's team included juniors Alexandria Ortega and Holly Manning, who finished 13th and 22nd with times of 17:28 and 17:36 respectively. Freshman Klaire Klemens, junior Jillian Manfredi and freshman Rachel Ruggiero finished 29th, 34th, and 38th with times of 17:47, 17:52 and 17:58 to add to the team effort.

Junior Clodagh O'Reilly, who finished 50th with a time of 18:12 and freshman Tara Hauff, who finished 78th with a time of 18:43, secured the third place finish for the team. The women's team collectively finished with 135 points. "Today's 3rd place finish at the ECAC Championships was a nice ending to the cross country season," Ronan said.

The IC4A Championship marks the final race for both cross country teams this season. Both teams will say goodbye to 11 total seniors. In a farewell to the season, Ronan added that he is proud of his graduating runners and optimistic about next season.

"I'm happy for the seniors," Ronan said. "They are leaving the program on a winning note and we hope the returners can use it as motivation to be ready for next fall."

Will Tye signs with Eagles

By Ethan Tam
Contributing Writer

Stony Brook football alumnus Will Tye will get another chance to play in the NFL after signing to the Philadelphia Eagles practice squad on Tuesday, Nov. 14.

Tye, who played two seasons on the Stony Brook football team, is best known for playing as the starting tight end for the New York Giants from 2015 to 2016.

Tye transferred to Stony Brook from Florida State prior to the 2013 season, after he was originally recruited by the Seminoles in 2010. The tight end recorded a total of 79 receptions for 1,015 yards and nine touchdowns in his two-year career as a Seawolves starter. His best performance came in 2014 against North Dakota, when he set a single-game career high with 103 yards on five catches.

Tye was not selected in the NFL Draft in 2015, but signed with the Giants as an undrafted free agent and earned his spot on the practice squad before being promoted to the active roster.

Tye became the first football player from Stony Brook to play in the pros when he made his NFL debut on Oct. 4, 2015. His first touchdown came off a pass from Eli Manning on a Monday night game against the Miami Dolphins. Tye completed his rookie season with 42 receptions

for 464 yards and three touchdowns in 13 games.

Tye's 2016 numbers were less than impressive — 48 receptions for 395 yards and one touchdown in 16 games. He was later released by the team in September 2017 during its final roster cuts.

The New York Jets claimed Tye off waivers the following day, and he caught four passes for 38 yards in three games. He was then cut from the team a few weeks later in October. Tye spent the remainder of the season as a member of the New England Patriots' practice squad but was then let go in September 2018.

Now 27 years old, Tye has been given an opportunity to return to the NFL, this time for the rival of the team that originally gave him a shot.

"You just wish you had a fair chance," Tye said about the Giants in a January interview. "When I first came there they treated me nice, they treated me fair. It was a good two years there."

Tye will get another chance as he reports to practice for the Eagles. He is currently the fifth tight end on the team's depth chart.

The Eagles currently have Zach Ertz, Dallas Goedert and Josh Perkins on the active roster, while Richard Rodgers is listed as a reserve due to an injury.

Volleyball defeats Albany, wins back-to-back AE Championships

By Kenneth Fermin
Assistant Sports Editor

Top-seeded Stony Brook Volleyball concluded its season in thrilling fashion, winning the America East Championship for the second consecutive season. The Seawolves defeated the No. 2-ranked Albany Great Danes in five sets and finished the conference season with a perfect 14-0 record.

"Ultimately, this is what you want a championship game to be," head coach Kristin Belzung said. "Both teams played really well, the gym was packed and the environment was amazing. I am just incredibly proud of our group for coming out and competing their tails off. If this doesn't make you love volleyball, I don't know what will."

Albany junior outside hitter Chloe Evering scored the first point of the fifth set, but Stony Brook graduate outside hitter Emily Costello fired back with a kill to tie the game. Both teams exchanged blows and struggled to earn the momentum, until a kill by Costello gave the Seawolves the 11-7 lead. Costello sparked the offensive production by earning five points in the set, including the championship-winning block, handing the Seawolves the 15-8 fifth set victory.

"Unreal experience, that was a dog-fight out there," Costello said. "Down 1-0, we knew we were not done yet and champions are made in fifth sets. We took it to them."

Costello found holes in the rigid Albany defense throughout the game and led Stony Brook with 17 kills. The outside hitter combined for 27 kills in both playoff victories and was named America East's Most Outstanding Player.

Though winning the first set was a key component in Stony Brook's gameplan, the team failed to do so. The lapsed Seawolves defense forfeited 10 total errors in the set while struggling offensively, finishing with a .053 hitting percentage. Albany took the first set 25-17 and a commanding set lead.

Belzung shifted the Seawolves focus to cleaning up the attack and targeting a freshman Great Danes backrow.

"Albany came out with a good game plan and really executed it well," Belzung said. "We tried to step back in that second set and make some adjustments. [We] cleaned up our offense and you have to feel

a little comfortable taking multiple swings in a rally when Albany was playing defense the way they were."

The strategy paid off as junior outside hitter Maria Poole's blast handed Stony Brook a lead it would not surrender, beginning the second set. The Seawolves went on two separate four-point runs and hit .314 during the set. They cruised to a 25-14 victory which tied the contest at one set each.

The Stony Brook crowd erupted following the second set victory and retained a vocal role for the remainder of the match. The crowd followed Albany as it switched sides and attempted to drown out Great Danes head coach MJ Engstrom's

play calling on the court. The stands were so raucous that Albany had to relocate inside the visitor's locker room to strategize during a third set timeout.

Albany's oncourt struggles persisted as it surrendered 11 total errors in the third set. This assisted Stony Brook to pull away with a 21-16 lead off the kill by junior middle blocker Kendra Harlow. Two Great Danes timeouts were not enough to stop the Seawolves, who took the third set 25-18 and were one set away from winning.

Just when it looked like Albany was out, redshirt-junior middle blocker Akuabata Okenwa led them back into the fight.

Okenwa motivated her teammates with passionate oncourt chatter, lifting them up after giving points and roaring after they scored. She also rocketed shots which overwhelmed the compact Stony Brook defense across the match.

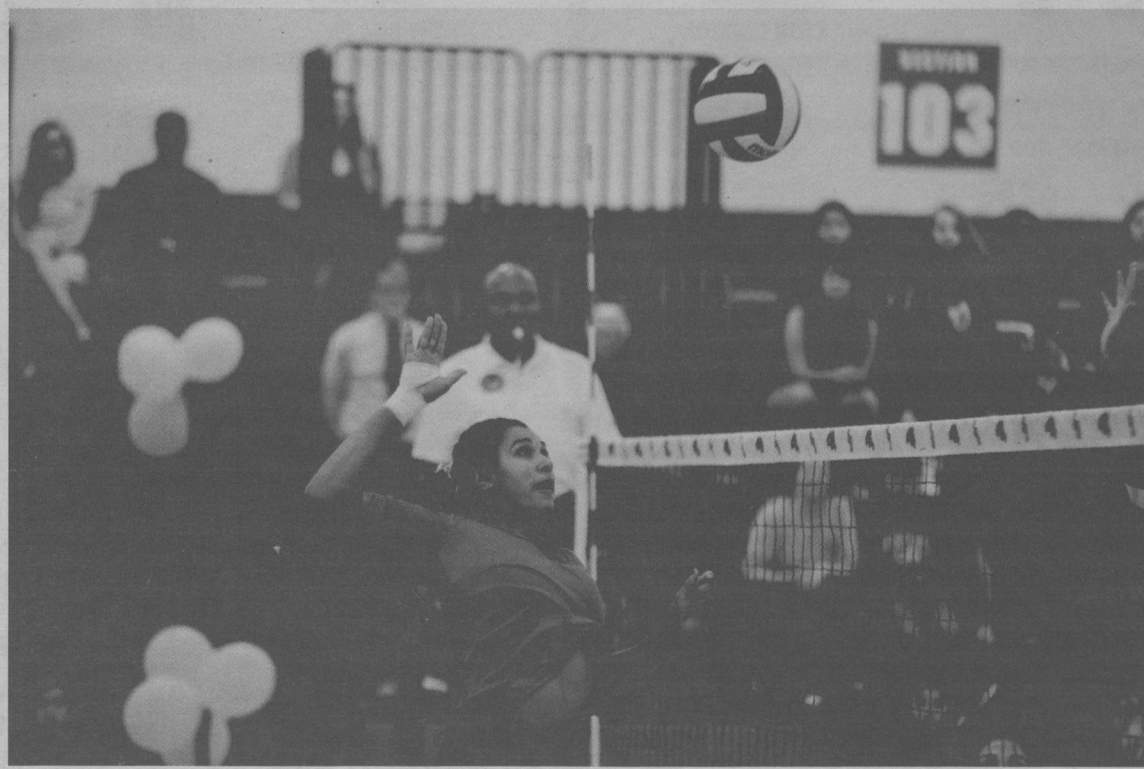
Belzung talked about how the team tried to slow down the middle blocker, acknowledging they would not be able to stop her presence.

"She is a stud," Belzung said. "We tried to manage her. I didn't we thought we were going to stop her. We tried everything we could to try and make her uncomfortable and credit to her for being able to score tonight."

Okenwa rallied the Great Danes back with eight kills of her game-leading 21 total kills in the fourth set. Albany won 25-21 and tied the game at two sets each.

Costello led the team in kills followed by senior middle blocker McKyla Brooks with 13 and junior outside hitter Jordan Gels with 10. Costello, America East Setter of the Year junior LeAnne Sakowicz and sophomore libero/defensive setter Kianni Kerstetter were named to the All-Championship team. With all the accolades the Seawolves earned this season, Harlow believes the team will carry the success for years to come.

Stony Brook will await its opponents for the NCAA Volleyball Tournament on the selection show which will be held on Sunday, Nov. 25 at 8:30 p.m. and broadcasted by ESPNU.



SAMANTHA MONTES/STATESMAN FILE

Senior middle blocker McKyla Brooks jumps to hit the ball in 2016. Brooks recorded 13 kills and 15.5 points in Volleyball's five set victory over Albany.

SPORTS

Women's Basketball continues dominant performance against Manhattan

By Ryan Pavich
Staff Writer

Four days after delivering a dominant 28-point victory over the Hofstra Pride, the Stony Brook women's basketball team raised the bar. The Seawolves entered the home of the Manhattan Jaspers on Saturday, Nov. 17, and ran the court for four full quarters with a 31-point blowout win, 79-48.

Senior guard Shania Johnson led the way in every offensive category for Stony Brook. Johnson tallied a season-high 23 points on 58 percent shooting, added seven assists and tied the team-high six rebounds.

Johnson has picked up where she left off last season by averaging 17 points in the first three games. She is also second in the team for rebounds with 14.

Sophomore forward India Pagan and senior guard Jerrell Matthews tacked on 13 and 11 points, respectively. Pagan and Johnson tied with six rebounds each.

The Seawolves took control of the game with a series of runs in the first half. After allowing the first bucket of the game, a layup from junior guard Gabby Cajou, the Seawolves went on an

8-0 run. The Jaspers would tie things back up minutes later, but the run enabled the Seawolves to end the first quarter with a seven-point advantage.

Stony Brook put the game away in the second quarter. Cajou sunk a free throw to start the quarter, and then the next 10 points were all scored by Seawolves. A minute later, after trading three points each, sophomore guard Hailey Zeise's layup inside the paint started a 12-point run. Stony Brook was unstoppable offensively and ballooned the lead to 40-15, capped off by a jumpshot from Pagan.

Five different Seawolves scored points during this stretch, displaying a balanced attack that kept Manhattan constantly on its back foot.

"I thought we played an outstanding first half of basketball on both ends of the floor," head coach Caroline McCombs said in a press release. "Our challenge is to string together a complete 40 minutes. I believe we will continue to grow together and add depth in all positions."

Manhattan did manage to hold even with the Seawolves in the third quarter, cutting the deficit from 26 to 25. Freshman guard

D'yona Davis added six of her team-high 18 points in the third, creating a 3-point play on a foul and then draining a 3-point shot seconds later.

Matthews and sophomore forward McKenzie Bushee iced the game in the fourth. The senior scored five points in a minute by

nailing two free throws and drilling a 3-pointer, while Bushee scored all six of her points in the final quarter via short shots.

Strong free throw shooting was a factor in the Seawolves' victory. Johnson and Matthews led the team by making five free throws each.

Stony Brook has a quick turnaround before its next game. The Seawolves return home on Tuesday, Nov. 20 to play against Georgia Southern at 7 p.m. The Eagles are 1-3 this year but are coming off their lone win, an 11-point victory over Savannah State.



KARINA GERRY/STATESMAN FILE

Senior guard Shania Johnson looks to pass in a game against Albany in February. Johnson tallied a team-high 23 points on 53 percent shooting against Manhattan.

SEAWOLVES SCOREBOARD

 WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TUESDAY, NOV. 13 49 - 77 HOFSTRA	 STONY BROOK	 STONY BROOK	WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY SATURDAY, NOV. 17 3rd Place	 IC4A CHAMPIONSHIP	
 STONY BROOK	MEN'S BASKETBALL FRIDAY, NOV. 16 70 - 84  HOLY CROSS	 LIU POST	SWIMMING & DIVING SATURDAY, NOV. 17 109 - 124	 STONY BROOK	
 HARTFORD	VOLLEYBALL FRIDAY, NOV. 16 0 - 3  STONY BROOK	 STONY BROOK	WOMEN'S BASKETBALL SATURDAY, NOV. 17 79 - 48	 MANHATTAN	
 STONY BROOK	MEN'S BASKETBALL SATURDAY, NOV. 17 72 - 65  NORFOLK STATE	 STONY BROOK	FOOTBALL SATURDAY, NOV. 17 23 - 25	 ALBANY	
 STONY BROOK	MEN'S CROSS COUNTRY SATURDAY, NOV. 17 1st Place	 IC4A Championship	 ALBANY	WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL SATURDAY, NOV. 17 2 - 3	 STONY BROOK

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