

THE STATESMAN

INFORMING STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY FOR MORE THAN 50 YEARS

Sex and Relationships Issue

Page 5

Male student claims gender discrimination

By Rebecca Liebson
News Editor

A male student at Stony Brook University is suing the school and two SUNY employees for gender discrimination and for violating his due process rights.

The plaintiff, who is referred to under the pseudonym "John Doe," filed suit in the U.S. District Court in Central Islip last month. He claims that due to several missteps in the Title IX process, he was unjustly found responsible for sexual misconduct despite the fact that he himself was a victim.

In March 2018, the plaintiff engaged in sexual intercourse with a female student referred to in the lawsuit as "BG." According to the suit, the plaintiff was highly intoxicated at the time and had little to no recollection of the incident the next day.

Following the encounter, BG messaged the plaintiff and asked "Was yesterday intentional? Did you intentionally move away from vaginal sex and start with anal sex or was it a legit accident and you didn't see what you were doing in the dark?" the suit states.

According to the suit, the plaintiff responded to BG's messages, denying that he tried to engage in anal intercourse, at one point writing "[I don't know] what you're talking [a]bout but then again I was not sober at all so [I don't know]."



Members of House of Shade, a club for black members of the LGBTQ* community, during their weekly meeting on Tuesday, Feb. 5. A former student founded the club in Spring 2018 to create a safe space for discussing sexuality.

BG then filed a complaint with the Title IX Office alleging that the plaintiff had engaged in non-consensual anal intercourse with her. The plaintiff responded with a counter-complaint alleging that he was the one who had been sexually assaulted since he was intoxicated at the time of the interaction and was therefore unable to consent.

In addition, the plaintiff claimed that prior to the incident, he had rebuffed several romantic advances from BG, and that her complaint was a retaliation against his rejection.

According to the suit, this was not the only incident in which BG violated SBU's Student Code of Responsibility. The plaintiff claims that shortly after BG filed her complaint, she posted his name and photo to social media with a caption describing him as her rapist and inciting her followers to "beat [Plaintiff] up."

Ultimately, the university's Title IX office did not find BG guilty of any misconduct, the suit stated.

The plaintiff, on the other hand, was found responsible for

violating the Student Code of Responsibility. He was suspended from the university, placed on disciplinary probation, stripped of his scholarship and had his transcript permanently marked to show that he committed a sexual misconduct violation, according to the suit.

The suit states that Stony Brook's Title IX office refused to follow the rules spelled out in the most recent version of the Procedural Code, and instead, chose to follow an older code that was no longer in effect.

The plaintiff also claims that BG was given preferential treatment by Title IX officials on the basis of gender. For instance, the suit states that officials turned a blind eye when BG violated certain procedural rules. The suit also states that the Title IX investigators questioned the plaintiff more aggressively than they did BG during the hearing.

According to the suit, some of the evidence submitted by BG

Continued on page 3

Yale Professor Richard Prum speaks about Darwin's "dangerous idea"

By Doyeon Jean Jang
Contributing Writer

Yale professor of ornithology, ecology and evolutionary biology, Richard Prum, spoke about Charles Darwin's "dangerous idea," in the most recent installment of the Provost's Lecture Series on Friday, Feb. 8.

Prum, the author of "The Evolution of Beauty" — named a Top Ten Book of 2017 by the New York Times and a 2018 Pulitzer Prize Finalist in General Non-Fiction — warned the audience that his theory of evolution was quite distinct from others in his field.

"The more you know biology, the more likely you will disagree with what I have to say tonight," he said.

Prum's lecture scrutinized Darwin's most famous idea: natural

selection. Natural selection is the process of adaptation of the traits of individual organisms to the environment. Darwin also wrote about sexual selection, which is when organisms of one biological sex compete with their peers in choosing members of the opposite sex to mate with. While Darwin introduced the idea of secondary sexual characteristics, such as ornate tail feathers on a peacock or large antlers on a moose, he never quite explained how these traits helped contribute to the species survival.

Professor Prum developed an alternative view of the Darwinian evolutionary process through his interests in birdwatching and scientific research. His so-called, "Beauty Happens" hypothesis explains how females' mating choice

is based on their aesthetic preferences. Furthermore, Prum showed how this contributes to the evolutionary development of organisms' individual traits, including extraordinary ornamental features in male organisms like peacock feathers or moose antlers. In other words, the more beautiful male organisms are, the more beneficial genes they carry.

For male organisms, Prum explained, a beautiful outward appearance is an indicator of certain genetic benefits including less risk of catching sexually transmitted viruses, more efficient metabolic process, or immune function.

Prum pointed to the evolutionary development of ducks' sexual organs as an example of deliberate mating choices made

by female organisms. In order to avoid forced population growth, female ducks evolved the shape of their vagina to control fertilization. Prum explained that "aesthetic evolution," in male organisms emerges as a consequence of "the cognitive evaluation and choices of the female."

Although Prum's take on the role that the aesthetic traits of animals play in their mating behaviors and communications was well received by those outside of the scientific community, they have been met with some controversy by other evolutionary biologists.

In fact, three biology and ecology professors from various universities recently countered Prum's ideas in a 2018 book review published in the International Journal of Organic Evolution.

"We recognize its value in engaging the public in the study of evolution," they wrote. "We disagree, however, with the book's advocacy of a single evolutionary explanation for beauty in nature, and we were disappointed by its portrayal of modern sexual selection research."

Despite this, Doreen Aveni, a WISE Honors Program academic administrator who attended the lecture, said she was intrigued by Prum's hypothesis. She compared the phenomenon Prum described to "a social movement of women's choice."

"It was interesting how beauty was evolved not for any specific gene trait, gene strength, or gene population but rather the strength of female choosing what was beautiful was perpetrated to this evolutionary beauty," she said.



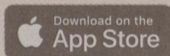
Mobile Banking

Convenient Access to Your Accounts Anywhere...Anytime

- FREE Credit Monitoring & Score with Credit SenseSM
- Check Balances
- Deposit Checks
- Pay Bills and more



Download the Island Mobile App



To learn more, visit our Student Activities Center Branch (Lower Level) or Health Sciences Branch (Level 2)**

2 On-Campus Branches • 14 On-Campus Surcharge-FREE ATMs*
The Only ATMs on Campus



Catch the Wave to Better Banking islandfcu.com • 631-851-1100

Apple and the Apple logo are trademarks of Apple Inc., registered in the U.S. and other countries and regions. App Store is a service mark of Apple Inc. Google Play and the Google Play logo are trademarks of Google LLC. Island Mobile App available for iPhone and Android phone and tablet. *Available for Island members. **Restricted Access. The Student Activities Center and Health Sciences branches are open to students, faculty, staff and alumni of Stony Brook University. Membership eligibility applies. Federally Insured by NCUA

NEWS

University police officer retires after 39 years of service

By Joe McQueen
Contributing Writer

On Jan. 30, Robert Swan walked into his office at the University Police Department (UPD) like any other day. This time the feeling he had walking in was different, knowing that it was the final time he would ever step into his office as the department's inspector.

Swan, aka "Swannie," officially retired from the UPD after 39 years of service at the university. His retirement was announced on the department's Facebook page.

Sitting in his office for the final time, Swan said that it was still sinking in that he would never have to work again.

Swan held many positions throughout his tenure at Stony Brook University serving as an officer, lieutenant, detective and inspector, a position that he's held since 2011.

He started out at Stony Brook in 1979. At that time, the UPD didn't exist yet, so he worked as an unarmed officer patrolling the campus. When the UPD was created 20 years later, Swan signed on.

Swan had his sight set on becoming a police officer since he was in junior high school.

"I had an uncle who I was very close with that was an officer for the Suffolk County Police Department and he was certainly an influence," he said.

Swan has gotten a first-hand look at how Stony Brook has changed over

time. He said the campus, back when he first started working here, was nothing like it is today.

"They actually had bars in the dorms. Benedict Saloon, Whitman Pub, Baby Joey's, Rainy Night House, the list goes on and on," he said. "The drinking age then was 18, so students never went home on the weekends. So, for us [police officers], we were busy in the dorms dealing with issues in bars."

"I've seen the entire hospital go from those two buildings into that entire complex it is now. It's incredible and I had a front row seat to it all."

-Robert Swan
Retired UPD Inspector

During this time, the university hospital had just been built and Swan was able to witness it come together.

"There were no patients, doctors, nurses, staff or equipment," he said. "During the day, there were just construction workers and that went on for a while. I've seen the entire hospital go from those two buildings into that entire complex it is now. It's incredible and I had a front row seat to it all."

Swan said his favorite part of being a police officer was the constant excitement and ability to get his adrenaline going. He added that his primary reason for entering the field was to help people.

"If arresting people meant it was my responsibility to take someone off the campus that doesn't belong here, well I did it, but if it's helping students get through or help someone who is stranded or figure something out, I always found that more rewarding than the alternative of facing arrest," Swan said.

Swan helped with special events management for UPD. In this role, he worked with the athletics department and dean of students office to promote events happening on campus and make sure they were safe for attendees.

Swan said he plans to keep active during retirement and stay involved in the campus community. He hopes to spend his time attending Stony Brook basketball games and working on his tennis skills.

"I want to spend more time with my family," he said. "I established a part-time business a few years ago as a kitchen designer, so I want to devote

more time for that. I also want to do some projects around my house that I have been neglecting," he added.

Assistant Chief of Police Eric Olsen reflected fondly on his time working with Swan.

"I remember Bob best for how much he truly cared about the students and the campus community," Olsen said. "He could become very passionate at times when planning events or dealing with a crisis on campus. What I'll miss the most about him is his personality. Bob has a great sense of humor that really made working with him a lot of fun."

UPD Inspector Nelson Castilla added, "Bob Swan loved this Police Department, loved Stony Brook University and was dedicated to the two like no other, he will be truly missed."



COURTESY OF UNIVERSITY POLICE
UPD Inspector Robert Swan retired after 39 years.

'John Doe' sues

Continued from page 1

appeared to either be fabricated, coerced or unverifiable. "The Review Panel's determination that Plaintiff was 'Responsible' for sexual misconduct is not supported by any credible evidence much less a preponderance of the evidence as the Review Panel's Disposition and Hearing transcript plainly demonstrate."

The plaintiff is seeking damages as well as injunctive relief which would restore his scholarship and clear any wrongdoing from his transcript.

"The purpose of this lawsuit is to make sure that going forward, [Stony Brook's] procedures for these types of allegations are fair," the plaintiff's attorney, Stanislav Gomberg, told *The Statesman*.

The effectiveness of current Title IX rules have been called into question by Secretary of Education, Betsy DeVos. DeVos recently proposed several changes to Title IX that would raise the bar for finding someone responsible for committing sexual assault or harassment.

When asked for the university's comment on the matter, a spokesperson for Stony Brook provided the following statement: "The University is unable to comment on pending litigation. Further, Federal privacy laws prohibit the disclosure of student information."



MASTER OF ARTS IN Medical Humanities, Compassionate Care and Bioethics

Not just for healthcare professionals, this program serves students from a wide range of disciplines and professional backgrounds, building on a commitment to medical humanism and ethics that has defined education for Stony Brook students for more than three decades.

The 30-credit Master of Arts program can be completed in as little as one year.

"The MA program opened my eyes to new avenues to connect to our patients with respect and compassion. It inspired me to pilot a program for Arts in Medicine, which has made my staff more receptive to the nonmedical needs of their patients."

- Linda Bily, MA Program Graduate

APPLICATION DEADLINES FOR FALL 2019

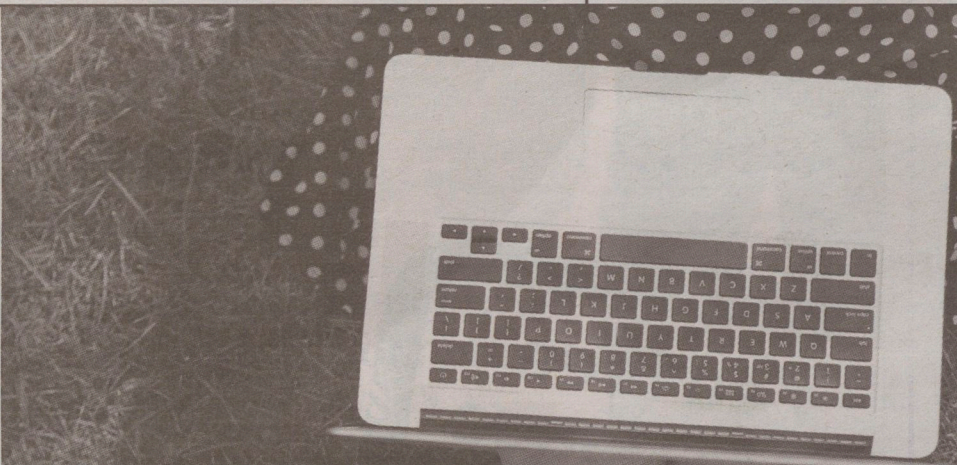
U.S. Residents: July 1, 2019 • International Students: April 1, 2019

For more information or to apply to the program, visit

stonybrook.edu/bioethics/masters or email bioethics@stonybrookmedicine.edu



Stony Brook Medicine



**Summer Session
Register Now!**

**Four sessions: four, six,
or ten weeks**

SUMMER IS COMING

- Earn as many as 15 credits
- Hundreds of undergraduate and graduate classes, including online options
- Free on-campus parking
- Low-cost on-campus housing available

www.qc.cuny.edu/summer • 718-997-5600

Everyone! Can Bank with TFCU



Receive better rates, lower fees, free mobile banking, free checking and low-rate credit cards. YOU CAN SPEND LESS AND SAVE MORE.

Open a Savings Account for Just \$1

- FREE Checking & Visa® Check Card
- FREE Online Banking/Bill Payer
- FREE Mobile Banking
- FREE Mobile Check Deposit
- Mobile Wallet Use Apple Pay®, Google Pay® and Samsung Pay® with your TFCU Visa debit & credit cards!
- Check your balances on your Apple® Smartwatch
- Thousands of Allpoint® surcharge-free ATMs worldwide with access at Target®, Speedway®, Costco®, Walgreens®, CVS® and more!
- Fraud protection with CardValet®
- New Popmoney® Service - send money to other financial institutions or to friends & family outside TFCU right from your Online Banking!
- Earn more with our Debit Card Rewards Program
- New Solar Energy Loan Program

Rate Account Specials

8-Month

2.00%

APY*

Available for IRAs Also!

36-Month

3.05%

APY*

Fee Free ATM Usage at ALL Stony Brook ATMs on Campus!

Stony Brook Branch COMING SOON!



(631) 228-1819

Find the branch nearest you at TeachersFCU.org
31 Branches throughout Long Island, Queens and Manhattan

Amityville | Bay Shore | Briarwood (Queens) | Central Islip | Center Moriches | Commack | East Northport | East Meadow | Farmingville | Hauppauge | Holbrook | Huntington | Kings Park | Manorville | Merrick | Nesconset | North Babylon | North Massapequa | Oakdale | Patchogue | Port Jefferson Station | Riverhead | Riverside (Manhattan) | Rocky Point | Selden | Shirley | Smithtown | South Setauket | Wading River | Woodside (Queens)



*All rates and terms are subject to change without notice. Annual Percentage Yield (APY) accurate as of 2/7/2019. A penalty may be imposed on early withdrawals. Limited time offer. Subject to membership eligibility. Membership conditions may apply.



2019

Sex and Relationships



We asked and students answered:

For the 2019 sex issue, editors of *The Statesman* decided to revive an old tradition. For the first time in four years, we asked readers to spill their guts and partake in an anonymous sex survey. One hundred and thirty four of you rose to the occasion. Here are the results you've all been waiting for.

Demographics:

Our respondents were roughly 50 percent female, 47 percent male and 3 percent non-binary/genderqueer.

Around 58 percent were white, 16 percent were Asian, 14 percent were Latino/Hispanic, 8 percent were mixed race, 3 percent were black and 1 percent identified as another race.

The majority of our readers identified as heterosexual, coming in at 67 percent. Around 17 percent of you identified as bisexual and nearly 5 percent identified as pansexual. Seven percent identified as gay and 3 percent identified as lesbian. The remaining 1 percent said you were either "queer" or "questioning."

Almost 48 percent of you said you weren't religious. Around 28 percent of you were Christian, 8 percent were Jewish, 3 percent were Muslim and 3 percent were Hindu. The remaining 10 percent was a mish mash of different answers ranging from "Catholic" to "Sikh," "agnostic" to "my own religion" and even "recovering crackhead, found Jesus in toast."

Meeting Sexual Partners:

No surprise in 2019, the number one way our respondents met their sexual partners was through dating apps, with 43 people voting for that option. However, 42 of you said you met your sexual partners in class or through extracurricular activities. The third most popular way to meet someone was through mutual friends or family, which received 24 votes.

Virginity:

The median age our respondents had sex for the first time was 17. Ten of you have not had sex yet (don't worry, your time will come.)

Body Count:

On average, our readers had around eight sexual partners. This changed slightly when you controlled for gender. Females had around seven partners on average and males had around five. Twenty-five of you have only slept with one person (so far.) One of you reported having 45 sexual partners (congrats on the sex.)

Sex Acts/Positions:

There were a couple of, shall we say, unique sex acts/positions thrown into the mix (our personal favorites include "folding deck chair," "speed bump" and "the lotus,") but most of you stuck to the classics.

Thirteen of you favored the cowgirl position and reverse cowgirl gets an honorable mention with seven votes. Oral and missionary tied for second place with 16 votes each. But doggystyle won in a landslide with a whopping 49 votes.

Kinks:

This question was harder to quantify. The vast majority of you said something along the lines of "BDSM," "submission" or "dominance." As for the rest of you, we applaud your honesty. Here were some of our favorite responses:

- "Eating ass"
- "Exhibitionist."
- "Furry, pet play."
- "School girl role play."
- "Pretending I am an Egyptian queen and my partner is one of many in a long line of people desperate to please me."
- "Financial domination."

Myths About Sex:

As was evidenced by this survey, all of us probably could have benefited from some sex education courses at one point in our lives. Here were some of the craziest myths about sex you all used to believe:

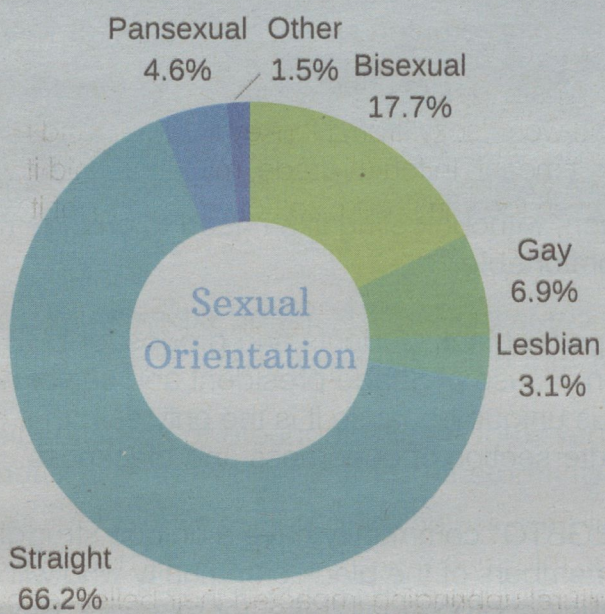
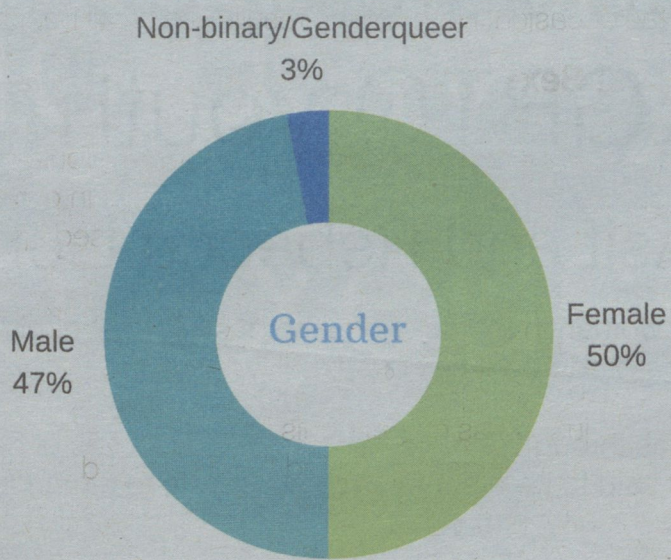
- "That virginity exists! It's a social construct used to oppress us!"
- "That the hymen was like a sheet of paper that tore."
- "Masturbation too often leads to blindness."
- "A blowjob was just a kiss on the penis."
- "I think when I was younger, I believed that one could simply rely on saliva as a form of lubrication and that that would be sufficient."
- "That if someone came inside of you it was just injected, not that it would drip out of you."
- "That when aroused the penis would stand straight up, line parallel to the body."
- "The more sex you have the 'looser' you get physically."
- "You pee in girls to get them pregnant."
- "I learned the word 'sexy' from Donkey in Shrek, and nobody would tell me what it meant. In fourth grade, my friend said it was when your parents sleep in the same bed, so I guess I thought it was just cuddling. I also thought babies were sent from heaven after you married your true love. I was really stupid."
- "I used to think girls just didn't have anything down there."
- "If a woman eats too much calcium she can get pregnant."

Culture and sex:

Not to get all Freudian on you but, the way we were raised definitely plays a huge role in how we view sex. Here's how our readers said that their cultural upbringing impacted their beliefs about sex:

- "I was brought up to believe that you HAD to wait until you were married to have sex and that sex was something God wanted you to only have with one person for your whole life and if you did otherwise you would go to hell."
- "I grew up in a non-religious, liberal environment viewing it casually; I've come now to view that mentality however as naive. Casual sex and libertarian approaches to sex undermine the romantic bonds important to maintaining social cohesion."
- "I think because I had family that were pregnant teens, my mom pushed for birth control when she found out I was sexually active. Other than that sex was not talked about at all and I learned about it from sex ed and on my own."
- "Was afraid I would regret it or get pregnant even with all the caution and protection."
- "I have a fairly open-minded view on sex. My mother is pretty hippie, do what makes you happy, etc, and that's what I believe. It's not something to be ashamed of, or something dirty/bad. It's intimate (if you want it to be) or casual (if you want it that way), it can be a holy, spiritual thing, or just a physiological need."
- "I never got the sex talk, probably because my parents are very conservative and believe in modesty, so it was something uncomfortable for them to think about. I figured it out from school, books and movies, and when I got older, I'd talk to my friends about it. Talking about it still makes me uncomfortable, maybe because it was so taboo growing up?"
- "The most sex I encountered was from American TV and movies. I'm private about my sex life. Don't share any info with anyone other than my partner. But I'm also not ashamed."
- "Sexual activity is better in a relationship which I feel is true."
- "The Pornhub and Brazzers culture definitely misled me and my beliefs regarding what girls liked or acted like in the bedroom. After conducting some research, I have concluded that they in fact do not ask where their extra sausage was on the pizza and then proceed to grab the delivery driver's dick."

the 2019 *Statesman* Sex Survey results



Average number of sexual partners:

8

Median age for losing your virginity:

17

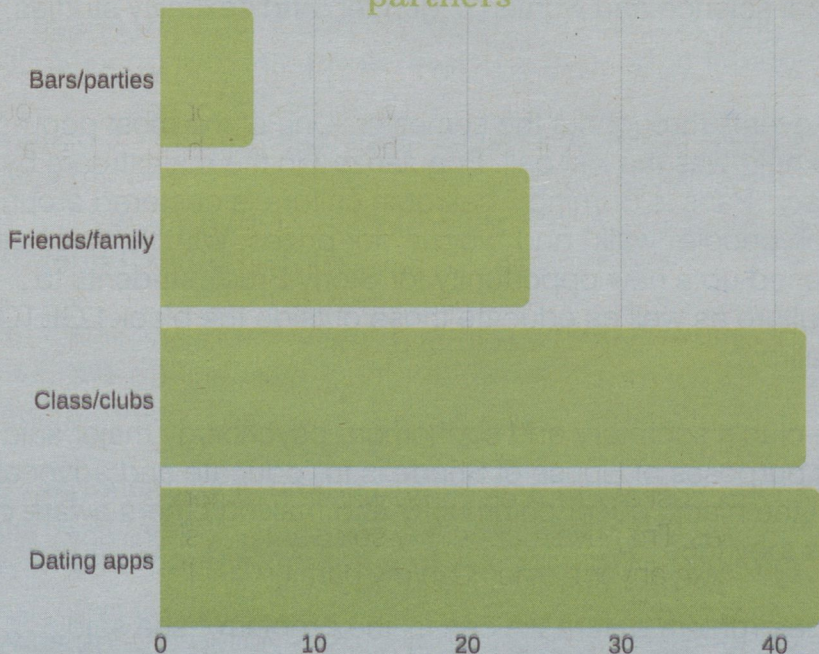
The major with the most sexually active students...

Political Science

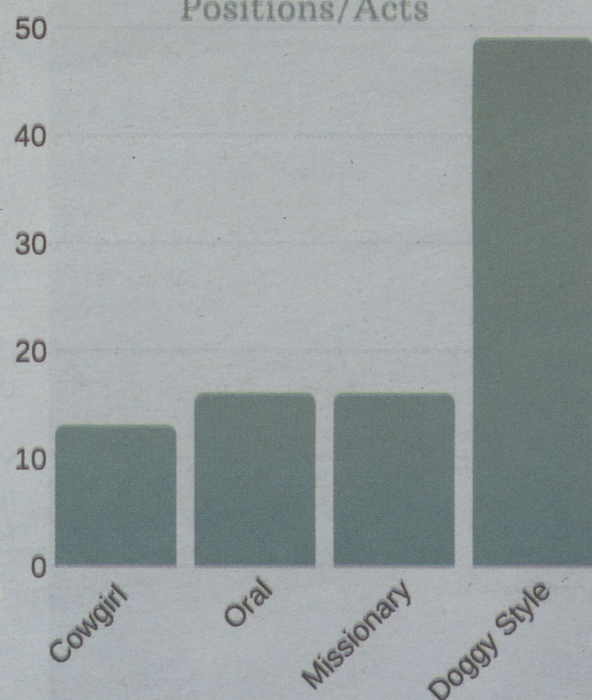
The major with the highest percentage of virgins...

Biology

How people meet their sexual partners



Favorite Sex Positions/Acts



By *The Statesman*



House of Shade provides safe space for black LGBTQ youth

by Elisha Asif and Rebecca Liebson

Growing up as a queer woman in a black household, senior psychology major Monisola Oyelola never talked about sex or sexuality.

"Everything I learned was through Google," she said. In the eyes of her parents, "my sexuality was said to be a submissive housewife to a man and that was that."

Things changed for Oyelola when she came to Stony Brook and found House of Shade. Founded in the spring semester of 2018 by former student Aba Sealy, House of Shade is a club created specifically for black members of the LGBTQ* community.

"Having House of Shade gave me a safe space to speak about things related to being black and queer," Oyelola said, "I could speak freely, and use common terminology and such, without feeling like I need to change myself to make those around me feel comfortable."

Although there are groups for black students and groups for LGBTQ* students, Yasmin Fouchong-Brown, House of Shade president and senior health science major said that her club is unique because it is the only club that caters to the needs of people at the intersection of queerness and blackness.

"Black members of the LGBTQ* community have a unique struggle," she wrote in an email. "There are members of the black community who will exclude black LGBTQ* members and their contributions (take, for example, Bayard Rustin,)" she wrote, referring to the gay civil rights leader who helped to organize the March on Washington. "Similarly, within the LGBTQ* community, there tends to be little discussion/action involving black members of this community (e.g. the average life expectancy of black transgender women and transgender women of color is 35 years old). There is also a common theme of feeling like we have to 'choose a struggle' of either being LGBTQ* or being black as if we cannot exist as both."

The club holds general meetings on Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. in the LGBTQ* Center conference hall. There, the members get together to talk about their personal lives as well as discuss issues affecting their community as a whole. Previous discussion topics included safe sex, labels, experiences of being LGBTQ* in a black family and representation of black and queer figures in the media.

"We aim to engage in conversations about the experiences of not only LGBTQ* people, but black LGBTQ people," Carine Green, treasurer of House of Shade and freshman political science and women's, gender, and sexuality studies double major, said.


The club also hosts events throughout the semester. One of the most popular events the group held was the kiki ball. Popularized in the mainstream by the 1990 documentary "Paris is Burning," ballroom culture is centered around competitions in which people "walk" and "vogue" for prizes. With the kiki ball, House of Shade opened up a new opportunity for Stony Brook students to partake in this subculture as well as educate those outside the black LGBTQ* community about ballroom.

Yasmine Steide, the club's secretary and sophomore psychology major said that one of the main purposes of House of Shade is to "educate and advocate" by shining a light on the black, queer community and making others aware of the unique struggles they face.

"We have to show the problem before we can fix the problem," she said.

Green noted the importance of the club as a symbol standing in defiance to those who try to spread hate or intolerance.

"We are here and whether or not you like us, we are here to stay," they said. "We're a prominent force to be reckoned with."



Inclusivity: You have no excuse

When I became Multimedia Editor of *The Statesman* at the end of the Spring 2018 semester, I was already thinking about what I wanted to do for the Sex & Relationships Issue that was to be published the following February.

The Sex & Relationships photoshoot has become a cheeky tradition at *The Statesman* that is usually one of the biggest multimedia contributions of the year. When brainstorming ideas, I thought about the Sex Issue from my first year at Stony Brook and the controversy that followed its publication.

The Editor-in-Chief at the time acknowledged that *The Statesman* had “failed to highlight the diversity of our campus” in that year’s issue. I wanted us to do better.

I pitched the idea of dedicating the whole Sex & Relationships issue to POC sexuality. (For those of you unaware, POC means “People of Color.”) The managing team was instantly enthusiastic about the topic and we got to work.

I felt it was necessary to focus on the sexuality of our non-white students not only to correct mistakes made in past years, but because I know first hand how complex sex and learning about one’s own sexuality can be for POC.

As a brown girl in a Muslim household, (albeit an extremely westernized household) sex was an enigma growing up that I felt could only be solved through Google searches a child at that age probably should not have been doing. As I got older I realized this was true for many of my POC peers, and most of them had it worse.

Some of their parents never even gave them “the talk” and sex was clouded with stigmas created by the communities they grew up in. Forget discussions about safe-sex practices or how to feel comfortable with your sexuality. For some POC, sex was total taboo in their home.

In the “Letter from the Editor” published the year *The Statesman* was criticized for its all-white Sex Issue photoshoot, the editor blames the paper’s shortcomings on the fact that “only white students actively pursued this opportunity.” I kept this in mind when seeking models, preparing myself for what I imagined was going to be a lot of leg work to get a diverse cast.

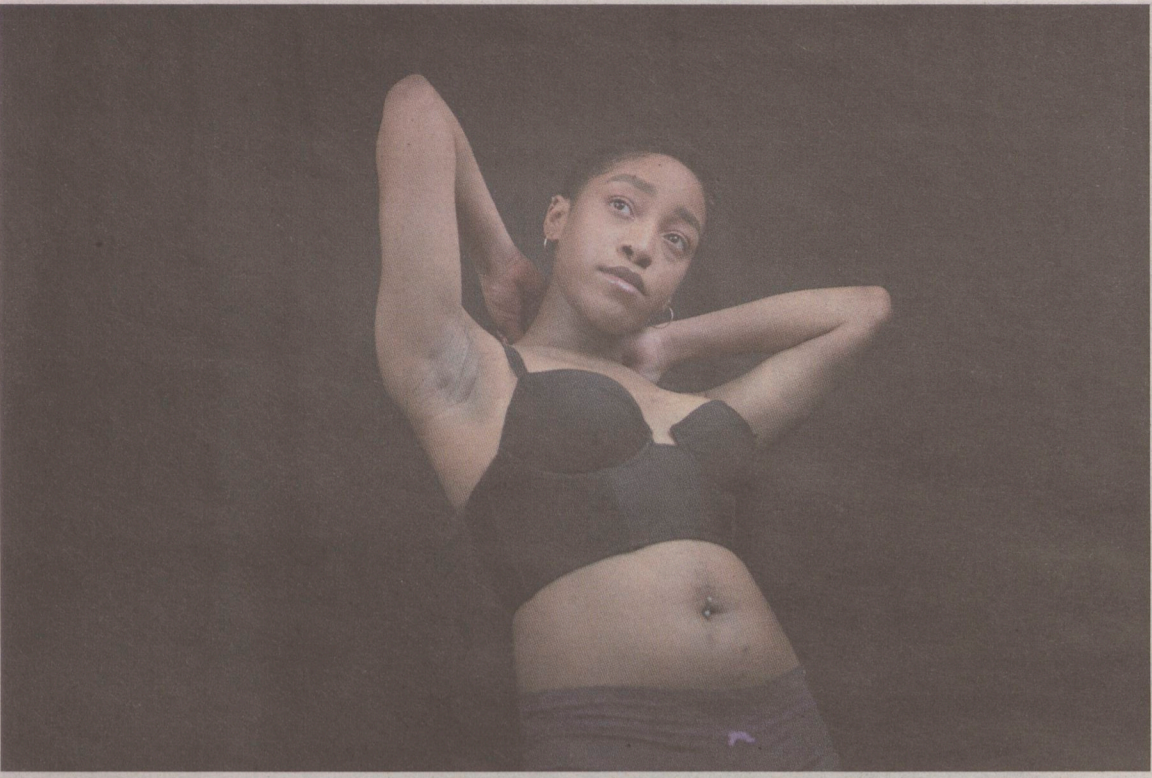
I emailed 13 cultural clubs and organizations on campus, and made Instagram stories and posts on *The Statesman* account as well as my personal profile announcing we were casting POC models for this year’s Sex & Relationships photoshoot. Within the first 12 hours, we received 22 responses from people interested. I could not believe the overwhelming number of POC students who wanted to participate.

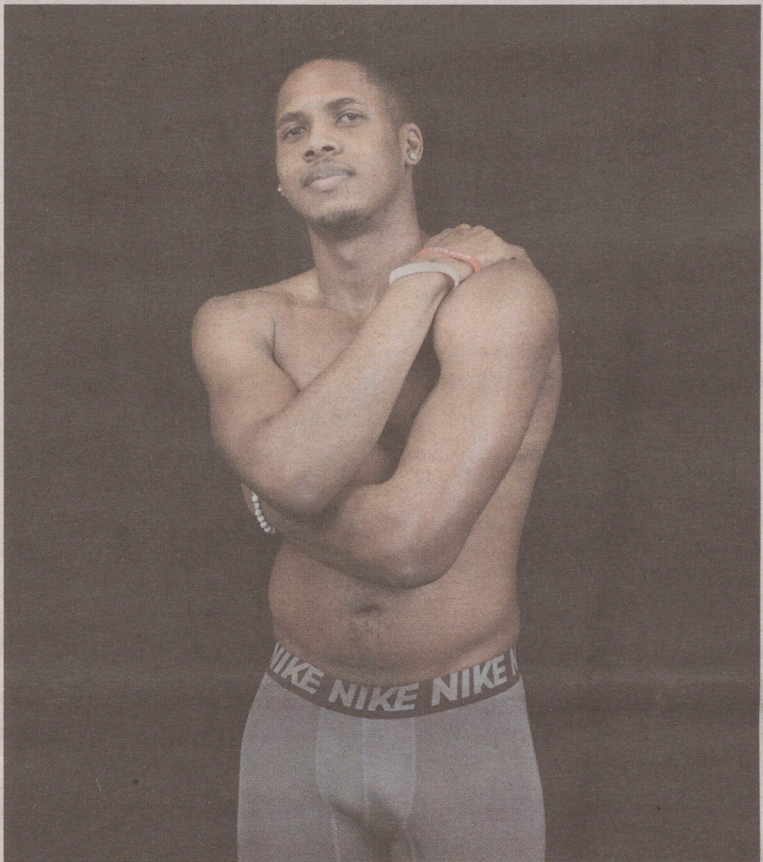
Then I realized, previous editors had gotten it wrong. The lack of diversity in past Sex & Relationships photoshoots was not because non-white students did not actively pursue the opportunity — it was because those editors did not actively pursue non-white students.


The responsibility is on the creator to ensure their content is inclusive. We cannot sit back and wait for a diverse cast of people to come knocking on our door and simply shrug our shoulders when they don’t. And by “we” I am referring to student journalists, writers, photographers and any creators of content. And I can tell you first hand, it really is not that difficult to be inclusive.

If I was able to get over 20 diverse people to sign up to strip semi-nude for multiple cameras under bright studio lights in a room full of strangers, you have no excuse.

by Aleeza Kazmi







I am not your “Spanish mami”

by Gabby Pardo

It was Thanksgiving Eve, 2017, and I was out at a bar with my friends.

My intentions weren't to meet anyone that night, but I did. We danced and I got his number. He was a white male, Italian, which I guess you can call my type based on the guys I've dated in the past. “Mamacita” he would say consistently throughout the night. Text messages would read “you're my Spanish mami.” He would say how he never made out with a Spanish girl and he should've a long time ago.

I never had a sexual experience with him — thank God — but I am not a prize or a check on your bucket list. Make love with me or kiss me because you want to, not because of my race.

I grew up in Staten Island which has a 17.3 percent Hispanic population and a 75.7 percent white population — 34.7 percent of which has Italian roots. Finding a partner that isn't white can be difficult because of these demographics hence why I've come to prefer white males. My high school is one of the most diverse in Staten Island, but it still has a 20 percent gap between white and Hispanic students; 47 percent are white, 27 percent are Hispanic and 11 percent are black.

There is nothing wrong with interracial sexual partnerships, relationships or marriages. It is 2019, and society is more accepting of them. Although we are more accepting, statistics show a small percentage of Latinas in an interracial marriage. In 2017, Pew Research reported 27 percent of Hispanic newlyweds married someone of a different race.

When I came to Stony Brook, the demographics were totally different. According to the 2019 Factbook, 12.6 percent of students are Hispanic while the Asian and white population is almost identical, with Asian students at 39.9 percent and white students at 40.3 percent. It's still a small population, but there are also 17,552 undergraduates enrolled compared to the 3,369 students at my old high school.

I'm currently dating a white male; but, before him, I did have sexual partners who were not white. Those not white were encountered after I graduated high school, except for one.

From this, I realized that having a person of color as a sexual partner puts fewer questions through my mind. He's not white, I'm not white. It can feel a little bit more comfortable.

I feel comfortable with my white partners, but the question of whether a racial kink will slip out or their face will reek of disappointment if they don't see massive curves carving out my body still lingers.

All of my boyfriends have been white - a blessing and a curse. It's a blessing because there's temporary or long-lasting joy; but, I always have the constant fear of being a check mark, or them expecting me or my body type to mirror the hyper-sexualized version of a Hispanic woman that society has created. I've been called “mami” before and after the idiot at the bar. No, it wasn't the mommy kink that some guys like. They called me mami emphasizing the “I” like a Hispanic would say it. I've also been told, “Wow I never hooked up with a Spanish girl before, it's different.”

I will admit, I sometimes ask if they have been with a Spanish girl before. My fear of not being liked or wanted for who I am as a person drives me to ask this to reassure myself that it's me they like — not just my race. I constantly expect something. There are times where they say yes without the stereotypical connotation.

The trend carries on to dating as well. I've written about an ex-boyfriend's father who made remarks on my ethnicity. I've had another ex who supported President Donald Trump after he called Miss Universe, Alicia Machado, “Miss Housekeeping” because of her Hispanic culture, but dated me because “this is different.”

Refinery29 reports accounts from different Hispanic women who have been stereotyped in the past. Luna Diaz, 21, claimed white partners asked her to speak Spanish during sex and called her exotic. Stefa Marín Alarcon, 28, said she had a man ask her why she doesn't look like a Jennifer Lopez poster and wanted her to show off her curves more.

I am not your “mami,” or “spanish mamacita.” I am 5'2” who's overall a size small in everything, except my bra. No, I do not have a butt as big as JLO or curves like Penelope Cruz. I am not having sex with you to fulfill your race-specific sexual fantasy. I am a Latina woman, who likes all races of men, but tends to prefer white dudes. I like what I like and you should too, but don't expect any specifics during the sex. I will not talk Spanish to you, heck, I'm not even fluent. I will not expose a super curvy body or let you call me names that targets my race.

Also, I'm not exotic. I'm just me.



Women in China still live in fear of domestic violence

by Yufei Wu

In October 2018, a music video was spread quickly and widely on Weibo, the most popular social network in mainland China. It's a parody of the song "Cell Block Tango" from the musical "Chicago." The video described six stories of women in prison who killed their boyfriends or husbands, each one of which was based on a real murder.

Each of them had a different motive. Some of them were inspired by infidelity, some took revenge after their husbands killed their children. Others suffered from their husband's domestic violence, stalking and intimidation, or were even falsely accused of trafficking drugs that belonged to their partners.

This video only existed for one day before it was pulled from Weibo. The blogger who uploaded the video tried to publish it several times, but eventually her accounts on Weibo and other social media sites completely vanished.

Why was this video banned so quickly? Didi, a Chinese car-hailing app reacted with strong opposition to being mentioned in the video. In 2018, several female passengers were raped and killed by drivers who registered on Didi, which hurt the company's image and made it a target for public scorn.

This is just a microcosm of the status of women in China. Domestic violence was made illegal in China in 2016, but reports from Amnesty International show the law has far from eliminated spousal abuse and its systemic defenders throughout the country. Chai Jing, a well-known Chinese journalist, once interviewed 11 female prisoners who killed their husbands. All of them, without exception, took action after years of suffering.

Li Yang, the founder of a well-known English learning institution in China, admitted to beating his wife, Kim Lee, in front of their 2-year-old daughter after Lee publicly accused him of domestic violence. Lee, an American, eventually received an order of protection in what became a landmark case for the country, but said she was pressured to drop her charges along every step of the process.

"The whole system here is designed to pressure women to give up and just drop it. But I didn't. I just didn't give up," Lee told NPR. "So that's why when they read the decree and they issued the protection order, I just really sighed. I think I earned it."

Yes, a husband can beat his wife, even today, with anti-domestic violence laws on the books and public opposition to domestic violence stronger than ever. Even if the wife reports the abuse to the police, she faces a legal system that does little more than issue a written warning. Even though domestic violence has been estimated to affect a third of all families in China, women who try to divorce their husbands still have their petitions rejected by courts that claim to defend "traditional values."

China is one of the world's oldest civilizations, with a recorded history documented in an unbroken tradition extending back to the second millennium BC, so ancient culture still influences modern people. Confucianism advocates that unmarried women should obey their fathers, married women should obey their husbands and widows should obey their sons. Through changing dynasties women remained shackled and restrained under the strict control of men who thought their only value was in having children. These shackles are not as strong as they were long ago, but they have never been broken completely.

China stands tall in the east as one of the great powers of the modern era, but it still has a long way to go for equal rights.

How culture has shaped ideas about sex and sexuality

by Anna Correa

Hinduism, the historical past, and the presence of sex in pop culture in India

Temples from India's ancient period have statues that depict sexual acts and not just between men and women. It includes homosexuality, transgenderism and orgies. This means in the historical past, it was part of the culture. Legal texts, epics and methodological texts also talk about sex. Sex was seen as partly religious, as an act of union, Aishani Gupta, Ph.D. candidate in the history department, said.

"The Kama Sutra, composed about 2,000 years ago, found its way to the western market as an exotic oriental book about sex positions," she said.

"The present is different though. Southeast Asia was governed by the British for about 200 years and brought Victorian moral codes and ethics. There were evangelical and protestant people preaching ethics. There was solidification of race, gender and class hierarchies and it seeped into Indian culture. British and Indian culture hegemonized," Gupta said.

"In general, there is this moralistic approach prevalent in society. You are not supposed to talk about [sex], especially with your parents. It's kind of awkward. You can't have the talk with your parents and this is across all religions in South Asia," she said.

Contemporary peoples are very bipolar on the issue. There are many references to sex in pop culture, sometimes explicitly in Bollywood. A movie may show kissing or even sex.

People enjoy and accept it, but they're afraid to speak about it in public. Tinder culture is available and prevalent in urban areas like Calcutta, Gupta said.

"Live in relationships are not a big thing. In India, in metropolices and bigger towns, they still have it. A lot of families are okay with it and most families don't support it. Although the Supreme Court has legalized live-in relationships," she said.

In 2018, India decriminalized homosexuality. The law banning homosexuality was instituted by the British in the 1800s.

"The British were concerned about their armies in India. Men had needs and would go to prostitutes," Gupta said. "They would have prostitute zones around fortifications, but they also took to one other. The British government totally freaked out and they passed this law banning homosexuality and sodomy."

From personal experience, she says that some people consider homosexuality as a mental illness. People are afraid to come out and many are forced to marry against their will. Transgender people are feared and

shunned because most people believe that if you have both genitalia, you have some powers or curse people, Gupta said.

"There are some religious places, especially in Southern India that worship this idea of being trans," Gupta said. "One of the main gods of Hindu mythology, Sheva, one of his forms or avatars is half man and half woman. He and his wife are joined together."

Judaism, modern ideas about sexuality, and inter-faith marriages

In the Bible and from the words of rabbis in the Talmud, sex is something done during marriage. There isn't an idea of abstinence or celibacy and relationships are thought of in terms of holiness, Joshua Teplitsky, an assistant professor specializing in Judaic studies in the history department, said.

"In the ancient world and middle ages, who you had sex with didn't make you a different kind of person," Teplitsky said. "In Jewish, texts there are sometimes prohibitions against same-sex sex, but not against same-sex sexuality and maybe not even against same-sex love."

Before the modern era, people didn't identify themselves through their sexuality. A sex act may have been what you did, but not who you were. People today see themselves through their sexuality, Teplitsky said.

"The biblical story of David and Jonathan, for example, stands out where two men express love for each other," Teplitsky said. "It is one of the few stories of the Hebrew Bible that talks about love."

The internet has been a place for people to meet and talk about different issues and topics. There are networks of gay Jews and strictly Jewish orthodox women that talk about sex and sexuality and romance. There are two-spectrums to the idea of transgenderism, with people who are open activists and others who don't acknowledge that transexuality exists. In between, there are people who want to understand and include them.

"Jews are relatively small in number and understandingly concerned about losing members in the group. There are people who think that intermarriage actually draws greater connections Jews and other kinds of people," Teplitsky said. "In this moment in American history, there may be more non-Jews related by extended family marriage to Jews than any other time in history."

Judaism has instructions about clothing and modesty. Some of them apply more to women than men. It is about channeling sexual relations toward modesty.

"At other times, Jews and their non-Jewish neighbors have dressed very much like each

other. It's similarly now," Teplitsky said. "If you were to walk out to the main part of college, I'm not sure you can discern who is Jewish and who is not based on the type of clothing they wear."

Sikhism, arranged marriages, and the modern impacts of the caste system

In Sikhism, religion and culture are inter-mixed. Arranged marriages still occur, but it's not written that it's required to be a Sikh. It rather has become a cultural norm. There are still those who don't have arranged marriages and they're called love marriages, Simrat Kaur, vice president of the Sikh Student Association, said.

"Marriage is more about the coming together of two souls coming together in order to become closer to God," Kaur said. "It's the idea that your parents have better judgment in that than you do."

For most Sikhs, marriage is arranged. Parents have connections to other people in society. They may talk to another parent, mention their sons or daughters around the same age. Then it goes to the son or daughter and the parents ask do you want to meet this person, and then if the son or daughter agrees, they meet. They either go on a date or a couple of dates and say yes or no.

In marriage, if somebody is not Sikh, they might have to convert since the temple might not let them marry. Other temples might marry the couple, but this is based on the type of Sikhism practiced and the community in that area.

In a more cultural perspective of Sikhism, premarital sex is looked down upon. Sex shouldn't be lustful because lust is a sin. If premarital sex is lustful, then it is not allowed. Sikhs don't talk about sex with their parents, so "the talk" isn't really something they have. Being a virgin is important because it indicates purity, Kaur said.

The younger generations have become more comfortable with modern concepts of sexual identity, but even there they have grey areas. There's nothing written against sexual identities but it can be seen as a type of phobia.

"Sikhism is more of an idea about love and respect for all humankind," Kaur said.

Culturally, some people still believe that you have to marry within the same caste. Although, religiously, Sikhism was created to challenge the caste system. The caste system even applies and follows people living in the United States, she said.

"A lot of people have this confusion of like yes, I follow Sikhism, but, technically, I don't believe in the caste system, but culturally, I want to make sure that my kids get married into the same caste," Kaur said.



Sex playlist suggestions ;)

by Gabby Pardo

Having music play in the background of sex is common. According to Elite Daily, music affects the pleasure system, bonding system and limbic system that processes emotions. Adding music to your intimate and consensual time can be a great method to get in the moment. Spotify and Apple Music have a number of playlists made by users to “get it on.” Some of the best songs come from artists of color. Here are some songs to blast, or play quietly, while having that special moment.

1) Call out My Name - The Weeknd

The title reveals a kink common in sex. The song is slow and relaxed and talks about a relationship. But if you listen to the lyrics, it could sound super dirty, such as “close to me,” “I put it on top” and “gave me comfort.” The Weeknd then gets into calling out his name when he kisses her partner. The beat is also slow on this and the lyrics are sung smoothly. The song is executed and edited with such passion that it can be translated between the sheets and evoke some extra touching.

2) S&M - Rihanna

Rihanna constantly saying how she likes it can easily turn on anyone. She even mentions sex toys such as whips that “excite her.” The beat is very rhythmic and has a hard bass. It can trigger a more aggressive pace of sex and can even be fun with role play or kinks.

3) Wet Dreamz - J. Cole

The song is about two people losing their virginity. Both partners play it off as if they'd had sex before, but in the end, it's revealed neither of them has. It tells a story of a young guy (J. Cole) and girl flirting in math class, as they make plans to hang out and hook up. The whole topic of the song is sex and leads to a complex of having that intimate moment. The song builds the listener up to that nerve-wracking first time, slowing it down and detailing every moment, which can easily get anyone excited to reminisce.

4) And I - Ciara

Throwing it back to 2004, Ciara describes in her lyrics being with a man and how she would do anything to be with him. The lyrics describe the multiple feelings and emotions running through her mind when she is with him. She also describes her trust in him saying “he won't break my heart.” This song seems good for an exclusive couple rather than a one night stand due to the lyrics explaining about being in love. The slow beat allows for soft touches and time to emotionally feel a connection besides just a physical one.

5) Versace on the Floor - Bruno Mars

In 2016, Bruno Mars released what almost could be mistaken for a Boys to Men song. The song is slow and sets the scene for a romantic evening with a chandelier and taking time. Mars slowly sings about setting up for sex by “closing the door” and how his partner doesn't need her dress anymore. The romantic words and slow beat allow a great, slow start to a frisky night.

6) Countdown - Beyonce

A fast-paced sex song can always be a great addition. Beyonce's voice is passionate and smooth as silk. The beat starts off slow then gets faster as she's counting down, hence the song title. Beyonce describes being sexy for her man and suggests “ladies if you love your man show him you're the fliest.” The song is a confidence booster, especially for females.

7) Fallin' - Alicia Keys

Lastly, flashing back to 2001, Alicia Keys sings about her mixed emotions in her relationship. The beat is slow, which, going with the trend of the other songs on this list, is great for sex. Keys has a smooth voice, and the variety of violins and other instruments accompanying her voice create a calm atmosphere. This comfortable feeling can be great, especially if you're connecting with a new partner or having your first intimate experience.

Designed by Kayla Mckiski, Gregory Zarb and Aleeza Kazmi

Photo by Aleeza Kazmi, Emma Harris, Sara Ruberg, Gary Ghayrat, Justin Goodridge and Noor Lone



ARTS & CULTURE

SBU starts Black History Month with Bravo Top Chef

By Alexander Bakirdan
Contributing Writer

Stony Brook University kicked off 2019's Black History Month on Feb. 6, with guest Kwame Onwuachi, a former Top Chef competitor and now owner of Kith and Kin and Philly Wing Fry in Washington, D.C.

It was the most attended Black History Month opening ceremony held by the university, Interim Chief Diversity Officer Jarvis Watson said.

"It was definitely a success. In the past we've had around 100 or 125 people, today we packed the room, we had around 250 people here," Watson said.

The theme for this year's event, "Blackness is Endless," is more inspirational than in years past according to students.

"I like the approach we took this year, because while last year was about injustice, this year is about inspiration and inspiring," Spencer Jones, a junior physics major, said.

The choice of an inspirational theme continues through to the choice of guest at this year's event, Chef Onwuachi. Onwuachi, who made the Forbes 30 under 30 list in 2017 for his success in the restaurant industry, started cooking at the age of 6,



SARA RUBERG/THE STATESMAN

Chef Kwame Onwuachi at Stony Brook University's Black History Month kickoff event. Onwuachi is a successful chef who has traveled the country in cooking competitions.

helping his mother with her new catering business.

"I was too young to go and help at the events though, my sister was a bit older so she went and I stayed home with a babysitter and the cooking supplies and those were my toys," Onwuachi said.

Onwuachi, who has toured around the country in cooking competitions and even cooked for President Obama during the Easter Egg Roll, spoke repeatedly

about the importance of perseverance in chasing your goals.

"[Your dream] will happen a lot faster than you think if you just put your head down and keep working," Onwuachi said, when asked what words of wisdom he wanted to leave with the students and faculty in attendance.

Onwuachi lives by example. He wanted to start his own catering company but did not have

the capital, so he sold candy bars on the New York City subway to raise the money.

"I saved up \$20,000 in two months," Onwuachi said. "It was embarrassing at first, but once I told myself I'm not doing this to impress anyone, it changed my outlook and I got it done."

Now Onwuachi runs two successful restaurants in D.C. and has already made a name for himself in the industry.

After the speaking segment of the event, students were invited to sample a dish of braised chickpea curry, Afro-Caribbean cuisine from Onwuachi's Kith and Kin, the line for which stretched almost all the way out of the room.

Rayna Simon, a member of the Black History Month Committee and administrative director for Undergraduate Student Government was quite happy with how the event turned out.

"Any time you can pack a room like this, you know you're doing something right," Simon said.

"I enjoyed it a lot and I think having events like these is important because it's an opportunity to learn and see different cultures come together," Carron Allen, the program administrator for SBU's Medical Scientist Training Program, said. The event, which was planned by the Black History Month Committee, is the first of many events the committee has planned for the month.

"I think [this event] is important for young people, especially young people of color to see someone succeed," Onwuachi said. "I mean even if you have privilege success isn't guaranteed. You have to dig your feet into the soil when it gets tough and work."

"Dragon Ball Super: Broly" flies above all expectations

By Mike Adams
Opinions Editor

There is a generation of Americans that grew up watching animated adaptations of Akira Toriyama's "Dragon Ball" come to life every night on Toonami.

Hooked in by the series' frenetic fight scenes and impossibly deep list of iconic characters, fans followed the adventures of Goku and his friends from their formative years until they were old enough to go to college and write Arts & Culture articles. For them, there's nothing quite like "Dragon Ball," but over the last 20 years, they endured some of the lowest ebbs of the franchise. Even the just-ended "Dragon Ball Super" anime that ran since 2015 came with its own share of issues.

But every part of those rough patches, every bad video game and cheesy cash grab, were worth it to get "Dragon Ball Super: Broly."

Franchise fanatics will recognize the film's titular character from the popular trio of non-canon movies he appeared in years ago. For Broly's newest showing, the first to be considered an official part of series lore, Toriyama took only the most basic elements of the burly villain and reworked everything else to fit a new story. The result is a compelling, complicated character that resembles the muscle-bound meathead in name only.

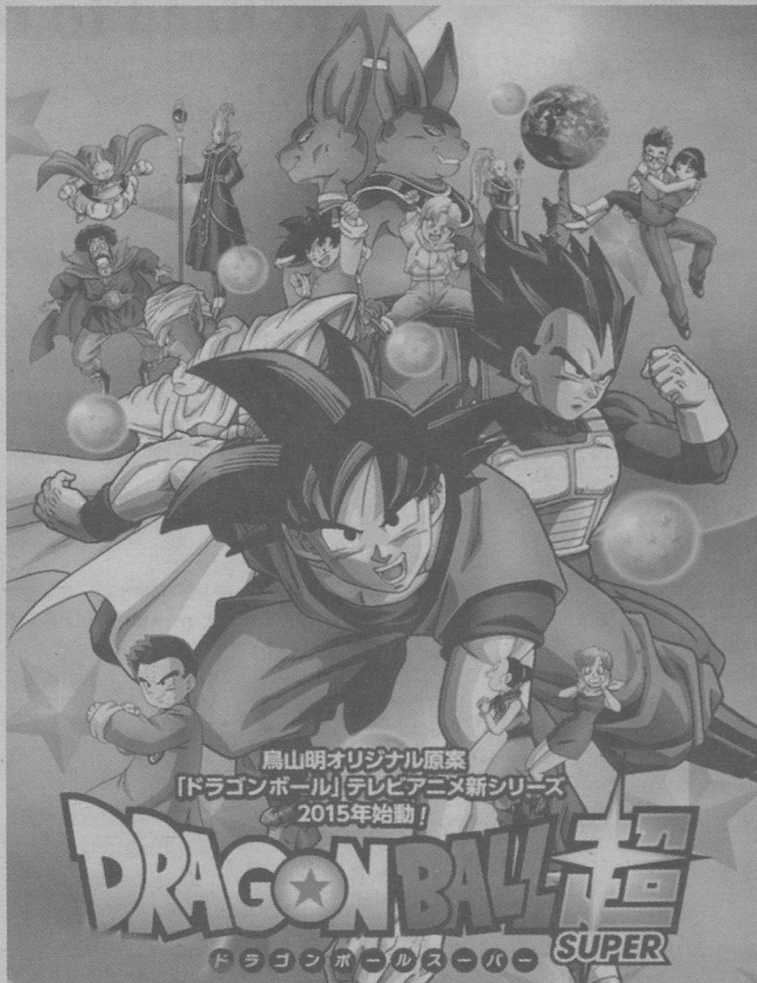
Incredibly, the Saiyan, once mocked for his lack of depth, is now a strong point in arguably the series' best film.

The franchise's 20th film takes

some unexpected choices in reworking some of the series' backstory, incorporating parts of Toriyama's "Dragon Ball Minus: The Departure of the Fated Child" manga in a way veterans of the anime might not find beneficial. But within the context of the movie and the franchise as a whole, the film's opening fleshes out some truly fascinating aspects of "Dragon Ball" history in a way that helps set up the action to come. Old characters are given new life and new relevance in a way that never compromises the icons so many people around the world grew up loving.

"Broly" is a sensory masterpiece on multiple levels. Animation Director Naohiro Shintani introduced an entirely new animation style for the film that feels both fresh and familiar. Shintani's frames are crisp and sharp, the colors are beautiful and the style is a great compliment to some truly special set pieces. "Broly" runs the gamut from alien worlds to earth-bound tropical paradises and arctic tundras, and every bit of it is magnetically well-drawn.

The film's strong plot and animation are bolstered with a powerful score from composer Norihito Sumitomo. A relative newcomer to the series, Sumitomo's orchestral style might seem out of place to American fans who grew up with the guitar-driven soundtrack Bruce Faulconer employed in "Dragon Ball Z's" English dub, but he makes a nice successor to series sonic mainstay Shunsuke Kikuchi. "Broly's" score shifts from dark and foreboding to beautiful and tragic with little problems, and apart



BRIAN JUAREZ/FICKR VIA CC BY SA 2.0

Poster for "Dragon Ball Super," a Japanese animated series that began in 2015 and just ended.

from some questionable numbers near the movie's climax, there's nothing so unusual that it ever feels like a detriment.

While "Broly" is a well-rounded addition to the franchise, the strongest parts of any "Dragon Ball" product are its action sequences, and this new film is no exception. It's frankly amazing that a series started over 30 years

ago can still find new and exciting ways to make superpowered people beat up on each other. But this latest iteration more than rises to the occasion. Goku and Vegeta are unfathomably powerful at this point, but Broly really feels like a threat to two of the strongest characters in anime history. Almost half the movie is one long fight scene, but it's so well done

and easy to follow that it never stops being a thrill to watch.

The one real problem the film has is its jarring transitions from traditionally animated 2-D scenes to its stretches of 3-D computer-generated action. Turning some of the films over to computer-generated imagery (CGI) is an understandable choice since there are visual effects within the film that human hands couldn't possibly render, but the sudden shift in style can distract from what's actually happening on screen. While no part of the movie could be called "ugly," in a perfect world Shintani's beautiful animation style wouldn't vanish for even a moment.

The continued popularity of Toriyama's long-running franchise, thanks in large part to Super and popular fan projects like Team Four Star's "Dragon Ball Z Abridged" YouTube series, helped build a lot of hype for what has already become the series' most successful film by a wide margin. The acclaim "Broly" has received from critics and fans alike might just ensure the iconic franchise has a long and prosperous future ahead.

All in all, "Broly" has a lot going for it that newcomers to Dragon Ball are sure to appreciate. But it never loses its power to turn longtime fans back into grade-school kids rushing home from the bus stop to catch a new dose of their favorite show. The film has a transportative glory to it, an effortless balance between new and nostalgic that anybody who grew up with the series owes it to themselves to experience.

OPINIONS

THE STATESMAN

INFORMING STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY FOR MORE THAN 50 YEARS

Editor-in-Chief Kayla McKiski
Managing Editor Gregory Zarb
Managing Editor Tess Stepakoff

News Editor Rebecca Liebson
Arts & Culture Editor Anna Correa
Sports Editor Chris Parkinson
Opinions Editor Mike Adams
Multimedia Editor Aleeza Kazmi
Copy Chief Stacey Slavutsky
Assistant News Editor Gary Ghayrat
Assistant News Editor Brianne Ledda
Assistant Arts & Culture Editor Karina Gerry
Assistant Arts & Culture Editor Melissa Azofeifa
Assistant Sports Editor Ken Fermin
Assistant Multimedia Editor Sara Ruberg
Assistant Multimedia Editor Emma Harris
Assistant Opinions Editor Gabby Pardo
Assistant Copy Chief Alexa Anderwkavich

Advertising Manager Kara Marushige
Assistant Advertising Manager Kaylee McAllister
Technology Specialist Carolyn Bremer

Contact us:

Phone: 631-632-6479

Fax: 631-632-9128

Web: www.sbstatesman.com

To contact the Editor-in-Chief and Managing Editors about organizational comments, questions, suggestions, corrections or photo permission, email editors@sbstatesman.com.

To reach a specific section editor:

News Editor news@sbstatesman.com
Arts & Entertainment Editor arts@sbstatesman.com
Sports Editor sports@sbstatesman.com
Opinions Editor opinion@sbstatesman.com
Multimedia Editor multimedia@sbstatesman.com
Copy Chief copy@sbstatesman.com

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

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

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

Follow us on Twitter, Instagram and Snapchat @sbstatesman.

Disclaimer: Views expressed in columns or in the Letters and Opinions section are those of the author and not necessarily those of *The Statesman*.

The Statesman promptly corrects all errors of substance published in the paper. If you have a question or comment about the accuracy or fairness of an article please send an email to editors@sbstatesman.com.

First issue free; additional issues cost 50 cents.



STEVE JOHNSON/FLICKE VIA CC BY 2.0

A parking lot handicap sign. According to the World Health Organization, about 15 percent of the world's population lives with some form of disability.

We need to rethink the word "disability"

By Joshua Blake
Contributing Writer

When you hear about someone with a disability, what comes to mind? Maybe you picture someone in a wheelchair, or someone using a walker or crutches. If you do picture these things, do you also envision that person as a functional member of society or someone who can't function properly at all?

If you think the person can't function at all, then I think it has to do with one word: disability.

Why do we categorize people with physical or mental limitations as disabled? This never made sense to me, even when I was a kid. I'd prefer the term handicapped over disabled because, in my mind, I was never a non-functional human.

However, handicapped doesn't count as a valid description anymore. This stems from the fact that handicapped wasn't chosen by the community it was meant to describe. So, instead, disabled became the default attributing word.

I don't understand this. When I think disabled, I think of something that no longer works or something that was intentionally stopped or shut down. I don't think of a person with a physical or mental limitation.

I can't be the only one with this thought. I am aware of person-first language, which emphasizes putting the person in front of the word used to describe them, such as a person who is deaf instead of a deaf person. But, is that really a dif-

ference? Is it really implying what advocates intend?

A Washington, D.C.-based advocacy group called The Arc gives us some examples. If you wear glasses you don't say "I have a problem seeing," you say "I wear" or "need glasses" instead.

Well, I don't at least. I wear glasses, too, because I have a problem seeing. That's why I wear them. But the idea of person-first language is to rid ourselves of speaking in absolutes or describing things with sweeping generalizations.

"I'd prefer the term handicapped over disabled because, in my mind, I was never a non-functional human."

-Joshua Blake

Which, okay, fine. But I don't view poor eyesight in the same way that I view my cerebral palsy or my autoimmune disease, ulcerative colitis.

Those conditions by definition are what we've elected to call a disability

and a disease. However, it's the former choice of word I'll never understand.

Just because I was born with a condition that doesn't allow me to move in the same manner as an able-bodied person — and doesn't allow me to perform certain physical tasks at all, like turning my hands palm-side up — doesn't mean I'm disabled. I'm not a person absent of movement. I'm a person of limited movement.

I understand that, if you have a disability, the implication is that your body or mind is incapable of doing something those without the condition can.







However, people view those with disabilities as incapable of many things, like sex, or attraction towards another. They're seen as someone who's too much to handle because people assume someone with a disability is the broken jigsaw piece that'll never fit into the puzzle of life — or their own lives, for that matter.

I can't be the only person who feels like that broken puzzle piece, too, can I? But if I were truly broken, I'd serve no function. Deemed useless in the life puzzle.

There has to be a better way to describe people with disabilities. This umbrella term doesn't do me justice. If we're using the word disability in reference to a person that has some sort of alteration from the rest of society, then maybe no one knows what to call it.

I know I sure as hell don't.

SEAWOLVES SCOREBOARD

 WOMEN'S BASKETBALL WEDNESDAY, FEB. 6 53 - 68  STONY BROOK	 MEN'S TRACK SATURDAY, FEB. 8  FASTRACK NATIONAL INVITATIONAL
 MEN'S BASKETBALL WEDNESDAY, FEB. 6 85 - 59  BINGHAMTON	 WOMEN'S BASKETBALL SATURDAY, FEB. 9 64 - 47  UMASS LOWELL
 WOMEN'S TRACK SATURDAY, FEB. 8  FASTRACK NATIONAL INVITATIONAL	 MEN'S BASKETBALL SATURDAY, FEB. 9 65 - 76  STONY BROOK

Receive A **FREE NIGHT*** with our **Stony Brook Student Savings Card**

CALL FOR DETAILS and Mention This ad!

FREE Shuttle to/from Stony Brook University/Hospital, Stony Brook Train Station, Port Jeff Ferry, LI MacArthur Airport

- ▶ **FREE** Hot Breakfast Bar
- ▶ **FREE** High Speed Internet
- ▶ 24 hour business Center
- ▶ On-Site Sports Facility
- ▶ Swimming Pool/Fitness Center

Enjoy our **FRESH, NEW LOOK!** Newly renovated sleeping rooms, dining area & meeting rooms!

Official hotel of the **STONY BROOK SEAWOLVES**



*with Stony Brook Student Savings Card Stay 4 Nights, Get 1 Free. Card must be presented at check in.

HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS Stony Brook
 3131 Nesconset Hwy., Stony Brook, NY 11720
 tanya@stonybrookny.hiexpress.com
 631-471-8000 ext. 709

THE STATESMAN:

Science writers and photographers wanted! Contact editors@sbstatesman.com for more information on how to get involved.

CLASSIFIED:

Loving, kind, teacher, SBU Alumni, can provide a lifetime of love and security for your baby. Call or text 631-743-0834.

FILL YOUR POCKETS WITH DOUGH.



NOW HIRING

APPLY NOW

Drivers and Inside Positions Available
APPLY IN PERSON TODAY!
\$20/hr with tips for drivers
PH: 631-751-0330
1079 Rte 25a next to Dunkin Donuts



*offer available online

SPORTS

Women's Basketball victorious on the road against UMass Lowell

By Kenneth Fermin
Assistant Sports Editor

In a victory characterized by efficient offense and an opportunity driven defense, Stony Brook Women's Basketball came away with the 64-47 win over UMass Lowell on Saturday, Feb. 9. This is their third victory by double digits in their last four games.

The Seawolves tallied 17 total assists, nine of which were passed by Shania "Shorty" Johnson, while the River Hawks finished with seven for the entire game. Stony Brook excelled defensively throughout the contest, grabbing 11 steals and forcing 18 turnovers.

Four different Seawolves achieved double digits including senior guard Jerell Matthews, who was the all-around leader for the game, finishing with 17 points, seven rebounds, and four steals. Other prominent scorers included Johnson, who earned 12, and sophomore forwards India Pagan and Oksana Gouchie-Provencher who dropped 10 each.

Johnson continued showcasing her exceptional passing coming off the victory over

Binghamton in which her no look dish to Matthews was featured on Sportscenter's Top Ten. The senior broke the program's single-season assist record by recording 185.

The guard also reclaimed the top position in NCAA total assists from Oregon junior guard Sabrina Ionescu, with six games remaining in the regular season.

The team excelled in the beginning, only giving up one turnover in the first half and pushing out to a 17 point lead, their largest of the game. Their successful pass-heavy offense and their stifling defense were too much for UMass Lowell to deal with, outpacing the River Hawks and leading 40-24 heading into the break.

"I thought we played three really solid quarters of basketball today," head coach Caroline McCombs said in a press release. "We shared the ball and played together."

The Seawolves had a scare after halftime. Despite getting outscored 18-9 in the third quarter, the Seawolves refused surrendering the lead. They followed up scoring



ALEEZA KAZMI/THE STATESMAN

Senior guard Shania Johnson in a game against UMass Lowell on Feb. 9th, 2019, Johnson broke the program's record for assists in a season.

runs by the River Hawks with runs of their own in the fourth.

"We let UMass Lowell get loose offensively in the third," McCombs said. "But we regrouped and responded on both ends to finish the game strong."

The win gives the Seawolves 18 on the season, matching their win total from last season. Stony Brook also remained dominant over UMass Lowell, by winning its last 12 matchups since 2013.

After the mid-week bye, Stony Brook moves on to their next

matchup. The team returns home and will play against New Hampshire at the Island Federal Credit Union Arena on Saturday, Feb. 16. The team currently sits at fourth place in the America East standings with a 7-4 conference record.

Men's Basketball defeats UMass Lowell on Cornish's career night



ARACELY JIMENEZ/STATESMAN FILE

Senior guard Jaron Cornish in a game against Hofstra last January. In a game against UMass-Lowell, Cornish dropped his career-high 30 points.

By Ryan Pavich
Staff Writer

In a key conference matchup at home on Saturday, senior guard Jaron Cornish helped Stony Brook Men's Basketball bounce back from a first-half slump to beat UMass-Lowell by a final score of 76-65.

Cornish dropped his career-high 30 points against the

River Hawks. After putting up 13 points in the first half, the senior exploded with an unanswered nine-point run that highlighted his 17 second-half points and gave the lead to the Seawolves for good. Cornish would also finish the game with six rebounds, four steals and an assist while shooting 61 percent from the field and 50 percent from deep.

"Jaron Cornish was phenomenal in the second half and our defense was really good at the end to get the win," head coach Jeff Boals said in a press conference after the victory. "That was a high-powered offense and being able to hold them to 65 points was great."

This was the guard's highest scoring game, topping the 22 points he dropped against Nor-

folk State on Nov. 27, and the most points scored by a Seawolf this season.

"I had a hot hand and my teammates were smiling at me," Cornish said during a press conference after the game. "They were telling me to go and keep going so that help."

Another solid offensive performance came from sophomore guard Elijah Olaniyi, who added 15 points, eight rebounds and two assists on 86 percent shooting from the field and 50 percent from three. Olaniyi concluded his third game in a row with double-digit points on 66 percent shooting from the field and has knocked down eight of 14 from three. Redshirt-junior forward Akwasi Yeboah logged 13 points and 12 rebounds, recording his seventh double-double for the season and his fourth in the last six games.

Defensively, the charge was led by sophomore center Jeff Otchere, whose three blocks continues his streak of four straight games and nine of ten America East games with multiple blocks. Otchere improved to sixth place with 63 total blocks this season in the NCAA.

"Our community and students have been incredible these last few games," Boals said. "The atmosphere was, again, outstanding tonight because of them. UMa-

ss Lowell got off to a really good start and I don't think we were guarding them too well. We talked about rebounding at the half, which has really been our bread and butter all year."

After losing two straight games to Vermont and UMBC, Stony Brook has come back strong with three straight conference wins. First, Olaniyi dropped his career-high (and at the time a team season-high) 28 points against Hartford. Then, the team knocked down thirteen 3-pointers that were lead by freshman guard Miles Latimer's five makes. Then on Saturday, Cornish took the team season-high from Olaniyi.

When asked about the team's ability to have players step up in big moments, both the players were in agreement on its usefulness to the team.

"High powered team. Literally, anybody on the starting five and even guys on the bench could go off on any given night and I just think that's just one of our biggest attributes and something for other teams to fear," Olaniyi stated.

The Seawolves take on the New Hampshire Wildcats next on Saturday, Feb. 16 at 1 p.m. in Durham, New Hampshire before beginning a three-game home-stand at Island Federal Arena the following week.

you could pick it up on the way to class...
...but sometimes that's just too much effort

Find us online at
sbstatesman.com



They will tell you it's just a blob of tissue

But at 28 days her eyes and ears have already begun to show.

Education doesn't have to end because a new life begins.

Need help? Call 631-243-0066 24 hours, 7 days
www.aaapregnancyoptions.com