

# THE STATESMAN

INFORMING STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY FOR MORE THAN 50 YEARS

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Sex and Relationships

TODAY

Look inside for the 2016 Sex and Relationship issue.



## Innovation Lab celebrates its first year

By Mahreen Khan  
Staff Writer

The Innovation Lab at Stony Brook University celebrated its anniversary last week, marking a year of discovery, exploration and technological advancement.

David Ecker, the brains behind the operation, brought the proposal to the attention of university deans about a year and a half ago. From there, the director of Research Technologies and Innovation decided to jumpstart a 3-D printing mission that would embody the characteristics of innovation, entrepreneurship and collaboration.

"Manny London from the College of Business was really interested, and he had the space, and we started to collaborate," Ecker, who deals with the lab's day-to-day operations, said.

London, the dean of the College of Business, said he took an interest in the lab when he realized that its goals of entrepreneurship fit with those of the College of Business.

"The Innovation Lab is a resource for students across the university who want to develop their business ideas," London said. "It is associated with the College of Business' Center for Innovation, directed by professor Gerrit Wolf."

The lab encourages business students to work alongside students from other disciplines to expand their horizons, London said. Business students specifically benefit by having the opportunity to analyze market potential, test consumer reactions to beta versions of products, compare pricing models, find sources of financing, locate supplies and manufacturing operations and identify licensing opportunities.

"The lab runs on mostly donations and a very limited budget," said Morgan Kelly, a junior majoring in applied mathematics and statistics and technology systems management. "The donations are a large part of what has kept us going, and we are always open to more."

Kelly said that the lab has seen tremendous growth in the number of tools and resources available to staff members.

"Our diverse staff has grown as well, which is great because there is always at least one staff member that is very knowledgeable

Continued on page 3



MANJU SHIVACHARAN / THE STATESMAN

A fire breather performs at the Confucius Institute's Chinese New Year Performance and Celebration on Saturday, Feb. 6, 2016 at the Charles B. Wang Center. The festival marks the start of the Year of the Monkey in the Chinese calendar.

## Student Activities Board discusses Brookfest, comedy show

By Jill Ryan  
Contributing Writer

Brookfest, budgets and bewilderment. The Student Activities Board of the Undergraduate Student Government, bombarded by issues, held its weekly meeting on Wednesday, Feb. 3, discussing low sales, date changes and cancellations.

Only half the tickets for "USG Comedy Series Presents:

Nasim Pedrad," scheduled for Feb. 9, were sold by the time of the meeting.

"The comedy show has only sold about 50% at this point," USG Vice President of Communications Brody Hooper said in an email. "We are strategizing on how to sell more tickets because we have exhausted all avenues at this point. We are looking into incentives but have not yet decided on any."

Incentives discussed included t-shirts or signed posters, but nothing has been approved.

"Tickets are for sale for \$5 on a first come, first serve basis at the SAC ticket office," Hooper said. "On Thursday, they will go on sale for \$15 to the public."

Next on the agenda: the Brookfest concert.

Originally scheduled for Friday, April 15, Brookfest has been moved to Wednesday, April 13

due to the Coachella weekend and student conflicts.

Most of the candidates that were on the poll of possible artists dropped negotiations because of the conflict with Coachella, a music and arts festival in California, according to USG Vice President of Student Life Figry Kleib.

"For example, Big Sean, when

Continued on page 3

## Campus Briefing: Confusion puts iGEM club's budget on the line

By Jill Ryan  
Contributing Writer

Judiciary mistakes and senate confusion might cause bad public relations for Stony Brook University.

The International Genetically Engineered Machine (iGEM) club made plans to attend a conference at Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory and needed approval for a Special Services Council budget from Undergraduate Student Government in order to travel there. The club's request, however, was tabled at Thursday's Undergraduate Student Government Senate meeting, jeopardizing the club's deal with the laboratory.

"Not appearing at an international conference would be



ERIC SCHMID / THE STATESMAN

USG Sen. Alexander Bouraad, above, cautioned the senate not to break the Special Services Council bylaws.

bad for Stony Brook," iGEM and an international conference in genetics and cell biology President Ann Lin said. "I think Stony Brook is big on science, is big."

The reason the budget request was tabled was because the senate was confused as to when iGEM was officially acknowledged by USG. The senate was under the impression that iGEM was acknowledged in the spring 2015 semester.

However, Associate Justice Asher Marks told the senate that iGEM was acknowledged in Fall 2015—so the club, according to the Special Services Council, or SSC, Bylaws, has to wait another semester to request an SSC budget.

Sen. Alexander Bouraad mentioned to table the discussion as a solution to the confusion and the circumstance with iGEM and the

Continued on page 3

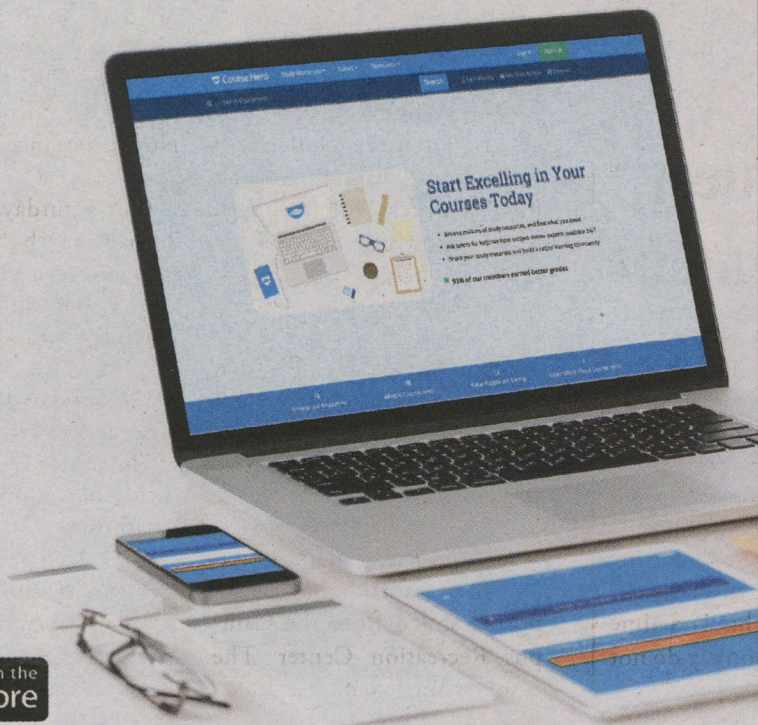


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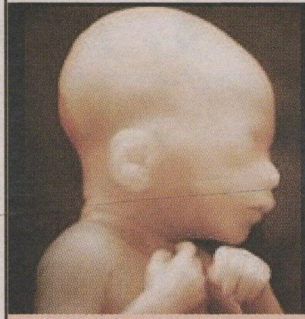
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# NEWS

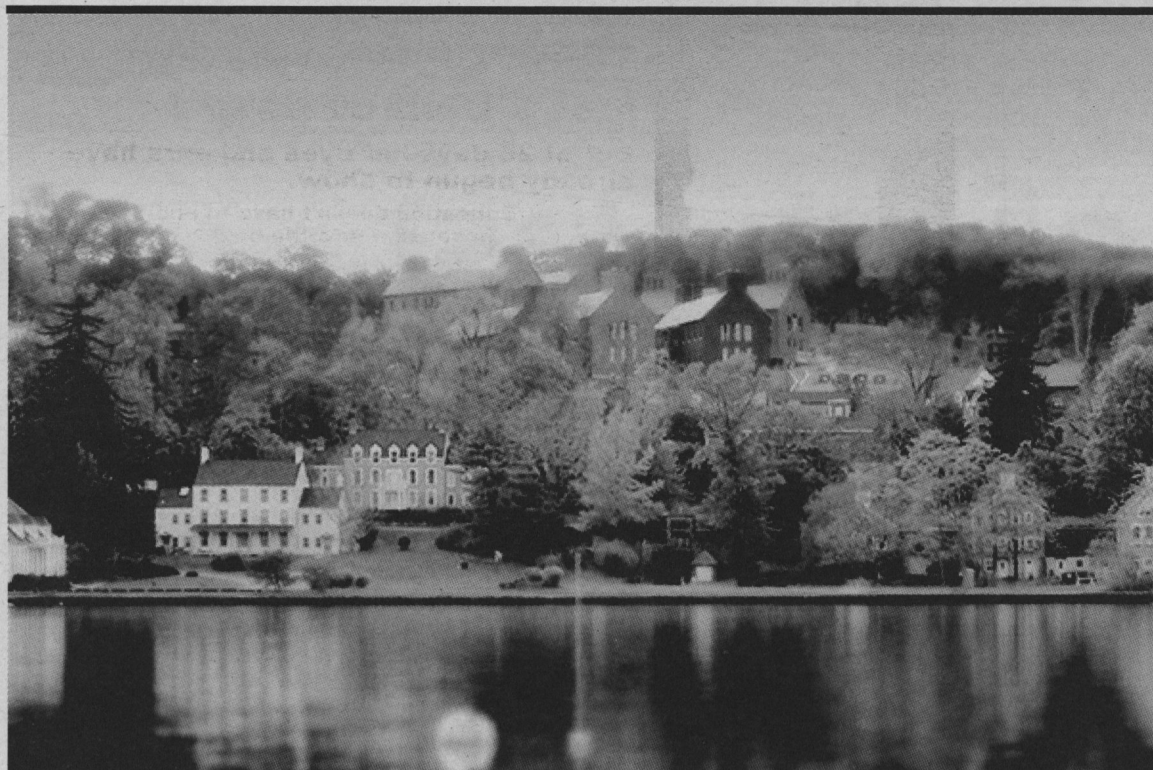


PHOTO CREDIT: ADMOXALATE / WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Members of the iGEM club at Stony Brook University said they need an SSC budget to attend a conference at Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, above, later this year.

## USG senate tables iGEM budget request after confusion over club acknowledgement

*Continued from page 1*

Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory. “We still have the ability for next week’s meeting to write up a piece of legislation saying that we are suspending the SSC Bylaws in order to account for this club,” Bouraad said. “So we won’t break bylaws, and they will still get their budget most likely, and they will not lose their relationship with Cold Spring Harbor.”

However, when the senate vot-

ed on the motion to table the budget, the motion failed. Some senators felt that because it was the senate’s mistake for all the confusion, there should be a motion to approve iGEM’s budget.

However, if the senate had passed the motion to approve iGEM’s budget, the senate would have broken the SSC bylaws. The motion to approve iGEM’s budget also failed.

Bouraad motioned to table the discussion once again, citing that the senators need time to find out the whole story and not risk

breaking the bylaws.

“Basically right now, we’re just talking semantics. We don’t know what the true story is,” Bouraad said. “We can check email records, we can see what happened, we can have people present it. I will personally be the one to write the act that lifts the SSC Bylaws since this is a time issues because I personally do not want to break these bylaws.”

The motion to table the budget request was passed. The budget for iGEM will be re-discussed at next week’s meeting.

## Police Blotter

On Monday, Jan. 25 at 10:51 p.m., a resident assistant in Sanger College reported a smell of marijuana. Police issued a student referral.

On Tuesday, Jan. 26 at 1:05 a.m., a flag allegedly went missing from the Academic Mall. The case is now closed.

On Wednesday, Jan. 27 at 10:55 a.m., police issued a student referral to a student in the Computer Science building who was allegedly being overzealous in an appeal to re-take a class for the third time.

On Wednesday, Jan. 27 at 11:13 p.m., a clinician at University Hospital was allegedly struck with a shower head. The clinician chose not to press charges. The case is now closed.

On Thursday, Jan. 28 at 1:27 p.m., a civilian arrest was made after a patient allegedly harassed and spit on a University Hospital staff member.

On Thursday, Jan. 28 at 4:10 p.m., an iPhone was reported stolen from the Campus Recreation Center. The case remains open.

On Thursday, Jan. 28 at 10:53 p.m., police arrested an individual on suspicion of trespassing at the Health Sciences Tower.

On Friday, Jan. 29 at 1:29 a.m., police arrested an individual on suspicion of driving with a blood alcohol level above 0.08 southbound on Nicolls Road south of the South Entrance.

On Friday, Jan. 29 at 4:08 a.m., police arrested an individual on suspicion of driving with a blood alcohol level above 0.13 southbound on Nicolls Road near North Entrance.

On Saturday, Jan. 30 at 2 p.m., cash was allegedly taken from a vehicle at University Hospital. The case remains open.

On Sunday, Jan. 31 at 7:05 p.m., police arrested a patient at University Hospital on suspicion of recklessly damaging a bathroom door.

*Compiled by Brittany Bernstein*

## SAB debates possibilities for Graduate Student Organization lecture series

*Continued from page 1*

we offered him a bid, decided to pull out because Coachella weekend was that weekend,” Kleib said at the meeting. “And when we explored other options for the Friday the week after, that didn’t work out either because Coachella is two weeks.”

It was narrowed down to two dates: Wednesday, April 13 or Monday, April 18. However, because of a chemistry exam, SAB decided to go with April 13.

“We looked at a bunch of dates in the entire month of April, but there are a number of things scheduled at the [Island Federal Credit Union] arena,” USG Administrative Director Thomas Kirnbauer said. “We recognize the date isn’t ideal in general, but it seems to be when the arena was available that didn’t conflict with the students’ schedules.”

SAB would not disclose which artist its members were picking for Brookfest, but Hooper said they are choosing among “Big Sean, A\$AP Rocky, Future, and Kid Cudi.”

The last topic that sparked major discussion was an event taking place on the night of Roth Regatta. The Graduate

Student Organization (GSO), with the help of SAB, is deciding on a GSO lecture series presenter to take place in the Island Federal Credit Union Arena on April 29.

After the original lecturer, Seth Meyers, fell through due to personal family matters, SAB took a good chunk of the meeting discussing who could replace Meyers.

“So if it’s the arena, then this has to be someone who is going to bring 3,000 people,” SAB Treasurer Jason Mazza said.

“GSO was willing to spend \$100,000 on Seth Meyers, so it’s not like we don’t have the money,” Kirnbauer said.

Previously, the board discussed Megyn Kelly as a replacement.

“I know that some of us have our reservations on what she stands for and how she’s very polarizing in terms of her political fans,” Kleib said.

“But I think we came to the conclusion that Megyn Kelly isn’t a good fit for this campus,” Kirnbauer said. “You don’t want to choose anybody too polarizing, so it’s either about finding someone a little bit cheaper who may not be as polarizing or trying to find someone who fits into the ideology.”



HEATHER KHALIFA / THE STATESMAN

The band Panic! At The Disco, above, performs at the last Brookfest on April 24, 2015. The Student Activities Board decided that the next Brookfest will be April 13, 2016.

Kleib agreed.

“The whole point of us not getting someone polarizing is because we are attaching our name to this even though we’re only paying for venue and pricing, but it’s the symbolism,” Kleib said.

That’s when the board mem-

bers started to list names. Trevor Noah: turned them down. Stephen Colbert: too expensive. Jimmy Fallon: beyond the budget. James Corden: not political enough.

“The GSO is looking for political,” Kirnbauer said. “Whether that person makes the crowd

laugh or makes the crowd think.”

The board seemed stumped. “Can we do a poll?” Hooper said. “Even if it’s not a poll of names, it’s a poll of: would you rather see science, business ... .”

The board seemed to agree. “I’ll respond to the GSO with that,” Kirnbauer said.

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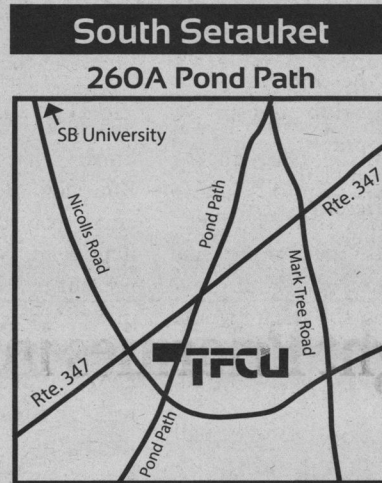
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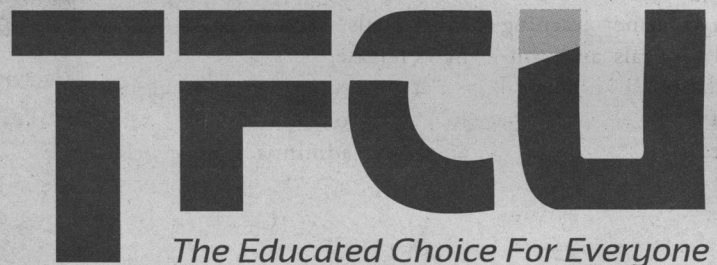
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# Innovation Lab marks one year of exploration and technological advancement

Continued from page 1

able in a particular topic, tool or resource that can assist lab members," she said.

Ecker's hiring process involves selecting students from a variety of disciplines because he feels that this makes for better teamwork and allows for an influx of new ideas.

"Dave Ecker has bootstrapped the maker space with support from the Division of Information Technology, donated equipment and limited funding," London explained. "The lab offers workshops to guide students in using the equipment and forming student teams to work on projects."

Innovation Lab staff members pride themselves on creating prosthetics designed to help children without hands, and sound amplifiers which cost much less than those currently on the market.

"We custom-made a brace for somebody because we were able to take the dimensions of the hand and customize it for her wrist," Ecker said. "We want to make this [project] available to as many people as possible from a prototype level."

The lab also sponsors pitch contests and brings entrepreneurial experts to campus. In the past, an intellectual property lawyer came in to discuss IP

rights, a company vice president came in to talk about starting one's own business and a math professor came in to discuss the use of vinyl cutters for 3-D sculptures.

In addition to experts coming in, the lab holds "Workshop Wednesdays" during Campus Lifetime, which vary from week to week and offer insight and instructions about certain skills, Kelly said. These workshops are open to both students and faculty.

"In the past we have provided workshops about marketing, Arduino, 3-D design, screen printing your own shirts, etc.," Kelly said. "This semester, we have a great lineup of workshops that cover a wide range of topics within fashion, wearable technology, media and architecture."

Ecker said the program has been very successful, and the workshops have a turnout of anywhere between 20 to 40 students and faculty members.

"We're showing a different technology, a different item and how to innovate it," he said. "It's a huge draw."

Nancy Goroff, the associate provost for the integration of research, education and professional development, said that the Innovation Lab is key to bringing different people on campus together.

"We want to get students from



ARIEL RAHIMZADA / THE STATESMAN

**A mask that was 3-D printed in the Innovation Lab at Stony Brook University. The lab is located in Harriman Hall and is managed by faculty and students from various disciplines.**

all areas of the university working together on creation of new enterprises, and we want them to have places they can meet and try out their ideas," Goroff said.

She said the direct involvement of students in the Innovation Lab and in the management and design of those activities is the lab's greatest strength.

"I am very excited about the progress and direction of the lab," Kelly said. "The Innova-

tion Lab is starting to become a recognizable name on campus, which is great. It is amazing to look back at pictures of the lab [in] 2014 and see an essentially empty space and then look at it today when it is filled with people of all different disciplines working on their projects and ideas."

The lab is currently staffing a pop-up workshop station at the Health Sciences Library, offering

information about innovation in the medical field as well as creative approaches toward medicine and patient care.

"I think the most interesting part of this whole process has been watching people with zero knowledge or experience in a particular topic or tool come into the lab to just experiment and end up leaving with a new skill," Kelly said. "Anyone can be an innovator."

## Cuomo launches Right Priorities initiative to reform criminal justice system

By Chereen James  
Staff Writer

Gov. Andrew Cuomo launched the Right Priorities initiative on Jan. 10 as a way to reform the New York State criminal justice system. The initiative seeks to decrease the number of incarcerations by transforming schools, creating jobs and programs for youth and decreasing the chances of re-entry into the criminal justice system upon release.

To decrease the number of youth entering into the criminal justice system, Cuomo proposed an investment of \$100 million to transform failing schools. This will expand on the governor's 2013 investment of \$30 million to 62 schools in high-need districts, which supported mentoring programs, summer learning activities and referrals and connections with medical, dental and social services, according to a news release.

Additionally, the governor will invest \$50 million to expand the Urban Youth Jobs Program. With this investment, 10,000 more youth will be placed in the program to help to steer them away from crime and to develop employable skills, Cuomo said at his announcement at the Mount Neboh Baptist Church in Harlem.

The governor described the prison system as cyclical in pattern and disproportionately affecting minorities.

"How do you stop the cycle? You actually have the right priorities," Cuomo said at the an-

nouncement. "And you actually really invest in the prevention, rather than paying for the problem once it manifests itself, because it's too late."

By targeting failing schools and by creating jobs for youth, Cuomo said he hopes to break the prison cycle.

Furthermore, the governor said he hopes to expand and modernize the programs that provide alternatives to incarceration in order to decrease the prison population and to diverge from the idea that prison is the only solution to law breaking.

The governor will invest \$1 million toward programs that will provide counseling, cognitive behavioral therapy and substance abuse treatment and will focus on high-risk and high-need individuals, according to the news release.

"It was supposed to be about rehabilitation," Cuomo said about the administering of prison sentences. "It was supposed to be an opportunity to help people. We lost that somewhere along the way."

The governor also proposed to expand educational programs in prisons. Manhattan District Attorney Cyrus R. Vance Jr. has offered to fund this expansion with \$7.5 million of criminal forfeiture funds obtained by Vance.

Cuomo pointed out the difficulty prisoners face in re-entering the community once they are released from prison. To prevent them from relapsing and going back into the prison system, he proposed the coordination of



PHOTO CREDIT: GOVERNOR'S PRESS OFFICE

**Pictured above at the Mount Neboh Baptist Church in Harlem, Gov. Andrew Cuomo unveiled an initiative to combatting poverty and reducing youth incarceration on Jan. 10.**

transitional housing, connections to employment and the provision of medical and mental health services.

To prevent employers from turning away young individuals who were released from prison, Cuomo said that he would offer a conditional parole to those who committed nonviolent crimes at ages 16 and 17.

Those with the conditional parole will not need to say that they were convicted of a crime on their job applications.

Additionally, Cuomo will introduce legislation to raise the age of criminal responsibility

from age 16 to 18. Youth ages 16 and 17 will no longer be tried as adults.

Additionally, the courts will now fast-track cases that involve 16- and 17-year-olds so that young people do not spend much time in adult jails.

"According priority to the adjudication of cases involving 16- and 17-year-olds will ensure that their cases are handled promptly and efficiently," Chief Administrative Judge Lawrence Marks said in the news release.

Cuomo noted the millions of dollars that are invested into this initiative. However, he also said,

"success is cheaper than failure."

The investments are relatively small compared to the cost of keeping someone in prison. The cost to keep someone in a prison cell in New York is \$50,000 per year, Cuomo said.

"You could have sent them to Harvard University and paid their tuition for what you're paying for a prison cell," Cuomo said.

With these improvements to the criminal justice system, Cuomo said that he will go down in history as the governor who closed the most prisons in New York.

# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

## "Spotlight" to light up this year's Academy Awards

By Krysten Massa  
Multimedia Editor

Another big movie for 2015 was the movie "Spotlight," based off the true story of how an investigative team of journalists at the Boston Globe discovered a huge scandalous child molestation cover-up within the Catholic church.

Maybe it is because I am a fellow journalist, but I left this movie with such a sense of amazement, as well as frustration.

"Spotlight," directed by Tom McCarthy and starring Mark Ruffalo, Rachel McAdams and Michael Keaton is up for the Oscar for Best Motion Picture of the Year.

In addition to Best Picture, McAdams and Ruffalo are up for Best Performance by an Actor/Actress in a supporting role, McCarthy is nominated for Best Achievement in Directing and Original Screenplay, along with writer Josh Singer and Tom McArdle is up for Best Achievement in Film Editing.

The movie gives you the right amount of thrill mixed with comic relief, but it also tackles a true and serious topic.

I cannot myself speak for how



PHOTO CREDIT: PRAYINTO/FLICKR

The film "Spotlight" follows the true story of the Boston Globe's investigative team as they uncovered the horrifying truths about the sexual abuse of children within the Catholic church.

well the actors portrayed their real-life characters, but what I can say is that they nailed down the close-knit city journalists.

The acting was not over done and it felt real. All of the characters in the movie are journalists in the city where they grew up.

The passion for the work they do really comes through and when the story begins to get more serious.

The actors do a good job of portraying how torn they are with having to tell the story they are uncovering.

The reason for the title "Spotlight" is that the whole movie centers around the small four-person investigative reporting team called Spotlight. The team often spends months working out a story in secret.

At the beginning of the movie

a new editor, Marty Baron (Liev Schreiber), comes in and the team is worried they may be let go.

Baron is an outsider to the city and does not have the connection with the area like the rest of the characters do.

He tells the team he wants them to investigate the Catholic church because the paper has only done small coverage on the allegations of sexual abuse against priests in the area.

The team is very worried about digging into this, given the large role the Catholic church plays in the community.

But as the story progresses, the characters become more dedicated to find the truth. This story is also very eye-opening for viewers.

One of the highlights of the movie was the performance by Ruffalo towards the end of the movie, when his character, Mike Rezendes, yells at his editor Walter Robinson (Keaton) because he just wants the story to come out.

Robinson keeps telling the team that they don't have it yet or that is not time yet and Rezendes explodes.

Continued on page 7

## Fellow Canadian Jazz Cartier challenges Drake with "Hotel Paranoia" album

By Kunal Kholi  
Staff Writer

Toronto may have found its successor to Drake in Jazz Cartier, adding to the city's list of successful hip hop artists.

Cartier's latest 16-track album "Hotel Paranoia," released on Feb. 1, is a display of versatility that is a breath of fresh air from a city notable for its many singsong rappers. It follows his album "Marauding In Paradise."

Cartier wastes no time in claiming his throne. He declares himself "the prince of the city" in the first line of his banger of an opening track, "Talk of the Town."

The bold claim is followed by a denouncement of his comparisons to Drake. Cartier, in an interview, explained that he and Drake have very different mind sets because they're from different parts of Toronto - Drake from uptown and Cartier from downtown.

It is not until the end of the track that we officially enter the "Hotel Paranoia." Cartier and his audience check in, and the album truly begins.

Cartier continues his romp into the second track, "100 Roses."

A track as large as his personality, Cartier dares any rapper to attack him.

This is not a diss track; it is a

warning—Cartier is here to stay and no one can stop him.

The tempo slows down on his next two tracks, "Red Alert" and the previously released "I Know."

Cartier's versatility shows that while he can destroy a high tempo and bass blaring beat, he can keep it as smooth as an R&B singer when the beat demands it.

Both styles of song come together on the standout track "Stick and Move."

The playful beat features aggressive verses and a Future-like hook.

Unlike Future, however, Cartier's flow is not muddled; it is clear while lending itself to the beat.

While the album is released under Cartier's name, there are two other Toronto stars in the making on the album, River Tiber, who is featured on "Tell Me," and, the producer, Lantz.

The Toronto-based producer created the album exclusively.

His songs range from softer, slower tracks to bass-booming bangers, and he manages to create an even balance in both.

Lantz's penchant for creeping basses creates an atmosphere of mystique. It is as if smoke is unfurling from the entrance of the hotel as Cartier walks in.

While the album is an excellent debut to a larger audience, it is not without its flaws.



PHOTO CREDIT: THE COME UP SHOW/EDWARD RISSLING/FLICKR

The rapper Jazz Cartier, above, released his debut album, *Marauding in Paradise*, in April 2015. Cartier has released his second album, *Hotel Paranoia*, that can be streamed on SoundCloud.

Cartier abuses hooks. Often times, it does not feel as if he has went through a full 16 bars before a hook comes through.

Also, Cartier only has a single feature.

The feature comes from River Tiber, another Toronto-born artist, on "Tell Me."

It just seems disappointing that Cartier did not get any other features from one of the best up-and-coming rap scenes in

the world.

Lastly, at 16 tracks long, the album is a bit of a slog. Tracks like "Tell Me" and "After the Club," while highly enjoyable, seem unnecessary.

The main theme of both tracks were addressed in earlier songs, making both dispensable.

For only his second release, Jazz Cartier is already looking like Toronto's next general.

With Drake busy record-

ing "Views From the 6," Cartier has a unique opportunity to expand his brand and jump into the mainstream with tracks like "Illuminati Love Song," "Opera" and "How We Do It."

Simply put, the album is flames, fire emoji, whatever you want to call it.

Jazz Cartier is not just the next big thing out of Toronto.

He is the next big thing in rap, period.

# Hulu goes back in time with "11.22.63"

By Ryan Williams  
Contributing Writer

Based off of Stephen King's novel "11/22/63," Hulu's latest series blends time travel and conspiracy theories surrounding the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

The eight-part thriller, set to premiere on President's Day, Feb. 15, follows a schoolteacher who is presented with the opportunity to travel back in time to stop the Kennedy assassination.

As the teacher tries to accomplish his mission, he finds himself becoming attached to the new life he is making in the past.

"11.22.63" will be a nine-hour limited event series and features James Franco in the leading role of a high-school English teacher. Prominent actors Chris Cooper, Sarah Gadon and Josh Duhamel take on the supporting parts.

The show is helmed by J.J. Abrams and Stephen King, who serve as executive producers, alongside Bridget Carpenter and Bryan Burk.

Abrams, who directed the most recent "Star Wars" film, has been developing the series since 2013.

King is no newcomer to working on television, as his works have been adapted into dozens

of popular films and television series.

In fact, CBS's adaptation of King's "Under the Dome" ended in 2015 after three seasons. "11.22.63" could fill the eerie and suspenseful niche that is characteristic of Stephen King adaptations.

With its talented cast and creators, "11.22.63" could become Hulu's biggest hit, allowing the site to compete with Netflix and Amazon on a new level.

Although Hulu has created many shows since 2007, the streaming service has yet to develop a dramatic series that can define their brand, like Netflix's "House of Cards" or HBO's



Hulu will premiere 11.22.63 on Feb. 15. Hulu will release episodes on a weekly basis, as done for its other various original series.

"Game of Thrones."

In fact, nearly all of its original programs have been comedies, and none have reached a level of popularity or critical acclaim to cement Hulu as one of the top players in creating online content. "11.22.63" appears to be addressing this concern by signaling a shift in Hulu's original programming.

Hulu has three more high-profile dramas lined up after "11.22.63," including "Chance," which will star "House" actor Hugh Laurie.

While "11.22.63" looks to the past, its level of success will have a monumental impact on Hulu's future.

# A spotlight on "Spotlight"

Continued from page 6

"It's time! It's time! he keeps yelling at his boss as he slams the office door on the way out.

This moment is a real jaw-dropping performance by Ruffalo. He deserves that nomination.

This scene shows his character's passion for the story and it is something that is relatable, not just for a journalist, but for a person who cares about an issue in their hometown and wants people to know so they can be protected.

Another reason the movie worked so well is because of the little details in the film that made it so personable and realistic. For example, the simplicity of the clothes the actors wore and the spot-on newsroom setting. There were also a lot of dark colors used in the film, even the lighting outdoor was grey. The darker colors helped the eerie story flow.

Other than Ruffalo's big scene, the next best scene in the movie is the closing scene.

Ben Bradlee Jr (played by John Slattery), who was the Boston Globe's assistant managing editor at the time the film takes place, is quoted in an article from Boston.com saying that when he first read the script, he was not sure he

liked the ending.

The real-life Walter Robinson agreed with Bradlee. The two changed their minds after seeing the film.

The ending scene is so powerful. It takes place the day after the article revealing the scandal is published.

The movie ends with the team answering the phone calls of people calling in with more tips and information about the scandal.

But it is more dramatic than that.

The phones just keep ringing on and on and on.

The entire movie, the viewer is struggling with these characters as they try and investigate something that none of them want to admit is real.

The ending scene sends chills down your spine because it shows that the team did their jobs and did them will.

The best part about this movie is that it is a true story.

Despite how much I loved the movie, I have to say that I do not think it will win the Oscar for Best Picture.

But, whether you are a nerd like me, fascinated by the world of journalism, or you just like a good thriller, you need to add "Spotlight" to your list of "must-sees."

# The Year of 100 books: "H is for Hawk" review

By Andrew Goldstein  
Staff Writer

Two deep, yellow eyes glared at me from the cover of "H is for Hawk" by Helen Macdonald.

But I was looking through the science section for a book about music's effects on the brain, so I left Macdonald's book alone.

The next time I opened my Goodreads account, the hawk, its talon perched on a solitary branch and its face contorted as a frown, stared at me again.

It was in the "Best non-fiction books of 2015" tab.

The eyes challenged me. I bought the book.

Reading Macdonald's description of the eyes offered solace. She too saw them as threatening, scary and fierce.

She wrote of falconers across the centuries and their predilections towards goshawks like the one on the cover.

None were kind, which was her reason for why "H is for Hawk" is fascinating.

It tells the story of Macdonald raising a goshawk in an attempt to grieve her father's sudden death.

She opens the book describing goshawks as "bulkier, bloodier, deadlier, scarier, and much, much harder to see" than sparrowhawks.

The story develops along her relationship with her hawk, Mabel, and the life of T.H. White, a 20th-century author who also attempted to raise a goshawk.

The language of this book

amazed me.

Open to any page and you will find at least one beautifully written sentence.

The landscape descriptions are on par with those of romantic poetry.

Some sentences give words to nuanced emotions I was not be able to place.

For the goal of a hundred books this year, I have to read two books per week.

I dedicated two weeks to "H is for Hawk" just so I could reread the sentences.

When friends asked me to explain "H is for Hawk," I would stutter.

I can definitively say it is narrative non-fiction.

It has elements of British history and avian science and literature analysis.

It flows between reading like a novel to feeling like a memoir to sounding like a diary.

There are dips into politics, xenophobia and gender and orientation discrimination.

At points I looked at it like a self-help book by example.

There is so much in this 283-page story.

It felt like real life. It shattered expectations. Characters shifted from teachers to foils, from depression to happiness. The relationships fluctuated as they evolved.

The story is complicated.

There is no one accomplishment or goal that effectively ends or defines the story.

It goes beyond the simple,

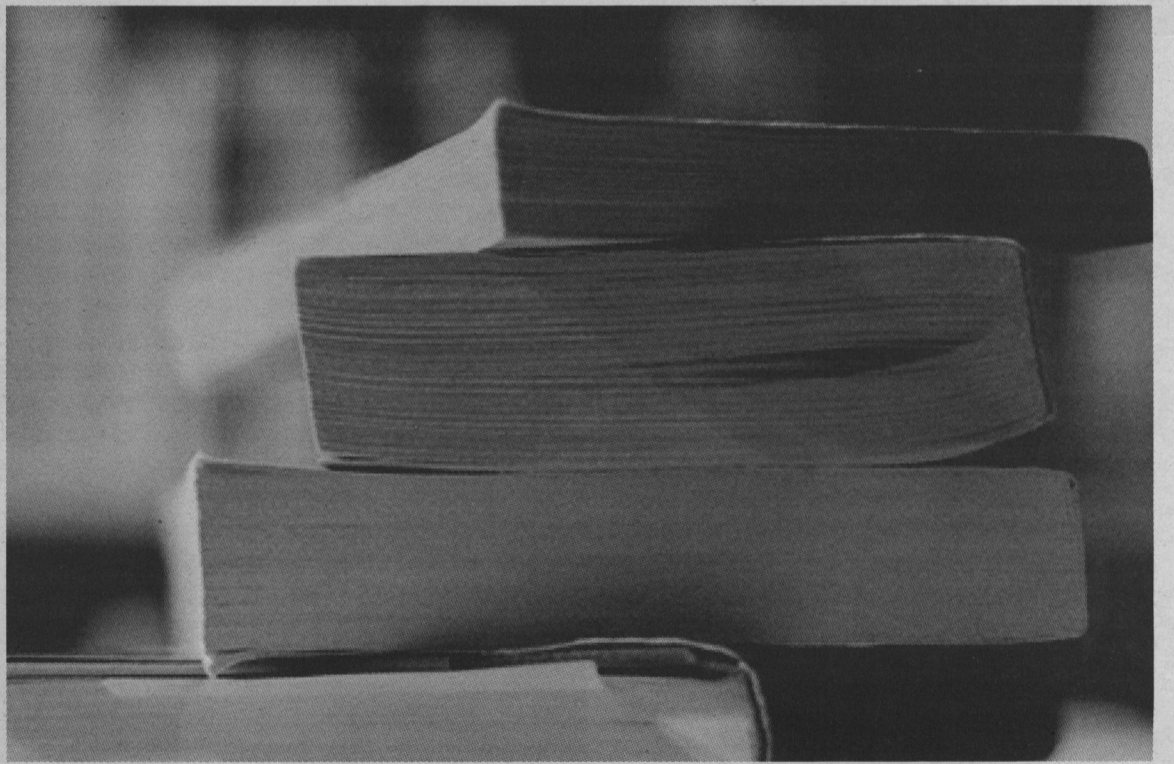


PHOTO CREDIT: GINNY/FICKR

Helen Macdonald is an English novelist and a research fellow at Jesus College in Cambridge. Macdonald won the 2014 Samuel Johnson prize for "H is for Hawk."

"character, want, obstacle" design most novels use.

I almost feel bad reviewing this book because I do not think I can do it justice.

The only warning I would give about "H is for Hawk" is that the beautiful language rejects skimming.

There were words I had to look up.

The book required a lot of focus. I was caught off guard by Macdonald's British colloquialisms, but "H is for Hawk" is worth it.

"H is for Hawk" won the 2014 Samuel Johnson Prize for

English non-fiction and was the 2014 Costa Book of the year.

It made the shortlist for the 2014 Duff Cooper Prize and the 2015 Andrew Carnegie Medal for Excellence in Non-fiction.

It was on the longlist for the 2015 Thwaites Wainright Prize for general outdoors, nature, and UK-based travel writing.

In addition, "H is for Hawk" became a Sunday Times bestseller.

Macdonald has written other widely loved novels.

Two of her other books, "Shalder's Fish" and "Falcon" both preceded "H is for Hawk."

Macdonald also has contributed to the creation of the film "10 X Murmuration," and has written and narrated radio programs and has appeared in a BBC 4 documentary series "Birds Britannia."

Although she is best known for "H is for Hawk," she is also a writer, naturalist, and an Affiliated Research Scholar at the University of Cambridge Department of History and Philosophy of Science

If my review does not cinch your opinion, read the 15 accolades on the book cover.





# Sex and Relationships **TODAY**



# Sexuality: A History

By Justine Josue, Contributing Writer

Think back to your early years of sexual awakening, your awkward time of misguided preconceptions and actions. Think of how you have (hopefully) matured!

The world has changed, too. The understanding and practice of sex has evolved throughout the years.

## BIRTH CONTROL

The first attempted condoms date back to 3000 B.C. and are speculated to have been made of animal hide, according to MedicineNet.com.

In 1850 B.C., the pessary was introduced. Pessaries were inserted into the vagina in an attempt to either block or kill sperm. Ingredients included crocodile dung, honey and sodium carbonate.

The first oral contraceptive was discovered in 600 B.C. in North Africa. The herb silphion became as valuable as silver, but was harvested to extinction after a few centuries.

In 1640 A.D., condoms were made of the ever-appetizing fish bladders and animal intestines. Their purpose was more to prevent the spread of sexually transmitted disease rather than preventing pregnancy.

In the year 1844, we moved away from covering our outward parts with animal innards to the mass production of rubber condoms. At this time, these were used, washed, and reused.

In the years after, the condom improved and contraception got creative. Diaphragms, also known as female condoms, and male caps, aka “just the tip,” became popular.

“The Pill” was FDA approved in 1960 with 100 percent effectiveness, but with drastic side effects, according to MedicineNet.com. It is later discovered that the dosage was dangerously high.

It took a few more decades to tweak the pill. It was not until 2003 that the first continuous birth control pill was approved.

“Certainly birth control has informed sexual choices for women ever since it became more available, but the responsibility is still pretty much on women,” Anna Marti, an intimacy coach and educator from Portland, Oregon, said.

## SEX TOYS AND MASTURBATION

“Masturbation is hugely important,” Barbara Carrellas, a New York City-based author and sex coach, said. “It’s where you get to discover what turns you on. You are and always will be your best lover. Always.”

The oldest known sex toys, siltstone rock dildos, date back to around 1200 B.C. and are believed to have also been used to make fire, according to the Huffington Post.

There is evidence to suggest Cleopatra used the vibrations of live bees in a box to get off in 51 B.C..

In the 1700s, sailors would take rubber sleeves, or “ladies of the journey,” with them for their long voyages.

The steam-powered vibrator was invented in the 1860s and was marketed as medical treatment for hysteria. It was used at the doctor’s office.

Thirty years later, the battery-powered vibrator was mass-produced and began appearing in pornography. Doctors promptly stopped using them in the office.

During World War II, the U.S. military was stationed in Japan and brought the Hitachi Magic Wand to popularity back in America.

In the 1970s, a man who was disabled invented the silicon dildo to please his wife.

In 2011, the company LELO came out with INEZ, a 24-karat gold vibrator sold for \$15,000 each.

Today, with the rise of fan-fiction and the popularity of “Fifty Shades of Grey”, sex toys are more popular than ever. Masturbation is more widely embraced and less frequently shunned.

“Your erotic relationship with yourself is the single most erotic relationship you will have,” Carrellas said.

## BELIEFS

It was once believed that the female orgasm was needed to create a baby, according to bustle.com. Roman physician Claudius Galenus wrote that both women and men had “seed” or “sperm” that required orgasm from both parties in order to create life.

Also according to our friend Galenus, food that makes people fart is arousing. He believed that eating these foods would create wind in the body to “inflate” sexual organs and increase arousal.

In Ancient Egypt it was widely believed that a person could have sex in the afterlife. The culture of Ancient Egypt held sexuality to high importance. In religion, they believed the creation of their gods came from the sperm of Atum, a masturbating god, according to bustle.com.

In Ancient China, foot binding was a popular sign of beauty, but it was also seen as a sexual practice, according to a study in Medical Hypotheses. It was believed that making the feet smaller would also tighten the vaginal muscles. The reasoning behind this was that with the crippled feet, a woman would have to seriously exercise her vagina to maintain balance while walking.

Different times, different settings, different beliefs.

“There are so many factors that inform every individual’s perceptions of sex,” Marti said. “There’s family, there’s gender, there’s religion which is a huge one, there’s culture ... I think it’s really important that individuals feel how those factors are informing them.”

Although none of these beliefs are widely accepted today, there are certainly still some existing misconceptions.

“The biggest misconception is, ‘whatever it is I’m experiencing isn’t normal,’” Carrellas said, “In reality, an enormous range of sexual variation is what’s normal. There is not one normal. And most people aren’t ‘broken’ or ‘weird’ for whatever it is they think or feel or desire, but they think they are.”

2011 Gold Vibrator  
1970 Silicon Dildo  
1890 Battery-Powered Vibrator  
1860 Steam-Powered Vibrator



# The Breakup Shop's Backup Plan

By Rachel Siford, Assistant News Editor

The show "Friends" made it popular for two friends to make a pact to marry if neither friend is married to another person by a certain age. But the Keast brothers have taken this concept to a whole new level.

The new application "Backup Plan" by the Breakup Shop, designed by Evan and Mackenzie Keast, creates a legally binding agreement for two people to marry each other by a certain time.

"We are more picky when it comes to dating nowadays," Mackenzie Keast said. "We are starting families later in life, delaying the process a little bit, making us more picky."

The new app comes out this month. The target market varies; Mackenzie Keast said they are looking for anyone in their 20s or early 30s who are looking to settle down in the future. Divorcees are also a viable market.

"A backup plan provides insurance for a lifelong partner should you fail to find true love elsewhere," Mackenzie Keast said in a news release.

Users set up a profile and set a date by which they would like to be married. They then search for nearby singles, matching and talking with suitors they may be interested in. If two people decide to be each others' backups, they set their official dates and terms and then digitally sign the legally binding pact.

"It is something that people want to see," Mackenzie Keast said. "It is like Tinder for people who want a little more security. The reaction so far has been very positive."

In their news release, the brothers said all marriage pacts should be further reviewed by a legal counsel and notarized.

"We are trying to work everything out with relationship and marriage lawyers now," Mackenzie Keast said. "Laws vary from state to state."

If someone backs out of the pact at the time of their agreed upon date, financial compensation might be involved to pay damages.

The Keasts have also been known as the "Breakup Brothers" for their other work at the Breakup Shop. They have a service where one of their Heartbreakers will break up with a customer's significant other for a fee. This can be done over text, a phone call or a letter. This heartbreaking business was first started in November, and it exploded.

"We couldn't even fill all the orders," Mackenzie Keast said. "We are doing the dirty work on our customer's behalf."



# The Pros and Cons of Gay Relationships

By Matt Stern, Contributing Writer

While our generation has made some great and important strides in equality for the LGBT community, I still get questions like “What is it like to be in a gay relationship?” from other young people. While this isn’t necessarily an ignorant question, I’m surprised more people don’t realize that my same-sex relationship isn’t very different from any opposite-sex relationship. That being said, with same-sex relationships being so visible now and displaying something that looks different from the norm, I can understand why I get asked such questions. So I thought I’d share the pros and cons of gay relationships for those of you wondering how my relationship might compare to others.

## PRO: OUR ACCEPTING GENERATION MEANS YOU HAVE SUPPORTIVE FRIENDS

As I mentioned before, young adults are becoming increasingly accepting of different kinds of love and relationships. While there are obviously some college-aged people who are more conservative and less open to homosexuality, it’s uncommon for someone to lose friends in the coming out process. And if they do lose a friend, that person isn’t worth associating with anyway. Friends support each other in their romantic endeavors, and having friends who accept you and your partner make it easier to be confident in your relationship being public.

## CON: YOUR EXTENDED FAMILY SUCKS

Maybe your entire extended family doesn’t suck. I’m very lucky to have an accepting immediate family and a mostly accepting extended family. And while some LGBT youth have experiences similar to mine, many others face an entirely unaccepting family. No matter what the situation with your immediate family is, though, chances are there will always be at least one extended family member that makes talking about your relationship extremely awkward. For me, conversations with this family member ruin any family get-together that they attend, leading to a disliking of seeing extended family altogether. After a while, you get sick of being asked “How’s your...friend?” and “Have you tested the waters with any girlfriends yet?” and, my personal favorite, “So do you still f\*\*k guys?”

## PRO: YOUR RELATIONSHIP DOESN'T COME WITH GENDER ROLES

One of the most important issues straight couples currently face is dealing with gender roles. The idea of what men and women should do in their relationship is so deeply ingrained into us thanks to TV shows, movies, gendered toys and our own parents that breaking away from them is hard to do.

In a same-sex relationship, there are no pre-determined gender roles to break out of. You’re free to determine your role in the relationship independent of your gender. When someone asks a gay or lesbian couple “So who’s the man in the relationship?” they’re trying to apply traditional gender roles into a relationship that doesn’t have them. If you’re someone who asks these kinds of questions to gay couples, I kindly ask you to stop doing so.

## CON: YOU RECEIVE UNWARRANTED ATTENTION AND JUDGEMENT IN PUBLIC

Despite the confidence boost from supportive friends, I’d be lying if I said there weren’t times that I felt embarrassed being in public with my boyfriend. People do stare, and no, I’m not just being paranoid. I try my best to be optimistic and ignore their opinion, but not caring what others think is sometimes easier said than done. We may be living in a more accepting and progressive time, but that doesn’t mean everyone is going to be okay with seeing a gay or lesbian couple in public. To them, we should keep our relationship to ourselves and in our bedrooms. Well, I’m sorry to break it to you, old lady sitting at the table while glaring at us and whispering to your fossil of a husband, but I will not refuse to go out to eat with the person I love because you can’t deal with seeing us share a plate of baked ziti.

While I’m trying to be lighthearted about judgement received in public, I have to acknowledge that it does pose real threats. That old lady and her husband sitting at the next table over might be harmless, but unfortunately, there are other people who are not. Violence against same-sex couples is a result of judgmental people who mean to cause harm. So, while I do believe same-sex couples should do their best to be themselves, they should do so with caution.

## PRO: YOU CAN'T GET PREGNANT FROM SEX

Biology 101: a man and a woman need to have sex in order to create a baby. With a relationship between two men or two women, there’s no worry about missed periods, the morning after pill, or anything else of the sort. And although condoms should still be used when needed to prevent against STDs and STIs, sex is more fun when you don’t have to worry about it possibly leading to being responsible for a new human being.

## CON: YOU CAN'T GET PREGNANT FROM SEX

Although there are alternative ways for same-sex couples to become parents such as adoption, they can never have a child with both of their genes. Using a surrogate or impregnating a woman in a lesbian relationship through artificial insemination can lead to a child with genes from one of the parents, but that’s as far as it goes. This reality is very difficult for same-sex couples who want to become parents, but at least other options exist.

## PRO: YOUR SEX LIFE IS GREAT

I know, I know, you’ve all been waiting for this part. Sorry it took so long to get to the good stuff.

In any romantic relationship, sex plays a unique role in bringing two (or more, if you’re open to that) people closer together physically and emotionally. Now, it goes without saying that it might be impossible to gain an objective opinion on what kind of sex is the best sex, because straight people like straight sex, gay people like gay sex, and bisexual/pansexual people might prefer one or the other. Thus, I’m not going to tell you that sex between gay men or lesbian women is better than sex between straight people, or vice versa. Besides, when it comes down to it, as long as you’re with someone you trust that matches your preferences, sex is fun.

What makes gay sex a distinctly different experience from straight sex, though, is the familiarity that comes with the territory; when you have sex with someone of the same sex as you, you know where to go and what to do there to make them feel good because you’ve already had experiences with your own body.

This difference doesn’t necessarily make sex for gays and lesbians a pro or a con—it’s simply a difference. Just like straight sex is a pro for opposite-sex relationships, sex is a pro for same-sex relationships, even if the experience is different.

I think that this analysis of sex is a good point to end with because it illustrates the point I’m trying to make about straight and gay couples: although there are differences that distinguish the experience of a same-sex relationship from that of an opposite-sex relationship, same-sex relationships themselves aren’t as different as they seem. Yes, gay couples do run the risk of increased negativity from family, receive unwanted attention in public, and can’t have children through natural means. But that doesn’t mean that a straight couple won’t experience similar circumstances.

One type of relationship isn’t better than the other, even if each will have different pros and cons. When it comes down to it, a spade’s a spade, a relationship is a relationship and love is love.



# Under the Microscope: Romantic Competence

By Ruchi Shah, Staff Writer

Whether you’re looking to start a relationship, improve your current one or help yourself develop and grow, most people agree that healthy romantic relationships are built on intimacy, trust, compassion, respect, security and good communication. The hard part in most relationships is figuring out how to create those conditions.

A research team led by Joanne Davila, Ph.D., professor of clinical psychology at Stony Brook University, recently identified a factor called “romantic competence” that plays a crucial role in creating and maintaining healthy relationships.

In three different studies focused on college-aged, emerging adults, Davila and her team found that people who are more romantically competent feel more satisfied in relationships, make healthier decisions and feel more secure and valued.

In addition, couples that are more romantically competent are better at seeking and providing support to each other.

In the studies, individuals and couples were asked to complete questionnaires and were interviewed by a trained researcher. The couples were videotaped while interacting with one another. Then their answers to the interview were objectively rated for romantic competence and their interaction behaviors were coded by a set of trained interviewers, ensuring reliability.

The research team members consistently saw a correlation between romantic competence and relationship satisfaction and support, but they wanted to make sure that the results were not due to the fact that satisfied couples inherently treat each other better.

“What we want to make sure is that this thing we’re calling romantic competence isn’t just another proxy for being satisfied in one’s relationship,” Davila said. “We looked to see if satisfaction and romantic competence each make an independent contribution to how supportive the couple’s members are, and they do, and that’s important because it means that romantic competence isn’t just another way of saying they’re happy, but it’s because competence lets partners behave in healthy ways that then can create satisfaction.”

It is clear that romantic competence plays a crucial role, and the construct can be broken down into three components: insight, mutuality and emotion regulation.

Insight refers to self-understanding and understanding of one’s partner. For example, through insight, you might realize that your frustration towards your partner stems from a stressful day at work or that your partner’s tardiness is not a sign of disrespect, but just an inherent trait.

Mutuality is an awareness that both people in the relationship have needs that matter. For example if one person enjoys large social events and the other prefers quieter evenings, the couple may choose to attend the large event for a while and then leave early so the other person has some quiet time, satisfying both people’s needs.

Emotion regulation refers to how both partners manage feelings in response to relationship challenges. For example, if one partner is not texting the other back, it would be easy to get anxious or upset. Instead, through emotion regulation, the partner is able to tolerate uncomfortable feelings and keep things in perspective.

These factors can be directly applied to how college students approach relationships. Davila explained that only through using insight can a person figure out what he or she needs and wants in a relationship and then search for a partner that fulfills those needs.

“People need to stop trying to be what other people want them to be or what they think other people want them to be, because they’ll compromise themselves to get that,” Davila said. “It’s a shift in focus from ‘How can I be what the other person wants?’ to ‘Do I actually want that other person and do they want the real me?’”

Davila has observed that most young people say they learn about relationships from their peers, movies and other media.

She chose to focus her research on emerging adults because she wants to help young people develop the skills to have better relationships and make better decisions.

Davila currently holds relationship workshops to help undergraduates learn the skills of romantic competence and thus help college student have healthier and more satisfying relationships.

“I want people to learn about relationships based on science, based on what we know really works,” Davila said. “It’s super rewarding to me to do this research and give it to people in real life and have them be able to use it.”

# Stony Brook Professor's Erotic Fiction Past

By Rebecca Liebson, Contributing Writer

Over the course of her professional career, Sharon Pochron, Ph.D., has garnered a wide range of accomplishments. She has studied the behavioral ecology of baboons in Tanzania and written articles for *Highlights*, *Natural History Magazine* and *Muse* magazine.

And she has published nine erotic fiction novels.

Pochron, who runs the Sustainability Studies earthworm ecotoxicology lab at Stony Brook, wrote erotic romance novels under a penname from 2006 to 2010. Although Pochron declined to share information such as the titles of her novels, who her publisher was or even specific plots, she was still open to discussing other details of her past as an erotic novelist.

Pochron always had a knack for writing, and even when she was in high school, she knew that she wanted to have a romance novel published, she said. Although back then she was not a huge fan of the genre, she thought it would be the easiest to write. In 2004, Pochron learned how wrong she had been when she and her husband spent two years living in a tent in Tanzania while conducting her research.

"You can't bring enough books to read for two years—there were no Kindles then—and so I bought a whole bunch of Harlequins, and I thought 'OK, I'm gonna study these, and I'm gonna write one.' And I did, and it was terrible, and I never sold it," Pochron said.

After this initial failure, Pochron's editor suggested she switch from writing romance to erotic romance novels, a genre that was rapidly growing in popularity. Pochron had

no hesitations about making the change, and her transition into the world of smutty romance was seamless.

"I mean all romances are the same," Pochron said. "Boy meets girl, there's a conflict, they get over it, they fall in love and it's a happy ending. The only difference between a regular romance and that kind of a romance is with erotic romance, you try to have the pivotal points in the story happen in bed."

Pochron got her big break shortly after, signing a contract for four novels with one of "big five" New York publishers. Most first-time erotic authors sign a deal for only one or two books.

"My very first contract was unheard of," she said.

Although she shared the news with friends and family, she said the only person who knows her penname and has read her work is her critique partner, who writes romance novels under the name Erica Kelly.

Pochron preferred writing science fiction or fantasy-themed novels because they gave her the ability to bend the rules and put her characters in unusual, otherworldly scenarios. She came up with ideas by making observations and imagining how she could transform mundane life into something worth reading.

"It's not that you're thinking in terms of sex scenes," she said. "It's that you're thinking in terms of goal motivation and conflict."

After publishing her ninth novel in 2010, Pochron walked away from the world of erotic fiction. The genre as a whole

was not selling as well as it had when she first started, and she had grown tired of writing about love and lust, she said.

"The thing about writing is that whenever you do too much of any of it gets boring," she said.

Recently, Pochron said she has immersed herself in her research of soil ecology and is really enjoying working with her undergraduate students studying the effects of herbicides on earthworms.

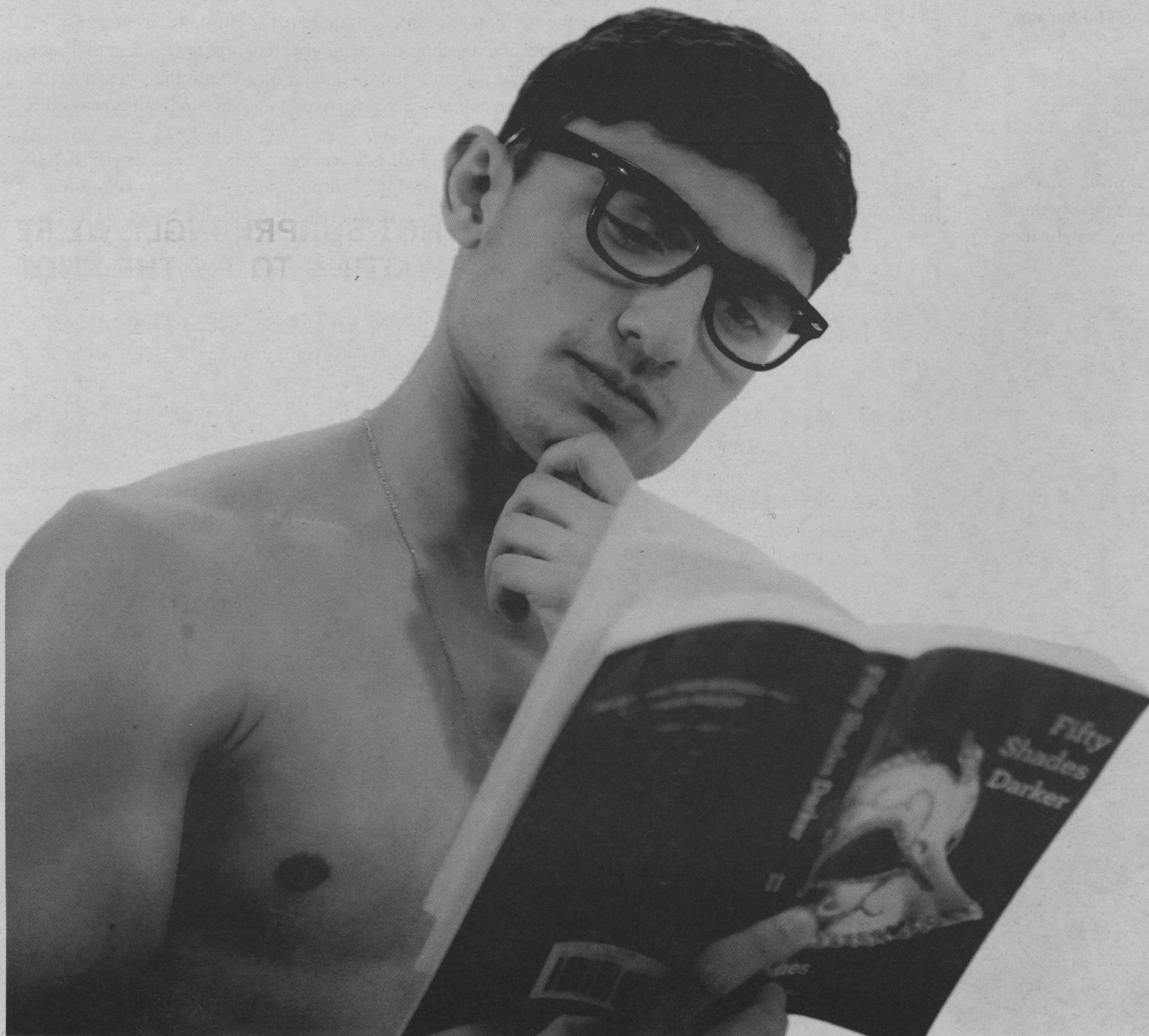
Pochron's advice for those looking to write erotic novels?

"Don't do it for the money because you will never make any," she said, half joking.

Whether you're serious about getting your work printed or you're just writing for fun, Pochron suggests joining the Romance Writers of America. Pochron attributes her success in part to the RWA, which helped her to learn the craft, navigate the publishing world and find her critique partner, who is her best friend to this day.

Pochron is still writing. She mostly does nonfiction pieces, but she has also started working on a science fiction novel for young adults, and she wrote a short horror story which will air on the *Tales to Terrify* podcast in the next year. Despite having abandoned the genre as an author, Pochron says she still reads erotic romances and is not ashamed to admit it.

"It's about two people working towards a common goal, they fall in love and live happily ever after," she said. "What's wrong with that?"





# Generation Gap in Numbers

By Christopher Leelum, Opinions Editor

Millennials are a highly-misunderstood generation. We've been branded as lazy, tech-obsessed Netflix bingers who can't speak unless it's through a phone and who can't eat without first taking a picture of our food. But perhaps most of all, there is a stereotype that the only time we put our screens down is when we're organizing orgies through Tinder and banging everyone within a 10-mile radius.

Statistics paint a different picture. Here I present to you the characteristics of a millennial sex life and how some compare to previous generations, with some surprisingly different conclusions than you may expect.

## THE BABY BOOMERS BANGED MORE BROADLY

The average number of sexual partners for those born in the 1950s was 11.68, while millennials' average is 8.26, according to the journal Archives of Sexual Behavior. How did all those old people used to meet up without cellphones?

## WE HAVE MORE IMPORTANT STUFF TO DO

The same study found that one in three 20-somethings have never even had sex before. You know why? We have too much work to do in college, we have too much debt when we finally get out, we have climate change to deal with and we have "Game of Thrones" to watch.

## WE THINK THE INTERNET IS SEXIER THAN SEX

37 percent of millennials would rather give up sex for a year than Internet, according to the same study. We love our WiFi.

## BUT WE DON'T CARE ABOUT SEX BEFORE THE RING

This one isn't as surprising, but the Archives of Sexual Behavior also proved millennial indifference when it comes to premarital sex. 47 percent of baby boomers approved of premarital sex when they were aged 18-29. That number rose to 50 percent for those in Generation X in the same age range and up further to 62 percent for millennials.

## OUR LADIES AREN'T MAKING BABIES

The Urban Institute, an economic and social policy research think-tank, says that millennials have the lowest birthrate of any generation ever. In 2007, the birthrate for women in their 20s was 1,118 births for every 1,000 women. Just five years later, the birthrate dropped to 948 babies for every 1,000 women. From my sociological expertise, I think we'll see the birthrate tick back up after Donald Trump loses his White House run, as nothing gets a woman more revved up than knowing her country isn't going to hell.

## WE REALLY LIKE OUR FRIENDS

Professor Jean M. Twenge of San Diego State University, author of "Generation Me," a book about today's young Americans, found that millennials are quite sexual with their friends. From 1995-1999, the percentage of American adults who had sex with a friend was 52.2 percent. That jumped to 70.8 percent for those between the years 2000-2004 and has hovered just below that ever since.

## AND WE REALLY LIKE OUR GAY BROTHERS AS WELL

Score another point for millennial tolerance. 69 percent of millennials favor same-sex marriage, compared to 37 percent of members of the Silent Generation (those born between the mid-1920s and mid-1940s), according to a 2014 survey from the Public Religion Research Institute.

## NOT SURPRISINGLY, WE'RE WAITING TO TIE THE KNOT

The median age for a woman and man to get married for the first time was 21 and 23 respectively back in 1970. In 2010, it was 27 and 29, according to the Archives of Sexual Behavior. We like it, but we're not putting a ring on it until we're done sexting.

## OUR PHONES ARE IN ON THE FUN

Sorry, pretty much every other generation, but we're the generation of Snapchat, so we dominate the realm of sexting. Last year, the SKYN Condoms Millennial Sex Survey found that 57 percent of us have sexted before, with apparently seven percent doing it every day. So baby boomers, be respectful when you bump into us on the street because we have our heads in our phones—we're swapping sensitive material.

# A Prophylactic Pro Definitively Ranks Birth Control

By Briana Finneran, Copy Chief

College: the land of drug- and alcohol-fueled parties and the resulting wild, raucous sex that leaves your neighbors wondering if they should call the cops or put a cup to the wall and enjoy the show. While Stony Brook strays from this pop-culture induced definition of college in that it is far from a party school and it seems as though everyone is always studying, that last hedonistic facet of college life is actually a reality here.

In *The Statesman's* 2016 Sex and Relationship survey, 78 percent of respondents indicated that they are not virgins. With that, I think it's pretty safe to assume that out of the almost three-quarters of us who are either currently bumping uglies or have in the past, nearly all have had to make the decision as to just how to prevent a tiny Seawolf from coming into the world.

But with so many options out there, making a decision regarding birth control that all parties involved can jive with may be even more daunting than finding a cutie on campus to "study" with in the first place.

Luckily for you, I've spent my adult life jumping from one prophylactic to the next in an attempt to find the method that suits my life as a college student best. With the sage wisdom this medical endeavor has bestowed upon me, here's a breakdown of what I consider to be the best and most realistic birth control options for the average college student.

## #1 THE IUD

Three to 12 years of child-free bliss? Check. Periods that are both lighter and far more manageable should you choose the hormonal option? Double check. Low-maintenance, highly effective and virtually undetectable by either partner when things get down and dirty? Check. The IUD is perhaps the best thing that ever happened to sex; the device is inserted by your doctor into your uterus, far from where any penis should ever go, and once it's in place, you can pretty much forget about it for the entire duration of its use save for monthly self-checks. With this method, spontaneous, uninhibited sex is given the green light. As long as you and your partner(s) are clean and the device doesn't shift (and no, wild sex won't shift your IUD), fewer than 1 percent of women end up pregnant while using an IUD. However, any pregnancy that does occur is more likely to be ectopic, or occurring within the fallopian tube. If not caught early, an ectopic pregnancy will result in either emergency surgery to attempt to salvage the tube or, in the worst cases, death. This situation is extremely rare, however, and though it happened to me, I still think the IUD is the most practical birth control out there today. With insurance, I ended up paying \$9 rather than the \$1,000 the IUD can cost, making this method extremely cost effective.

## #2 CONDOMS

Condoms on college campuses are as common as pre-med freshmen at SBU. From RHD offices to the basement of the Union, free condoms are easy to find and easy to use. Condoms come with the benefit of being hormone-free and new types of condoms come out more often than incarnations of the iPhone. The cons? Condoms are admittedly kind of unsexy in that the action comes to a bit of a halt to put one on, but even this can be made fun. And though it is uncommon, condoms can snap if stored improperly or if lube is needed and not used. And perhaps most importantly, reactions to latex or different types of built-in lube is possible. Spermicides don't always mesh well with delicate vaginal ecosystems, and Fire and Ice condoms have caused more than one partner of mine to cry out in pain and furiously wash their junk while cursing under their breath. Make sure you know your limits!

## #3 THE PILL

There's a very good reason that these little suckers were one of the catalysts for the Sexual Revolution: one tiny pill taken at the same time each day virtually ensures that you will remain unfertilized. If you're prone to hormonal acne, certain pills can drastically improve your skin's condition. If you have heavy, clotting periods, the pill can help reduce bleeding. If you have insurance, the costs for both doctor's appointments and prescriptions should be mitigated thanks in large part to The Affordable Care Act. As with any method listed here, there are some downsides to the pill. Though Oregon and California have both taken steps to make birth control pills available over-the-counter, most states will still require a prescription for the medication, which can be difficult to attain if you have overbearing parents. Some pills may cause some weight gain, and it is not uncommon to bleed sporadically for the first few months of using the pill. The pill relies on a blend of hormones to do its job, making the pill a no-go for those looking to stay natural. Finally, the pill requires extreme diligence in that it absolutely needs to be taken every day and certain medications can impact its efficacy. Missing pills is easy as a busy college student, and common antibiotics have been shown to impact birth control's effectiveness.

## #4 THE SHOT

The shot has a leg-up (pun intended) on the pill in that one shot every three months provides all the protection you need, making it great for people who are so busy that they can't be bothered to remember taking a pill at the same time each day. Like pills, the shot tends to be free if you have insurance, and it can be administered right here on campus at Student Health Services. However, this had to be my least favorite method of every day birth control that I have ever used. My hormonal acne, already annoying enough, flared up to the point that I felt like I was 15 again. The shot didn't have much of a chance to do its job after I got it as I bled for the entire three months it was effective (and then some), ensuring I wasn't really having much sex anyway. And if you're afraid of needles, just forget this method; you'll live constantly knowing that you're no more than three months from your next shot, and is that any way to live?

## #5 PLAN B

Accidents happen. Condoms snap. It's ladies night at The Bench and you got drunk you can't remember anything when you wake up next to a total stranger. Plan B was made for these situations, and it does its job well. As soon as you realize you may be at risk for what the late Bob Ross would call a "happy little accident," you should run to your nearest convenience store and buy this pill. Sure, they put it in a clunky security box that gives it the stigma of a dangerous substance or weapon and the pill is whoppingly expensive at around \$50 a pop. But so long as you soldier through with your purchase and take the pill within 72 hours (the earlier the better) of having unsafe sex, you should be golden. However, this pill simply isn't meant to be used as birth control. I cannot stress enough that this medication is for rare, incidental use.



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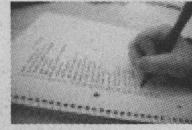
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## In a general election, the Bern is just as electable as Clinton

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

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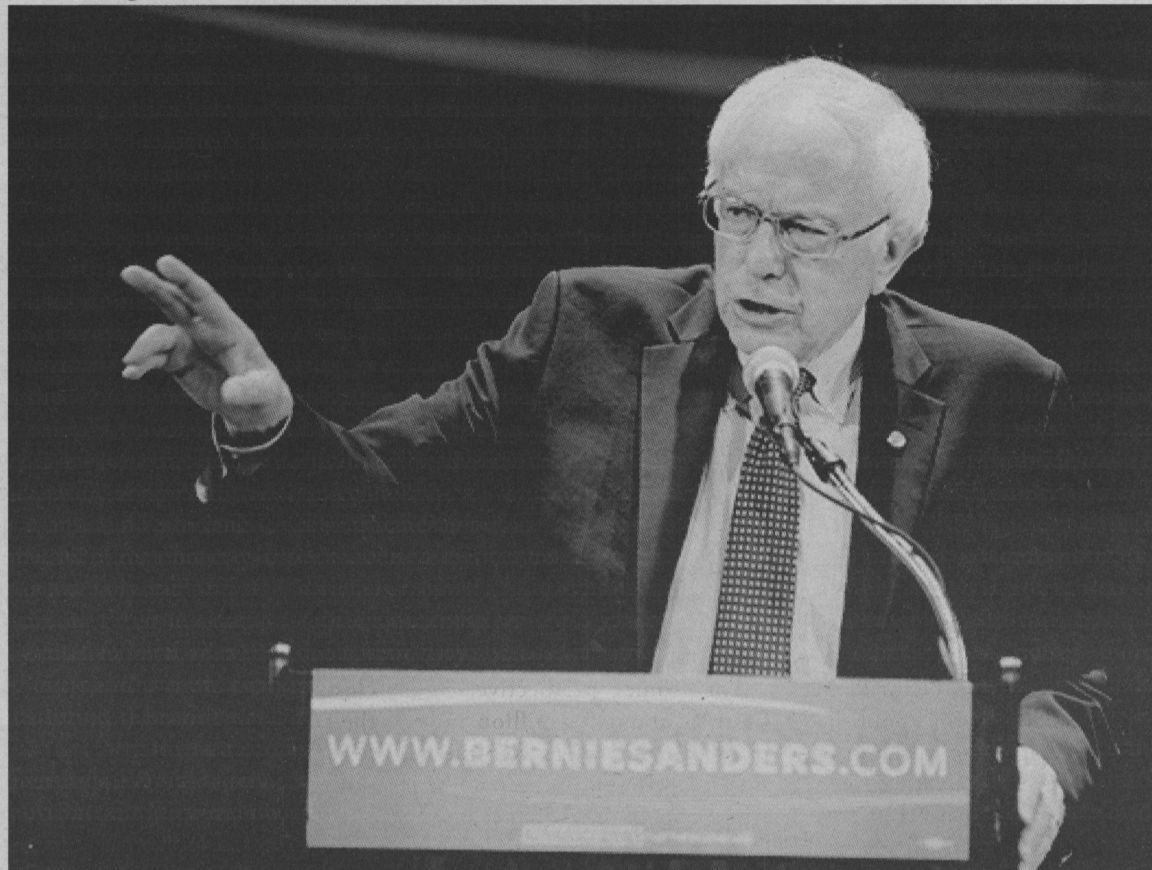


PHOTO CREDIT: MICHAEL VANDON/FICKR

Democratic presidential candidate Bernie Sanders, above, has impressive support from young voters and independents, making a strong case to win a general election.

By Skyler Gilbert  
Staff Writer

"I'm a progressive who gets things done."

It is a phrase that has almost become the slogan for Hillary Clinton's presidential campaign, as the former Secretary of State made the statement again on Thursday night during the latest Democratic debate against her primary opponent, Sen. Bernie Sanders, at the University of New Hampshire.

Putting aside her self-proclaimed "progressive" label—which is a grossly inaccurate categorization for someone whose pockets are filled with Goldman Sachs money—the implicit message from Clinton is that, if elected, she would be a more pragmatic president than Sanders. The line of thinking extends from the long-standing idea that a "fringe" or "radical" candidate as far to the political left as Sanders, a self-proclaimed Democratic socialist, is, would be less able to pass laws than a centrist candidate like Clinton.

However, at this point, the idea from the Clinton campaign that she is more likely to win in a general election matchup is lazy and unvetted.

An ability to "get things done" is one of two arguments Clinton has raised in recent weeks to promote her candidacy—the other being her general election "electability"—as she has veered away from issue-based rhetoric and is now trying to paint herself as a more reasonable candidate that can appeal to a broader base than Sanders, vowing that she can compete better against Republican opponents in November.

Upon first sniff, it is a convincing argument. Many have compared Sanders' candidacy to that of former South Dakota Sen. George

McGovern, the far-left Democratic nominee in 1972 that lost to Republican incumbent Richard Nixon by an astounding 503 electoral vote margin—losing 520 to 17. Ever since that beatdown, the conventional wisdom has been that Democrats lose when they nominate a left-leaning candidate.

In a recent Salon article, University at Albany political scientist Bruce Miroff said, "The more Sanders is taken seriously, the more that radical label, and that extremist label, would be relentless attached to him. It was effective against McGovern."

While it is easy to imagine the attacks from the right-wing against a 74-year-old Jewish socialist from Vermont calling for a "political revolution," but they may not be as effective in today's world, where the dynamics of politics are very different from they were in the '70s.

Last month, one poll found that 43 percent of Iowa Democratic caucus-goers identified themselves as "socialist," more than the number that identified themselves as "capitalist." What used to be considered the extreme is increasingly becoming the new normal, as the political spectrum becomes more polarized.

Democratic voters are unlikely to be turned off by their nominee being a socialist, so the general election consequences for radicalism are not as large. In fact, in a Quinnipiac national poll released on Thursday, Sanders outperformed Clinton against Donald Trump by five percent, against Ted Cruz by four percent and against Marco Rubio by seven percent.

Why? Because in the current political landscape, for independent voters (the determinant voters in general elections), being an anti-establishment candidate actually matters more than one's place on

the political spectrum. It is becoming increasingly common for voters who have winnowed down their support to either Sanders or Trump, two candidates that disagree on virtually every issue, but represent the same frustration with the "same old politics," running populist, anti-establishment campaigns.

In addition, Sanders' electability is enhanced by the passion for his campaign from young Americans. It is no secret that Democrats fare better when the younger electorate shows up to vote on Election Day, and the fate of the elections has proven to hinge on the turnout of young voters. According to Tufts University data, when Democrat Barack Obama took office in the 2008 election, youth (18-29 years old) voter turnout was 51.1 percent. In 1992, when Democrat Bill Clinton took office, youth voter turnout was 52.0 percent.

When Republican George W. Bush shocked Democrat Al Gore in 2000? Youth turnout was a dismal 40.3 percent.

It is undeniable that Sanders has energized young voters more than Clinton has so far in this election cycle. In Iowa, the senator beat the secretary by, brace yourself, 70 percent among young voters, leading 84 percent to 14 percent in the opening-caucus state. Sanders outperformed Obama, who led the Iowa youth vote by 43 percent in 2008. In today's politics, general elections are, more than ever before, dependent on campaign enthusiasm.

The Sanders campaign, a campaign that has received a record-to-this-point 3.25 million individual contributors, averaging \$27 per donation, has a significant advantage in campaign excitement.

Based on recent history, that makes him the most electable general election candidate.

# Calm Uranus, the existence of Planet Nine is not yet certain

By Timothy Sarro  
Contributing Writer

If you follow any media outlets, you've likely heard we found a new planet. That's exciting news.

Except, we actually haven't. Not yet, at least.

Contrary to what most popular news outlets are saying, we haven't officially found a new planet in our solar system just yet. What we have found is a lot of really convincing evidence that there might be an undiscovered planet out there.

Don't get me wrong, this is still exciting news, but until we collect more data and directly observe this "Planet Nine," we can still only officially say there are eight planets we know of in our solar system.

Let's dig into what we know so far. According to scientists Konstantin Batygin and Michael E. Brown, in their paper "Evidence for a Distant Giant Planet in the Solar System" published in *The Astronomical Journal*, the existence of a relatively large planet outside the orbit of Neptune would explain the peculiar orbits of several bodies in the Kuiper Belt.

What's the Kuiper Belt, you say? I'm glad you asked.

Similar to the Asteroid Belt, the collection of large rocky bodies in between Mars and Jupiter, the Kuiper Belt consists of large icy bodies in between the orbit of Neptune and the infinite nothingness of space. You might have heard of one of these bodies, Pluto. The Kuiper Belt extends pret-



PHOTO CREDIT: THE INTERNATIONAL ASTRONOMICAL UNION

**The mysterious Planet Nine, a new astronomical controversy, is supposed to be hiding beyond Neptune. Its elongated orbit is estimated to take over 15,000 years to complete.**

ty far out into space.

For some perspective, the Earth is about 93 million miles from the Sun, while Neptune is about 2.8 billion miles from the Sun. The Kuiper Belt extends from just after Neptune's orbit to 4.65 billion miles from the Sun. Some Kuiper Belt objects extend even further than that. It's these distant bodies that makes scientists think Planet Nine is out there.

The orbits of several of these bodies are all highly elliptical, which just means their orbits are big ovals that come close to the sun then swing far out towards the edges of the Solar System. They all swing out in relative-

ly the same direction and come closest to the sun in relatively the same place. Though there are some variations in length of the orbits, they have the same angle of tilt relative to the sun. According to the scientists, there's a 1 in 14,285 chance that orbits this similar would occur randomly. Though possible, it's more likely something is manipulating their orbits.

That's where Planet Nine comes in.

The scientists, after creating some models, concluded a ninth planet outside the orbit of Neptune could gravitationally "shepherd" these bodies into their similar orbits. The models predict

the planet's mass would be about 10 times larger than Earth's. And it's no wonder we haven't seen it yet—this planet's orbit would be huge. Neptune, being 2.8 billion mile distance from the sun, takes about 162 years to complete one orbit, while Planet Nine might reach a distance of 20 billion miles from the Sun and take between 15,000-20,000 years to complete one orbit.

But again, none of this has been proven just yet.

Personally, I don't understand is why everyone is losing their mind over a planet we're not sure even exists when we've confirmed the existence of planets orbiting stars trillions upon tril-

lions of miles away. The Kepler Space Telescope has detected over 1,000 planets outside the Solar System, some of which are likely capable of supporting life.

Don't get me wrong, the possibility of discovering a new planet in our own backyard excites me, but the thought of finding new life forms, on planets we know exist, to study or maybe even talk to excites me way more. So unless this is the planet David Bowie went home to, I'd appreciate a photo to at least look at.

Finally, let's talk Pluto. Some of you may feel Pluto is being replaced, but let's be clear, Pluto was mis-categorized as a planet in the first place. It was one of the first Kuiper Belt objects ever discovered. Naturally, we jumped at the chance to claim the discovery of a new planet, kind of like now. We speculated about its size and composition before we had any good data or even got a decent look at it, kind of like now. Pluto is far more like its brothers and sisters in the Kuiper Belt than any of the planets. If Pluto's big heart, seen by the New Horizons probe, tells us anything, Pluto is happy with his family.

We're all very excited about the possibility of discovering a new planet, as we should be. But—and this is coming from one of the biggest space nerds on campus—can we all calm down a bit until we get some more solid evidence? In the meantime, I'm going to keep my eyes and ears open for the confirmation. Maybe I'll even grab a telescope and look for Planet Nine myself.

## A slow clap for Stony Brook's Campus Residences

By Manju Shivacharan  
Staff Writer

Last year, just after Spring Break, I wrote an article about a personal experience: my bike was confiscated from a bicycle rack outside the Student Union because it had been considered "abandoned."

Fast forward to December 12, 2015, 1:27 a.m.; I receive an email from the Assistant Director of Residential Risk Management, Daniel Soszynski. His email was a "friendly reminder" to students to make sure that we take our bicycles home with us when we leave for winter intersession.

He also added a caveat in his email that abandoned bikes would be tagged for removal.

But the joke was on him. I already took my bike home when I drove back to Maryland for Thanksgiving. But that's not why I'm writing about this again. The purpose of this is about a second email I received on Dec. 15, again from Soszynski.

He said he received several responses to his first email and wanted to answer some questions that were raised. Overall, he told us that we are "strongly encouraged" to take our bikes home with us if we are able to do so.

But near the end of his email was a short snippet of information about a free bicycle registration program

headed up by Campus Residences' Residential Risk Management. The program is pretty much exactly what I recommended in my piece from last year, but I give complete credit to Campus Residences for creating this solution.

So what's the solution? An online registration form using Stony Brook's Qualtrics service and a sticker. That's it; bicyclists are asked to complete the online form, and go to the Campus Residences Office to receive a sticker that corresponds to the registration information they provided for the database.

Full disclosure: I haven't completed this yet. I plan on doing so when I bring my bike back after Spring Break.

I'm proud of Campus Residences for coming up with a solution, but I think there's still work to be done.

For example, I received the email about it at the very end of finals week. Why wasn't it sent out earlier in the semester, giving students the opportunity to register their bike before they went home for winter break? I know there were students who were done with finals and had gone home during the first week of finals.

Here's a couple things I noticed, and potential solutions:

Why haven't I heard about this? Market it! The solution is there, you created it. Now make sure everyone knows about it, that it's men-



ERIC SCHMID / THE STATESMAN

**The Campus Residences Office recently implemented a service that allows students to register their bikes on campus, but there's no information about this service online.**

tioned somewhere in the numerous booklets of information all students receive when they step foot on this campus.

But don't forget to let graduate students, faculty and staff know about it too. I think a great way to do this is through a mass email. But not everyone checks their emails, so make sure you market it in

other ways too.

If you go to the Office of Sustainability's website, there is a plethora of information about biking at Stony Brook. But there's no mention of this registration program anywhere. Fix that. Contact someone at the Office of Sustainability's web team and get this information on there. People can learn information about Paul Simons

Memorial Bike Path, to the Bike Storage Lockers, but no mention about this registration program.

Congratulations Stony Brook, in particular Campus Residences.

You created a solution to a problem. I just hope the Office of Sustainability doesn't resort to breaking u-locks, collecting and storing bikes again.

# I have a dream that we won't be so politically correct

By Nick Zararis  
Staff Writer

"I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the by the color of their skin, but by the content of their character" has been on a plaque outside the student union at the University of Oregon since 1986. But the meddling of the politically correct culture spreading like wildfire on college campuses put the plaque's future temporarily at risk.

The university's student union was under construction when the director of the student union, Laurie Woodward, asked if the quote should be kept or a new one that was more relevant and inclusive to students. One student responded asking: "Does the MLK quote represent us today?" Students on campus had to consider this, and ultimately determine if the plaque would remain. And there was an actual discussion about this; people genuinely didn't think the quote fit anymore.

Although the plaque lives on, Mia Ashley, a sophomore architecture student at the University of Oregon who felt the plaque wasn't inclusive enough, said, "Obviously race still plays a big role. But there are people who identify differently in gender and

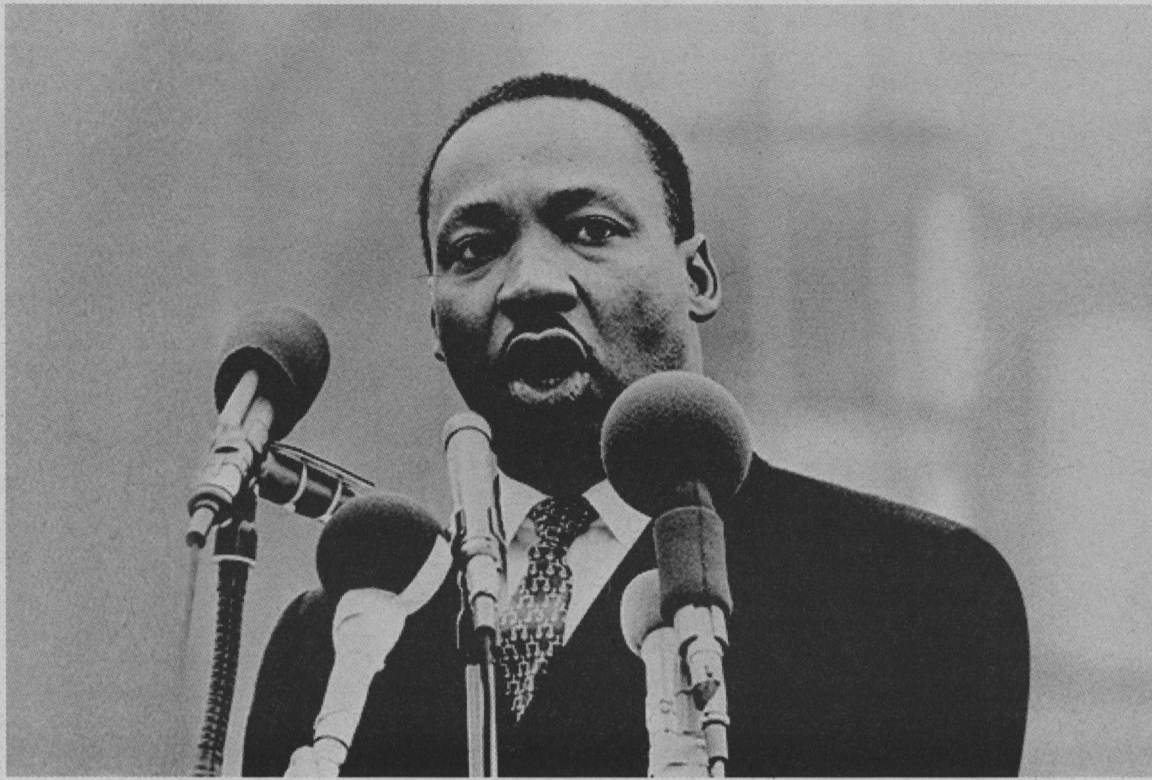


PHOTO CREDIT: NASA

**The famous "I have a dream" quote from Martin Luther King Jr., above, was almost removed from a plaque at the University of Oregon when students voiced inclusivity issues.**

all sorts of things like that."

I completely agree with that statement above, but this presents a dangerous notion—modifying or censoring history to avoid offending a particular special interest group is not something anybody should be doing, especially institutions of higher learning. Universities were once the breeding ground for

revolutionary ideas, places old America and establishment politics genuinely feared. But today, college is very much part of that establishment.

"Those who do not learn history are doomed to repeat it" is a notion that rings true in this case. As great a civilization as America is, it isn't too far removed from some very dark moments. Our

founding fathers have near god-like places in history, but all of them owned slaves. The moment we forget about our past is the moment when the future becomes a lot more bleak.

To those on college campuses who want to remove symbols of the past, rename buildings, or change mascots, I say this: Yes, modifying the present of sym-

bols of the past can be logical in some cases. Removing the Confederate battle flag, a symbol of oppression and racism, is an acceptable case. But in general, instead of trying to fix the past and its imperfections, we need to focus on what the real issue is: the future.

This is the one issue on Donald Trump's platform that makes rational sense in the real world, and it is, as he says, "yuge." Political correctness for the sake of trying to not offend anyone isn't healthy. Political correctness is in fact a form of censorship, and when a population allows themselves to be censored, you start entering a scary realm. Words have meaning and words have power; that's why this concept is so crucial.

There is an episode of Family Guy where Stewie and Brian are traveling across Europe and at one point, they are on a sight-seeing tour in Germany. While skimming a pamphlet, Brian notices that German history from 1939-1945 is blank. Although this is obviously satire, it is reflecting on where society is heading. We have to own our history as Americans, and some of it isn't pretty. But moments in time where we have genuine good, like Dr. King's "I Have a Dream" speech, shouldn't be shunned. They should be embraced.

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# CHINESE NEW YEAR FESTIVAL



To ring in the Chinese New Year, the Confucius Institute at Stony Brook hosted a New Years Celebration at the Charles B. Wang Center on Saturday, February 6, 2016. The program included numerous exhibitions by groups from across Long Island, including the Song Island Performing Arts Group, the Harbor Country Day School and the Stony Brook Youth Group, among others. 2016 marks the beginning of the "Year of the Monkey" based on the traditional Chinese lunar calendar.

*Photos by Manju Shivacharan*



# Warney named a finalist for Karl Malone Award, also sets conference record

By Kunal Kohli  
Staff Writer

Two America East Player of the Year Awards, two Associated Press All-America honorable mentions, an abundance of all-conference honors in different categories and Stony Brook Men's Basketball's top player is still going.

Senior forward Jameel Warney's list of accolades may become even longer, as the Stony Brook star was named a finalist for the Karl Malone Award.

Named after the Hall of Famer and two-time Most Valuable Player, the Karl Malone Award was instituted in 2015 to honor the best senior power forward in the country.

Former Louisville forward and current Houston Rocket Montrezl Harrell won the award in its inaugural season.

In October 2015, 20 players were named to the watchlist for the award. Earlier this year, 16 semifinalists were named, and that number was cut down to 10 earlier today.

Warney has been one of the premier players in the country this season. The reigning two-time America East Player of the Year is ranked third in the country in blocks per game with 3.04 per contest and total blocks with 70 on the year. Warney is also seventh in the nation in double-doubles, with 16 on the sea-

son, and top 15 in total rebounds and rebounds per game.

In the America East, Warney leads the conference in scoring, rebounds and blocks. He is also second in field goal percentage, shooting 61.9 percent from the field so far this campaign. Warney has led the Seawolves on their nation-best 15-game winning streak.

The competition for the second-ever Karl Malone Award is stacked as Arizona's Ryan Anderson, Baylor's Taurean Prince, Gonzaga's Kyle Wiltjer, Iowa State's Georges Niang, Kansas's Perry Ellis, Louisiana-Lafayette's Shawn Long, Marquette's Henry Ellenson, New Mexico State's Pascal Siakam and North Carolina's Brice Johnson all are competing with Warney for a shot at history.

In a contest last Saturday afternoon between two of the favorites to earn the America East's automatic bid into the NCAA Tournament, Stony Brook and Vermont, it was one player who stole the show: Warney.

The New Jersey-native scored 23 points, grabbed 10 rebounds and also blocked four shots in the men's basketball team's 72-61 victory to go with another double-double on Jan. 25 in a win against Maine to earn his conference-record 15th America East Player of the Week award.

Warney's performances during



CHRISTOPHER CAMERON / THE STATESMAN

Senior forward Jameel Warney (No. 20, above) was named a finalist for the Karl Malone Award on Thursday. He is averaging 18.3 points, 10.6 rebounds and 3 blocks per game.

the two games earned him his fifth Player of the Week honor this season, as the Seawolves have played their way to a 10-0 record in the America East, putting Stony Brook in first place.

The player looking to grab his third America East Player of the Year title has also broken many school records this season.

Warney surpassed current Seawolves Director of Basketball Operations Bryan Dougher in the career points department, breaking the 2012 graduate's

previous Division I scoring record of 1,609 points in a Dec. 12 loss at Northeastern. He also moved past former teammate and 2013 America East Player of the Year Tommy Brenton in career rebounds, which had been set at 1,115.

Behind Warney, Stony Brook won its first game at Vermont during the regular season since 2010, when the Seawolves won the regular season conference title before eventually falling to Boston University in the America

East semifinals.

Head coach Steve Pikiell's team did not falter this week, playing its way to No. 40 on KenPom.com, a college basketball analytics website, with wins over Binghamton and UMass Lowell.

The Seawolves will look to keep their nation-best winning streak alive as the conference schedule winds down, starting with a contest in Island Federal Credit Union Arena against Hartford on Monday night at 7 p.m.

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# Women's Basketball picks up home win over UMass Lowell after road loss

By Skyler Gilbert and Alex Blanc

Staff Writer and Contributing Writer

Stony Brook Women's Basketball returned to the win column on Saturday against UMass Lowell after dropping its third-straight conference road game on Wednesday to Binghamton. With five minutes remaining, head coach Caroline McCombs' Seawolves led by just one point against the lowly River Hawks.

From there, junior guard Christa Scognamiglio and the Seawolves took the game over. Scognamiglio buried a 3-pointer and a layup to spark a 13-0 Stony Brook run, as the team stormed in front, grabbing a 60-46 victory on Saturday afternoon.

"Those were a couple of big shots," Scognamiglio said. "My teammates found me and I attacked to the basket and found the openings. Our team just did a really good job moving the ball around, and that makes it easier to attack the lane."

Junior guard Kori Bayne-Walker was crucial to the team's success facilitating the basketball. Bayne-Walker, making her return from an injury that had sidelined her for the previous nine games, dished out seven assists—more than the entire UMass Lowell team—as the Seawolves committed a season-low six turnovers under the point guard's offensive orchestration.

"It's great playing with Kori;

she's so fun to play with," Scognamiglio. "She is probably the most unselfish player I have ever played with. She really wants to get everyone involved, getting as many assists as she can. I'm glad that she's back."

The contest had a less-than-desirable start for Stony Brook, whose offense started the game missing its first 11 field goal attempts, as UMass Lowell took an 8-0 lead early on. The Seawolves finally got on the board nearly eight minutes into the game, when Scognamiglio swished a 3-pointer, much to the relief of the Island Federal Credit Union Arena crowd.

Much of the first-quarter scoring woes from the Seawolves could be attributed to the team's inability to deal with the River Hawks' imposing size. Three of the UMass Lowell starters measured 6-foot-1 or taller.

"We talked about that at halftime," McCombs said. "I told them not to let [UMass Lowell's] length and size deter us from attacking the basket with guard penetration. We didn't get that in the first half, so that was an adjustment that we made."

After scoring 22 points in the first half, Stony Brook scored 38 in the second half. The increase in offensive production came from two main sources—second-chance points and points off turnovers. In the game's final 20 minutes, the Seawolves led in second-chance points, 12-0, as freshman cen-



BRIDGET DOWNES / THE STATESMAN

**Junior guard Christa Scognamiglio (No. 4, above) scored 12 points on 5-for-10 shooting in a 60-46 win over UMass Lowell on Saturday. Stony Brook is now 15-8.**

ter Ogechi Anyagaligbo secured four offensive rebounds in the second half.

Senior forward Brittany Snow scored 16 points for Stony Brook, shooting 8-for-12 from the free-throw line.

Stony Brook was on the verge of a valiant comeback in Binghamton on Wednesday night, but came up short, losing 54-47.

Turnovers plagued the Seawolves. They amassed 19 throughout the game, with a couple of key turnovers occurring within the

final three minutes. Stony Brook led at halftime, but found itself down eight midway through the third quarter. Binghamton led by just three with 4:17 to play after a Snow lay-up, but responded with a 7-0 run to take control.

The Bearcats had a +10 turnover margin despite struggling offensively. Binghamton's leading scorer was sophomore guard Imani Watkins, who notched 17 points. Freshman guard Rebecca Carmody added 12 points.

The Seawolves were held to a

mere 47 points, their lowest total since mid-December. They shot just 36 percent from the field as a team. A silver lining in spite of the poor offensive output was freshman guard Davion Wingate, who recorded 19 points, three 3-pointers and six rebounds.

Stony Brook is now 7-3 in America East conference play and 15-8 overall, rebounding after losing three of its last four games. On Monday, the team will play at Hartford in a 7 p.m. conference matchup.

# Stony Brook Football obtains 14 commitments on National Signing Day

By Christian Peraino

Staff Writer

Although the Stony Brook Football team capped off its 2015 season with three consecutive wins, the Seawolves' campaign ended in disappointment.

The squad missed the playoffs, finishing with a 3-5 Colonial Athletic Association record. Head coach Chuck Priore added 14 new members to his squad, including two transfers from Boston College, with hopes to bolster his team's scoring woes, as National Signing Day came to a close on Wednesday.

Stony Brook finished its 2015 season ranked No. 102 in the Football Championship Subdivision for total offense. Although remaining dominant on defense, which once again ranked best in the nation, a lack of a passing attack created third-down and scoring deficiencies.

Junior wide receiver Sherman Alston Jr., a New Jersey native, as well as sophomore running back Jordan Gowins, a Bellport native and St. Anthony's graduate, are both transferring from Boston College a team that finished 0-8 in Atlantic Coast Conference play last season.

Alston Jr. has significant potential to add to Stony Brook's special teams department, displaying his ability to create better field position.

Only standing 5-feet-6-inches, the crafty runner returned 38 punts for an average of 8.1 yards per return, along with 47 carries for 388 yards and 23 receptions for 252 yards on last year's Golden Eagles squad.

Gowins saw limited action during his freshman year in Boston, but received the 2013 Hansen Award for the top player in Suffolk County after rushing for 896 yards and 11 touchdowns on

just 101 carries.

"Offensively we wanted to get some explosive players," Priore said in a video on Stony Brook Athletics' website. "We feel that we got guys who can change the field position and add to the point total."

Stony Brook's only other transfer comes in the form of junior Ben Holmes, the two-year Nassau Community College starting quarterback from Orchard Park.

The dual threat quarterback, who can throw and run the football, went a perfect 9-0 his freshman year, completing 57.9 of his passes for 1,234 yards and 15 touchdowns. Holmes also rushed for 1,612 yards en route to a Northeast Football Conference Title, Conference Offensive Player of the Year Award and first team All-Northeast Conference honors during the 2014 season.

A pair of signees from Archbishop Stepinac High School, a favorite recruiting hub of Stony Brook, will be Seawolves for the next campaign. Quarterback Tyquell Fields and cornerback Terrell "TJ" Morrison will also wear red and white next season after leading the Crusaders to their second-straight Catholic High School AAA Championship.

First-team all Long Islander Anthony Catapano from Carey High School, also the Martine Award winner as Nassau County's top lineman, will be a Seawolf. Another Long Islander, All-County defensive back Augustus "Augie" Contessa from Commack High School, and All-New York City

honorable mention Tahriq Gordon from Nazareth High School in Brooklyn account for the rest of New York recruits.

Two players from Florida, high school football powerhouse defensive end Peterson Octavien and offensive lineman Ian McLean, have declared their intention to join Priore's squad.

Also making the trip north will be linebacker Tyrek Graham, who played wide receiver, safety and linebacker for his All-Conference 2015 season in Williamsburg, Virginia.

Closer to home, linebacker Elijah "EJ" Fineran from Bethlehem Catholic High School in Pennsylvania will join this year's class.

Fineran recorded 31 receptions for 730 yards as a junior, and was named All-Conference as both a receiver and a defensive back.

Wrapping up the list is Carteret, New Jersey's Sam Kamara. The defensive lineman received first team conference honors in 2015, as well as the Mini Max Award, a New Jersey accolade based on performance, academic achievement and community service.

"We got everybody we targeted from a perspective of the commitments. That's always awesome, no late surprises. Like the class, it's got a good balance," Priore said. "Overall, pleased."

The Seawolves will kick off their 2016 campaign on Sept. 3 when they host the North Dakota Fighting Hawks, a non-conference foe, at Kenneth P. LaValle Stadium.



CHRISTOPHER CAMERON / THE STATESMAN

**Head coach Chuck Priore, above, added 14 new members to his football squad, including two Boston College transfers, in hopes of bolstering the team's offense.**

# SPORTS

## Stony Brook Ice Hockey reclaims top spot in rankings as Nationals near

By Andrew Eichenholz  
Sports Editor

The Stony Brook Ice Hockey team was right on the doorstep of reaching its goal. Last March, the Seawolves played in the American Collegiate Hockey Association Men's Division I Final against Central Oklahoma. One win separated the team from its first national title.

But the Seawolves did not have enough to take down the Bronchos, falling just short of the "promised land" in a 4-0 loss.

Now, 11 months later, No. 1-ranked Stony Brook is carrying a zamboni full of momentum into the end of the season as it attempts to take the next step and become national champions.

"Obviously when you can earn the right to be the number one team in the entire country, it gives you a great deal of confidence, but being able to stay at the number one spot is the biggest challenge," Stony Brook head coach Chris Garofalo said. "Everyone who you play wants to knock you out of the number one spot so each game is even that much more intense."

Stony Brook has been a hunted team all season long, picking up the top spot in the rankings for the third time this year earlier in the week.

As the squad gets set for the stretch run, the players have not forgotten how close they were to raising the trophy a year ago.

"I think the experience we went through last year and making it all the way to the National Championship game has given our team the confidence we need when heading into this year's National Tournament," Garofalo said. "It also has made the players that much hungrier because we were so close last

year to winning it all."

The Seawolves have shown that hunger, jumping out to a 24-2 start. Stony Brook is on an 11-game winning streak, with the top team in the nation last losing back on Nov. 14 against Adrian.

The Seawolves will play the Dutchmen of Lebanon Valley twice this weekend, looking to avenge their first loss of the season from Oct. 11.

Then, the team has a chance to exact revenge on the team that took Garofalo's squad out of nationals last season: Central Oklahoma. While both teams are ranked inside the top-11 in the country, Stony Brook's head coach believes that his players will be up for the challenge.

"This team is a very close-knit group," Garofalo said. "They never give up no matter what situation is in front of them,"

Once the regular season comes to a close, the Seawolves will look to gain momentum for nationals when they compete in the Eastern States Collegiate Hockey League Playoffs, which will take place at Lebanon Valley from Feb. 19 to Feb. 21.

A win at the tournament will earn Stony Brook its fourth straight championship at the event in only its fifth year competing in it.

This year's ACHA Men's Division I National Championships will be played from March 3 to March 8 at the Edge Ice Arena in Bensenville, Illinois, Robert Morris' home ice.

"I feel all the guys are ready and focused and know what they need to do in order to bring home a National Championship," Garofalo said. "This is a special group and I'm really proud of all we have done so far this year but we are not finished yet."

## Men's Basketball takes two to bring nation-leading winning streak to 15



BRIDGET DOWNES / THE STATESMAN

Senior guard Carson Puriefoy (No. 10, above) has averaged 14.5 points and 2.5 3-pointers per game in Stony Brook Men's Basketball's last two wins.

By David Vertsberger  
Assistant Sports Editor

Stony Brook Men's Basketball added two more wins to its nation-leading streak this week, topping Binghamton at home 76-51 on Wednesday and UMass Lowell on the road 91-73 on Saturday.

Senior forward Jameel Warney finished with 24 points and 14 rebounds on 10-for-14 shooting, junior guard Lucas Woodhouse recorded his second straight game with four 3-pointers made and all five Seawolves starters finished with double-digit scoring.

The River Hawks trailed by nine at the halftime break, but fell behind by as much as 25 in the second half. Stony Brook's slow start turned around behind stifling defense and a barrage of 3-pointers. UMass Lowell shot just 41.2 percent from the field in the contest's final 20 minutes, while head coach Steve Pikiell's squad shot 9-for-24 on 3-pointers on the afternoon.

Senior guard Carson Puriefoy had an impact everywhere, finishing with 17 points, nine rebounds, two steals, two blocks and three 3-pointers.

UMass Lowell kept it close with Stony Brook in the first half, leading in the early minutes 6-2. This would end up being its largest lead of the game, as the Seawolves responded with a 10-2 run.

Warney set the tone early with 13 points and eight rebounds in the first half, but the River Hawks' 2-3 zone caused some problems.

Stony Brook turned the ball over eight times in the opening 20 minutes, but made up for it on the offensive glass with 10 second-chance points.

UMass Lowell went on a 7-0 spurt to take a one-point lead midway through the first half, but Stony Brook used a 15-5 run to close the period up nine.

On Wednesday, Stony Brook let loose its version of the "Splash Brothers" in a 76-51 win over Binghamton. Woodhouse and sophomore guard Bryan Sekunda each hit four 3-pointers in the victory.

"I told our guys it was going to be a 40-minute grind," Pikiell said. "I was never worried about the looks we were getting... We shared the ball, 20 assists again, which is a great number for us."

The Seawolves trailed by one at halftime and made just three 3-pointers in the first half before matching that total seven minutes into the second.

They would pile on with a 16-0 run midway through the second half, finishing

11-for-19 from behind the arc against the Bearcats' 2-3 zone.

"I don't ever want to take 19 threes, but a lot of them were wide open and what we had," Pikiell said. "That's not the identity I want to have but we have good enough 3-point shooters to shoot the ball. A lot of these guys, Bryan [Sekunda] was here last year but he wasn't shooting the way he's shooting this year. I think our passing has improved which has really helped our shooting. [Puriefoy's] playing off-the-ball too now and he's a good shooter now. When you bring that ball up every time, you're tired and it affects your shooting ability. Lucas [Woodhouse] has kind of taken that away from him and now he's able to really concentrate on scoring."

Woodhouse led the way with 14 points, while Sekunda added 12. Five players finished in double figures for Stony Brook, including 13 from Warney, who recorded another double-double. Puriefoy hit two 3-pointers in a 12-point, four-rebound and five-assist performance.

The Seawolves turned around a rough first-half effort with increased ball movement and constant motion, which broke down the Bearcats' zone. After turning the ball over seven times in the first half, Stony Brook committed just one in the second.

"I think it was just people driving and kicking, getting in the paint instead of just swinging it around with no dribble in the paint," Woodhouse said. "People were just kicking, I was open and I was looking for my shot."

Leading the way for Binghamton was sophomore forward Willie Rodriguez, with 16 points and nine rebounds, and junior guard Marlon Beck II with 12 points.

Senior forward Rayshaun McGrew set the tone early for Stony Brook, scoring seven of its first nine points. Binghamton went to its zone early, and McGrew found creases in the defense on the baseline. He also held Rodriguez, who leads Binghamton in scoring, to 1-for-5 shooting out of the gates.

A 10-0 Seawolves run put Stony Brook ahead by nine, but the Bearcats did not fold like many of Stony Brook's past opponents. They responded with a 16-4 run of their own, holding Warney to 2-for-5 shooting in the opening 20 minutes.

"I had to find a balance between being aggressive and passing the ball," Warney said. "They played great defense."

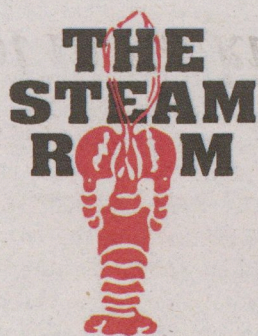
Next up for Stony Brook is a home game against Hartford on Monday, Feb. 8 at 7 p.m.



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