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"IGNITING THE MIND"

OldWestburyCatalyst.org

"Cracked Ice" by Del Geist



Credit: Vincent Arroyo

By Kayla Joseph

A three person crew from Lyle Welding Fabrication of Poultney, Vermont, began construction of three towering structures by artist Del Geist, outside the Campus Center On March 18. "Cracked Ice" is the first major public art exhibition erected on the campus in over forty years.

"Cracked Ice" features three sculptures made of stone and stainless steel. "Laurentide," the largest of the sculptures standing at 18 feet tall, is named for the Laurentide Glacier. "Muir," the smaller sculpture with the large boulder, is named after the 19th century glaciologist



Credit: Vincent Arroyo

John Muir. "Champlain" stands 10.5 feet tall and is named after Lake Champlain in New York and Vermont. The sculptures use 'glacial erratic' boulders from upstate New York.

In 2019, Geist came up with the idea for "Cracked Ice" because of the ongoing climate crisis.

(Cont. on page 3.)

**SPORTS
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President Sams' 3rd Anniversary on Campus



Credit: Ryan Gaetan

Olivia Ambery's interview with President Sams.

By Olivia Ambery

President Timothy Sams celebrated his third Old Westbury anniversary on January 11, 2024. His leadership expertise is based on more than 30 years of experience in higher education. In 2023, *City & State* named him one of the "Long Island Power 100." Sams is focused on creating a world class student experience and investing in the school's future. His leadership style is measured, calculated, and persistent. Patience is one of his key virtues.

Social justice and diversity are important to Sams. He is a humanitarian with a respect for dignity. "I want this place to be a haven for people who believe in social justice, even environmental justice," Sams said. "Our students [should] feel secure, our students [should] feel welcome and affirmed, and our faculty [thinks] about what it means to be a school committed to social justice," he said with a smile.

President Sams took office during a difficult time for New York State and for America as a whole. Inheriting a college during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic was completely blindsiding. Sams considers bringing everybody back to campus after the lockdown to be one of his greatest accomplishments. "There was no handbook for COVID-19," He

recalled. "Closest you would get would be a measles or mumps outbreak on a campus when you look at emergency response plans."

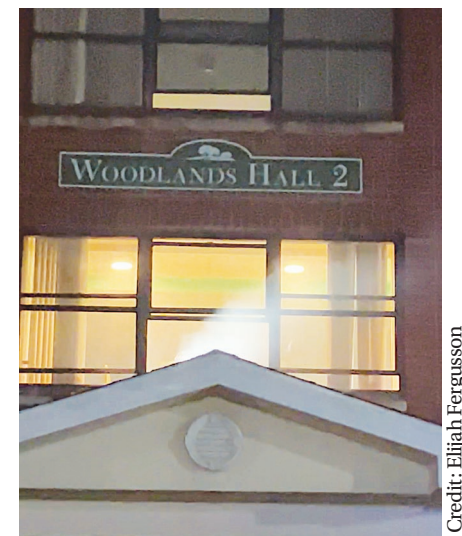
To bring people back to campus he recognized the necessity for collaboration. Having a team who actively stayed engaged was a huge asset for keeping a safe and respectful campus life.

Dr. Sams' goal is to institute a residential college model to create a school of brilliant students and future leaders. He hopes to encourage students to live a life shaped by their undergraduate or graduate program. "Every intellectual pursuit has a corresponding lifestyle," said President Sams. "Not every school teaches its graduates how to live a lifestyle in association with that chosen pursuit."

The residential college model is inspired by programs he witnessed in top colleges around the nation. Old Westbury could become a solid pillar of excellence even with a smaller student body than some institutions. "This isn't about size," Sams stated. "It's about quality. ... When you look at our faculty, when you look at our students, when you look at the quality of education they receive, we can make a good case that we do a very stand up job in comparison."

(Cont. on page 3.)

The Dryer That Caught Fire



Credit: Elijah Fergusson

Smoke coming from the Woodlands Hall 2 window.

By Joanna Vissichelli

The fire alarms "woke me up and it was scary," said Resident Assistant, Uwanique Brown. "That was just my train of thought: 'Get up, get outside, get the students outside.'"

At about 2:10 in the morning on Wednesday, April 3, students from Woodlands Hall 2 were abruptly woken up. Four hours later, the Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students, Dr. Randall Edouard, informed the campus community through an email that a fire occurred in the residence hall. The email explained, "The Office of Residential Life staff and members of the University Police Department evacuated the building and the Westbury Fire Department responded and extinguished the fire before 2:30 a.m."

Later that evening, Dr. Edouard notified the community that a dryer on the second floor of the building caused the fire.

Students from Woodlands Hall 2 were transferred to Woodlands Hall 5, where they will be located for the remainder of the semester.

Brown recalled seeing smoke as students waited outside their building eager to find out what was happening.

(Cont. on page 3.)

**PROFILES
PAGES
12-13**

The “Does” and Don’ts of Road Safety on Campus

By Olivia Ambery

Have you run into a deer on campus? You aren’t alone. The SUNY Old Westbury community has been battling an unexpected, furry obstacle—deer have become infamous for popping up all around campus.

Night and day, rain or shine, spring and fall, the deer are out there. Students have had numerous encounters with wildlife all over campus, from the main entrance at Gate A all the way to roads behind the Woodland Halls or the Student Union.

Is this a matter for concern? Deer have a tendency to walk on roads and stop in place while cars are driving, making themselves a danger to all drivers.

Sightings on campus are mostly unexpected, likely due to a lack of deer crossing signs. Only two are reported across Old Westbury’s 604 acres—one right by entrance A and one behind

Woodland Halls. However, a majority of sightings take place in between them, with main lookout spots being on Ring Road, Wenwood Drive, or Elm Road, more populated streets by the main buildings.

One student said that her encounter took place during the evening in October, which is regarded as prime deer season. She was on the alert for deer at dusk after leaving an evening class. “I looked up and there were three or four of them crossing the street right in front of me,” said Alexandra Castillo, a commuter student. “I used to play a game with myself, whether

I’d see them today or not, since I was always expecting to.”

“They stop in the middle of the street,” said Sam Robinson, sharing her encounter from the winter of her sophomore year. “We were there for like, 5 minutes honking. They still didn’t move until I got out of the car and walked towards it.”

It’s hard to see deer crossing at night. Drivers must be aware of the risk of hitting a deer, especially in the dark because of a noticeable lack of streetlights on campus roads. “At night, half of the streetlights don’t even turn on,” laughed Robinson, a dorming student.



Credit: Dylan Murphy

Deer on campus.

Deer sightings also bring attention to the many runners who share the roads on campus. Both students and residents from nearby neighborhoods use these same, beautiful streets as their personal tree-lined track. Runners in dark clothing are hard to see between dusk and dawn. That dark shape in the shadows could be a deer or a jogger. A lack of protective gear such as reflective clothing or running lights can make them just as invisible at night.

Every driver on campus should pay much closer attention to the road, following appropriate safety measures like headlights and driving slowly. Deer may be cute, but safety always comes first—keep your eyes peeled for anything that can put you at risk!

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The Dryer That Caught Fire

By Joanna Vissichelli

“It was very chaotic,” she said. “There was a lot of questioning.”

Transfer students, Elijah Fergusson and Joseyline Florentino, thought it was just another drill at first. Florentino grabbed her jacket and went outside. She explained that once the fire department showed up to extinguish the fire, students began to realize that the alarms indicated an actual fire. Like Brown, she saw smoke come out of a second floor window.

Fergusson, who was on the first floor when the fire began, exited without any of his belongings. “I went outside quickly without grabbing anything, and then later on, when I’m hearing it was a real fire, then I was like, ‘I should’ve grabbed stuff’ because I didn’t have anything,” he said. He thought the fire alarms took longer to shut off than they usually would for drills, which indicated it may have been a real fire.

While the fire alarm stood out to some students during the incident, sophomore Fevour Edosa had a different experience. Edosa also thought it was just a drill, but remembered hearing a “stampede” of students. She left everything, including her phone, in her room. “I don’t care about my clothes. I don’t care,” she said, “my life is important.”

SUNY Old Westbury’s CFO & Vice President of Business and Finance, Martha Santana sent an email to *The Catalyst* and the Media Innovation Center

about the cause of the fire. She explained, “the Fire Marshal determined that the fire was deemed an accident caused by overfilling the dryer and the presence of some plastic material found inside the dryer.”

The dryer was a Speed Queen Commercial dryer. However, the model was not visible, Santana wrote.

According to R.A. Brown, there have been student complaints about the dryers in the past. Students believe there should be replacements and repairs made to the dryers, she explained. “There was a lot of work orders that had to be done to get them fixed and if you have a problem, you shouldn’t just continuously put like a Band-Aid over the wound,” Brown said. “Those dryers are old.”

The dryers in Woodlands Hall 2 were both manufactured and installed in June of 2012, according to Suzette Foster, the Assistant Vice President for Business Operations.

Speed Queen dryers should last for 10,400 drying cycles, according to the company’s website. “Using an average of 8 loads of laundry per week, that adds up to 25 years of use in your home,” the website reads.

Fevour Edosa expressed her frustration with the dryers. “When I put my clothes in the dryer, it doesn’t dry it sometimes,” she said. “Sometimes it’ll dry it so much,” she told *the Catalyst* and the Media

Innovation Center as she showed the lack of vibrance in the pants she was wearing.

Dr. Edouard explained that when he hears a resident complaint about a dryer, he contacts Maintenance and Facilities. After that, they contact the company who services the machines. “We do work orders, we send those work orders and they come and check the machines routinely and if there is an issue, they fix those issues,” he said.

Service calls go to the company who owns and services the machines, Automatic Services, Foster wrote to *The Catalyst* and the Media Innovation Center. According to Foster, a technician typically services the machines on campus weekly.

Students can report their concerns to a Resident Assistant or Resident Hall Director, Dr. Edouard advised. Signage about dryer safety will also continue to be posted, he said.

Looking forward, the university has partnered with the Office of General Services for the Hall 2 restoration process. Dr. Edouard said, “we want to do everything possible to make sure that when we put students back in the building that the building is 100% safe.”

Dr. Edouard pointed out potential issues that may lie within the building prior to repairs. “Smoke could get in the walls, smoke could get in the vents,” he said. Water was sprayed from the sprinklers, which could lead

to mold formation under the carpet. “We want to do our due diligence,” Dr. Edouard continued.

Additionally, there are repairs and/or replacements to be made to the doors in the building. In an effort to ensure students were safely out of their buildings, approximately 20 doors were knocked down, according to Dr. Edouard. Door handles were also broken, students reported.

The university scheduled times for Hall 2 students to retrieve their items after the fire. According to Dr. Edouard, professional staff members escorted students to their rooms to get their personal belongings.

The Panther Community Care Center also provided resources to affected students. The center hosted a Clothing Drive and Emergency Relief Pickups for these students. Resources ranged from clothing items to personal hygiene products to bedding to cooking utensils.

“It’s important to send the message to students that they matter, that we care about them,” said SUNY Old Westbury’s Single Stop Coordinator and an organizer for the events, Jean Telfort. “We want to also ensure that they know that there’s a community behind them. They have a support system readily accessible and available.”



Door handles were broken off.

Credit: Joseyline Florentino

Cont. from page 1

President Sams’ 3rd Anniversary on Campus

By Olivia Ambery

President Sams had high praise for Old Westbury’s academic programs. “I saw some very strong programs, the M.I.C. [Media Innovation Center] being one,” Sams said. “We would be able to talk very strongly with anyone around the nation about the strength of our Media and Communication program, our Business program, or Education program.”

He is very interested in STEM programming which he admits has become

far more relevant than he ever anticipated. He is eager to uncover how, through education, the university can empower its graduates to go beyond the expected.

His staff and the diversity on campus are “the vitality in our university.” Dr Sams recognized his responsibility to his students. “If we do what we owe them, they will be able to go anywhere and make waves.”

Cont. from page 1

“Cracked Ice” by Del Geist

By Kayla Joseph

The northern hemisphere features glaciers that expand and then recede over long periods of time. The glaciers are receding, but normally the glaciers would start to expand again. “It’s as if it were a casting of the void of an ice frac-



Credit: Vincent Arroyo

ture,” Geist explained. The stainless steel in the pieces is polished to reflect a bluish hue which looks like ice.

“For me it’s a statement on climate change because it looks to me like because of human intervention, we won’t go back to a cooling period. The earth is just getting hotter and hotter,” Geist said.

Assistant Professor of Visual Arts and Director of the Amelie A. Wallace Gallery Hyewon Yi brought this exhibit to Old Westbury. Yi met Geist during an open studio at the Elizabeth Foundation for the Arts (EFA) in Hell’s Kitchen. Terry Connor, the director of EFA invited Yi to do a formal studio visit with eight artists;

Geist was one of them.

During Yi’s visit, Geist told her that two of his sculptures were on display in the Garment District in Manhattan, but they were about to be dismantled and relocated. He said that he wanted to relocate his sculpture in a public place where the pieces can be a teaching tool. This led to the idea of presenting the sculpture here on campus.

Yi said, “I would like the viewers to reflect on the profound impacts of climate change and the forces of nature that these three public sculptures are representing and symbolizing.”

For more than forty years, Geist has integrated art into public spaces. The artist uses the natural sciences as a palette. Geist has created major site-specific artworks worldwide, including in Europe, North America, Asia, and South America. His environmental art stimulates a viewer’s sensory experience, eliciting the unique qualities of a place.

Preya Sookram, a psychology student, said she didn’t see the sculptures as a statement about climate change, but she thought they were “unique.” A childhood education student named Samantha (who did not want her last name published) said, “I think it’s interesting.” She said the sculptures sparked a lively discussion with her friends. They each tried to figure out the meaning behind the pieces.

“We are very excited to bring ‘Cracked Ice’ to Long Island, a region whose own history began when it was carved by glacial retreat,” said SUNY Old Westbury President Timothy E. Sams.

“The presence of these works speaks to our campus’ commitment to building a more sustainable world. These sculptures will serve as a discussion and teaching point, offering all on campus the opportunity to experience the artist’s craft and consider the questions and concerns around climate change that led to his creations.”

Remembering Alexander

By Olivia Ambery

The English department celebrated the highly anticipated release of Elizabeth Schmermund's new book of poetry, *Alexander the Great*, on Tuesday, March 26. Professors Nicholas Powers and Jessica Williams shared heartfelt introductions. The release party was an opportunity for students and faculty to show their support for her achievement.

Dr. Schmermund is a distinguished scholar, teacher, and author. She has written more than a dozen publications, ranging from poetry to education to essays. She is also the faculty advisor for the English department's student publication *Harmonia/Discordia*.



Credit: John Butler

Over the course of two years, Schmermund poured her heart and soul into writing *Alexander the Great*. She drew inspiration from the memory of her beloved late son, Alexander. She was determined to keep his

memory alive through poetry. In discussing her creative process, Schmermund explained how her use of ordinary symbols and plain language was to show the power that grief has to change the ordinary into emotion.

The title of this book of poems ties together her son Alexander's name with the ancient Greek figure of Alexander the Great who she expertly teaches about in one of her many classes. In making this connection, Schmermund established her take on legacy and memory in the face of pain.

According to the author, "poetry shows us that we're not alone. It's one of the most powerful ways to connect because poetry has to be so incredibly vulnerable."

Her personal journey of grief and remembrance is woven throughout the book in symbols such as food or nature. She explained how she found comfort in using everyday objects as symbols in her work, as Alexander's presence was felt across every aspect of her life.

In sharing these poems, she not only honors Alexander's memory, but offers comfort and healing to others who may be experiencing similar losses. Connection is one of the most important aspects of recovery, but finding writers going through similar perinatal grief proved to be very difficult for her at the time. "I think there are very real effects of not having discourse available about it," she shared, "which includes poetry and literature—if you don't give it space and attention there can be consequences."

The book release celebration also attracted a number of English majors, including seniors Juliana Hatzinger and Sarah Nasir. "Professor Schmermund was a huge inspiration for anyone who has experienced any type of personal loss or grief," Hatzinger said. "To think that I could turn my own pain into art was so inspiring." "It was inspirational and just so beautiful," said Nasir. "We are grieving with you."



Credit: John Butler

As attendees exited the event, it was clear that no one was left untouched by Professor Schmermund's readings and overall message. She offered students valuable advice to always keep writing—be persistent, have patience, and never give up hope.

The Justice for Fraud Victims Project



Illustration: Aidan Bongiorno

By Brendan Piszczatowski

Do you know anybody who has been impacted by alleged financial fraud? Or are you a Forensic Accounting student interested in volunteering alongside professionals? SUNY Old Westbury's Justice for Fraud Victims Project (JFVP) might be just what you're looking for. The JFVP puts students to work helping the community fight financial fraud.

Created in 2019 by SUNY OW's Masters in Forensic Accounting Program and the Long Island Chapter of the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners, the JFVP's goal is to help victims of alleged financial fraud in situations where legal investigation services aren't financially feasible.

"A lot of colleges learn through the textbook. This is what I call unstructured problem-solving," said David Goldstein, lead professor of SUNY OW's Graduate Forensic Accounting Program.

The JFVP teaches students to think through and problem-solve real-life cases while working with groups overseen by school mentors.

Group work helps students improve their communication skills in a professional environment as they will need to communicate effectively with each other and case victims. Speaking with assistant district attorneys will teach students how to secure the information they need and how not to divulge confidential business information. This will bring cases like Ponzi Schemes, Investment Fraud, or Elder Abuse Fraud to prosecution faster.

Small businesses or nonprofits that cannot afford certified fraud examination often look to law enforcement for assistance. JSFP steps in to help when Police departments and district attorneys do not have the resources for a case where a victim has lost only \$1,000, Goldstein said.

The program works behind the scenes to present minor cases to the district attorney in circumstances where they cannot invest the resources to prepare, prosecute and seek restitution for the victim. That's where students will look into what documentation is available: bank statements, credit card statements, or investment statements.

"If somebody is stealing money from somebody, like a bookkeeper or the caretaker for an elderly person, we look at where the money is coming and going to, and do the analysis based on that," Goldstein concluded.

The JFVP is an asset that faculty and students of the Old Westbury community should be aware of. It has the potential to benefit everybody and brings attention to an issue that could affect anyone.

Hidden Perfection

By Liselle Powder

Just like roots that traveled in dirt.
It started from somewhere.
From the seed that was planted.
From rough terrain of hard-core struggles.
It persevered with determination and strength, to never give up.
It took time to dig deep into the soil and run its course, blind and uncertain.
But the fruit of its labor is produced at the top. That's us.
As we struggle as we bend, and toil in the quiet rooms, burning the midnight oil. Sleepless nights not to be seen.
We are the seed that was planted in tough surroundings, tough situations to shine.
We came from that same soil that nurtured us to fight and grow.
We kept our mouths shut, as we did the work.
Our roots blinded, no direction.
The gravity held us down, in the soil just for a while.
We are not ready yet.
Like roots we didn't give up.
We didn't lose focus.
We spread our branches and looked up.

Thinking Too Loud

By Keyshea Mackey



Illustration: Aidan Bongiorno

Sometimes she feels stuck, lost in the chaos of her thoughts,
Wandering aimlessly, not knowing what she wants.
She wakes up each day, trying to find her purpose,
But her mind is clouded with doubts and nervousness.
She thinks so deeply that she sinks into a hole,
Scared to come out, fearing failure will take its toll.
Why are her thoughts so negative and harsh?
Why can't she find happiness or a sense of purpose?
She needs to stop and breathe, and take a moment to reflect,
To see the beauty around her, and the things she can perfect.
She doesn't need to have a grand plan or a goal,
Sometimes just being kind and loving is enough of a role.
She should wake up each day with a smile and a light heart,
Excited to see what the day will bring, and where she can start.
Her dreams are a place of peace and tranquility,
A chance to escape the noise and the negativity.
She should embrace the loss of memory, and allow it to be her guide,
To focus on what should be and let go of what she can't decide.
Each day is a new chance to find her way,
To embrace the present and let the past fade away.

Reproductive Justice Now: A Panel Discussion

By Alexia Croll

Dr. Shameika Williams, assistant professor of the Public Health Department, moderated a discussion for Black Maternal Health Week (April 11-17) in conjunction with the Social and Environmental Justice Institute at SUNY Old Westbury. The New York State Department of Health recognizes Black Maternal Health Week to raise awareness about health disparities, address medical racism, and advocate for birth justice amongst mothers and birthing people.

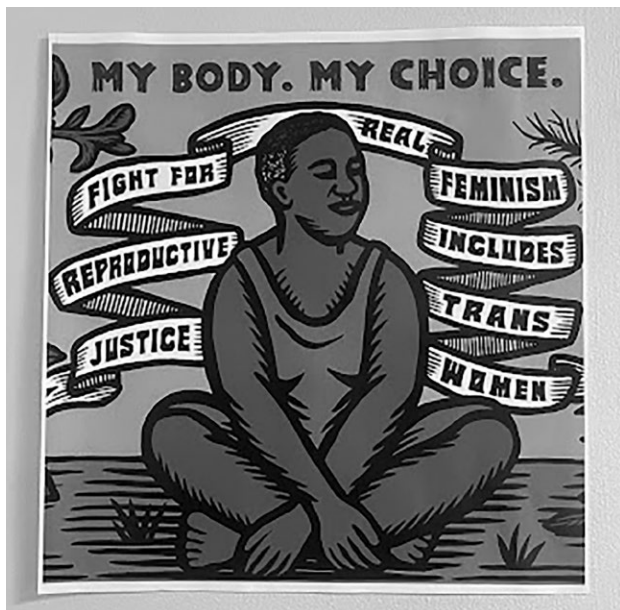


Photo: Alexia Croll

Woods, LCSW, CD, a Clinical Therapist and Doula of NYC Citywide Doula Initiative; and Medgine Sanon-Ellis, JD, LLC the Chief EEO Officer of NYC Commission on Human Rights.

Dr. Williams opened the discussion with acknowledgements for the enslaved Black women Anarcha, Betsy and Lucy, whose trauma was used to pioneer early gynecology under Dr. J. Marion Sims. Upon their exploitation by Dr. Sims, they each became skilled medical practitioners as they learned to care for one another throughout surgical recovery.

Dr. Williams opened the panel with the question, “Why do we need to bring attention to Black Maternal Health?” Amina Woods, licensed social worker and doula, responded, “We’re in the midst of a crisis... I’ve had enough experience to notice how important the bond, the relationship between a mother and child is. It’s foundational. When we lose a mother to childbirth, it not only affects the children, but it affects the entire family, it affects our community, and essentially it becomes a global issue.”

A lack of maternity care providers, particularly midwives, coupled with inadequate postpartum support systems, contributes to the U.S. having the highest maternal mortality rate in the developed world according to the Center for Reproductive Rights. Medgine Sanon-Ellis, who currently holds a Juris Doctor and Master of Law, reflected on her own birthing experiences in a hospital where

she felt doctors were overlooking her needs.

“Being in a hospital setting where I was trying to do my best to advocate for myself, I realized the importance of having someone who can do that in a space where I am unable to do that.” She recalls having to seek out advocacy from her employer, after a biased accusation of using drugs while pregnant. This heavily influenced the work she’s done advocating for birth justice, as well as the rights of disabled incarcerated individuals.

Dr. Williams shared a report from the CDC that stated, “50,000 women in the United States suffer from pregnancy complications annually. Black women are at least three times more likely to die from a pregnancy related cause than compared to white women. Higher exposure to structural racism is consistently associated with adverse perinatal and birth outcomes.”

Dr. Hackett reflected on the statistical data behind the maternal mortality rate. During her time with the New York City Health Department, she conducted reviews investigating the leading causes of fatalities in hospitals, which mostly happened from hemorrhaging and pulmonary embolisms. She noted that at least 60 percent of these investigated cases were preventable, claiming that it’s imperative to note the pre-existing conditions of a patient in order to make a thorough assessment.

“What were the living conditions?,” she began, “What were the conditions of the stressors around that person before, and during, and after their birth?”

As a doula, Amina Woods’ perspective of hospitals differed significantly from the other panelists. She believes that the hospital system takes away the autonomy of birthing people and “devel-

oped a reputation for being the expert,” leading to choices being made on behalf of the mother and child. Neonatal nurse Leticia Rios, who currently works in the NICU, addressed the importance of broader competent care in a medical setting. “We don’t have enough diversity within the field to really open, or increase awareness of these different lived experiences.”

Dr. Williams reminded listeners that these birthing outcomes are not only limited to poor minority women. Women of higher socioeconomic status, such as Serena Williams and Beyoncé, both endured pregnancy complications met with scrutiny and distrust. Along with being unheard, Black women are often seen as “hostile” or “combative” when they advocate for themselves in a hospital setting. Williams added, “We need to start naming explicitly, that this is racism.” Dr. Hackett believes that once there is more understanding and connection from being “unwoke to woke,” that there will be more of a cemented call to action.

As we consider cultivating a safe birthing experience for mother and child, the fight for reproductive justice includes the community construction needed to sustain a safe, healthy, and happy environment for child caretaking. “Reproductive Justice Now” was an insightful discussion that is especially relevant, in a time where women’s bodies are so heavily politicized.

By amplifying the voices of Black women, advocating for policy change, and investing in culturally competent care, we can reverse these medical outcomes. It’s more important to note that it isn’t just a public health issue, it’s a human rights issue that affects both our present, and our future.

This year’s theme is “Our Bodies STILL Belong to Us: Reproductive Justice NOW!”

The “Reproductive Justice Now” panel featured four Black women with expertise in healthcare and the intersection of patient rights, policy, and applied practice. The panelists were Dr. Martine Hackett MPH and Associate Professor of Hofstra University; Leticia Rios, RN, MSN, IBCLC, PhD and Nurse Educator at NYU Winthrop Hospital; Amina

A Few Tips for Resume Building

By Brendan Piszczatowski

Educator Keba Cairo led a resume-building workshop for Old Westbury students at the Science building on March 13. Cairo is the president for Don’t Snooze on Clues, an organization which “provides students with life skill courses.”

Your chances of landing a job will be influenced by the way you come across on a resume. How can you create a good first impression on potential employers?

Before making a resume it’s important to think about the skills you bring to the table and how they relate to the job. According to Cairo there are hard skills and soft skills. Hard skills are skills learned through education or hands-on experience, while soft skills describe how you work and interact with others. “Soft skills work to demonstrate the impression which hard skills offer employers,” said Cairo.

Your resume should include both a

summary and your objectives.

The summary statement communicates your accomplishments, experience, education, and skills and explains why you are a good fit for the position in brief.

Your resume should include your objectives: A brief statement that outlines your career goals, such as the kind of job or industry you want to work in or the skills you are seeking.

Resume objectives are generic statements that fall short of conveying to potential employers why a candidate is a good fit for the role; in comparison, a resume summary makes use of strong, thought-provoking language while taking qualifications into account.

Cairo shared this example of a summary statement: “Analytically driven Maintenance Mechanic with five plus years of experience focusing on the intricacies of equipment and instrumenta-

tion.” This gives the employer a brief synopsis of the applicant and their skill set in attention-grabbing language that leads to details about their qualifications.

She shared this example of a resume objective: “Objective to be hired as an Assistant Manager position with an innovative employer in the manufacturing industry.” This example lacks any striking language that leads to hard skills or qualities that build upon those skills, and it is extremely general and applicable to a range of similar positions.

How can you set your resume apart from the competition? Cairo suggests using metrics. Use numbers and data to personalize and contextualize your accomplishments. Cairo shared an example of using data to support an



Who Are You?
A Guide to Resume Building

Credit: Engage, CSTEP

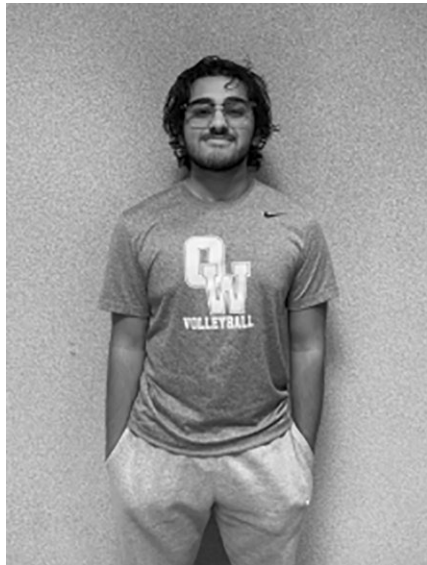
accomplishment: “Helped lead the team that generated \$800,000 in revenue for the company.” This example demonstrates how metrics can be used to increase a candidate’s value and provides employers with a general idea of how they might perform in the role.

Paper Vs. Digital Studying

By James Panagakos

Have you been keeping up with your studying this semester? Well, I sure hope so, considering finals will be here before you know it! But another important question we should really be asking is what type of platform are you using to study for these exams? Do we prefer digital learning, or physical paper learning? With exams approaching quickly, I asked a few Old Westbury students about their preferences.

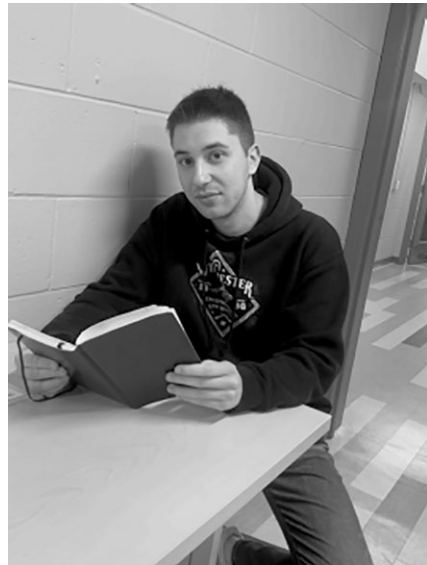
QUESTION: Do you prefer digital studying or paper studying? And how does your preference impact your academic performance?



Credit: James Panagakos

Ashwin Antony

"I definitely prefer digital studying! I use 'Quizlet', and it really helps me a lot with my Social Studies assignments. I also use 'YouTube' for Math tutoring. I honestly think Math is the subject that benefits most from online learning, because there are so many different types of media to help you understand it better. But when it comes to subjects like Science or Social Studies, I could also see textbooks being a big help as well. Whenever I study digitally, I always try to keep my mind clear from other distractions, and one way I do that is by putting on study mode so I don't receive any notifications. It definitely helps me stay focused. For me, looking at a textbook has always been boring, but using online resources like 'Quizlet' takes online learning and makes it like a fun game. It really helps me to remember more information, which impacts my academics positively!"



Credit: James Panagakos

Cody Werner

"When I do study, I probably prefer to use digital studying methods and formats. I'm kind of lazy when it comes to grabbing a physical textbook. Plus you don't necessarily even have to grab one if you can find it online. You just have to use google to find what you need. But if your device somehow crashes, then you are out of luck. I think it also really depends on the class as well. Since you can do so much more with digital studying methods, I would say the pros outweigh the cons. So many would classify digital studying as a distraction in itself, but not for me personally. I just put on some music to help me tune out my surrounding area as I study. I get distracted easily, so the music helps me narrow my concentration to one task at a time."



Credit: James Panagakos

Ryan Gaetan

"Recently, I have definitely preferred digital learning over physical. It's a lot more convenient to have easy access to information through the internet, rather than a textbook where I have limitations on what I can carry. Also for me, my usage of online studying resources really depends on how long I'm going to need it for. If I need some quick information because I left my textbook at home by mistake, digital studying becomes even more convenient. And despite people thinking that digital studying comes with a lot of distractions, I personally disagree. When I use digital platforms through my iPad or computer, I usually turn off my notifications, and put on some music to help me keep focused on my studying. Overall, digital learning has always impacted me more positively than physical learning does."



Credit: James Panagakos

Nasir Fanfan

"I would say I definitely used regular textbooks more than digital outlets for my studying. I'm more of a traditional note taker, so when I had to study for exams I was able to go back to my notes from class for help. It's just easier for me that way personally. When I took my Buddhism class, all of our tests were done online at home, and I actually preferred that. While I appreciated the professor's in-person class teaching methods, digital was definitely more helpful for me personally. I know if I was using my computer to study, I would be constantly checking my Steam, Spotify, or Instagram. While I'm not the best note taker, writing down information has always helped me the most. But I do see the benefits of both forms of studying!"

OW Celebrates the Solar Eclipse

By Andrea Gordon and Daniel Jefferson

Old Westbury students celebrated the solar eclipse on campus on Monday April 8. New Yorkers have not seen a total eclipse since 1925.

Students on campus only experienced 88% of totality. Other students took a five-hour bus trip upstate to SUNY Oswego to experience the total eclipse. The Oswego trip was hosted by OW STEAM, CSTEP, the Physics Club, and the Department of Chemistry and Physics.

Students going to Oswego gathered near the Campus Center flagpole at about 4:37 in the morning to board the three buses reserved for the trip. Everyone was given solar eclipse glasses so that they could look at the sun safely. The OW stu-

dents joined a lot of Oswego students to view the eclipse which started at 2:25pm at Oswego.

With the solar eclipse glasses, viewers could safely see the moon gradually covering the sun. It came from the right towards the left. It took about an hour for the total solar eclipse to occur. A total solar eclipse can be safely viewed by the naked human eye, but any other time before or after totality you need protective glasses.

The weather forecast in Oswego was cloudy, but the people could see the sun for seconds at a time throughout the solar event. The sky turned into a dark blue color, mimicking a dark evening.



Credit: Christian Lyles

View of eclipse from SUNY OW.

After the solar event, students could get lunch at either of the cafes the school offered before departing at 5:00 p.m. The bus ride back from Oswego was a little over seven hours due to heavy traffic.

Back at Old Westbury students did not see a total eclipse but 88% of totality was still a spectacle to behold. As the anticipation mounted outside the Campus Center, free eclipse glasses and snacks were available for the first 600 attendees. There were ice cream trucks, chips, and water to make the experience more enjoyable.

The moon began its slow journey across the face of the sun around 2:40pm. The atmosphere buzzed with excitement

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CAMPUS NEWS

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as students, faculty, and astronomy enthusiasts alike gathered to witness this rare phenomenon. Strangers exchanged excited conversations, united by a shared curiosity and appreciation for the wonders of the universe.

At around 3:20 p.m. all eyes turned to



Credit: Andrea Gordon

SUNY Oswego.

the sky that was getting darker and darker. Everyone was eager to see the eclipse. The crowd started to cheer in excitement as they gazed skyward. Unfortunately, there were some clouds blocking the eclipse, but it was still enjoyable.

The father of a family of four expressed his family's excitement. "We love anything related to space in this family," he said. "We actually traveled to Charlotte back in 2017 to see that eclipse in totality. So that was a lot of fun and this one won't be quite as cool as that one but it's still amazing."



Credit: Daniel Jefferson



Credit: Daniel Jefferson

OPINION

Universal Healthcare is a Basic Right for All Citizens

By Luisa Garcia

Universal healthcare is a human right. All citizens should have access to healthcare. Health, like education, is not about 'this and that.' It is about the lives of people that are at risk.

Financial access to care has been seriously declining even though the Affordable Care Act (ACA) expanded coverage. Even mediocre coverage is becoming

from the consolidation of hospitals, leading to a lack of competition, to the inefficiencies and administrative waste that derive from the complexity of the U.S. healthcare system. In fact, the United States spends over \$900 per person on administrative costs — four times more than the average of other wealthy countries and about the same as we spend on preventive or long-term healthcare."

While our healthcare system is doing many people good, it is also doing far too little good at far too great a cost. This is not a consequence of bad providers, but of a poorly designed system that only good policy can fix.

The failure of the government to provide universal healthcare only shows the inefficiency of the U.S. government to pay attention to the reality of the country and the needs of its people. Public and private organizations should work together to give people free access to healthcare, regardless of their nationality or their immigration status.

There are two models of universal healthcare: single payer and multiple

payer systems. A 2007 BMJ article by Janice Hopkins Tanne explained that a "single-payer government-run system would cover everyone without barriers based on their ability to pay. Single-payer systems are more equitable, have lower administrative costs, greater user satisfaction, and better quality and access. However, such a system may restrict spending, leading to shortages of services, delays in elective treatments, and limits on people's freedom to choose."

Janice Hopkins Tanne explained that the "multiple payer model is a pluralistic system that involves the government and private for-profit and not-for-profit organizations. It would ensure universal access while giving consumers the freedom to buy private supplemental coverage. It would have to include a guarantee that everyone has access to coverage and government subsidies for people who cannot afford to buy coverage. A pluralistic system is more likely to produce inequities in coverage and to have higher administrative costs."

Either way, patients should be provided with a basic set of benefits that includes protection from catastrophic medical expenses, primary care that includes managing chronic illnesses, and preventative care. Everyone would receive free healthcare independently of their legal status, race, religion, and any other variables that can be encountered.

We could learn a lot from the universal healthcare systems of other nations according to Dr. Ashish Jha of the Harvard

T.H. Chan School of Public Health. European nations, such as Germany or the United Kingdom, could also serve as models for the United States.

According to the Commonwealth Fund, "health insurance is mandatory in Germany. Approximately 86 percent of the population is enrolled in statutory health insurance, which provides inpatient, outpatient, mental health, and prescription drug coverage. Nongovernmental insurers known as sickness funds. Government has virtually no role in the direct delivery of health care. Sickness funds are financed through general wage contributions (14.6%) and a dedicated, supplementary contribution (1% of wages, on average), both shared by employers and workers."

According to the Euro Health Observatory: "The United Kingdom has a national health service (NHS) with access based on clinical need, and not ability to pay. All individuals, irrespective of their nationality or immigration status, are eligible to access primary, emergency and compulsory psychiatric care, free of charge."

Universal healthcare would have many benefits. It would increase longevity, lower healthcare costs, and improve the quality of service. The problem is that thousands of individuals cannot afford healthcare because of excessive costs and lack of coverage.

The United States desperately needs to reconfigure its healthcare system to be more efficient and accessible for its people to prevent thousands of deaths each year.



Credit: Unsplash, CDC

unaffordable for steadily increasing numbers of Americans, according to Health Affairs.

According to the Peter G. Peterson Foundation, "The United States actually performs worse in some common health metrics like life expectancy, infant mortality, and unmanaged diabetes." Also, healthcare prices in the United States are higher than in other countries, "ranging

Turning to the East: The Afro-Asian Connection

By Vincent Arroyo

“Turning to the East: Intersecting Futures and Afro-Asian Connections in a Multipolar World” is an exhibition about Afrofuturism and Afro-Asian art, curated by Dr. Reynaldo Anderson, at the Amelie A. Wallace Gallery in the Campus Center which opened on March 27 and will continue until May 2.

Afrofuturism is based on science fiction and the African diasporic experience according to the exhibit handout. A good example of a commercial Afrofuturist piece of art would be *Black Panther* (2018), but if you really wanna get into it, Sun Ra’s *Space is the Place* (1972) is a good place to start.

Turning to the East opened with a lecture by Dr. Jeehey Kim, dance performances by Yes I Can Performing Arts Center and OW’s own Professor Fatima Logan-Alston, followed by an opening reception and a curator talk with a panel discussion.

On the first day of the exhibit, Dr. Jeehey Kim, author of *Photography and Korea*, and assistant professor of art history at the University of Arizona gave a talk on “Photography and Black Presence in Korea and Japan.”

It was a densely packed, visually superb presentation on photographers like Shomei Tomatsu, Sun Ho Moon, Joo Myung Duck and the role of Cold War

politics in East Asian racism. The presentation was bookended with old sepia-toned photos by an American G.I. named Tommy. These photos represent “an amalgamation of cultures,” according to Kim. They provided a great introduction for what the rest of “Turning to the East” had to offer.

At the opening reception in the Wallace Gallery, there were heads everywhere: camera operators from the Media Innovation Center (MIC), photographers, family and friends. Gallery Director Professor Hyewon Yi welcomed everyone and introduced the dancers from the Yes I Can Performing Arts Center. These dancers performed classical Chinese dances, showcasing their immense skill and meticulousness.

OW instructor Fatima Logan-Alston’s dance performance mixed tradition with contemporary ideas - which is essentially the theme of the whole Turning to the East exhibition.

Her first dance was based on Fanga, a traditional Liberian dance associated with the earth and sky. But the real show stealer came with the second dance, “On the Verge of Becoming,” when she called for members of the crowd to participate. Crowd members were stepping and moving to the beat with Alston. While I didn’t dance (I was on duty taking



Butterfly by Guilherme Xavier

Dr. Reynaldo Anderson.



President Sams viewing the exhibition.

Dr. Reynaldo Anderson.



Logan-Alston & crowd dancing.

Credit: Vincent Arroyo

photos), it gave me the energy I needed to make it the rest of opening night.

After a short coffee break, guests

were guided to the center floor where curator Dr. Reynaldo Anderson and others were going to discuss Afrofuturism and the contemporary blending of Afro-Asian cultures.

Dr. Reynaldo Anderson is an associate professor of Africology at Temple University, the co-founder and Executive Director of the Black Speculative Arts Movement, and co-edited a number of anthologies and journals focusing on Black art... and that’s just scratching the surface. He was in the Marines, stationed in different parts of Asia, where he learned the long, storied legacy of the worldwide struggle against European imperialism. He absorbed the culture, reading books like 17th century ronin Miyamoto Musashi’s *Book of Five Rings*.

Anderson’s panel was introduced by OW’s President Timothy Sams who discussed Black power and his interest in the exhibit’s theme. Sams closed with a thank you to everyone involved and a profound question: “Will East and West sensibility solve [Global] North and South problems?”

Gallery Director Hyewon Yi introduced the expert panelists: Dr. Ryoko Yamamoto, adjunct professor Kevin Farrell, and, of course, Dr. Reynaldo Anderson.



Dr. Reynaldo Anderson.



Dr. Reynaldo Anderson.

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“I’m the descendent of angry enslaved people, who were cheering when [Civil War general] Grant burned the South down,” Dr. Anderson said. A key theme in Anderson’s discussion was the nonviolence of men like Gandhi and the violent direct action of men like Ho Chi Minh and Mao Zedong. Growing up, Anderson said, he “came out of the Black-Southern gun tradition.”

“I think about Black men as culture carriers,” said Anderson. “I remember

statement, was instrumental in the evolution of Japanese pop music.

Anderson discussed Kofi Bazzell-Smith, “the first American manga master,” who created *Radius*, a manga set in a capitalist dystopia where boxing robots are exploited for entertainment. Bazzell-Smith is certainly a master, as we can see in his layout work.

In this page from *Radius*, we can draw all we need to know about the story from the visual information alone: the

two larger characters are mentors to the smaller, and possibly have some history considering the intensity of their stares. That’s ‘comics 101,’ and coupled with a compelling narrative, it’s clear why this manga is a highlight of the exhibit.

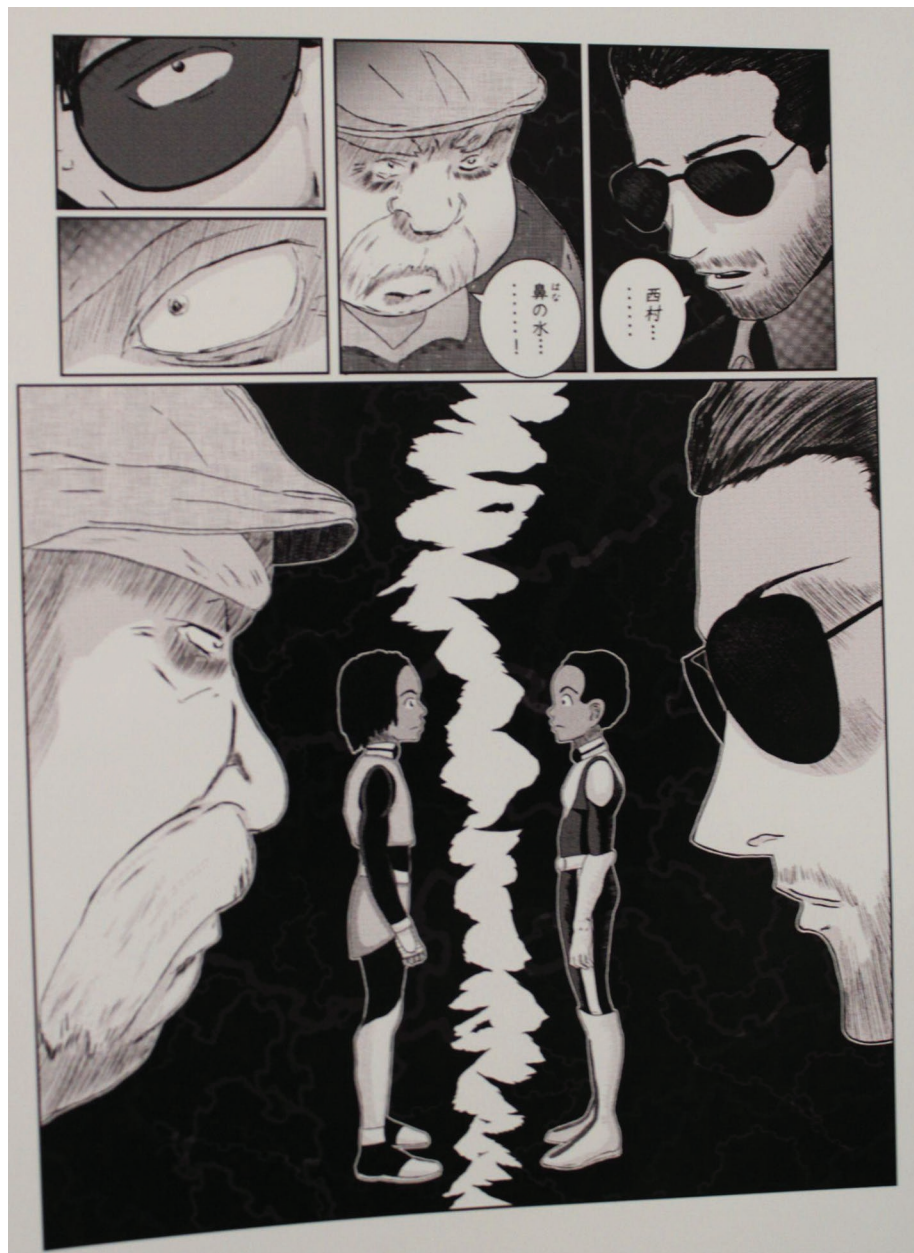
Another incredible set of images in the show are the select designs from Stacey A. Robinson, a professor and graphic design artist, created

for *Supreme Mathematics*, a series about the Islamic Nation of Gods and Earth, which features a sect that utilizes a numerical system for self-governance and one’s greater existence. Detailed and striking, these works rely on a black and white gradient to represent the greater cosmos, and yellow to represent some great truth.

However, the exhibit wasn’t all formally brilliant manga and heady religious axioms. On the lowest floor, Zaika dos Santos’ series *NKYIMA* was on display, with a description of the world next to it – after global warming ravages the planet, many nations create a new space-nation to save their populations, which is under attack by corporations. High concept and ostensibly cyberpunk, what irks me about this series has to do with the way it’s expressed through A.I. generation.

Now, there’s nothing wrong with using a new, controversial technology to get interesting visual results. As it happens, the same thing happened with photography in the 1800s, when traditional painters feared for their livelihoods and dismissed what is now considered a fine art. But these pictures, caked in realism, are more or less the same thing quadrupled: cyborg-ninjas, kneeling or standing, in a gray tech-laden hangar. To put it bluntly, it struck me as lazy, especially considering the talent that surrounds it.

Another highlight of



Radius page by Kofi Bazzell-Smith

Dr. Reynaldo Anderson.



Stacey Robinson's Knowledge

Dr. Reynaldo Anderson.

when Micheal Jackson came to Tokyo, people were losing their minds; they were crying,” Anderson laughed. Another interesting anecdote concerned the exporting of hip-hop, but before it even had a universally recognized name, “the people said, ‘Do you have the new music?’”

Some of the art in *Turning to the East* is about the meshing of musical cultures. One piece, *Butterfly* by Guilherme Xavier, is a pixel art version of an album of the same name by Japanese pop artist Kimiko Kasai and jazz legend Herbie Hancock. *Butterfly* (the album) was produced in

1979 and, according to the artist’s



Santos' NKYIMA.

Dr. Reynaldo Anderson.



Howard's Eternal Sailor Moon: Afro Remix 1

Dr. Reynaldo Anderson.

the exhibit, was unique set of images, created and designed by Lauren-Ashley Howard, focused on Black interpretations of Japanese fashion and cosplay (specifically of *Sailor Moon*), “This is the part of the movement [I don’t really know] because I don’t do cosplay,” Dr. Anderson laughed. Howard’s work

embodies a key aspect of the Afro-Asian cultural exchange, the unfathomable popularity of anime. According to a 2024 Polygon article, roughly 42% of Gen Z surveyed watch anime every week.

Dr. Anderson ended with a half-joking, half-serious question: “Is the Afrofuturism course being taught yet?”

Your May 2024 Horoscope

Check your sun, moon, and rising!

By Caitlin Duffy

Caitlin Duffy is a New York based astrologer that brings over a decade of study to your horoscope. She has studied numerous charts, celestial movements, and has worked as an astrology expert. After thorough analysis of current luminaries, she writes an entertainment column where the star is you.

Aries

This month will bring blessings to your second house of natural gifts and finances. The new moon in Taurus on May 7th will be a fruitful time for setting an intention for financial health; invest in what feels abundant. When the sun meets expansive Jupiter in Taurus on the 18th, this special period known as a Cazimi will illuminate a fresh perspective on how you can dilate your own personal value. Another theme for you this month, intensified with Mars the inspirer and the healing asteroid Chiron meeting on the 29th will be a remedy for your relationship with yourself. You can buy yourself flowers.

Taurus

Happy birthday, dear Taurus! You are a sign of luxury and quality, and with so many transits highlighting your slice of the cosmos, it's a time to honor yourself. The sun will support you throughout the month, and when the new moon is in your sign May 7th, it might be the perfect time to write yourself a love letter, take a saltwater bath, or light a candle of your favorite color. Stay dedicated to your Venusian pleasure and you will be seeing blessings when the sun meets expansive Jupiter in your sign on the 18th. Many times, our relationships can reflect that with ourselves, so when Venus meets Jupiter in your sign on the 23rd, keep quality control on your mind.

Gemini

The beginning of this month asks you to take some well-deserved alone time and rest. Your twelfth house of isolation and behind the scenes will be highlighted, meaning you might not have the energy of your usual chatty self. This time also calls for you to listen to your intuition. If you are thinking of something twice, iron it out, and make sure it's right. When the sun shifts into your sign on the 20th, you will be asked to break out of confinement. Abundant Jupiter will enter your sign on the 25th, indicating a time of growth and luck. Make a summer bucket list.

Cancer

As the sun illuminates your house of community and friendship, the table is being set for a lavish dinner party. Here, the new moon on the 7th marks a new beginning with your social groups. When the sun meets abundant Jupiter on the 18th, inspiration is going to come through your networks. Finally, when Jupiter meets the relational Venus on the 23rd, share the wealth with those that are near and dear.

Leo

A classic Leo is no stranger to the spotlight, and this month your reputation will be center stage. You might be thinking of ways you can expand yourself in the realm of your career and social roles. You want to share your fiery passion with the world, and this month supports you with Jupiter, Venus, and the sun all illuminating this arena of your life. Be open to fresh ideas and relationships that could open the door to abundance.

Virgo

The sun, new moon, Jupiter, and Venus will all be in your ninth house of exploration this month. This can manifest as a physical trip, but for most of us, we will be challenged to adventure into uncharted mental terrain. May 25th Jupiter moves into Gemini, highlighting your career. The next few months of this transit is the perfect time to take risks and prioritize your journey. When Mars the motivator meets the healing asteroid Chiron on the 29th, this aspect may bring some not as pretty worries to the forefront. But healing is possible when you make the decision that you don't have to face them alone. Ironing them out will make them proportional to reality.

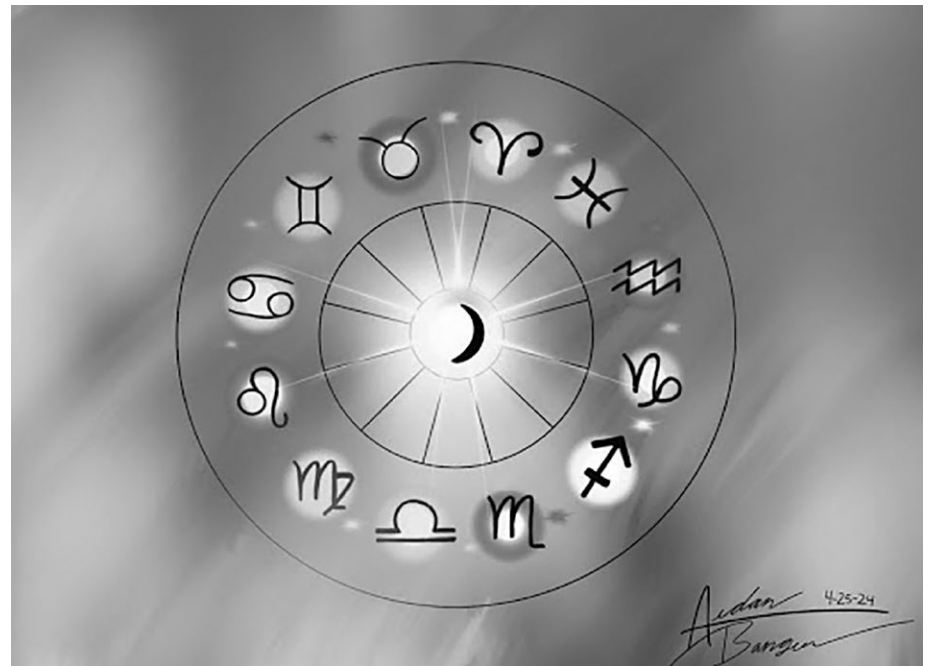


Illustration: Aidan Bongiorno

Libra

This month, complications with your commitments might manifest. Your seventh house of partnerships makes you known to attract fiery people and situations. On the 19th, Mars the aggressor meets the North Node of destiny, and there may be a spark that feels a little more fated than the usual. When Mars later meets the healing asteroid Chiron on the 29th, a remedy will present itself that's worth the effort. Libra, a gentle reminder, your boundaries are yours to execute.

Scorpio

Your theme, revolving around your relationships, will be supported by the sun throughout the month. You might find illumination of the quality of those you hold near and dear, or a need to refine your standards. This seems positive as lucky Jupiter will meet lavish Venus on the 23rd, tinting your lenses. Everything seems rosy. This is the perfect time to either plan an excursion with a loved one or take yourself out for some fine dining.

Sagittarius

Amour is in the air this month when Mars the passionate meets the North Node of destiny in your fifth house of creativity and romance. You might find sparks flying asking for you to be bold about your pleasure. On the 23rd, a full moon in your sign will mean the culmination of a chapter with your relationship to self. When Jupiter the abundant moves into your seventh house of partnership at the end of the month, you will find luck in your committed relationships.

Capricorn

This month there will be an opportunity to prioritize your joy. The sun in your fifth house of creativity and pleasure will support finding your definition of fun. When expansive Jupiter meets the sun on the 18th, you will be asked to slow down the grind and brainstorm how to add more pops of color to your day. Romance might be in the air when Jupiter meets relational Venus on the 23rd. Plan for a retreat from the mundane by indulging in your favorite meal with a dear one.

Aquarius

This month hits close to home when your fourth house of family is highlighted. A new moon on the 7th will mark a new beginning with your kin. When the Sun meets abundant Jupiter on the 18th, there will be an illumination of how prosperous relationships at home can reflect in your outer life. When Jupiter contacts relational Venus, the joy of shared values will be highlighted. Remember, family can be chosen people.

Pisces

This month, a project will be the center of your focus. This could be a social media campaign, a short story, or a long form draft. Remember to bring your Pisces imagination to the table and you are bound to expand past the average. Luck will sprinkle on your family relationships when Jupiter enters your fourth house of kin. Embrace the good times and lively conversation.

Fast Fashion

By Griskarly Sena

'Fast fashion' clothing costs less because it is manufactured cheaply. Some people are sold at great prices, but do not understand the production process these clothes go through before they become trendy. Fast fashion is low quality, but since it is rapidly produced, there is always a new style, a new trend.

Stores that are more sustainable and do not rely on the fast fashion market tend to carry smaller sizes. According to writer Olivia Muenter, "Still, even if every slow-fashion brand did offer plus sizes, the fact remains that most plus-size shoppers have a very different experience with style and clothing than straight-size shoppers have — and as long as fat bias and

discrimination exist, this will remain the case." This is an inconvenience when you are not the "standard" small, medium, and large. People that do not fall under the "standard" sizes have a harder time shopping, so they turn to fast fashion stores.

Clementine Asuquo, a junior at SUNY Old Westbury currently majoring in accounting, believes that fast fashion can have good



Credit: Griskarly Sena

and bad qualities. "We live in a world where many things are bad for us. In balancing affordability and sustainability, I always look for quality over quantity, so I do not have to go back and buy again. Fast fashion is not something I want to turn to all the time, but financial decisions will be made."

Fast fashion does help people who struggle with the high cost of clothing. "Sometimes, I am

like, 'would I pay 50 dollars for a plain black t-shirt or get one for 5 dollars,'" said Asuquo.

Thrift stores are a good alternative to fast fashion. According to Goodwill, "When you thrift something, you are not directly supporting the demand for new things to be made, and this has a positive impact since resources and energy were already used to create that item." Instead of throwing out clothes, you can donate them or hand them to another party. This helps reuse clothes which will benefit the environment.

How the TikTok Ban Will Affect the Beauty Industry

By Bethany Watson



Source: TikTok

The next six months are crucial for TikTok. The app brings many users joy and keeps them entertained. TikTok has quickly become a vital tool for business. But that may all be over because of security concerns. The Senate has just passed a bill that requires ByteDance, TikTok's Chinese owner, to sell its stake or face a country-wide ban. If President Biden signs this bill it will become law.

TikTok users are worried. Content

creators are not taking the threat of this impending ban well because of the opportunities TikTok offers for influencers and businesses, specifically those in skincare, cosmetics, fashion, health, and wellness.

Youthforia, a makeup brand known for its skin-friendly ingredients, has garnered 185,000 followers on TikTok according to the New York Times. The brand is considering moving more marketing to other platforms such as YouTube and Instagram.

Beautystat, sells skin care products on TikTok shop, a widely used hub for consumers. The New York Times reported that Beautystat's Chief Marketing Officer Yaso Murray said, "TikTok is just too big, especially in beauty and certain industries, I feel, for it to disappear." Bria Jones, a content creator based

on Youtube and TikTok expressed her concerns about the ban on her podcast, "There's a lot of money on TikTok, not just with ads." She continued, "there's a lot of money with TikTok Shop. A lot of businesses have been able to drive sales through personal accounts. A lot of people depend on TikTok." Influencers like Alix Earle can make up to \$5 million in a year from TikTok according to Forbes.

Sol De Janeiro gained major brand recognition for its Brazilian Bum Bum cream and body mists. The hashtag, #soldejaneirobodycream, has almost 4 million views on TikTok. Sol de Janeiro experienced a 174% sales increase in 2023. Sales rose to \$454 million in six months, ending on September 30 according to Glossy Magazine. Heela Yang, Sol de Janeiro's co-founder, said, "Over 90% of our growth this year is from

[social], and it's organic."

Benefit Cosmetics sold 87,000 product units on TikTok Shop since it joined the shopping hub in 2023 according to Glossy Magazine. This growth can be credited to bands of influencers on TikTok, helping get beauty brand products in front of potential customers.

The TikTok ban could go into effect within the next couple months if President Biden signs the bill. TikTok is a great source of community and growth for businesses especially with digestible short content. Beauty brands and influencers can continue to build on what they've worked on by moving onto other short-form platforms like Youtube and Instagram if they haven't already done so.

How to Cope During Finals

By Kayla Kidd

Finals are coming. Here are some helpful suggestions to get through your week of testing:

Organize Your Study Place

Get rid of any clutter and try to maximize your space. Sometimes clutter can cause confusion in your brain and overwhelm your system. Having a clear working space can make it easier to focus and tackle one thing at a time. Clear your mind. Try to meditate to get your body and mind ready, relaxed, and able to get some work done. Get a planner or mark your calendar with important test dates, assignment dates, and appointments. Block out one hour each day to study for at least one class.

Try to Create Healthy Habits

Be sure to get enough sleep. It's important to rest and be fully replenished before trying to tackle any test or studying. A good night's rest helps you focus and have energy to make it through a day successfully. Make sure you are eating! Full,



Illustration: Aidan Bongiorno

healthy, and nutritious meals are the key to good performance during your day. It's important to also hydrate your body. It's fine to take water breaks when you study.

Rest and Relaxation

Avoid cramming for your test at all costs. Do not try to pull an "all nighter" the day before your finals. This is sure to result in

high stress levels and sometimes can mess with your comprehension of information due to overstimulation of information. Try the "Pomodoro Technique" when studying. This technique is when you do a twenty-five-minute hyper focused interval of studying and then reward yourself with five-minute breaks. You repeat and continue this routine until you are finished with an assignment, chapter, or satisfied with the quantity of work completed.

Change your Environment

Try to study at the school library. You can reserve a quiet study room for the sole purpose of studying. Try to study with a group. Find friends or peers from class to help you study. Pick peers that may know more about one subject than you do the other. Teach and quiz each other.

Stay Motivated

It may get hard as you go through finals week, but remember to stay focused. Remind yourself of your goals and why you chose this path. Exams are stressful and can be overwhelming. You can be a freshman or a senior and still face challenges when it comes to studying or taking tests. It's important to stay confident, trust yourself, and put in the work to receive the best results. Don't shy away from using the school's resources. Reach out to the tutoring center, the writing center, the math learning center, and your professors during office hours to help you feel confident.

The Adventures of OW's Own Professor DelGiudice

By Vincent Arroyo

"Every crack or loose tile I see I'm like 'man, that's another thing to fix,'" Professor Thomas DelGiudice says when talking about the New Academic Building. He feels a sense of ownership of it and he should considering he helped design it back in the late 2000s.

DelGiudice is a professor in the Politics, Economics and Law (PEL) department. He attended graduate school at University of Massachusetts-Amherst, and received his Ph.D in 1991.

A professor here since 1986, he has a long history with Old Westbury, but it didn't begin with a teaching gig. He attended the college when it was in its infancy back in the mid-70s, after a stint hitchhiking across America.

He's a remnant of a time long passed, an older jovial hippie, but time has not slowed him down in any way. In his classes, DelGiudice ensures that all students understand what is on the board, often an



Young DelGiudice in the 70s.

Photo Courtesy of Thomas DelGiudice

elaborate diagram. Then, like a Tibetan Buddhist blowing away their sand mandala, he erases all those graphs in a moment.

DelGiudice had a ton of different career paths he could've taken; he studied to be an architect, he was a jock, "I was almost a monk," he chuckles. So why economics? To figure this out, I had a couple of conversations with him to learn about one of Old Westbury's most interesting professors.

A Long Island native, DelGiudice grew up in Bellmore and was, ironically, an athlete in high school. "But I wasn't a super jock," he says, "I just liked playing sports."

He and a friend got into Eastern philosophy (reading *The Three Pillars of Zen* by Philip Kapleau), and he became serious about it. "I was really serious about that for 12 years," he says. "It might seem cliché but I was a child of that era [the 60s & 70s]." He still meditates, but says he was really into it back then.

He even joined a group, Ananda Marga, led by a guru, P.R. Sarkar. "We were into meditation and service," he explained. "So, it wasn't just about finding, you know, peace inside yourself. You have to bring it; it's like a dialectical process. You have to serve others too, and have to be selfless."

As a part of Ananda Marga, he used the profits from a business selling leather Disco-Bags to open a home for abused adolescents. This struck a chord with him and seems to have sewn

the seeds of teaching that would bear fruits later.

Coming to OW in 1976 was an important moment for him. "[Long Island] was pretty segregated back then," he said. "It was the first time I was in an integrated community, and they were pretty radical."

OW was a lot smaller in those days which made the roughly thousand students like a family, according to DelGiudice. "[We'd] have a Mayday festival on the terrace and Old Academic Village," he continued, "and it would just be a huge party."

This was a committed, progressive student body that pushed for serious change on campus. "It was like 'What's happening?,' we were all looking at each other," he said. "When we didn't like what the campus was doing, we protested, we made changes."

The faculty were progressive too, and DelGiudice says they made him into the man he is today. "I was a more serious student at that time. My teachers saw that and really encouraged me to go to graduate school and study economics," he said. "I really have a big debt to them, and I try to carry on that legacy a bit."

One of these mentors was the recently passed Dr. Gloria Young Sing. "She was the toughest thing. You got an A in her class, you really felt good about yourself," he said, "I don't even think I got an A, but she was the one that talked me into coming to teach here."

He took a trip to India in his senior year at OW. "I worked in these villages and I meditated," he said. "We worked with all kinds of people from a leprosy colony, to schools, to orphanages; it was a great experience."

DelGiudice took part in a worldwide hunger strike in 1978 to protest Indra Gandhi's political oppression and other human rights abuses in India. "The fasting was just the three of us, fasting in different cities around the world." There he sat, at the foot of the Capitol building, subsisting on lemon water and honey. Senators, like



DelGiudice's protest in a paper

South Carolina's segregationist Strom Thurmond, stepped over him as they went into the building. "[Thurmond] said, 'We don't need anyone dying here on the steps of the capitol,' and that sorta thing."

"I [hitchhiked] back in '71-'72," he said. "It was fun, I don't know if I would recommend it to people but I had lots of adventures." These adventures were like something from a 60s beatnik novel.



DelGiudice with the campus plan

Credit: Vincent Arroyo

Assorted hijinks include driving through the Rocky Mountains with other long-haired vagabonds in a hunk of junk car with no gas pedal. "We tied a rope to the engine, through the hole where the pedal was and tied a flashlight to it," he explained. "One guy had to do the clutch and another had to do the gas; as long as we were on the highway it wasn't too bad," he laughed.

DelGiudice rode a bus in Nepal through one of the deadliest mountain roads on the planet. "It was so scary," he said. "[We] were going over the Himalayas, into Kathmandu, and it's one lane, and these fearless sikh drivers," he said. "But in the bus, it's peasants with chickens and people throwing up. You [look into a ditch] and see a bus that'd rolled down. It's like, God, you could die here!" Suffice to say, he's lived like the young dream - without bounds.

When he became a teacher at O.W. in '86, he tried to carry on the legacy of his professors. "I did a lot of extracurricular stuff, I had a lot of energy," he said. He even brought some high profile people to speak on campus, like Ralph Nader, Daniel Ellsberg, and Susan Meiselas, among others. "We had these teach-ins, it was pretty cool," he said. "I was looking at this old stuff and we would just take over the school for a couple of days, like there was some violence on campus, so we did a big teach-in on violence and safety." DelGiudice even received a Professor of the Year award from the Student Government Association (SGA) in 1988.

During this time, DelGiudice felt that the leadership was weak. "I was unhappy with that, real unhappy." But in 2000, OW got a new president, Dr. Calvin Butts III. "I went to him and I told him what I thought was wrong with the school and he listened," DelGiudice said. "[Dr. Butts] asked me if I would play a role fixing up the technology element of [the school], so I said yea I'll do that."

A few years later in 2005 he was asked to be a part of Capital Planning for the

whole campus. "We got about \$187 million and in eight years, we changed the whole campus around, even built [the N.A.B.]," he said. DelGiudice described the old campus as "embarrassing to the students, embarrassing to the faculty...the place was such a mess, physically."

He was able to accomplish a lot, like planning the remodeling of the Campus Center and construction of the University Police building. "It was a super busy time, we never got that much money before," he explained. Part of this efficiency is because of the money, but it's also because of the trust others had in him. "The faculty seemed to trust me...SUNY Albany and the construction fund trusted me," he continued. "So we were able to accomplish a tremendous amount in a



DelGiudice hitchhiking

Photo Courtesy of Thomas DelGiudice

very short time."

Eventually, though, he wanted a way out. "It was a 24/7 job, when you're spending that kind of money" he chuckled, "Faculty would be coming at me every minute, I'd get phone calls at a baseball game from contractors." It quickly became clear to him that this was not why he got his Ph.D and not what he became a teacher for. "I told Dr. Butts, when the building opens I'm going back to teaching," he said. "But I was so grateful because...I could make a real contribution."

As a product of his generation, DelGiudice has protested for what he believes in whether it's an issue across the ocean, or here in America. **(Cont. on page 13.)**

Cont. from page 12



Photo Courtesy of Thomas DelGiudice

DelGiudice and Dr. Butts III

In recent years, he has held teach-ins on Trump and his policies. “When Trump got elected I was really outraged,” he said. So he proposed an idea: could the school open up every classroom and have the teachers give lessons about the election, not necessarily anti-Trump, but just about the election? “Not every faculty did it, but a lot did.”

This led to an interesting internal conflict he’s been having with teaching as of late: with the ballooning student body, how many actually care? “I think [the teach-ins] are good for solidarity with the faculty and students, but do they care?” he asked rhetorically. “Probably some do, but most don’t. But at least they’re being exposed [to the ideas].” He goes on to say that some students treat undergrad like high school: you come in, put your head down, pass the test, and go on with your life. And that’s certainly true, but it’s because the job market demands at least a Bachelor’s Degree... but I digress.

From high school athlete to hitchhiking yogi to economics professor, this evolution is seemingly contradictory, but they all involve a key trait: being a part of something greater than yourself. The communal, selfless, experience-driven nature of occupations like playing a team sport or being in a meditation group or even a

teacher, is the unifying characteristic of these jobs.

Professor DelGiudice is the kind of professor a student doesn’t get too often



Credit: Vincent Arroyo

DelGiudice’s wall, including posters of events he’s held, and an illustration from former student, Federico Uribe.

– a guiding light that points promising academics the way they should. A North Star professor, as it were. When asked what advice he has for students he says: “I

got good advice [from my professors] so I’d give them the same advice: be serious about it, take yourself seriously. Your brain is your ticket. You gotta figure out what your talent is, and that might take a little life experience, but once you find that just go at it, 100%.” He continued, “Get the skills so that when a good wave comes along, you can surf that wave and take it to a good life.”

DelGiudice is still looking to create memorable experiences for the students. He talked about a potential teach-in during September for the 2024 election. Just recently, on April 15, he held a small gathering of PEL-minded students and watched a Jon Stewart Daily Show episode during common hour. There was a lively discussion from members of the PEL Club and other newcomers, about the current socio-political situation in America. He is still here for the students and, hopefully, the students will still be here for him.

All about Bradley B. Vonknsky

By Deborah Flamenbaum

In a corner of the SUNY Old Westbury library, there is a medium-sized office with a glass exterior called the Writing Center. Bradley B. Vonknsky, the Assistant Director of the Writing Center, sits behind a large desk scheduling appointments for students.

When Vonknsky speaks, his body lan-



Credit: Deborah Flamenbaum

guage changes as he swivels on his chair and taps a pen between his hands. Unsure of a response, he plays with his Islanders lanyard. When a student enters, his trademark saying is, “Hello, how can I help today?”

Part of Vonknsky’s job is scheduling appointments and teaching college students how to write papers with a thesis. He also instructs thirteen tutors on how to teach students to write papers.

He has lived on Long Island all his life. He attended high school at Saint Dominic Catholic High School in Oyster Bay.

Vonknsky said that he admires his father and his work ethic because “he worked four jobs when [Vonknsky] was a kid to support us.” He has two parents, a wife, a younger sister, and a baby daughter.

Vonknsky turned to education after he

got a severe form of pneumonia. He went to Empire State College for a Bachelor’s Degree in English because he enjoys writing. He started as a journalism major at Empire State College. However, he disliked how specific assignments needed to be. As a result, Vonknsky became a film major at Empire State College. He subsequently changed his major to English since he was concerned he wouldn’t have a film job after college. For the next part of his education, he went to SUNY Old Westbury for a graduate degree in the MAT program in Adolescence Education for English at OW.

Most people major in English to read books, but not him. Vonknsky likes to write more than he likes to read. He always had an interest in song lyrics and poetry. He said he has never been a big fan of the classic novels people like. However, he is passion-

ate about reading poetry and enjoys analyzing the song lyrics of his favorite artists.

Vonknsky had a long road before he came to the Writing Center. He was a rink guard and skate rental worker at the Port Washington Skating Rink. He also did landscaping with his father, and on his own, he did substitute teaching at public schools on Long Island. It was a job that he was good at since he could empathize with students. Unfortunately, there were few available substitute teacher positions and he could not get stable employment. That is when he applied for a student position in the Writing Center.

Vonknsky has received multiple promotions until he became Assistant Director, which is still his job today. He continues to help students improve their writing.

Dr. Jillian Crocker: Director of Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

By Alexia Croll

Dr. Jillian Crocker began serving a three-year term as the director of Women’s Gender & Sexuality Studies (WGSS) this year. She is a faculty member of SUNY Old Westbury’s sociology department who teaches courses such as Sociological Theory, Research Methods, Family and Society, Gender and Society, as well as Race, Class, Gender and Sexuality.

The WGSS program includes a major and minor and also runs the WGSS Center located in Woodlands Hall 1. WGSS offers many opportunities including internships and leadership roles that allow students to apply the curriculum outside of a classroom setting.

Crocker is a first generation college student from a working class background. She found her footing in sociology after discovering Women’s Gender and Sexual Studies. She pursued a double major in

both subjects.

Before becoming a sociology major at the University of Richmond, she considered the natural sciences and a major in chemistry with hopes of becoming a doctor. However, the overlap of social science and social justice appealed to Crocker, ultimately attracting her to sociology. Engaging in critical thinking about the social world changed her worldview entirely.

Dr. Crocker said that anyone can volunteer at the WGSS center, even undeclared students who are simply curious. Some WGSS students pursue research, activism, or peer education as their subject matter.

Courses and an internship are available and an “impact project” is required.

A lot of WGSS students focus on the Old Westbury community. Crocker explained the importance of local organizing as a means of building community and social change. Connecting, learning and engaging, cannot be limited to just the classroom in a campus community consisting mostly of commuters and residents. The WGSS center offers a space to work collaboratively, think critically, and express freely. “Let’s talk about all of the ways in which our perspectives might be different, and then let’s do our

homework,” said Crocker.

Graduates of WGSS go on to do work in human resources, public policy, advocacy & activism, and non-profit organizations, according to Dr. Crocker. The faculty, staff, and students of WGSS are working diligently to uphold Old Westbury’s mission for “building a more just and sustainable world.”

The need for social justice becomes ever more crucial as the fabric of society undergoes a fundamental transformation in education, healthcare, and politics, even as some forces actively resist progress towards a more equitable future. “Gender is an organizing principle of society,” said Crocker. “Feminist issues are all of these issues.”



Credit: SUNY OW

Dr. Jillian Crocker.

Danny Brown “Quaranta” Tour at Irving Plaza NYC

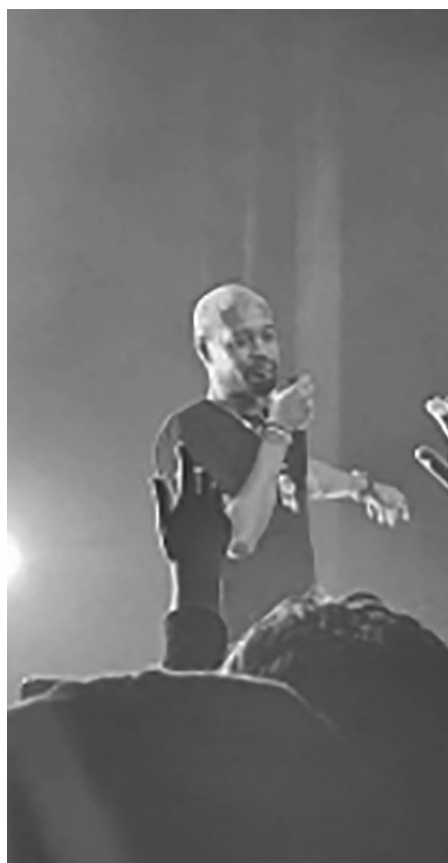
By James Panagakos

NYC hip-hop fans of all ages were in for a very exciting night at Irving Plaza on March 18. Danny Brown, the eccentric and genre-bending rapper from Detroit took the stage and crowd by storm. Brown named this tour after his newest album “Quaranta.”

The night began with a very funky and laid-back set by Bruiser Wolf. Both Wolf and Brown are members of the rap crew, Bruiser Brigade. Wolf’s opening act welcomed the audience with fun tracks like *‘Holla at ya mans’* and *‘Dope game \$tupid’* which set the tone for Danny Brown’s performance. It was the perfect warm up for an astonishing main event.

The whole atmosphere changed when Danny Brown took the stage dressed in his signature vintage style. Brown oozed confidence as he kicked off his set with ‘Quaranta,’ a beautiful serenade that helped the audience understand how he’s been feeling as a rapper in his 40s. It was the perfect way to introduce himself, while also reminding the crowd that he’s been in the rap game for most of his life.

Brown treated fans to a mix from all areas of his discography, including hits from “Quaranta,” “XXX,” “Atrocity Exhibition,” and “uknowwhatimsayin;.” He even performed songs from the dual album he dropped in 2023 with JPEGMafia, “SCAR-



Danny Brown at Irving Plaza.

ING THE HOES.” The whole crowd was moving with his energy. “Ain’t It Funny,” “Garbage Pail Kids,” and “Monopoly” were bangers. Brown brought Bruiser Wolf back



Danny Brown live!

out on stage to perform his verse of “Y.B.P” Brown is unmatched as a lyricist but it was his stage presence that truly elevated the show. He is a musical genius whose charisma and comedic persona kept the

audience entertained.

And it was his birthday! So, what seemed like a night where we should have been gifting him, he was gifting us.

Credit: James Panagakos

Civil War: A Dystopian Thrill

By James Panagakos

“Civil War” is an action thriller that stands out amongst other films in its genre. Director Alex Garland, known for *Men*, *Annihilation*, and *Ex Machina*, has replicated the sinister tones from his past films but with a more grounded war plot. The amazing cast includes Kirsten Dunst, Cailee Spaeny, Wagner Moura, and Stephen McKinley Henderson. “Civil War” is the highest-budget film released by production company A24.

The film takes place in a dystopian America. A group of journalists are traveling to Washington D.C. to interview the president before he can be killed by rebel factions. “Civil War” explores themes of power, morality, and the consequences of our choices in times of hardship and war.

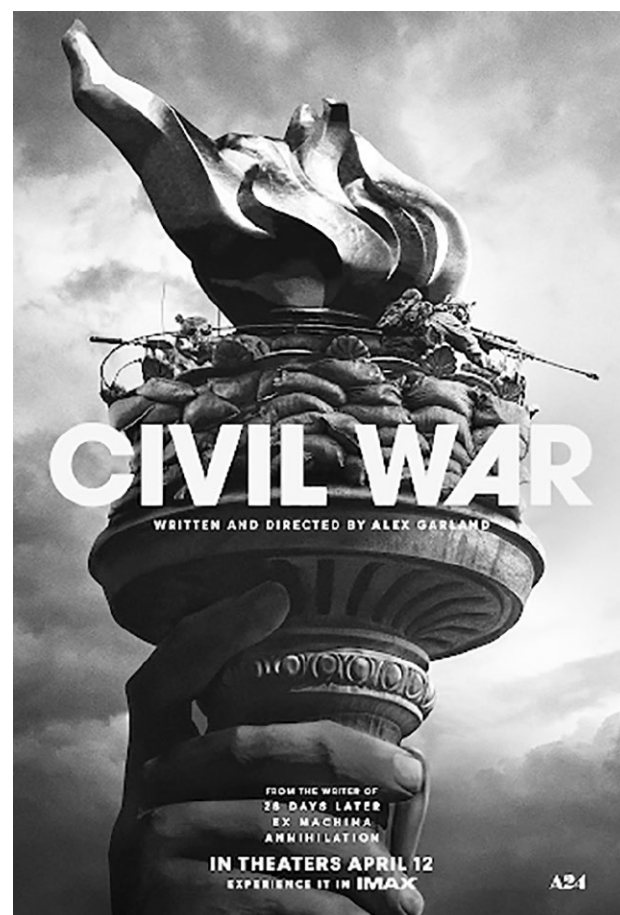
The action sequences are absolutely riveting. The combination of stunning cinematography and immer-



Credit: IMDb

sive sound design creates an experience of a broken, apocalyptic America that feels both authentic and unfamiliar. The fantastic score is perfect for the pain and violence shown on the big screen.

Garland is a visionary talent who has combined impressive performances, breathtaking suspense, and hyperactive action to deliver an unforgettable movie viewing experience.



Credit: IMDb

OW Celebrates D3 Appreciation Week

By Dylan Murphy

SUNY Old Westbury fans celebrated our NCAA Division III Panther athletes during D3 Week at the beginning of April. The college has had a great year welcoming back their fans, players, and coaches to the newly renovated Clark Athletic Center.

OW Athletics posted a schedule of giveaways promoting spring sporting events on Instagram. Fans received crazy hats, sunglasses, workout towels, and winter hats. I collected some of these stylish items.

Panther athletes posted their typical daily routine on Instagram so that family, friends, and fans could see what the athletes do to prepare for the big games.

Scott Bickard, Intramurals Director at SUNY Old Westbury, was pumped for the promos and D3 week. "I love D3 week here at OW, all of our athletes here work really hard day in and day out, so the fact that we get to thank them by celebrating it in one whole week is awesome," he said.

Josh Ingram, Gameday Staff Member at the Clark Athletic Center, was happy for all the athletes. "They deserve all the love and appreciation this week. They commit to our program and try to help us win in any sport they play and try to rep the green and white everyday with pride," he said. "Totally awesome for them and the college."

Athletics Communications Director Max Finkelstein explained how this spring season was a test run. These promotional events get fans out to the Clark Athletic Center to cheer on their Old Westbury Panthers. He expects more promotional games in the future and that it will be a new tradition during D3 week.

There will be more special events for the fans in the upcoming fall and winter seasons. Be sure to follow OW Panthers on Instagram, @OW_Panthers, for more updates on future promotional games.

Jacob Taormina Up To Bat!

By Aidan Bongiorno

Senior Jacob Taormina has played for the Old Westbury Panthers for four years. But he has "been playing baseball for as long as I can remember, since I was five to six years old," said Taormina. "My dad and my brother both played baseball during high school and in college," Taormina added, "so their influence on me is what really encouraged me to get into the sport."



Jacob Taormina at bat!

Watching his dad and brother play baseball paved the way for him to become a baseball player himself. He has been watching baseball with his family since he was a little kid. His favorite team is the San Francisco Giants.

Jacob Taormina played for the Farmingdale High School varsity baseball

team for three years, eventually becoming captain his junior and senior year. He graduated in 2019 and began his baseball career at SUNY O.W. during the 2019 fall semester.

Taormina and his teammates played four games during the 2020 spring semester before the whole season was canceled because of the pandemic. 2024 is his fifth year playing for the Panthers. "Usually, people would get four years eligibility, but since I was here during the COVID years, I got two extra years eligibility, so this is my fifth year and I have one more year of eligibility left if I want to use it."

"2021 was an exciting year because we were away from baseball for so long, and we finally got our season back," Taormina said, "It was a shortened season, but we had a really good team that year and made it all the way to the Skyline Conference Championship, but unfortunately we lost to Marine Academy."

Senior Jacob Taormina is committed to Panther baseball. He is growing stronger on the field everyday with his coach and teammates by his side, striving for another successful season for the Panthers. "Honestly, I'm having a lot of fun this year. I'm getting good vibes with a very talented team that are hungry to win and are determined to get back to the Skyline Conferences."

His advice for the new players joining the team: "You gotta work hard, even though this is division three baseball, it's still a major jump up from high school," he said. "You can't just expect the results without working hard, you need to have full belief in the program and the system."

Gianna DiLillo Takes the Field



Gianna DiLillo.

By Aidan Bongiorno

Gianna DiLillo pitches and plays the outfield for the Old Westbury Panthers. "This will be my third season here at Old Westbury," she said. Off the field DiLillo is a Criminology major working towards her Master's Degree in Liberal Studies.

Gianna DiLillo has been playing softball since she was 7 years old. "I started on a little league team, to eventually playing on a travel team, and throughout middle school and high school,"

At John Glenn High School, DiLillo played on the varsity team for five years. She was a captain for four years. DiLillo earned All-League Honors once and All-Conference Honors three times. DiLillo transferred to Old Westbury from Farmingdale in 2021. At Farmingdale she played softball for one year before the COVID shutdown.

Arriving at Old Westbury, DeLillo came back swinging after COVID. The Panthers "were the best team when I first started. My first year playing at Old Westbury was the first time we made the playoffs in a really long time which was an awesome

experience," said DiLillo. "Just to see this team grow and just to see us grow even more, last year we made the playoffs again, we lost, but it was a really good game, and this year our team is working really hard."

She is having a strong season. At the end of April, DiLillo had a batting average of .404 with 21 hits and 14 RBIs. She had four putouts against Hunter College on April 1 and batted in three runs against Yeshiva University on April 15.

Going into her third year, DiLillo had some helpful advice to incoming freshmen: "All I would say is just go with it and the most important thing when you're playing is to have fun because these years aren't going to last forever. But when you do have the opportunity, just give it your best, do whatever you can name for yourself. Everyday isn't going to be good, there's gonna be good and bad days, but that disappointment is going to help you strive for even more success for not only yourself, but also for the team."



DiLillo up to bat

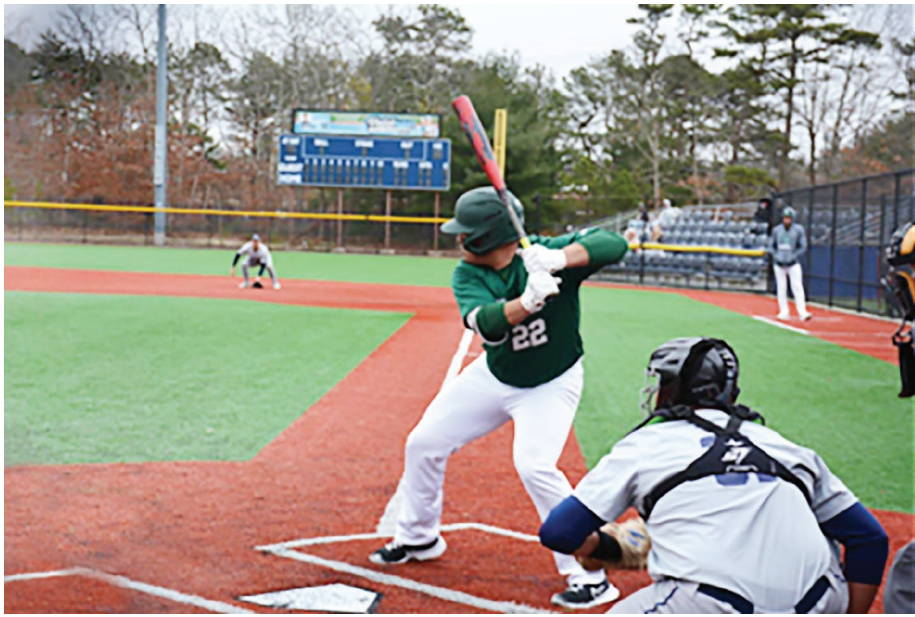
Credit: OW Athletic Communications

Credit: OW Athletic Communications

Credit: OW Athletic Communications

Spring Sports Recap

By Aidan Bongiorno



Jamie Barrios at bat

Credit: OW Athletic Communications

Men's Baseball

The SUNY Old Westbury Men's Baseball team has been up and down this season with a current record of 13-14 as of April 25. While a few of their games were canceled due to some bad weather, they pushed their way through a rocky season. They recently scored a win in a double-header against Mount Saint Mary College on April 14. The team has grown stronger everyday. Freshman James Still was named as a national DIII rookie of the week. He helped his team win three Skyline games, he went 10-for-18 (.556) at the plate over four games against UMSV and Mount Saint Mary College (New York), with 12 RBI, nine runs scored, and five home runs. He eventually broke the first-year program record with nine home runs.



Credit: OW Athletic Communications

Women's Lacrosse

This season was not-so-kind to the women's lacrosse team with an overall record of 2-10. While the team did beat Albertus Magnus College with a score of 15-1, it's been nothing but a struggle for the team, losing eight consecutive games. They won their most recent match up against Purchase College on April 26 with a score of 8-7. While the win didn't give them a winning record, it was a way to finish strong for the Panthers. This season may have been a struggle, but there's always a chance to come back strong for their next season.



Gianna DiLillo at the plate.

Credit: OW Athletic Communications

Women's Softball

It has been a strong year for the softball team, with a record of 15-9 as of April 25. The team started their 2024 season by winning their first two double-header games and followed by multiple victories. The team has a strong and bright future. This was the team's first season back on their home field and it gave them the strength they needed for their first winning record since 2018.



Men's Volleyball going against Sarah Lawrence College.

Credit: OW Athletic Communications

Men's Volleyball

The Men's Volleyball team struggled this season with a record of 2-22 as of April 20. While the team was on a bit of a losing streak, they snagged two wins against Yeshiva University. Unfortunately, their season ended in defeat in a tri-match against Sarah Lawrence College and Manhattanville College. Though the season may have ended on a not-so-high note, they continue to recruit new players every year. Junior Jose Lorenzo Santos was named to the Skyline Conference's first team on April 16. Making 66 sets for the Panthers throughout the 2024 campaign, he finished his first season as a 'libero' (defensive specialist) with 4 kills, 13 assists, and 254 digs.