

New Student Clubs Aim to Take Action on Campus

By **SERIAH SARGENTON**
Staff Writer

Two new student clubs have formed on the College of Saint Rose campus. With the political sphere in complete and utter chaos, the founders believe activism on campus is exactly what the student body needs.

As the era of President Trump begins, political activism has taken off on college campuses across the nation. The Saint Rose chapter of Young Americans for Liberty (YAL) as well as the Saint Rose College Democrats are the newest additions to the growing trend.

The YAL chapter was formally started on campus in September 2016 by seniors Matt Pietrykowski and Brian Tomek with sophomore Dan Sanchez, but the chapter was first created the previous June by Pietrykowski. He was contacted by northeast regional director John Goodnight through Facebook after Goodnight saw that Pietrykowski liked pro-libertarian pages such as Ron Paul, Gary Johnson and Rand Paul.

Pietrykowski was inspired by the Facebook arguments he witnessed between the Bernie Sanders and Hillary Clinton supporters, and the Ted Cruz and Donald Trump supporters. He saw that some people were making educated arguments while others were getting emotional over the topic. He wanted to make a change and bring another side to the story.

During his sophomore year at Arlington High School, Sanchez grew an interest in the idea of liberty so he researched former U.S Representative Ron Paul and his 2012 movement. Since then, Sanchez has felt that the ideology made sense, and decided that when he came to Saint Rose he would join the Young Americans for Liberty. Unfortunately, there was no YAL chapter on campus when he first arrived.

Once Tomek heard about an organization such as YAL, which spreads the message of individual liberty on college campuses, he jumped at the opportunity. Tomek hopes that different groups of people on campus with opposing viewpoints can find common ground and work together on activism projects which are important to both sides.

YAL is one of the largest, most active, and fastest grow-



Students Travel to Local Mosque to Show Support for Muslim Community, Learn About Muslim Culture

By **KATE PIERCE**
News Editor

A dozen Saint Rose students traveled to a nearby mosque on Saturday in a show of support for the Muslim community locally, and nationwide.

The first event for the Faith Crawl, the kickoff for a month-long celebration of the Hubbard Interfaith Sanctuary's 20th anniversary, was

a trip to the Al-Hidaya Islamic community center early Saturday morning. Visitors were invited to go on a tour of the mosque, have henna designs painted on their hands, eat provided breakfast foods and interact with the community members.

"If you can't walk in our shoes, at least walk in our footsteps," said Ahmad Abu-Hakmeh, one of the tour guides and a youth leader for

boys in the community.

During the tour of the facilities, Abu-Hakmeh explained some of the architectural features of the mosque and how they represent certain aspects of the Muslim faith. Some examples were pillars in the lobby, where two sets of five were representative of the five pillars of Islam.

Abu-Hakmeh encouraged visitors to ask him questions, even if they might feel awkward asking him.

"I would rather you ask questions here than go home and Google it," he said.

The question portion of the tour is what really piqued the interest of the students, as their curiosity was what had led them to the trip.

"I know so much about the Catholic religion, since I was brought up that way," said Kayla Franzken, a freshman. She and her sister Sarah had similar thoughts on their experience at the mosque.

"It was cool to experience someone else's faith," said Sarah. Both sisters chose to

rector of campus ministry, had hoped for when planning for the trip first began.

"I think these journeys are eye-opening," said Horgan. "You get an understanding of their faith on a personal level, and not just the media understanding of it."

Abu-Hakmeh spoke about media portrayals of his faith during the tour of the facilities.

"Knowledge can be a weapon, and it can break just as much as it can build," he said.

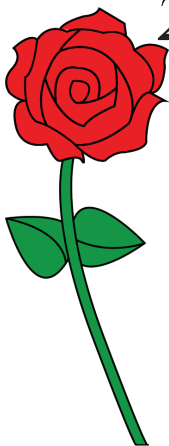
The trip to the mosque was an opportunity for students like Lana Torrens to challenge preconceived stereotypes.

"They were so open," she said. "You expected one thing going in, but there was so much more."

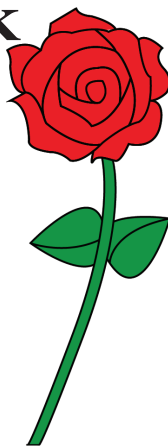
"I was trying to picture raising my voice in the mosque and I just couldn't," said Sarah.

Abu-Hakmeh addressed certain misconceptions and misnomers, including phrases like "jihad" and "Allahu

Finalists Announced for 2017 Rose Rock



The Ready Set
Secondhand Serenade
SoMo
Mike Stud
Eric Paslay



By **JONAS MILLER**
Co-Executive Editor

The results are in, and the five finalists for Rose Rock 2017 have been announced.

The Ready Set, SomMo, Eric Paslay, Mike Stud, and Secondhand Serenade proved to have enough support to make it to the final round of voting, which will take place this week.

Student will receive an email asking them to vote for their two favorite acts.

It has not been released when the winner will be announced or what the theme for this year's event will be, but students are already looking forward to the annual spring concert.

Junior Grace Giancola has gone to both concerts in her two years at Saint Rose, and hopes to see Eric Paslay

perform this year.

"I love Rose Rock," Giancola said. "Mostly for the fried dough, but it's always so much fun and I've looked forward to it every year I've been at Saint Rose."

Though few details have been released, this year's event is sure to be a hit as Student Association Director of Social Activities Vito Van Dunk has been hard at work.

With the help of his committee, he hopes to make this year's event the best one in years.

The Chronicle will bring you more information as it is released.

For more information on Rose Rock 2017 and other Student Association events, contact Vito Van Dunk, vandunkv028@strose.edu.



Melanie Diaz, right, was one of several students who received a henna tattoo during their trip to the mosque

have henna designs painted on their hands and chatted with the high school girls who were applying it. Their conversation included asking what the girls did to secure their hijabs when they rode on roller coasters to the high schoolers telling them about using henna as nail polish.

This was exactly the outcome that Joan Horgan, di-

akbar." He told the group that "jihad," literally translated, means "to struggle," which can refer to anything from struggling to follow your parent's wishes to struggling to concentrate on your connection with God.

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In Brief

Rose Record Label Gala

Members of the Saint Rose Record Label group are hosting a Gala at 7 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 10 to celebrate the release of EPs and singles. In the lineup are performances by three artists, including Sydney Schizzano, who will officially release her debut EP "Felt," and the Bad Mothers, who will perform songs from their upcoming

EP "Why Bother." Alenni will also will perform songs from her album, "Constellations," which was released in December 2016. Rose Record Label songwriters will be performing throughout the night as well.

The event will be held in Jack's Place inside the Hearst Center and it is free and open to the public.

Saint Rose recounts trip to Cuba

A group of students took a trip to Havana, Cuba over the winter break for different programs, and a blog has been started where students have posted their accounts from each day of the trip in January. Some of the programs included photog-

raphy, Spanish, and drawing. Each post is from a different student's perspective, and includes pictures that accompany the events they've written about.

The blog can be found at <https://saintroseincuba2017.wordpress.com>

Hit and run in Washington Park

Albany police are currently investigating a fatal pedestrian hit and run that occurred on Washington Park Road near New Scotland Avenue at approximately 4 a.m. on Saturday, Feb 4. Upon arrival, officers located Rajine Martinez, 21, who had been struck by what has been described as an SUV, which fled the scene of the crash. She was transported to Albany Medical Center

Hospital where she was later pronounced dead. Washington Park Road between Willett Street and New Scotland Avenue will be closed until further notice during the investigation. Anyone with information about this incident is asked to call the Albany Police Detective Division at (518) 462-8039.

CONGRATULATIONS TO...

KELLSEY SULLIVAN

The winner of the Chronicle's Ultimate Valentine's Day Gift Basket.

Please Contact Co-Executive Editor Katie Klimacek to claim your prize.

Dear Readers,

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We would also like to remind everyone that ANYBODY can write for the Chronicle - you don't need any writing experience or a specific major to contribute.

If you have any questions, or would like more information about what we do, feel free to contact any of the emails below

Sincerely,

The Chronicle Staff

YAL, Democrats of Saint Rose Set to Make Campus Debut

ACTION...

ing pro-liberty organization s on college campuses nationwide. There are over 804 YAL chapters and 308,927 youth activists. YAL dedicates itself to identify, educate, train and mobilize young people to win on principle.

"Young Americans for Liberty has continually grown and I felt that bringing in Saint Rose had a lot of potential to strengthen our New York network and national network," said Goodnight, who got his start while an undergraduate political science student at the University of New Mexico.

The non-partisan chapter is aimed at students who share similar views such as classic liberals and conservatives who want to be a voice of change. The goal is to be an extra voice to people who want to be active and are unsure how. If students are interested, they will learn more about libertarianism.

"I want to give them a place to engage in an open discussion without being afraid," said Dan Sanchez, the secretary of the Saint Rose YAL chapter.

They also want to partner with other politically active clubs on campus, attend community service events and promote political activism. In the future, the club hopes to have an open social or forum and a pizza politics social with the Saint Rose College Democrats.

"Let's end divisiveness before now, before it gets truly out of hand, and have some non-partisan cooperation," said Tomek.

The parent organization is the College Democrats of New York, which is a branch of College Democrats of America and the Democratic National Committee. The club hopes to become Student Association certified as soon as possible. This would provide the group

with school funding and easier outreach to students and faculty on campus.

"As the official student arm of the Democratic National Committee, we, the College Democrats of America, do hereby dedicate ourselves to organizing college students from across the nation in order to encourage and develop the participation of young Americans in the political process and the Democratic Party. We strive to better our country and to promote the principles of equality, opportunity, social justice, and freedom within a just and strong society. As college students, we dedicate ourselves to representing the interests of students and youth within the political process," as stated in the official College Democrats of America constitution.

This is what Saint Rose College Democrats aims to do. The club was founded by communications student Kyle Adams because he wanted to give students the option to get involved and to express their voice in the political process.

The Saint Rose College Democrats plans to become a platform for students to express themselves by taking action and, in turn, standing up for what they believe in. However, it also gives students who may not be certain of what they believe to learn about what the Democratic Party stands for and represents.

Adams wishes to create a detailed and constructive discussion of issues and for his newly founded club to take part in organizing events on campus and in the community. Adams also sees the possibility of a partnership with another local branch of College Democrats at the University at Albany.

The issues the club will act on the most will reflect the issues the club members feel are the most important.

There a sense of uncertainty and fear coming from students because of the new presidential administration. Adams realizes that people know there is something wrong, but they don't know what to do, and he wants to help.

Currently, there is no executive board for the club, but Adams plans to hold elections in the future after the club becomes more established on campus. The advisor of the club will be Ken Scott, the director of community service for the College, with support from Cailin Brown, the department chair of the communications department, and Joan Horgan, director of spiritual life.

Adams cited a quote from former president Barack Obama when talking of his inspiration for starting the club.

"Change only happens when ordinary people get involved, get engaged and come together to demand it." Adams was also inspired by filmmaker Michael Moore, in Adams' eyes a perfect example of a relentless activist, and Shailene Woodley, who was arrested for engaging in protests in the Standing Rock Reservation in North Dakota.

The club hopes to hold at least one voter registration event each semester and during the election for high school seniors and juniors, as well as formal debates, and a mock congress where a group of students will work together to create and propose a bill. The idea is to engage students with the experience of how government works.

"The political process does not begin or end with elections," Adams said. "It is forever. Election Day is just like the birthday of political engagement, every day you still get older and everyday there are new laws and issues at risk of going in the wrong direction."

Mosque Opens Eyes of Students, Faculty

MOSQUE...

"Allahu akbar" is recited twice at the beginning of each of the five daily prayers, and means "God is great" or "God is greater" he explained to the group. It refers to the belief that God is greater than anything you must overcome or persevere through, which could be anxiousness about the political climate, doing well on a test, or even sleep.

Maria Hartz, leader of

the Better Together interfaith group here on campus, asked Abu-Hakmeh how people could be the best allies to those of the Muslim faith during the current political climate.

"Be sincere," he said. "Take the time to connect on a human level and open your heart."

One of the student attendees, Mariah Pasinski, said that both Abu-Hakmeh and the trip itself helped her to understand how to connect

with others.

"If we just take the time we can realize that we have so much more in common than we have in differences," she said. "If we just took the time to realize those before our differences, we could get together and celebrate our differences instead."

Any students who are interested in learning more about the rest of the Faith Crawl events are encouraged to reach out to Joan Horgan or Maria Hartz.

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ANY student can join The Saint Rose Chronicle!

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Tuesday February 7, 2017

Rose Record Label Group to Throw Gala

By AARON KREIN
Arts Editor

The music industry student-run company, Rose Record Label Group, will be holding their third event this Friday as a way of celebrating various releases and upcoming projects. The label was officially launched in 2015 and has since blossomed with close to 50 members and three artists currently signed. The label's faculty advisor and music industry professor, Sean McClowry, took the idea of a student-run professional organization and turned the label into a class.

This event will celebrate the release of junior Sydney Schizzano's EP, "Felt." The Bad Mothers' latest single, "Why Bother," as well as senior Alenni's debut album, "Constellations."

Schizzano, who originally signed as a songwriter and was later signed her sophomore year, is looking forward to sharing her five-song EP with people attending the gala.

"It's all songs that I have written and it's definitely a mix of sounds," said Schizzano. "All the producers in our production company, Thorn, did so much hard work and they contributed

just as much music as I did writing them."

The songs, according to Schizzano, range from the "aggressive" heart-broken track "Felt" to the stripped-down piano ballad "Something," which revolves around her "relationship with religion." The first single, "Felt," was released online last Friday.

Besides the impending release of her EP, Schizzano is eager to take the stage Friday night.

"Performing live is one of the first ways I really fell in love with music," said Schizzano. "I love going back to my roots and working with people and creating what you're going to hear on the EP live, whether it's exactly the same, note-for-note, or a totally different twist on the song."

There will also be live performances by the S.Man songwriters, which is one of the branches of the label. The six-part writing team is run by its head songwriter, junior Emily Mitchell.

"I am the person who coordinates and organizes the songwriting team to write music for our artists, and for a collection of songs we are trying to make into a catalogue," said Mitchell. "I give them prompts and help them



Sydney Schizzano performing at the RRLG's compilation release party last February.

with their ideas."

Mitchell is anticipating sharing new material with guests and hopes attendees will understand what this label means to music industry students.

"It's a lot more than just writing a few good tunes," said Mitchell. "It makes each person realize that they have to market themselves and be willing to constantly change in order to remain relevant and successful. It also allows everyone to get an inside look on how a record label

works before they begin to apply to jobs."

RRLG previously held an "official launch party" back in February 2015 and a "compilation release party" nearly a year later. The latter was to celebrate the label's first release, "Rose Roots Vol. 1," which included a variety of signed artists past and present as well as Saint Rose alumni.

"This is the first year we're calling it the "Rose Record Label Gala," and we hope to continue using this name in the future," said senior Maria McNamara, the label's head of public relations.

RRLG will also be revealing their new website and showcasing their recent ten-minute spot on WMHT. The label had been in long talks with producer and parent, Tony Grocki, to appear on the local PBS channel. Last semester, after various phone calls and e-mails, Grocki came in to meet members of the group and stated that he would include them in the Wednesday night special, "AHA!"

"He came in a few more times throughout last semester, shooting footage of all aspects of the record label, including recording sessions,

songwriter workshops and interviews with some of our members and artists," said McNamara.

The event takes place from 7 to 11 p.m. at Jack's Place in Hearst. The style code is "suggested formal wear," although McNamara assured that no guests would be turned away.

"The entire event is free," said McNamara. "There will be food, raffles, music from all of our artists and songwriters, a viewing of the PBS special, and photography in front of our record label backdrop."

At the end of the day, members of the label group hope for a good turnout from the Saint Rose community.

"I hope that the event draws in a good crowd so that they can see that we are doing real work as a part of this record label," said Mitchell. "We are recording real albums with real artists, and even though we are all learning along the way, we are able to put out a product that is marketable and professional."

Want to write for Arts?
Contact Arts Editor
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kreina018@strose.edu.



Alenni, center, performing at the RRLG's compilation release party last February.

"The Comedian:" A Shocking Open Mic Night

By JACKSON MURPHY
Staff Writer

At 73, Robert De Niro is showing no signs of slowing down. Recently he's had some big highs ("Silver Linings Playbook," "The Intern") and tremendous lows ("Dirty Grandpa"), and some notable work in between ("Hands of Stone," "Joy," "Grudge Match," "The Family").

Now comes "The Comedian" - a rare movie that, following the end credits, literally left me speechless.

Back in 1983, De Niro played one of his most memorable characters, the unstable, "comic in his own mind" Rupert Pupkin, in Martin Scorsese's "The King of Comedy." In "The Comedian," De Niro is the most famous insult comic

in the business, Jackie Burke, who's also known for his starring role his '80s sitcom, "Eddie's Home," and his iconic catchphrase, "ARLENE!"

The term "shock comedy" certainly applies to "The Comedian" because this comedy is absolutely shocking. And not because of Burke's raunchy material (which may offend some), but thanks to the high number of drawn-out and embarrassing scenes, most involving verbal and/or physical confrontations.

An altercation in the film's opening ten minutes—Burke whacks a heckler in the face with his microphone—is what kick-starts our story. A video of the incident goes viral, and Burke is sent to jail for 30 days and ordered to serve 100 hours of community service at

a NYC homeless shelter. Once released, Burke desperately tries to get his professional and personal lives back together.

Maybe, on paper, the idea of De Niro playing this character seemed like it was a good idea. But veteran director Taylor Hackford steers this story in bizarre directions, rarely providing any genuine or funny moments, or having anything to say along the way.

Burke occasionally hits his target with a sarcastic remark, but mostly his wisecracks fall flat. Yes, he's playing a 67-year-old comic, but that doesn't mean all his lines have to sound like they're from the 1950s. The fact that De Niro has been trying to get this film made for most of the past decade may explain why the material feels dated, but it's no

excuse for why the material is bad.

Edie Falco is well-cast as Burke's manager. She gives the best performance as the movie's only authentic character. Danny DeVito is hit-and-miss as Burke's brother. And Leslie Mann and Harvey Keitel are completely over-the-top and unbelievable as a dysfunctional love interest and her father.

Four writers are credited with the screenplay, which provides Burke with at least half a dozen opportunities to perform full stand-up routines at comedy clubs, a wedding, a retirement community, the courtroom and even a roast at The Friars Open honoring 95-year-old actress May Conner (played by Cloris Leachman). She's a mix of Betty

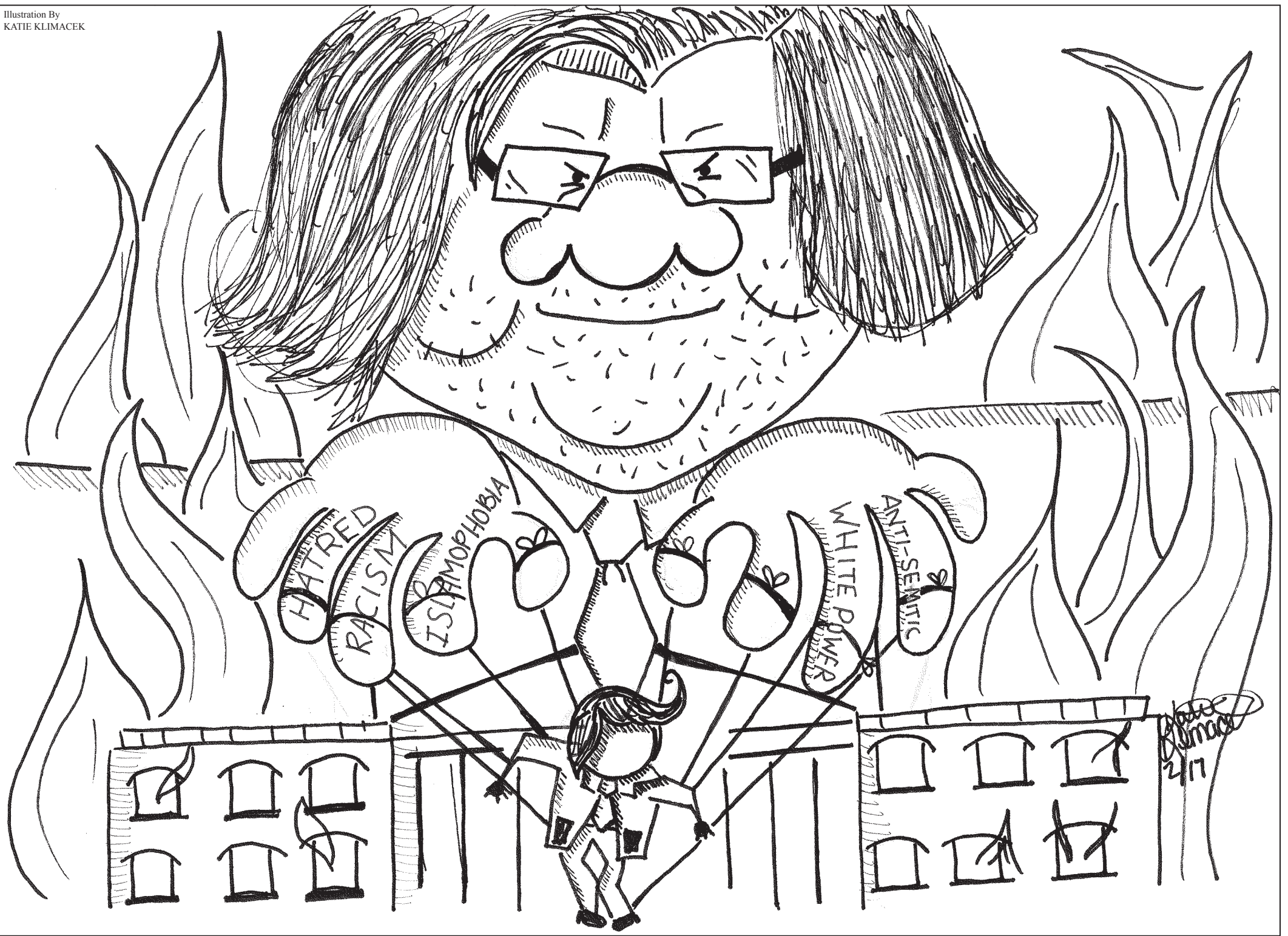
White, Joan Rivers and Meryl Streep—sweet, but feisty, and the winner of three Oscars and six Emmys. That detail alone demonstrates just how wildly illogical the script is.

You know how, when watching a really funny movie, you'll find yourself trying to remember some of the great lines so you can use them later?

Well, while watching "The Comedian," you'll be constantly trying to forget lines (and entire scenes), but they'll just keep coming at you, right up to the finale, which is a solid contender for worst epilogue of the year.

"The Comedian" is now playing in select Capital Region theaters.

Illustration By
KATIE KLIMACEK



The President's Puppeteer

The Man Behind the Hate

BY TAYLOR
FARNSWORTH
Staff Writer

Chief White House Strategist Steve Bannon. It may not be a name familiar to some, but it should be. That “alt-right,” Anglo-American, conspiracy theory ideology is exactly what President Donald Trump appears to seek when searching for political advice, and who better than Bannon to give it to him? While others may have discouraged Trump’s rhetoric, Bannon urges him to use it to his advantage.

Bannon’s involvement in politics started long before Trump decided to run for president. He’s been an avid political voice for those who firmly believe in the corruption of politics, through the Breitbart News network.

Breitbart News is infamous for its white-nationalist propaganda, but it wasn’t always that way. After the death of Andrew Breitbart back in 2012, Bannon became the executive chairman. He used his new position to turn Breitbart News into a platform to share his radical ideology.

It was no surprise when Trump announced that Bannon would be his chief executive officer during his presidential campaign. Breitbart News was often critiqued for favoring Trump during the Republican primaries, as well as during the presidential campaign. The website was clearly in favor of a Trump

presidency, while targeting his followers and bashing anti-Trump Republicans.

Bannon shares his conspiracy theories with those gullible enough to believe anything semi-related to government corruption. But one of Bannon’s most radical, and troubling, theories comes from a book called “The Fourth Turning: What Cycles of History Tell Us About America’s Next Rendezvous with Destiny.” The book discusses the layout of American history, and the inevitable pattern.

Authors William Strauss and Neil Howe argue in the book that history is defined through 80 to 100 year cycles called “saecula.” It’s believed that at the end of each “saecula” there is a “cataclysmic” event that destroys the old laws, thus forcing the creation of a new way of life. In the book, this event is referred to as “the Fourth Turning,” which Bannon believes we are experiencing right now.

According to the book, the last “Turning” occurred during the Great Depression and World War II. The authors argue that during these periods of time, people were forced to unite after experiencing a great conflict by designing a new governmental structure for themselves. Bannon believes that the only way we can get into the “new world” is going to be by experiencing events similar to that of WWII, and the Great Depression.

“Trump is a blunt instrument for us... I don’t know

whether he really gets it or not,” said Bannon in an interview with Vanity Fair about Trump being exactly what we need to witness a “Fourth Turning.”

But instead of uniting Americans, as the theory suggests, the Trump administration is only dividing us further while tip-toeing around our constitutional rights. This shouldn’t come as a surprise. Given the policies Trump promised to enforce once in office, his opinions on uniting with those who disagree with anything he stands for should have been clear. Bannon and Trump play on this concept of fear and immediate action. They lose sight of logic and sensibility while trying to write up executive orders that lack constitutionality.

Although it is easy to sit

and point fingers at Trump, Bannon’s role in his presidency should not go unnoticed. He’s already assisted in writing Trump’s inaugural address, as well as the most recent executive order on travel and refugees, referred to as the Muslim ban.

Protests against the Trump administration have occurred in numerous locations across the country since Trump took office, and will continue as more executive orders similar to the Muslim ban are enforced. But the chaos is exactly what Bannon wants—it’s exactly the type of event he believes must happen in order for his theory of a “new political order” to advance. Trump is merely a tool he is using to push everything into place.

“If nobody is disagreeing with what you’re doing, then

you’re probably not doing anything that really matters in the scheme of things,” Senior Adviser to Trump Stephen Miller said.

Miller is right, Trump is doing things that matter. He’s doing things that are unconstitutional, and jaw-dropping. He’s continuing to prove to us that his ideology is similar to that of Bannon’s, and that isn’t something our country should be governed based on.

I may not believe in a “Fourth Turning” of the type Bannon is adamant on executing through Trump, but I do believe we are witnessing something historical. I only hope that these events are one day looked at as being a pivotal point in history due to its unity of diversity, rather than for the continuing divide.

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The Bench After Scalia

The Future Of The Supreme Court

BY RYAN SENECA
Staff Writer

President Donald Trump's first couple of weeks in the White House have been hectic. As of this moment, the White House and Senate Republicans are trying to convince Senate Democrats to confirm Trump's nominees to their specific cabinet positions.

Our focus has seemed to drift away from these committee hearings and senate confirmation votes for a few days as we turn to Trump's nominee to replace the late Justice Antonin Scalia. The president has chosen Judge Neil Gorsuch of the 10th Circuit Court of Appeals, located in Denver, Colorado. Gorsuch was nominated to his present seat by former president George W. Bush.

It has been almost a year since Scalia's death. Republicans in the Senate took a big risk by not holding a confirmation hearing for former president Barack Obama's nominee, Merrick Garland, who was probably one of the most conservative judges a Democrat could nominate. Republicans ended up winning the battle over the court while retaining a majority in the Senate and winning the White House in November. It was a risky game, one that I was critical of, but I, like many others,

was proved wrong on election night.

Gorsuch is very qualified to hold this seat. He received his Bachelor's degree from Columbia University, his Juris Doctor from Harvard University and his Doctorate from Oxford University.

Like Scalia, Gorsuch believes in interpreting the Constitution as written. Many liberals do not agree with this style and have already expressed their distaste for Gorsuch. While he is an originalist, we do not know Gorsuch's view on abortion or marriage equality, as he has not had the opportunity to write opinions on them for the court. He has written a book on euthanasia which some on the left have stated as reason to believe that he is anti-abortion and would take any opportunity to strike down *Roe v. Wade*.

Many on the left have already proclaimed that they will not vote to confirm Gorsuch to the Supreme Court. New York State's own Senators Chuck Schumer and Kirsten Gillibrand, both Democrats, have both pledged to vote no.

I caution Democrats in the Senate to outright reject this nominee and call for a new person to be nominated. In 2018, the Democrats will have 23 seats to defend in the midterm election. They also have



Since Judge Antonin Scalia death, Republicans and Democrats have been biting their nails in anticipation to see who the next Supreme Court Justice would be.

two seats that are held by Independents that caucus with the Democrats, so they basically have to defend a quarter of the U.S. Senate next year.

Democrats are trying to hold on to at least ten states that voted for Trump. These Democrats are located in Montana, North Dakota and Wisconsin, among others. These Democrats should give Gorsuch a fair chance, which will look good to their constituents. Also, Democrats who are smart should wait to threaten a filibuster until the time comes to fill the seats of Justice An-

thony Kennedy or Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg.

While Democrats are playing their games, Republicans have some tricks up their sleeves. In order to be confirmed to the Supreme Court, you must get 60 yeas votes. Republicans are threatening to change the rule to only require a simple majority vote to confirm a nominee.

I urge Republicans to do everything they can to preserve this rule. Most of the rules were changed when Democrats had a majority in the Senate. Former Senator Harry Reid

was the Majority Leader and he wanted Obama's cabinet and nominees to lower courts to be confirmed easier. So Republicans would have a decent reason to change the rule, but if this rule is changed, what will be the point of having a Senate? The Senate was supposed to be a chamber to get the nation's business done with bi-partisan support. What else is left if this happens?

In the end, Gorsuch will be confirmed. It will be interesting to watch how this confirmation process plays out.

The Plight of a Commuter: From Traffic to Tardiness

By KYLE PRATT
Opinion Editor

Being a commuter student certainly has its perks. Cheaper parking permits, a comfy bed, and, of course, saving thousands upon thousands of dollars.

Even as we commuters enjoy these nice caveats, those of us who don't live so close to campus have a mild jealousy toward anyone who can be home in a matter of minutes, and anyone who doesn't have to deal with the hellish process of finding a parking spot in a word of double-parkers and intrusive snow banks

While these relatively small downfalls can cause some stress, there are other, more serious issues that commuters face that aren't always so obvious.

First, almost all of us have to pay to get to school. Students who drive to school have no choice but to get gas. This may seem like a small price to pay to save thousands of dollars a year, but this gas money usually comes right out of our pocket and isn't paid through a loan.

Second, our trip to class is usually significantly longer than that of a resident. A student who lives on campus could roll out of bed at 7:45 for an 8 a.m. class if they really wanted to. For those who

drive in from 20-plus miles away, this isn't possible.

An 8 a.m. class for a commuter can often mean getting out of bed at 6 a.m. or earlier, and if we have a break before our next class, we can't run home and take a nap. Not without paying for more gas, that is.

Commuters can also find themselves facing numerous challenges en route to class. Everyone who drives to school knows that sinking feeling that hits when you run into a parking lot in the middle of the highway. We can be making great time, on track to arrive on campus well before the start of class, when we all of a sudden have to stop in our tracks. We can't go around, as if it's a group of people on the quad. We have to wait, and waiting means tardiness.

Many professors are forgiving, but some have very strict attendance and anti-lateness policies. Someone's careless mistake on the road can potentially mean the difference between an A and a B, or a C and a D. It is next to impossible for a commuter to ensure perfect punctuality for a whole semester, given the multitude of variables that exist between home and school. Unless they leave extra early, which means less sleep, and often leaves them waiting around for class to start.

Commuters can even find themselves making the trek to campus just to find out their class is cancelled and that they have wasted a gallon of gas, just to waste another on the way home.

Even after all that, one of the biggest issues commuters face is not feeling like a part of the campus community. Many campus events are extremely inconvenient to attend. They can often take place hours after the last class of the day. This limits social gatherings and club participation.

Making friends is often more difficult for a commuter student, as they often only interact with fellow students in class.

Meeting with professors can also be difficult if their office hours don't align with a commuter's schedule, though many professors are very accommodating.

Commuting is a cost-effective option, but these added disadvantages can be stressful.

Next time you see a commuter, say "Hi," and introduce yourself. They may have had a rough day being cut off by some bigshot in a BMW, sitting in traffic, almost running out of gas, and getting a letter off their grade for being ten minutes late, but they are just as much a part of the Saint Rose community.

Five for Five

The Five Sports Stories You Need to Know

By **JOSH HELLER**
Staff Writer

1. NFL Awards Announced

As fans sat around this weekend and prepared for the 2017 Super Bowl, the NFL handed out its annual batch of awards.

The biggest award from Saturday evening was for MVP, conferred upon Falcons quarterback Matt Ryan. "Matty Ice" threw 38 touchdowns and just seven interceptions in his 16 regular season games this season, the best mark of his career by far.

Ryan propelled his Pro Bowl wide receiver Julio Jones to an outstanding season with 1,409 yards and six touchdowns. In addition to MVP, Ryan also took home the Offensive Player of the Year award, while Raiders linebacker Khalil Mack won Defensive Player of the Year.

The Offensive Rookie of the Year award appeared to be a battle between two Cowboys, and it was Dak Prescott who edged out Ezekiel Elliott. Prescott threw 23 touchdowns and just four interceptions, which are remarkable numbers for a rookie. Chargers rookie Joey Bosa, meanwhile, took home the Defensive Rookie of the Year award. Elliot did go on to win a share of the FedEx Air & Ground Players of the

Year, alongside Ryan.

Another Cowboy who took home an award was Jason Garrett, who won Coach of the Year. Garrett led "America's Team" to a 13-3 record. The Cowboys' offensive line also won the award for Offensive Line of the Year, a shocker to none.

Some other noteworthy winner Jordy Nelson (1,257 yards and 14 touchdowns), recognized as the Comeback Player of the Year, and Giants quarterback Eli Manning and Cardinals wide receiver Larry Fitzgerald, who split the Walter Payton NFL Man of the Year award for charity and volunteer work, as well as talent on the field.

2. LaVine Out for Rest of Season

After an impressive first half of the season, Timberwolves guard Zach LaVine will miss the rest of this season with a torn ACL.

LaVine, 21, was a bright spot in Minnesota, who struggled more than expected in the first half, as he averaged 18.9 points per game, 3.4 rebounds per game, and three assists per game.

The injury was sustained in LaVine's left knee at the end of last Friday's game against the Pistons, when he came down after going up for a layup. LaVine had decid-

ed just a couple weeks prior that he would not defend his Slam Dunk contest title.

With LaVine out, the Timberwolves will rely even more on youngsters Karl-Anthony Towns and Andrew Wiggins. Brandon Rush saw his way into the starting lineup in Minnesota's first game without LaVine, so he could be slated to see a big increase in minutes.

3. Owens Misses Out on Hall of Fame Again

In his second year on the ballot, one of the best to play his position was once again left out of Canton.

On the same night that the NFL handed out its awards for 2016, the next Hall of Fame class was also announced. The 2017 inductees are LaDainian Tomlinson, Morten Andersen, Jason Taylor, Kenny Easley (voted in from the senior committee), Jerry Jones (voted in as a contributor), Terrell Davis and Kurt Warner.

Owens spent his 15 seasons in the league with five different teams, and in that time, ranked second all-time in receiving yards (15,934) and third all-time in receiving touchdowns (153).

In the NFL's voting process, the list of potential Hall of Famers is trimmed to ten, and then to five. According to

league reports, Owens didn't even make the final ten. Owens later took to Twitter and called the Hall of Fame system a "flawed process."

4. Romo To Sign with Divisional Rival Dodgers

After spending the last nine seasons with the Giants, bullpen-staple Sergio Romo has crossed divisional lines and is slated to sign with the Dodgers.

Romo was the closer in San Francisco in 2013 and 2014, when he had a combined 61 saves and a 3.12 ERA. In 2015 and 2016, Romo became the setup man, making way for Santiago Casilla to closer for the Giants, an experiment that did not go well for San Francisco last season, where he was able to gather 31 saves, but had a 3.57 ERA.

At 33, Romo still has plenty of baseball left in him, and could become a big-name setup man for the Dodgers. Last month, the Dodgers resigned Kenley Jansen, one of the best closers in the league, to a five-year, \$80 million deal.

Romo's deal with the Dodgers is reported to be for one season, but the financial details have yet to be released.

5. Connecticut Governor Invites Islanders to Hartford

With the Whalers gone since 1997, Hartford is still looking for a hockey team, and the state's governor recently reached out to the Islanders.

Last week, reports came out that the Barclays Center in Brooklyn would be dumping the Islanders after

the 2018-19 season. These reports said that the Islanders did not contribute financially to the arena, and that it would be better off to dump the team. The Islanders, currently sitting third-last in the Eastern Conference, have the third-lowest attendance numbers this season.

Connecticut's governor, Dannel Malloy, and Hartford's mayor, Luke Bronin, wrote a letter to Islanders' ownership, urging them to move their organization to Hartford. The two said that the Islanders could use the XL Center as "an option for your interim use," and that they "would suggest the building as a long-term solution to your needs as well."

While Hartford does not have an NHL team, they do have the AHL affiliate of the New York Rangers, the Hartford Wolf Pack. The Wolf Pack has struggled this season, and has the fifth-lowest attendance in the AHL, with an average of almost 4,000 fans per game. The arena that they play in, the XL Center, can hold almost 15,000 fans for hockey games. The University of Connecticut men's hockey team also plays in the arena.

There are many conflicting reports here, as many have said the Islanders are looking to construct a permanent home in Queens, NY. Plus, Barclays may decide to not dump the Islanders after all. Regardless, the Islanders franchise and their fans are in a bit of a waiting game for now, and the team's lack of success this season doesn't help to distract their fans.

Five Golden Rings

Tom Brady Seals Legacy; Patriots Shock World with Epic 34-28 Victory Over Atlanta

By **JONAS MILLER**
Co-Executive Editor

There had never been an overtime game in Super Bowl history. No team had ever come back from a 25-point deficit. No quarterback had ever thrown for 466 yards in a Super Bowl game.

Que Tom Brady.

The future hall of famer lead the New England Patriots on a torrid 31-0 run to upend the seemingly unstoppable Atlanta Falcons on Sunday Night to secure the fifth Championship ring of his illustrious NFL career.

It didn't come easy.

Early on, Patriots receivers were almost absent entirely from the game. With drops coming all across the field, it looked lonely on the Patriots sideline as Brady sat with his head between his knees.

Meanwhile, Atlanta tore up and down the field, scoring 21 points in the second quar-

ter on the back of their MVP QB's rocket arm. It seemed as though nothing was going to stop Matt Ryan, Julio Jones, and the two headed monster that was their backfield, comprised of Devante Freeman and Tevin Coleman. When you throw in the fact that Atlanta's defense was pressuring Brady on seemingly every play, the Falcons were left with a 96.4 percent chance on winning heading into the locker room at halftime.

Que Tom Brady.

The third quarter brought glimpses of hope for New England as they began to shut down Atlanta's running game while also finding holes in the stone-wall defense orchestrated by first-year head coach, Dan Quinn. Quinn served as defensive coordinator for Seattle before coming to Atlanta, so it's no secret why teams struggled offensively against the birds all season long.

With the clock winding

down in the third quarter, the Falcons were still up 28-9 - not an impossible deficit, but a comeback looked very unlikely for New England.

Que Tom Brady.

It was as if the Falcons forgot who was on the other side of the ball. Brady came out in the final period and led the Patriots to a pair of touchdowns in the final nine minutes, leading a ten play, 91-yard drive for the game tying score - capped off by a sneaky and successful bubble screen to Danny Amendola

for the two point conversion.

As regulation ended, the momentum the Patriots held created an atmosphere in which anything but a New England win would shock the world.

Sure enough, special teams superstar Matthew Slater won the overtime coin toss, the Patriots got the ball, and 3:58 into the first ever overtime period in Super Bowl history, the Patriots won the game on an outside pitch to running back James White.

In the end, the Patriots did exactly what everyone expected them to do. They dominated possession time, nearly doubling Atlanta's 23 minutes with the ball; they secured 20 more first downs than the birds, a number almost guaranteed with Brady's quick style of play; and in front of 70,807 fans, they instantly secured a spot in history on the back of arguably the greatest quarterback to ever play the game.

2017 needed a kick start, que Tom Brady.



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The College of Saint Rose

CAREER CENTER UPCOMING EVENTS

EMPLOYER INFORMATION TABLES
Events and Athletics Center, Outside of the Camelot Room, 11am-2pm

U.S. ARMY & ARMY RESERVE
Tuesday, February 7
• Officer and Reserve Jobs

THE HOME DEPOT
Wednesday, February 8
• Part-time & Full-time employment (all-year)

GLENMONT JOB CORPS ACADEMY
Thursday, February 9
• Internships and Full-time employment opportunities, including:
• Teaching
• Administrative
• Social Services

RESUME COLLECTIONS:

CIRCLE OF FRIENDS
Physical Therapist
eCareerCenter Job ID: 23626
Speech Pathologist
eCareerCenter Job ID: 23621
DEADLINE: Thursday, Feb. 9th

Genius Plaza
eCareerCenter Job ID: 23730
Web Development Intern
eCareerCenter Job ID: 23731
DEADLINE: Thursday, Mar. 2nd

SPRING 2017 HOURS:

OFFICE HOURS
Monday - Friday
9:00am - 4:00pm
STUDENT HOURS
Monday - May 11
Tuesday - May 11
Monday - Wednesday
9:00am - 4:00pm
WALK-INS
(Monday 11 - May 11)
Monday - Thursday
9:00am - 4:00pm
Extended Hours
March 31 & 31
10am - 4:00pm

Log in to eCareerCenter for additional information about each position and to apply.

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