“IN THE NEWS”

NOVEMBER TO DECEMBER 2013

Prepared by
The office of Public and Media Relations
SUNY College at Old Westbury
Students Answer the Call

Local organizations meet with students at annual partnership fair

Matching students with potential volunteer placements was the goal as the Community Action, Learning and Leadership program of SUNY College at Old Westbury recently welcomed 20 community organizations to campus to participate in the 6th Annual CALL Partnership Fair.

Among the organizations participating were Westbury’s Park Avenue Elementary School, McCoy Family and Youth Services, Inc and the North Shore Child and Family Guidance Center: The Leeds Place, which will each serve as a host for student volunteers.

“The Partnership Fair brings community leaders to campus so that students can learn about possibilities available to them to make an impact,” said Laura Anker, director of the Office of First Year Experience and of the College’s Community Action, Learning and Leadership Program. “The relationships that begin with this fair will grow in the spring into service placements where our students and College can bring to bear their collective power to support our Long Island friends and neighbors.”

Highlighting the 2013 Partnership Fair were remarks by Scott Reich, a local attorney who recently authored “Power of Citizenship: Why John F. Kennedy Matters to a New Generation.”

“JFK’s presidency was about challenging Americans to be good citizens, and that the spirit he aimed to foster can still guide us today,” Reich told the students assembled.

“The ‘millennial’ generation can choose to embrace this legacy by behaving in ways that reflect our national values – by recognizing the truth that appears on the Seal of the United States: “E pluribus unum” – out of many, we are one.”

Through CALL, every first-year student is required to participate in a minimum of 50 hours of service at placements that are determined by linked course content and objectives, as well as students’ academic and career interests. In all, the more than 400 members of this fall’s entering class at SUNY College at Old Westbury will provide more than 20,000 hours of service next spring through placements with human service, healthcare, educational, municipal and other organizations in the local area area.

The work of the students, faculty and staff through this program has for six consecutive years earned Old Westbury a place on the U.S. President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll.
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Made possible through support provided by the Amy Hagedorn Fund of the New York Community Trust, SUNY College at Old Westbury’s award-winning Community Action, Learning and Leadership (CALL) Program seeks to affect change both in the local community and within the College’s students themselves. Through CALL, every first-year student is required to participate in a minimum of 50 hours of service at placements that are determined by linked course content and objectives, as well as students’ academic and career interests.

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Belmore Organizations Participate in SUNY College at Old Westbury CALL Partnership Fair

Posted: December 18, 2013 at 12:30 pm

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The Children’s Sangha and The Garden at St. Marks, both located in Bellmore, took part and have agreed to serve as a host for student volunteers in the spring.

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CALL Partnership Fair held at SUNY College at Old Westbury

Published: December 18, 2013
Annual partnership fair introduces student volunteers to partner community organizations.

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More Than 2.3 Million Instagram Photos are Arranged Beautifully in "The Aggregate Eye" Exhibition

BY DALE ESINGER | NOV 14, 2013 | 9:40 AM | PERMALINK

A genius new exhibition called "The Aggregate Eye," showing now at the Amelie A. Wallace Gallery at SUNY College at Old Westbury New York, examines the patterns created by our ever-increasing output onto social media. Using Instagram photos, a team of researchers and designers took a sample set of 2.3 million Instagram photos, from 13 different cities around the world. The images were then put into data visualizations using the actual photos, organized by a number of different ways: time, hue, in radials, in montage, in plots, by location, and in intersections of these variables.

The exhibition is part of the Phototrails project. The thinking here is that concrete visualizations can be gleaned as representations of cities, without using maps, traditional photographs or film. The results are striking and undeniably unique to each location. Take, for example, this time-lapse visualization of photos from Brooklyn posted to Instagram during Hurricane Sandy, wherein a visual narrative develops.

Though the project is said to rest in the field of cultural analytics, the composite images created here are undeniably beautiful. The best part? The software used to create the composites is free—download ImagePlot here, if you’d like to attempt something of this type.

Check out the Phototrails website to see these images and more in greater resolution, with scrolling capabilities. You might even catch a glimpse of your own photo, if you zoom in far enough. If you’re interested in seeing the exhibit in person, here are directions on how to get to the gallery. The exhibition is on display now and runs to December 5.

Phototrails is joint project initialized by Nadav Hochman, Lev Manovich, and Jay Chow, between the department of History of Art and Architecture at the University of Pittsburgh, the Software Studies Initiative at California Institute for Telecommunication and Information, and The Graduate Center at the City University of New York.

RELATED: 20 Museums to Follow on Instagram

As seen on —

We’re waiting by the phone

The Rev. Calvin O. Butts III – president of SUNY College at Old Westbury and pastor of the Abyssinian Baptist Church in Harlem – has been having meetings with clergy and community leaders about entering politics, according to The Daily News.

Butts, who is pondering running for the U.S. House seat held by Charlie Rangel, previously told LIBN there’s only one person who would ultimately sway his decision whether to run.

“I’ve never sought elective office. What I do in terms of my church work and education is a calling,” Butts said. “If I hear from the Lord that I should enter politics, I’ll call you and let you know.”

However, Old Westbury spokesman Michael Kinane confirmed that the school president is discussing the idea.
With sight restored, women gets dream LIRR job

by ALFONSO A. CASTILLO
alfonso.castillo@newsday.com

Long Island Rail Road assistant conductor Shantese Wilkinson can see her future clearly.

A year ago she was losing her sight and with it her dreams of being a train conductor. But surgeons with the North Shore LIJ-Health System removed a massive brain tumor that was causing her to go blind, restoring her sight and that dream job.

"When they gave me that certificate and I’m looking at it, I’m like, ‘This is real. This is actually happening.’ " Wilkinson, 23, said, recalling her recent LIRR graduation.

"Everything that’s been going on in the past year . . . was definitely worth it once I was able to sit down and look at it and just be like, ‘I’m doing this.’ "

Wilkinson, an aspiring writer from Central Islip, said she long dreamed of working as a conductor for the LIRR, where she hoped to meet interesting people each day. But the railroad’s vision requirements kept the job out of reach. Wilkinson had struggled with eye problems for 10 years and had lost nearly all the vision in her right eye.

"Because I knew that I wouldn’t pass the clinical exam, I wouldn’t even try," Wilkinson said. "As a conductor, you have to be able to see the signs that are along the track, stop signals. If you can’t look out the window of your train and tell the engineer, ‘You’re clear. Keep going,’ you’re going to get into an accident."

Weeks before graduating from SUNY Old Westbury in the spring of 2012, Wilkinson saw a specialist with North Shore-LIJ who discovered a massive but benign pituitary tumor pushing against her brain, wrapping around her carotid artery and constricting her right optic nerve.

"I went years without anyone able to tell me what in the world was going on" to cause her vision loss, Wilkinson said. "And they caught it. At that point it was like, ‘OK, what’s next?’ "

The tumor eventually could have killed Wilkinson had it not been identified and removed, doctors said.

Dr. B. Todd Schaeffer, associate chairman of North Shore-LIJ’s Department of Otolaryngology and Communicative Disorders, said the "extremely large" tumor could have caused her to suffer a fatal stroke. The vision loss also would have become permanent, he said.

"She was going blind," Schaeffer said. "She would have been completely, irreversibly blind."

Doctors quickly scheduled her for the surgeries to remove the tumor but made no guarantees about whether the vision in her right eye would return.

The first operation took place at North Shore University Hospital in Manhasset in June 2012, when Dr. Mark Eisenberg, chief of neurosurgery, worked for more than 10 hours to remove most of the tumor. In January, he removed the rest of the tumor through Wilkinson’s nose in a procedure at Long Island Jewish Medical Center in New Hyde Park.

After several weeks of recovery, Wilkinson took an eye exam. Vision in her left eye -- her good one -- was 30/40. Her right eye was 20/20.

"Remarkably, her vision essentially became normal," Eisenberg said. "We’re really delighted that her life is coming together, where potentially it could have been just completely derailed."

Wilkinson sent her résumé to the LIRR in May and quickly received a response. After two months of exams and three months of training, she graduated to become an assistant conductor on Nov. 26.

"Her perseverance is an inspiration to us all," LIRR spokesman Salvatore Arena said.

As a new assistant conductor with no seniority, Wilkinson spent Thanksgiving working on the railroad and might also be working on the Christmas and New Year’s holidays.

"It’s weird to know that a year ago I thought I may never have another holiday again," Wilkinson said. "And now I’m here. And I’m working this hard. I couldn’t be more grateful."
While plenty of 20-something Long Islanders are lucky enough to be able to stay in their old bedrooms after graduating from high school -- or move back in after college -- most would like to have what one expert called "the economic wherewithal" to move out...

...In a Coldwell Banker survey released this summer, adults ages 18 through 34 said they think it's acceptable to live with parents up to five years after college.

But everybody wants them to move on at some point.

So Newsday is offering some Long Island role models...

ROOSEVELT APARTMENT:  
Sheila Wilson-Wells, 27

GRANDMOTHER'S HOME  Rockville Centre  
NEW DIGS Two-bedroom basement apartment in Roosevelt  
RENT $1,000 a month

WHEN SHE MOVED HOME Wilson-Wells' mother died when she was a junior at SUNY Old Westbury, living in a dorm and studying psychology. "When I graduated, there was no place to go," Wilson-Wells says. She moved into the basement of her "Nana's." She got a job that paid $30,000 a year working for Head Start in Nassau County, and paid her grandmother $100 a month. "She felt like I should be contributing to the household," Wilson-Wells says. She also was repaying undergraduate loans and attended school for a master's in education/school counseling.

HOW SHE DID IT When Wilson-Wells first moved out, she bunked with friends until she got a better-paying job and then got her own apartment in May. "It's a good space," she says. "My family wants to hold Thanksgiving dinner at my house this year." Wilson-Wells says she enjoys having her own place, not just to sleep but to entertain friends.

THE NEXT STEP Wilson-Wells is working a second job nights at Madonna Heights, which caters to vulnerable adolescent girls, so she can pay off her school loans and start saving to buy her own house.

NANA WEIGHS IN "Her mother passed away, and it left a void that I tried to fill," says Anne Wells, 77. "It was a new experience. When they come from college, they are individuals; when they left, they were children. We had to learn each other's ways and be able to cope with them." Wells, who had lived alone, had to get used to someone else "under your feet." But now that Sheila has moved out, it's been another adjustment. "I miss her, yes I do," Nana says. "But I'm pleased she's acting like a real adult."
SUNY-OLD WESTBURY, Colony #856
Old Westbury Colony members used shirts to promote “Don’t Judge Me,” an interactive program based on promoting awareness of the effect that judgmental comments have on everyday people. Issues the program touched upon were reputation, suicide, self-image, sexual orientation, and many more. They also made a handmade banner that was taped outside of the room they were using to create an intimate and safe environment. Pictured (from left to right) are Prytanis V. Omar Lafayette, Crosophyllos Earl Thomason, Histor Christian Amaro, and Frater Jerel Seetram.

Every year, the Metro New York Province of TKE comes together for one event—the Pulmonary Hypertension Walk. This walk is something very dear to many Fraters in the area, especially Grand Province Advisor Rob Guarini. This year, through fundraising, tabling events and raffles, Metro New York was able to present the Pulmonary Hypertension Association with a check for $1,000 on behalf of TKE.
Old Westbury athletes earn conference honors

Two SUNY College at Old Westbury basketball players earned Skyline Conference Women’s Basketball Player of the Week awards, the conference officials announced Monday.

Senior forward DeAndra Scott, a native of St. Albans, led the Panthers to a 71-48 home opening victory against CCNY on Nov. 20. Scott finished with 20 points (8-15 FG) and 13 rebounds to post her third double-double of the season. Scott's 20 points helped her break the 1,000-point barrier on her career.

This is her eighth career Player of the Week award and her second weekly honor of the season, having collected a spot on the Weekly Honor Roll on Nov. 18.

On the season, Scott is averaging a team-leading 20.3 points per game, 11.7 rebounds to go along with 1.7 steals per game while connecting on 47.1 percent shooting from the field.

For the men, senior guard/forward Tyrik Tucker has been named Co-Player of the Week, sharing the top honor with Donald Lawes of Farmingdale State.

The Brooklyn, New York native shined this past week as the Panthers went 2-1 to cap off the week on the west coast. Tucker opened the week by leading Old Westbury to an 83-80 victory at Whitman on Nov. 19, scoring 22 points (7-14 FG, 8-9 FT) to go with 11 rebounds and five assists to post his ninth career double-double. Tucker followed with 24 points (11-12 FT), nine rebounds and six steals (tied career-high) in an 86-74 setback on Nov. 22 at No. 12 Whitworth. Tucker contributed 23 points, nine rebounds and two steals in an 82-81 victory against Puget Sound on Nov.23.

Tucker is averaging a team leading 24.2 points per game, 8.4 rebounds and 2.8 steals to go along with 3.0 assists while connecting on 45.3 percent from the field (39-86) and 88.9 percent from the free-throw line (40-45).

SUNY College at Old Westbury junior Bryan Woodhead (pictured) has been named the Skyline Conference Men’s Swimmer of the Week, released Monday by league officials. Woodhead earned a spot on the Weekly Honor Roll on Nov. 11.

The Port Jefferson native contributed to a trio of victories in a 112-80 setback on Nov. 19 to Purchase. Woodhead recorded victories in the 100-yard backstroke (56.96) and 200-yard freestyle (1:54.67).

His 200-yard freestyle finish was a personal best as a junior. Woodhead also swam the opening leg (21.99) of Old Westbury’s victory in the 200-yard freestyle relay (1:36.22), which was also a season best for the squad.

Freshman Sandi Woodhead collected her fourth straight Skyline Conference Rookie of the Week honor Monday evening released by league officials. Woodhead shared the honors with Amanda Gibson of Purchase.

The Port Jefferson, native improved to 12-0 to start her collegiate career with a trio of victories in a 120-74 conference setback to Purchase on Nov. 19. Woodhead finished first in the 50-yard freestyle (27.51), 100-yard butterfly (1:08.64) and 1,000-yard freestyle (12:38.18) races.
Roslyn’s Gjonlekaj on prowl for Panthers

Bernard Tomlin has two things going for him as head coach of the Old Westbury men’s basketball team – a terrific facility that hosts multiple Long Island high school playoff games and an eagle-eyed sports information director.

Those two factors led to the Panthers landing former Roslyn standout Mark Gjonlekaj, who is enjoying a breakout start to his collegiate career.

Harris Rappel, who was the vice president of basketball operations for the Brooklyn Kings of the USBL before becoming the Old Westbury sports information director, noticed the 6-foot-6 Gjonlekaj immediately during pregame drills before a Nassau Class A semifinal game in late February.

"In the warm-up line you could see him towering over most of teammates and then he’s draining these midrange jumpers and had good touch," Rappel said. "Once the game went on you could see his ability."

Gjonlekaj finished with 19 points, eight rebounds and three blocks as Roslyn defeated South Side, 59-42. Rappel informed Tomlin, who was unable to scout because the Panthers were playing that night, “there was a horse in the gym.”

Tomlin put Gjonlekaj on his radar and watched him at the prestigious IS8 Spring League in Queens and at a couple of exposure events for unsigned graduating seniors.

“He had some excellent games and the competition was excellent," Tomlin said of IS8. “The one thing I always look at is how athletes respond to adversity. They were in some tough games and I never saw him crack. He seemed to consistently exhibit a lot of poise.”

It was at an exposure event in Brooklyn, Gjonlekaj said his father struck up a conversation with Tomlin in the stands.

"He was, I thought at that time, a great team player," Tomlin said. “That was his major strength. He would do whatever was needed for his team to win and that’s something very rare in athletes.”

Gjonlekaj knew he wanted to play college basketball since the summer after his sophomore year of high school. But with his senior year complete and graduating nearing, that possibility started to look a bit bleak.

"It was pretty nerve-wracking," he said. “It was almost last minute because it was getting to a point where summer was coming around the corner and orientation was soon to come.”

But then Tomlin came in and offered Gjonlekaj a chance to come play at Old Westbury in April.

"It was the monkey off my shoulder finally," Gjonlekaj said. “It was pretty awesome because knowing all the hard work from sophomore to senior year finally paid off and it’s continuing.”

Gjonlekaj has taken the opportunity and has run with it. With senior swingman Tyrik Tucker averaging 24.2 points per game, Gjonlekaj, who has started all five games this season, is more focused on defending. He’s averaging 4.2 rebounds per game and is among the Division III leaders in the nation with 11 blocks.
"The offense will come so I just worry about the defensive part," he said.

All five of Old Westbury’s games this season have been out west with the Panthers competing in the Bon Appetit NWC Tip-Off Classic in McMinnville and Portland, Oregon and Walla Walla, Washington and the Quality Inn Oakwood Invitational in Spokane.

"It was pretty awesome, a week-and-a-half out west. I’ve never been to Oregon or Washington so that was a first," Gjonlekaj said. "You feel like you’re an NBA player sort of because you’re traveling, in suits and you’re all as one team."

There’s still plenty of work ahead of Gjonlekaj, Tomlin said he wants to see him attack the weight room more, but that’s the case with most freshmen coming in.

"His success is really not surprising me that much," Tomlin said. "He has very good instincts around the basket. His best basketball is ahead of him."
OLD WESTBURY SOCCER'S JOANNA KETTELL AND ADAN CRUZ-VELASQUEZ RECEIVE POST SEASON HONORS

CENTERVILLE, MA  SUNY College at Old Westbury senior forward Joanna Kettell was selected to the ECAC Division III Metro Region Women's Soccer All-Star Second-Team on Thursday evening. This news comes after Kettell closed out her career with being named to the All-Skyline Conference First-Team in November.

Kettell, a native of Hauppauge, New York, earns The forward started all of OW's 20 matches this season, dishing out a conference leading 11 assists (single season program record), scoring a single season program record 20 goals (third in Skyline) to accumulate 51 points, good enough for second in the conference. Her three game-winners rank seventh in the conference while her 79 shots place her fourth. Kettell also ranked among the national leaders in goals (18th), points (19th), assists (23rd), points per game (30th), goals per game (39th) and assists per game (39th).

Throughout the season, Kettell was recognized by the conference five times, earning a pair of Player of the Week honors and was named on the Weekly Honor Roll three times in addition to collecting ECAC Metro Region Player of the Week on November 5.

CENTERVILLE, MA  SUNY College at Old Westbury freshman forward Adan Cruz-Velasquez has been named Second-Team ECAC Division III Metro Region Men's Soccer All-Star on Thursday evening. Cruz-Velasquez earned All-Skyline Conference First-Team honors in November.

The Huntington, New York native spearheaded the Panthers' offense with a team-best 25 points which included 12 goals (74th in nation). Playing in all 19 games and making 13 starts, Cruz-Velasquez recorded game-winners versus Lehman, Farmingdale State and Sarah Lawrence. Cruz-Velasquez ranked among the conference leaders in goals (4rd), points (T-7th), shots (7th, 55) and game-winners (T-7th).

Cruz-Velasquez was named Skyline Conference Rookie of the Week on three separate occasions (Sept. 16, Oct. 7, Oct. 14) in addition to earning a spot on the Skyline Conference Weekly Honor Roll on October 21.

For the latest news on the Panthers, log on to www.oldwestburypanthers.com – the official site of Old Westbury athletics. Also, become a follower of the Panthers on Twitter (OW_Panthers) and "LIKE" Us on Facebook (Old Westbury Panthers Athletics / Old Westbury Athletics Alumni).

As seen at: http://www.soccerlimagazine.com/content/old-westbury-soccers-joanna-kettell-and-adan-cruz-velasquez-receive-post-season-honors
Panthers chip in for Viscardi wheelchair game

Several members of the SUNY College at Old Westbury men’s basketball program hit the hardwood and participated at the Henry Viscardi School’s annual Freshman vs. staff Wheelchair Basketball Tournament on December 6.

Henry Viscardi School Center in Albertson is a private school that was founded in 1962 by Dr. Henry Viscardi Jr. and the first of its kind as a place children with physical disabilities and rare illnesses could go to school, just like other children.

The school offers parents of children with severe physical disabilities and who often require life-sustaining medical treatment throughout the day, a traditional education setting option that provides rigorous academics and opportunities for personal growth and leadership development.

“This was just the beginning of our ongoing support for a great program that does an outstanding job for our community”, said Bernard Tomlin, Old Westbury assistant athletic director and head men’s basketball coach.

Most of the students at the Henry Viscardi School use power wheelchairs and augmentative communication technology, and some require constant medical supervision. The student body of approximately 175 students with severe physical disabilities in grades pre-k through 12 (ages 3 to 21), many of whom are also medically fragile, has a wide variety of disabilities including Cerebral Palsy, Muscular Dystrophy, Multiple Sclerosis, Spina Bifida, Traumatic Brain Injury, Ontogenesis Imperfects and Spinal Muscular Atrophy.

The list of Old Westbury men’s basketball members who attended the event included freshmen Mark Gjonlekaj and Stephon Odle as well as coach Tomlin.

Women’s Basketball

The SUNY College at Old Westbury women’s basketball team was defeated by St. Joseph’s (Brooklyn) Bears on Saturday afternoon, in what was a non-conference matchup, by the score of 77-75 in overtime. With the loss, Old Westbury drops to 2-4 on the season while St. Joseph’s improves to 6-3.

In the first half, the Panthers struggled to maintain any consistency, and behind a 14-4 run, St. Joseph’s took command, heading into halftime with a 38-32 advantage.

In the first half, the Panthers struggled to maintain any consistency, and behind a 14-4 run, St. Joseph’s took command, heading into halftime with a 38-32 advantage.

The Bears were up nine with 3:21 to go and appeared poised to collect their sixth victory of the season, but an 11-2 run — capped off by a three-pointer by DeAndra Scott with 40 seconds remaining — ensured that the two sides would head to overtime tied at 68.

Old Westbury took a one-point lead in the opening 25 seconds, but it was the only advantage they’d have in the extra frame. Although the two sides traded points for much of overtime, St. Joseph’s eventually outlasted the Panthers and claimed the win.

Despite scoring more points off turnovers (24-12) and on fast breaks (20-12), Old Westbury fell victim to St. Joseph’s deep bench. The Bears held the 12-2 scoring advantage and their ability to maintain fresh legs allowed for an energy edge in overtime. Old Westbury also had its worst shooting outing of the season firing at 34.5% (29-84 FG).

Scott’s 23 points were tops in the game, while her 14 rebounds were second to only St. Joseph’s Samantha Retas (15). Jasmine Robinson collected a game high five steals to go with 17 points of her own, while Raven Pentz netted 10 and added five assists. Raven Price, who shot 7-for-9 from the free throw line, scored 15 and pulled down 11 rebounds.
Panthers earn dual meet split with Sarah Lawrence

Four SUNY College at Old Westbury seniors were honored during their final regular season home appearance Thursday at Clark Athletic Center, as the swimming team earned a dual meet split with Sarah Lawrence.

The men’s 92-78 win helped them improve to 2-3 on the season and Sarah Lawrence’s 124-79 win dropped the women’s record to 2-6.

The men won both relays (200-yard Medley/2:04.98, 200-yard Freestyle/1:45.10) and collected four individual victories. Bryan Woodhead (200-yard IM/2:06.54, 100-yard Backstroke/1:05.63, 200-yard Freestyle Relay/21.47 opening leg), Justin Chu (100-yard Breaststroke/1:05.26, 200-yard Medley Relay/30.17 second leg, 200-yard Freestyle Relay/26.96 fourth leg) and Cameron Russo (200-yard Medley Relay/32.94 fourth leg, 50-yard Freestyle/23.36) paced Old Westbury. Season-best times were set by Woodhead in the 200-yard IM, Chu in the 100-yard Breaststroke and Takis Kellarakas, who turned in a time of 6:17.87 in the 500-yard freestyle for second-place.

Throughout the evening, seniors Michael Bayne, Larissa Kavitsky, Thomas Mauro and Cameron Russo were honored with a ceremony for their dedication to Old Westbury.

For the women, Sandi Woodhead, who captured her first career Skyline Conference Women’s Swimmer of the Week award, continued her dual meet dominance with a trio of victories which set season-best times in the 100-yard Freestyle (58.76), 200-yard Freestyle (2:14.56) and 100-yard Breaststroke (1:17.47) races. Her victories improved her to 18-0 to start her collegiate career.

Women’s Hoops

The SUNY College at Old Westbury women’s basketball team lost its sixth game of the season Saturday afternoon to the visiting College of Saint Elizabeth Screaming Eagles by the score of 81-72. The Panthers, who have dropped three consecutive contests, forfeited a 21-point lead in the first half and have fallen to 2-6 on the season, while Saint Elizabeth improved to 6-4.

DeAndra Scott, who earned a spot on the Skyline Conference Women’s Basketball Weekly Honor Roll, picked up her 30th career double-double (15 points, 15 rebounds) despite the loss, while Raven Pentz tied a career-high in points with 18 (5-8 from three) and also claimed a career-best five three-pointers and nine rebounds. Jasmine Robinson also added 16 points and a career-high six steals. Raven Price chipped in with 11 points and 10 rebounds to go along with three blocks (tied career-high) to register her third double-double of the season.

Old Westbury returns to the hardwood on Saturday, Dec. 21, for a non-conference tilt against the visiting Manhattanville College Valiants in Old Westbury, New York. Tip-off is set for 12 p.m. from Clark Athletic Center.

Tucker named Player of the Week

The SUNY College at Old Westbury senior guard/forward Tyrik Tucker has been named the Skyline Conference Men’s Basketball Player of the Week for the fourth time this season, released Monday afternoon by league officials.

Tucker scored 23 points (11-13 FT) to go along with nine rebounds, a season-high five assists, two steals and one block in an 81-70 win against Brooklyn on Dec. 11 in Old Westbury’s lone game of the week. Tucker has now scored 20+ points in all eight games this season.

On the season, the Brooklyn, New York native is averaging a conference leading 25.6 points per game in addition to 9.4 rebounds (5th in Skyline) and 2.50 steals (2nd in Skyline) while connecting on 87.5 percent from the free throw line (3rd in Skyline) and 47.4 percent from the field.

Old Westbury returns to the hardwood for a non-conference matchup on the road December 30 against the Alvernia Crusaders in Reading, Pennsylvania. Opening tip is set for 4 p.m.
The SUNY College at Old Westbury Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) teamed up with the U.S. Marine Corps Reserves to run a successful Toys for Tots drive at the men’s and women’s basketball doubleheader versus Brooklyn College on Dec. 11.

This year, donations from student-athletes, as well as generous contributions from fans, totaled over 225 new toys at the third annual toy drive.

In addition, the women’s swimming team earned department bragging rights for donating the most toys in a department-wide contest. With the win, women’s swimming will have a catered lunch on behalf of the department. Men’s swimming finished in a close second while women’s soccer rounded out the top three.

Old Westbury Athletics would like to thank its fans and student-athletes for their consideration and generosity.

Women’s Hoops

The SUNY College at Old Westbury women’s basketball team lost its fourth straight game Saturday afternoon, falling at home to the Manhattanville Valiants, 81-60. The Panthers fall to 2-7 on the season while the Valiants improve to 2-8.

The Panthers scored 11 of the game’s first 18 points in the opening four minutes, but their last lead of the afternoon would come at 12:28, when they led 17-15. An ensuing 25-1 run by Manhattanville over the next twelve minutes would put the visitors up 40-18 with 1:57 remaining in the half. When the buzzer sounded the Valiants led 42-22 at the break.

Old Westbury improved its play in the second half, but still were outscored 39-38. With no runs of note, both teams swapped points the entire half, but the Panthers were never able to stop the bleeding and lost by the final score of 81-60.

The Valiants dominated the Panthers in the paint, outscoring their opponents 60-28. Manhattanville also punished Old Westbury on the boards (49-33), fast breaks (22-10) and in bench scoring (14-0). The Panthers did manage a season-high 16 steals.

DeAndra Scott led the way yet again for the Panthers, scoring 23 points (9-14 FT) and adding eight rebounds and a career-high six steals. Jasmine Robinson contributed 14 points, five assists and four steals and Clarissa Gallagher chipped in with 13 points.

Old Westbury returns to the hardwood on Saturday, Dec. 28, for a non-conference tilt against the Lehman College Lightning in the Bronx. The game is a part of the CUNY Coaches vs. Cancer Classic. Tip-off is set for 2 p.m.
GN brothers named math scholars

Posted: Thursday, November 14, 2013 10:49 am | 0 comments

Two brothers from Great Neck North Middle School and from Baker School, have been named Long Island Young Scholars of Mathematics by the Institute of Creative Problem Solving for Gifted and Talented Students at SUNY College at Old Westbury. They are eighth-grader Michael Jan and fifth-grader Albert Jan.

The brothers are among 80 Young Scholars selected from some 700 top-ranking Long Island math students who competed for this honor. Acceptance was based on a rigorous entrance exam, nomination by school principal or math teacher, school transcript, recommendation by math teacher and a short essay. The program is open to students in grades 4 through 9. Selection implies that these students are among the top one-tenth of one percent of math students in their grade.

Program participants meet for 20 Saturday morning classes, each 2.5 hours long. There are also special projects outside the classroom. The curriculum covers mathematical topics such as geometry and probability and statistics, as well as other topics not usually covered in the classroom, including triangulation with scale drawings, logic matrix puzzles, drawing of an ocean-bottom profile, and measurement and graphing of various types of balls.

The Institute, which was founded in 1992, is supported by the Nassau County Mathematics Teachers Association, Suffolk County Mathematics Teachers Association, Nassau County Interscholastic Mathematics League, Nassau County Association of Mathematics Supervisors, MoMath (Museum of Mathematics), and Mathematical Olympiads for Elementary and Middle Schools. The Institute is tuition free and is funded primarily by private donations.