

The Summit

STONEHILL COLLEGE'S STUDENT-RUN NEWSPAPER SINCE 1949

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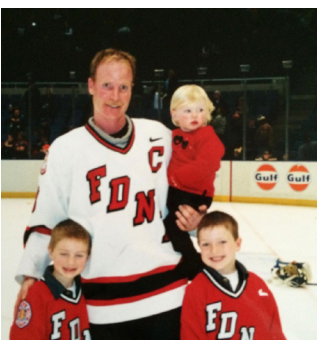
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New Hall no more!

BY JORDYN FORTE

After going by “New Hall” for 11 years, the College’s newest residence hall was officially named in honor of a Stonehill graduate and his wife, at a ceremony held on Sunday, September 26. The event, held at the apartment-style senior housing complex, unveiled the building’s new name: Thomas F. and Kathleen A. Bogan Hall, after former trustee Tom Bogan ’72 and his wife, Kathleen.

“It took us so long to officially name Bogan Hall because we were really trying to find the right name for the building,” Doug Smith, Vice President for Advancement at Stonehill College, said, “and, I think we finally found that in the Bogans.”

Since graduating from Stonehill in 1972, Bogan has gone on to have great success in his career, and he is currently the Vice Chairman at Workday, the HR finance and planning system for a changing world.

According to Smith, Bogan has always been very supportive of the College.

Bogan previously donated a gift to the athletics department, which is marked by a plaque in the gym on the upper level of the Sally Blair Ames Sports Complex.

Along with his trustee title, Bogan is a Leo J. Meehan School of Business Donor as well. He and his wife are also considered founders of the President’s Council, which is an organization that recognizes donors who give \$1,000 or more annually to Stonehill. Bogan is listed on the Alumni Honor Roll of Donors as of June 2021 as well.



Photo courtesy of The Monday Morning Update

“We wanted to recognize Tom and Kathleen for all of their support and for their tremendous contributions here at Stonehill with the naming of Bogan Hall,” Smith said.

While this new name will certainly be an adjustment for many, especially for those currently living in Bogan Hall, Smith is confident that students will make the adaptation with time.

“I think it will take three or four years for the name to stick

for everyone,” Smith said, “but soon there will be students who will have only known the building as Bogan Hall.”

There were other buildings that were once called New Hall as well, even before Bogan Hall.

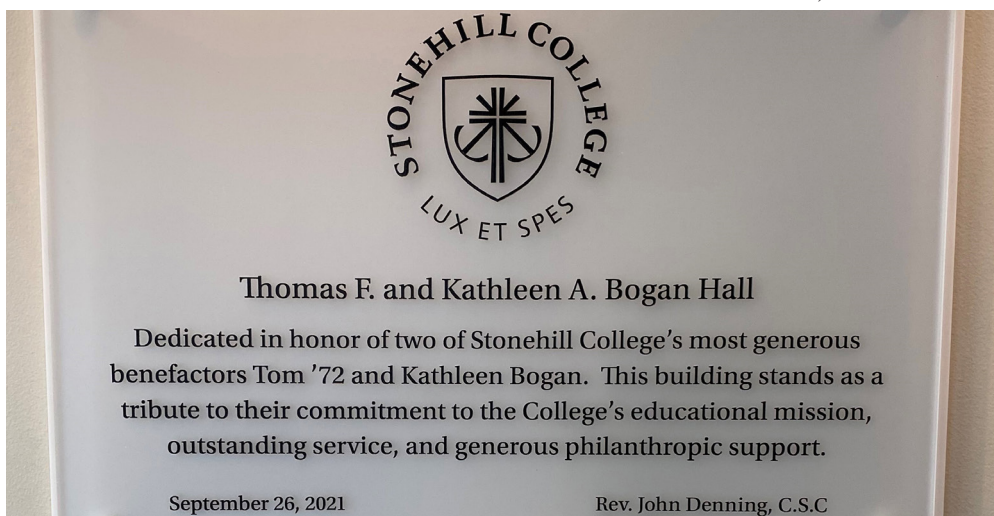
“Both Corr and Villa Theresa Halls were at one point called New Hall,” Smith said.

While there are not any plans for additional residential buildings on campus for

the time being, Stonehill is currently in the midst of a fundraising campaign, called the To Be Bold Campaign.

As of now, the College has raised \$64 million of its \$75 million goal which will be put towards funding scholarships, recruiting and retaining faculty, and competing for talent, among other things.

“We’re always looking to enhance students’ living and learning experiences here at Stonehill,” Smith said.



BY JORDYN FORTE

With cold and flu season right around the corner, Health Services is urging students to take advantage of Stonehill’s on-campus Flu Vaccine Clinics.

“We have already held three clinics, and 249 students have been vaccinated. Since this is only 10 percent of the student population, we want to strongly urge more students to take advantage of this important evidence-based prevention measure, the seasonal flu vaccine,” Maria

Protect the nest & get the flu shot

Sullivan, director of Health Services, said.

“We have tried to make it as convenient as possible by offering these on-campus Flu Vaccine Clinics and hope that many more students will take advantage of this opportunity over the next few weeks,” Sullivan added.

Because we are still in the midst of a pandemic, Sullivan also noted that it is especially important to keep Flu activity to a minimum this semester in order to decrease unnecessary burdens on the healthcare

system, as well as to keep communities as healthy as possible.

“Currently, public health officials are describing the exact level of Flu activity this season as unpredictable. Communities are now seeing the return of other common respiratory viruses in circulation, and it is anticipated that we will also experience flu activity once the season progresses,” Sullivan explained, “so, in order to have the best defense, we urge anyone who can get the

flu vaccine, to please do so prior to the end of October, per recommendations of the CDC.”

There are three on-campus Flu Vaccine Clinics remaining, and they are scheduled for this Thursday, October 7 from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m., Tuesday, October 12 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., and Tuesday, October 19 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Sports Complex.

Walk ins are welcome, but Health Services recommends you to make an appointment to ensure efficient service.



COVER YOUR
FACE

Installation of new outdoor fire pits

BY KELLY LEWIS

Outdoor fire pits have been installed at a number of locations around campus just in time for the cool fall weather.

An email sent out on Friday, September 24 by the Office of Student Affairs announced that fire pits along with additional Adirondack chairs were scheduled to arrive on campus by Friday, October 1.

“We hope you enjoy these outdoor areas during the upcoming fall evenings!”

There are a total of five fire pits. Two are located on the Main Quad, one outside of the O’Hara Residence Hall in May Pavilion, one on the patio outside the Upper Roche Commons, and one in the courtyard of the Holy Cross Center.

Vice President for Student Affairs Pauline Dobrowski said the school wanted to provide a safe option for students to gather and spend time outside during COVID.

“We are hoping that these new informal outdoor gathering spaces will be a fun place for students to hang out and connect with one another,” Dobrowski said.

Dobrowski said the idea came about after witnessing the popularity of the current

Adirondack chairs on campus.

“We were seeing how popular the Adirondack chairs were on campus as places for students and other community members to informally gather, and we wanted to enhance our outdoor social gathering spaces, especially as the weather starts to get a bit cooler,” Dobrowski said.

Vice President for Finance, Jeanne Finlayson, suggested the idea and researched options.

“We have established some protocols with the local Fire

Department and general usage for students is proposed to end by 11 p.m., but if there is a College-sponsored event with the firepit usage, then the event can go longer than 11 p.m.,” Finlayson said.

The firepits are gas-powered and are available for general use. They do not have to be reserved.

Dobrowski and the Office of Student Affairs are still working out the logistics of the firepits.

Dobrowski said if a student group wanted to host an event

at a fire pit, she is certain she could make it happen.

The school purchased the fire pits so that they will be a permanent installation on campus.

Emma Cianciulli, a senior, said the fire pits will be a great addition to campus, especially with the fall weather approaching.

“I am interested in trying them as I think it will be a nice relaxing way to hang out with my friends,” Cianciulli said.

Cianciulli said she likes that this will allow students

to gather and give them the option to socially distance themselves and be outside.

Stonehill has jumped on the bandwagon, as other schools have already installed fire pits.

Jessica Pugatch, a senior at Merrimack College said her school installed fire pits around campus last fall as an activity for students during COVID.

“It’s a great way to bring students together, especially during COVID,” Pugatch said. “I see people gathered at the pits all the time, it’s very popular.”

This past Friday, multiple students gathered around to try the new fire puts. Mark Janeczek, a sophomore, sat by the fire pit outside of Shields Science building with friends.

“We love it! Especially when it gets cold,” said Janeczek.

Rose Doherty, a senior, said she tried out a fire pit for the first time on the quad this past Sunday night.

“They were great and I plan to use them as it gets colder,” said Doherty.

She said she understands the pits are new but has some suggestions.

“One idea I had was if we wanted to make s’mores, we could pick up supplies at the info desk,” said Doherty.



Photo courtesy of Kelly Lewis

College works to improve diversity on campus

BY PAIGE FITZPATRICK

It has been nearly a year since the Students in Action (SIA) group held a sit-in to address racial injustice issues on campus. Since then, the college appears to be making changes.

Stonehill appointed a new Provost as well as an Associate Provost for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.

Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, DeBrenna LaFa Agbényiga, was appointed in December of 2020.

“Since my arrival I’ve had great conversations with students, faculty, and staff who were involved with the sit-in,” Agbényiga said. “For me it was important to have those different conversations to get a clear understanding of where we are as a community with respect to diversity, equity, and inclusion.”

Last spring, the college launched a nationwide search led by Professor Jaclyn Badey and included a student diversity advocate on the committee to find someone to fill the inaugural role of Associate Provost for Diversity, Equity, and

Inclusion.

The candidates in the first round were not the right fit for what the college was looking for, Agbényiga said, and the search was immediately relaunched.

This September, Joanna Ravello was appointed to the role of Associate Provost for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.

“I’m pleased with our inaugural AP DEI that we have coming in; she definitely is going to be a key figure for us on campus and so engaged with our community that I think we are really going to see a transformation with respect to DEI at the faculty, staff, and student level,” Agbényiga said.

Ravello said she plans to examine the culture of Stonehill particularly around diversity, equity, inclusion, and social justice, and then decide what projects and programs may need some extra support and which programs might need to be started, she said.

“There are a lot of different activities, programs, projects, goals, objectives, feelings, and history around DEI at Stonehill, but it looks like they

want to unify that in terms of a way to move forward,” Ravello said.

Before arriving at Stonehill, Ravello served as the director of Community and Organizational Development at the University of Rhode Island. In this role, she was responsible for three areas around diversity, equity, and inclusion: strategic planning, staff training and development, and engaging departments.

At URI, Ravello was the lead creator in the 2017-22 Office of Community, Equity and Diversity Strategic Plan: A Campus-Wide Guide for Promoting Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.

Ravello said she could see herself providing similar support in her role here at Stonehill for academics and other programs.

“My role seems to be centered around general education and curriculum, although one of the things I do find interesting about a role like this is even though it is centered around academics, I can see there are a lot of other places looking for feedback or input,” Ravello said.

Ravello said she heard about last year’s sit-in through her research when applying for her position.

“To me the protest seemed very aligned with what the mission of the institution is, and I am all about it, so be it that you need to acknowledge that what we say and what we do aren’t aligning and somebody can call us in to hold accountability, I’m all for it,” Ravello said.

Ravello said her role is to support change that would help create a more inclusive community.

“To invest in a position like this, it speaks to that alignment in wanting that change to happen,” Ravello said.

SIA representative, Tahj Valentine ’22, said he is happy to see some progress over the past couple of months that will continue to benefit the Stonehill community.

“I was very excited to see the creation of the MultiCultural Lounge over in Duffy that will allow for students to collaborate”, Valentine said. “As well as the hiring of our new Associate Provost for Diversity, Equity, and

Inclusion who will truly help change the culture and norms of the community,”

The focus on diversity on campus comes after students raised questions last October following a letter by a few faculty members asking how diversity would be included in curriculum. That letter, sent to fellow faculty, was later publicly leaked, and sparked an online controversy. It also served as a catalyst for change on campus, led by student leaders.

Valentine said while Stonehill is not fully there yet, we are on the right path to create a more just, compassionate, and inclusive campus.

*Want to write for The Summit?
Email Editor in Chief,
Elizabeth Ednie
or
Faculty Advisor,
Maureen Boyle*

*eednie@students.stonehill.edu
mboyle@stonehill.edu*

Alum credits Stonehill for his success

BY ELIZABETH EDNIE

For Stonehill alumni, Andrew Schweighardt, helping to identify the victims of the September 11th terrorist attacks in New York City 20 years ago is personal.

His cousin was one of the 2,753 victims killed when two planes slammed into the Twin Towers.

“My cousin, Joseph Anchundia was 26 years old and working on the 104th Floor of the South Tower when it was struck on 9/11. When the towers collapsed, 2,753 people died, and Joseph is one of the approximately 1,100 victims who remain unidentified to this day. I saw the pain that an event like this can cause for victims and their families, and I realized how important it is for victims and their families to have answers, no matter how long it takes,” Schweighardt said.

After the attacks, Schweighardt knew he wanted

to enter the forensic science field to help victims and their families receive answers.

Schweighardt, who graduated from Stonehill in 2006 with a biochemistry degree, eventually went onto become a forensic scientist to work as a criminalist with the New York City Office of the Chief Medical Examiner.

Schweighardt credits Stonehill for the impact on his career path. He said that taking courses in various disciplines such as biochemistry, molecular biology, and genetics enhanced his interest in DNA and human identification.

“Without the education I received in the Science Department at Stonehill, I never would have fully realized my interest in, and the importance of, forensic DNA testing,” Schweighardt said.

While Schweighardt spent most of his time at Stonehill in the Shields Science Center, he also emphasizes the importance of the cornerstone program,

noting that taking courses in the humanities benefited him within his science-focused major.

“The cornerstone classes that I took were just as important as the science courses where I was focusing on my specialty. A person could be the most knowledgeable scientist, but if they have no religious, philosophical, or ethical context in which to frame their work, then this could prevent them from reaching their full potential.”

In reflecting back on his Stonehill years, Schweighardt recalls a time where a professor pushed him to take an on campus job which helped him in the long run.

“My Philosophy professor, Dr. Fred Petti recommended me to become a campus tour guide. Prior to being nominated by Prof. Petti, I was timid and had difficulty with public speaking. When I asked Prof Petti why he nominated me, he said, ‘It will help you

think on your feet.’ I know Prof. Petti recognized my weakness, but I am grateful that he saw the potential in me to be better. Without him nominating me for the tour guide position, I never would have had the courage to pursue it on my own.”

Thanks to his professor, Schweighardt said that the tour guide position helped him develop public speaking skills and gave him proficient communication skills that he now needs in his work.

“I must be able to communicate effectively with my peers at professional conferences, with laypersons on a jury, with attorneys, and sometimes even with families of victims as part of our lab’s 9/11 identification work.”

While at Stonehill, Schweighardt devoted lots of time to his studies, but wishes he had more fun.

“It’s important for students to realize that it may be one of the few times in their lives

when they have the freedom to explore so many opportunities for adventure,” he said.

Schweighardt said he was always interested in science, although the September 11, 2001 attacks was the main reason why he decided to pursue a career in the forensic science field.

In high school, when he was asked about his future plans, his answer was simple: “to prove that science can triumph over evil.”

After his cousin died, he realized how much science can contribute to restoring some sense of balance after a traumatic event. Recent advancements in technology have helped the process of DNA identification, in that results come back faster and more accurately.

“At the end of the day, I find the work extremely rewarding, knowing that my work makes such a difference to the people that I serve,” he said.

Judge provides international perspective on law school

BY GIDEON DALEY

A man sits in his room in Bosnia, playing the trumpet while trying to forget the stories of rape, murder, and torture he listened to all day.

This man is Phillip L. Weiner, a Massachusetts prosecutor turned international prosecutor and then international judge. Weiner recently gave a lecture at Stonehill College, which was sponsored by the Martin Institute of Law and Society, where he talked about his efforts to aid developing and war-torn countries develop fair legal systems.

Before he began training legal staff across the world, Weiner prosecuted war criminals involved in the Bosnian Genocide of the 1990s. He then became an international judge and oversaw the trials of more war criminals from the Yugoslavian conflicts at the Hague, and then went to Cambodia to judge defendants of the Cambodian Genocide in the 1970s when the dictator Pol Pot led the nation.

“Cultures, traditions, and corruption,” Weiner said when describing the main issues these nations faced in developing fair legal systems.

He said a friend of his in the legal world, for example, once had a Pakistani police officer ask why their investigative procedures did not involve beatings and torture.

Weiner said that many law students in the Balkans, the European region where Bosnia is in, were forced to buy their grades, get politicians to boost their grades, or sleep with their professors to achieve success. Politicians would also interfere in judicial affairs by hiring their own judges, or using media outlets to slander judges that opposed them.

“If the public loses faith in the system, then it’s on its way to the collapse of the whole country,” Weiner said when describing the way corruption destroyed public faith in legal efforts. He described how the courts needed even more training to make their decisions completely transparent and understandable to the public in order to ensure the public could trust them and ignore any politicians’ slander.

“Training is occasional, and limited,” Weiner said about the problems with training legal staff.

Oftentimes, trainers had just graduated from law programs in nations where it’s an undergraduate degree, or knew little about the nation they were training people from and just wanted to visit the place. Textbooks were also an issue, as oftentimes there were either no legal books in the nation’s language or the vast majority of trainees were illiterate, he said.

One of Weiner’s more

successful efforts was a course he started which taught lawyers and judges to write clear and transparent legal documents, a skill not often taught in foreign law schools. Weiner’s program faced numerous challenges, but it was ultimately one of his most successful and popular programs abroad.

“I spent so much time training older judges and attorneys when I should have gotten the next generation ready,” Weiner said when thinking about what he would have done differently.

The older generations were too set in their ways to change, but those who were younger were more receptive to change, he said.

Weiner described his job as arduous, and as a prosecutor he once worked 38 days, often well into the night.

“When you’re dealing with war crimes, fact is often stranger than fiction,” Weiner said.

As a judge, he would often listen to stories of rape, murder, and genocide for up to seven hours a day, and he had only a small amount of time to play the trumpet and take walks at the end of the day to clear his head.

The lecture was on Monday September 13 around noontime, and roughly 60 people, mainly members of the local community and a small

number of Stonehill students, attended the hour-long talk.

Sandra Hunnicut, a resident of Norton and a Stonehill alumnus, said the Martin Institute talks, which she often attended, are “a wonderful opportunity you can’t not take advantage of.”

Sandra Karp of Norton had also attended other Martin Institute talks. “I just think they’re for the most part very informative,” she said.

Michael Hugging, a Stonehill student from Switzerland, attended the talk for a class.

“I was interested to see

American prosecutors being there,” Hugging said, as he only knew about the crisis in Bosnia from a European perspective.

Weiner served as a prosecutor in Massachusetts from 1980 to 2000 and has worked internationally since 2000, though he has also occasionally been a visiting professor of criminal law at Boston College Law School.

Weiner encouraged attendees to focus on how they could help promote human rights internationally. “You don’t need to be a lawyer to assist a developing country,” Weiner said.



Photo courtesy of Abby Campbell

Students become leaders on campus

BY JAKE ZABSKI

Stonehill’s motto of Think, Act, and Lead goes into action for students who are a part of the Anchors Leadership Society.

Anchors is a student leadership organization that provides Stonehill students with effective leadership skills and roles across campus and beyond graduation.

Seniors Abby Guilfoyle and Molly Cannon joined Anchors in the spring of 2021, and they attribute Anchors to helping them achieve success across campus.

“I wanted to join Anchors because I wanted to be better at public speaking and asserting myself. I also wanted to learn what it means to be a leader and learn how to be a better leader in the classroom and future jobs,” Guilfoyle said.

Guilfoyle used her Anchors training to get out of her comfort zone and became an FYE facilitator this semester, as well as benefiting in the classroom where she is now doing research with a professor. She finds herself participating more in class,

which she attributes to the Anchors Society.

“I definitely saw Anchors as a way to improve myself while also using it as a launchpad to gain other leadership positions for the rest of my time here at Stonehill,” Cannon said.

Cannon used her Anchors training to give her the confidence to apply and become an Orientation Leader, as well as being a tour guide for admissions.

Anchors trains students to become effective leaders through an initiation process that takes several weeks.

“In the initiation process, we did a lot of activities that made you look into yourself. We did exercises on how your brain can throw you off and how to be more self-aware,” Guilfoyle said.

“Initiation was set up to be a very comfortable and open environment for discussion. Everyone in the group brought their strengths together to become assertive together. You learn how to step up, delegate, and be a leader,” Cannon said.

Cannon and Guilfoyle both

encourage students who want to get involved on campus to consider joining Anchors.

“Anchors will only help you. I was nervous signing up because I was never a good public speaker but I figured everyone signing up had similar issues like me so I knew it would be a safe space,” Guilfoyle said.

Guilfoyle got to know many heads of administration on campus through Anchors, and she even got a birthday message from Father John himself.

“Anchors has allowed me to have conversations that otherwise I would not get as an ordinary student. You create connections with heads of administration and this can help you in your future on campus,” Guilfoyle said.

Cannon and Guilfoyle will both graduate in the spring and are confident knowing their Anchors training will help them post-grad.

“I will use my Anchors training to be more of an active participant in social situations, whether it’s something as important as a job or even just at the grocery store. I think Anchors prepared me to be ready for whatever situation I face and I feel more confident approaching people,” Guilfoyle said.

“Anchors will help me chase opportunities presented to me no matter what they may be. Life experiences, job opportunities, and more I will be able to face much more confidently from my training,” Cannon said.

Applications to join Anchors opens on October 18th and further information will be provided soon over email. If you are interested in learning more in the meantime, email: anchors-society@stonehill.edu.



Photo courtesy of Abby Campbell

Molly Cannon spoke at the naming ceremony for Bogan Hall last week and credits the Anchors Society for the opportunity to do so.

Student Spotlight

Caroline Martone

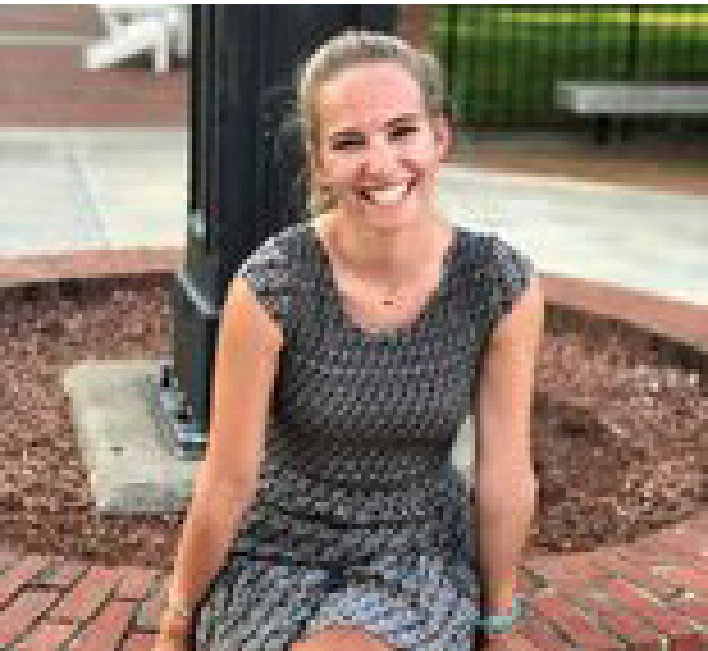


Photo courtesy of Caroline Martone

Senior Caroline Martone is an Elementary Education and Spanish double major from Barnstable, MA.

BY JUSTINE LONG

Q: What are you involved in on campus?

A: I am in Ruckus Hip-Hop and Step Dance Team, Dance Club, Stonehill Education Society, Kappa Delta Pi Education Honor Society, and the Honors Program.

Q: What is your position as one of the officers in Ruckus?

A: I am Vice President of Ruckus so I help to choreograph dances and organize the team. We recently prepared a five minute dance for Skyhawk Madness. We also perform at Diver-City, Relay for Life, and our recital in the spring. It’s a great community that takes in all levels of experience and is a group that made me fall back in love with dance. There’s nothing better than dancing with my friends in front of the school!

Q: What is your favorite memory at Stonehill?

A: My favorite memory at Stonehill is sophomore year when I performed at Skyhawk Madness. I had never danced in front of that many people before but it gave me such a rush of energy. It was the first time I felt a part of something bigger than myself here at Stonehill because I saw everyone there sharing their pride for the college.

Q: What is your advice to first year students?

A: My advice to first year students is to take advantage of the free group exercise classes. I have been going to yoga every Thursday since freshman year!

Q: What are you looking forward to senior year?

A: I am looking forward to doing my student teaching in the spring. I am currently in my pre-practicum teaching placement in a Spanish immersion classroom at the bilingual program in the Brockton George Manthala Junior Elementary School. I have loved making my own lessons so I am excited to do more of that in the spring.



Blessing of the Pets

BY ABBY CAMPBELL

From a puppy in a dress to a fish in a tank to three bunnies on harnesses, pets and their families were in the spotlight at the annual Blessing of the Pets on campus Sunday October 3.

All pets and their companions gathered on the lawn of Alumni Hall to listen to the words of Rev. Tony Szakaly, C.S.C. in celebrating the feast of St. Francis of Assisi.

Szakaly blessed all the pets on the lawn with holy water before returning to the podium to give individual blessings.

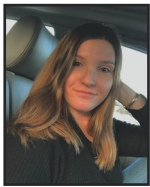
There was an occasional bark but the pets appeared to

be calm. One family brought a dog, a bunny, and a pillow with a photo of their cat’s face on it to be blessed.

After the pets were blessed, Szakaly did a virtual blessing via Zoom. He walked over to pictures of animals hanging on a line between two trees. Each photo had the name of the pet and the name of the owner. Photos were encouraged to be brought if the pets weren’t well behaved or it would be inappropriate to bring the animal.

He quickly blessed each of the photos with holy water and concluded the ceremony.





FROM THE EDITOR...

Elizabeth Ednie

Hey Skyhawks,

It’s been such a busy first month back at school! With sports to watch again, events happening on campus and learning to adjust to a new year, it really warms my heart seeing the rush of campus again. Seeing people sit outside and enjoy what is left of the nice New England brings me back to the times before COVID was even a topic of conversation. After everything that we college students have been through in the last year and a half, we need to take the time to appreciate the normalcy this year.

It’s so easy to wrap ourselves into the Stonehill “bubble,” and forget about bigger and more important things happening in our world. This world is filled with so much hurt, confusion and hatred that it’s starting to affect my own mental health and thoughts about the future. I’m sure a lot of others feel the same way, in that big issues such as climate change, the political division and the pandemic is causing massive amounts of anxiety that leads us worrying for the future of this country. It also doesn’t help that social media plays a big role in our daily lives, and acts as a distraction to these issues. Stonehill encourages us to act on these issues, and is preparing us as the next generation to make big changes. My advice to all who read this: you can change the world. No matter how big or small, your positive efforts are bound to do good things and change the lives of the people around you. And I know that sounds cliché, but any positive effort and act of kindness doesn’t go unnoticed.

I am constantly thinking about how many of those suffer around the world, whether its from homelessness, domestic abuse, or depression. It makes me grateful for the relationships I have in my life and helps me reflect and be thankful for the family in which I was raised. Showing the people we love that we love them is very much needed in times like this, especially when the future isn’t promised and tomorrow is not a given. Lately, I have been trying to live more spontaneously, and I hope you’ll all join me. Because whether you’re a senior, or a first year, we must spend the rest of our days in college like they are the last. At the end of the day, it’s a privilege to be here.

See you in November!

Elizabeth Ednie
Editor in Chief
The Summit

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Contact The Summit

Phone number: (508) 565-1838
Email: thesummit@stonehill.edu
Editor-in-Chief Email: eednie@students.stonehill.edu



HANNAH
LENNON

I don’t know about you guys, but I am seriously struggling this year. It’s almost as if all of my professors met up and devised a secret plan to make my senior year certifiably terrible. I’ve never had this much work, everything is due at the same time, and no professors seem to care that we’re drowning. What is up with that? I’m not dumb, I know it could be that it’s my senior year and I’m taking my capstone course so of course, I have more work. It could be that this is the first time in a year and a half that everything on campus is back with full force and it’s just overwhelming me. Or--and this is my favorite way to look at it-- Mercury is in retrograde and the universe hates me right now. But, the thing is,

it’s not just me. I’ve talked to friends, classmates, and teammates, and they’ve all said the same thing: this year we feel overloaded. I never ask for extensions, and I had to ask for one at the beginning of the semester. In the meeting I had with my professor about it, she told me that senior year was often overwhelming to students and I just needed to give it time to settle and maybe even try a new way of managing my time. Well, it’s almost mid-semester; I’ve already gotten the assignments for two midterms and I’ve turned one of them in, and nothing has settled. If anything, everything’s getting worse. I can’t wait for the sweet release of Fall Break; it may only be one three-day weekend and I’ll probably regret not using the extra day off to get ahead on work, but I’ll take what I can get right now.

Why does this year suck?

September has been a dumpster fire of stress, assignments, work, and practice. I haven’t even had time to have a properly fun weekend yet, isn’t that awful? What kind of senior hasn’t been to Brother Mike’s or Brack’s yet? My mom would probably commend me for staying in, especially during a pandemic, but I can only rewatch Gilmore Girls and Marvel movies so many times before I want to do something more. That’s all the free time I seem to have, one or two hours at the end of every week, no more, and sometimes even less. And the reason I’m turning to my comfort movies and TV shows in the first place is because I feel so lost in reality. Rory Gilmore and Steve Rogers are a good buffer for me, their lawful-goodness wraps me up in a burrito of safety while I watch. And

when the credits roll, I have two options: watch another and feel another temporary wave of calm, or snap back to the world outside my dorm room that’s full of due dates and commitments. It’s not that I don’t want to do the things I’m doing. To the contrary, I love everything I do on campus. This semester I have room to take elective classes; being in Student Government has been a huge part of my time at Stonehill and I can’t give that part of me up; the only thing that could stop me from writing for The Summit is losing my hands, and even then I could always dictate my stories; working at the Sports Complex is a fun and easy job; and being Co-Captain of the Varsity Equestrian Team is what I’ve been looking forward to since freshman year. I can’t be at Stonehill without my commit-

ments because they’re not just extracurriculars, they’re parts of my identity. I don’t know what it is about this year. Senior year is supposed to be one for the history books; I want to look back on it like the Roaring Twenties, not the Great Depression. So, why does this year suck? I really don’t know, but at least most of us feel the same way about it, and maybe we’ll be able to convince a professor or two to ease up on the workload. Just like no one knows why the year is off to a terrible start, we also don’t know how it’ll end. I’m trying to keep my head up as I muddle through, and I hope you do too.

Lennon is a senior Communication major with a double minor in Journalism and Creative Writing

BY
JENNIFER
MCDONALD



It is a truth universally acknowledged, that a lonely college student must be in want of a fulfilling extracurricular. At least, that was the case for me; while wandering the Club Fair, I put my name on nearly every sheet of paper. Being a freshman consists of feeling like you're in the wrong place, constantly – both in terms of stumbling around, searching for the correct building or classroom, and in terms of feeling like a complete outsider, even when surrounded by other people. I needed a space where I could be myself; really be myself. Authenticity is important when you feel like you've

been introducing yourself again and again for the past month, with the same old facts about yourself that feel so impersonal. What's your major? Where are you from? This well-intentioned small talk had thoroughly exhausted me. I wanted to present more of myself than just these basics. I felt a bit desperate for it if I'm honest. Luckily, one of the papers I signed my name on was that of the Creative Writing Club membership sheet; and little did I know at the time, it would be just the safe haven I'd been searching for.

I still remember exactly how I felt during the very first meeting. I hadn't laughed so hard all week. It was a

feeling of total relief, being in that room. At that moment, I felt comfortable – at home, even. It was the first time I'd felt that way since arriving at Stonehill. I remember, distinctly, the welcoming atmosphere that presented itself immediately. Everyone introduced themselves, shared their favorite books and authors, and was genuinely very excited to be there. That permeable eagerness in the air is something that has remained consistent across every Thursday night meeting, and it's what keeps me looking forward to the club every single week. When faced with mountains of homework or a class that is crawling by, minute by minute, I find myself thinking, "At least I have

creative writing by the end of the week!"

And this is crucial for me; my homework is overwhelming, the social scene is intimidating, but Creative Writing is just a room full of students who want to share their little stories with each other. Everyone is on a level playing field; the writing activities we do often decide the subject for us, and we work with what we are given. Some write with a more somber tone; most people write with a more pedantic tone. However, no one is judged for what they do.

And that is so liberating. In every other space, everything I do receives a judgment value of some kind. I constantly feel like I'm being

measured up in some respect. My papers get a grade, for instance. Although this can be affirming – particularly if the grade is good – it feels incredible to do something for the inherent value of doing it, and the personal happiness it brings me. For this reason, I encourage my fellow freshmen to pursue their own version of the Creative Writing Club. It's important to feel a part of something and to feel really yourself, rather than some glossy version of yourself you must turn on time and time again when speaking to others.

*McDonald is a first-year
English major*

BY
KELLY
LEWIS



As a senior, I've endured many experiences - good and bad - while at Stonehill. I've learned a lot during college and obviously have a lot of advice for the classes that succeed me. I could write a book on the ins and outs of Stonehill, but I'm not going to bore you with tons of pages, instead, I will give you what I consider my best piece of advice: take at least one graphic design course before graduating.

I know some of you are out there shaking your heads "no" and doubting my advice. I get it, I know the arts aren't for everyone. I'm not instructing you to run over to the registrar's office to change your major or minor to graphic design, instead, I'm suggesting you give it a try, so hear me out.

In the spring of my junior year, I had some room in my schedule for an elective. I was always intrigued when my friend - a digital humanity

minor - would show me her assignments for a graphic design course. I don't consider myself crafty or talented when it comes to the arts, so I wasn't sure if I would love it or hate it, but I did know that I had to at least give it a try. So that semester I took Graphic Design Foundations (VPG 101) with Professor Candace Greland. Although the class was online, via zoom, it was by far one of my favorite courses I've taken at Stonehill! Every week, we learned about different design elements, such as color, shape, text, images, and more. One of my favorite parts of the class was our critique sessions, where we got to examine, compare, and contrast everyone's designs. During the critiques, I was always shocked that no two designs were ever alike or even similar.

I think graphic design courses give students more freedom to explore, with fewer restrictions and rigorous expectations. The courses offer students a new way

to explore and think about certain topics. A big part of the design process is finding a problem and developing a solution. So, of course, academics and research are still involved in graphic design, but it's done differently than in other courses. For example, in graphic design you will never be instructed to write a ten-page paper with a minimum of five sources. Sometimes, you may be asked to write an explanation, but it's unlike the average academic work.

My only regret after completing that course was that I wish I had taken a graphic design course earlier in my career at Stonehill. I don't have the time to fulfill the graphic design minor requirements, but I found a new passion and was able to enroll in another graphic design course this semester! I am currently taking Web Site Design (VPG 305) with Professor Stephanie M. Power. We are only on week six, but I already love it! We have class every Friday from 8:30

to 11 a.m. and I never dread waking up early to attend the class, as I do for other classes. And I never procrastinate on my homework assignments, in fact, I usually choose to do homework for Web Site Design over other class homework assignments, no matter the due date because I enjoy it more. Our latest assignment is to find a horrendously designed website and recreate it. Wish me luck, I'm going to need it.

Overall, I feel like the Graphic Design department at Stonehill doesn't get the recognition it deserves. The classes are interactive and intriguing. The students in the department produce amazing work and are clearly dedicated. Just take a look at last year's senior design annual -Transcend - the art was astonishing! And the professors are amazing. I've only met a few of the graphic design professors here, but none of those interactions have been negative. In fact, a few weeks ago I was sitting in one of the Mac computer

labs in Cushing-Martin completing graphic design homework with my friend when an adjunct graphic design professor walked in and started up a conversation with us. He was cracking jokes from left to right and even helped my friend with her typography assignment, showing her new techniques on Adobe Illustrator. He just happened to be walking by the computer lab, not in a rush, saw some students working, and decided to extend a helping hand.

So, if you haven't given a graphic design course a try yet, now is the time. Or at the very least take a trip over to Cushing-Martin and try out the Mac computer labs. It's a great study spot! I hope this piece gives you the courage to try something new, whether that be a class, hobby, or something else.

*Lewis is a senior
Communication major
with a Journalism minor*

BY
CORINNE
LEWIS



Let's be honest; when we're asked to find our purpose, that can be a pretty overwhelming topic. If you're like me, I'm sure you've been told this a handful of times. And don't get me wrong, it's 100 percent natural to want to understand your purpose and live a meaningful life. But, along my journey of starting my own business at the start

How passion leads to purpose

of 2020, I didn't have to find my purpose – my purpose found me. It all happened organically.

If someone were to tell me that I'd be attending markets, launching my own apparel at other small businesses, or hosting an event on Newbury Street, I could never have imagined such a thing. I'm not stating these accomplishments to seek praise but to encourage you to explore your creativity without judgment. Because it is what you

are most passionate about that will take you places.

Power of Me is the brand I launched at the start of the year and have been putting my heart and soul into since. As a Graphic Design and Marketing double major at Stonehill, I talk about how design gives me purpose. I use design as a creative outlet to express my struggles with body image and mental health to empower myself and, ultimately, the world around me. Within my brand, I've

been able to bring together two things I am passionate about – design and raising awareness around eating disorders, to create a meaningful message.

So, I want to ask you to find what fills your cup up? What makes you excited to wake up in the morning? Find that. And, naturally, you will start to feel like you are living a purposeful life.

Follow @_powerofme on Instagram!



*Lewis is a senior
Marketing major with a
Graphic Design minor*

What It Means to Be a New Yorker on 9/11

BY LAUREN MORAN

As the Stonehill Field Hockey team warmed up for their game against St. Thomas Aquinas on September 11, player Maddie McGee wore a New York Fire Department shirt in place of the team’s warm-up shirt. It was not only to honor the lives lost during the attacks in New York City on September 11, but to honor her father, Larry McGee. Larry McGee was a New York City firefighter stationed in the Bronx, and on September 11, his station was ordered to man the Brooklyn Bridge in case of a second attack. Then, in the months following 9/11, he was involved in the cleanup at Ground Zero. “Although I did not know my dad pre 9/11, I don’t think that he was ever the same. Every year, we have to see the pain in his eyes as he remembers; it’s really hard,” McGee said. Along with being a firefighter, Larry McGee was also a member of the FDNY Ice Hockey Team. After 9/11, when the New York Rangers had their first game back at Madison Square Garden, the

FDNY and NYPD hockey teams were invited to stand on the ice with the team. On his own, Larry McGee asked the Ranger’s captain to wear his fire helmet. On the helmet was a picture of Chief Ray Downey, the first ever captain of the FDNY Hockey team who was killed on 9/11. As a result of the Rangers captain wearing the helmet, ESPN asked Larry McGee to appear in the special, “The Comeback Story,” to honor the return of sports after 9/11. “Recently, my family has also made it a tradition to watch my dad’s ESPN special every year to remember, no matter where we are,” McGee said. “With being at school, it was difficult being away from my dad and not being able to hug him. But despite all the pain he feels, he has his family around him to continuously love and support him.” No matter where McGee is, whether it be with her family or in another state, she still takes the time to remember the loss of that day. “As a New Yorker and

daughter of a retired NYC firefighter, I will always honor those lost and never forget about that life-changing event,” she said. “Although the day commemorates awful tragedy, it also represents a time when the country was able to put aside political parties and all differences to come together as one United States of America and stand by those affected by this tragedy.” On the 20th anniversary of 9/11, the Stonehill Field Hockey team had a game in New York to play St. Thomas Aquinas. “When I first saw that I was playing in New York on the anniversary I was furious. I thought how inconsiderate it was that we would play there on such an important and commemorative day,” McGee said. But this didn’t stop her from honoring the day as she wore an FDNY t-shirt to warm up in. “I felt it was important to show that despite being on a Massachusetts school team, I am still a New Yorker greatly affected by this day,” she said. Despite playing a game on



The McGee family at a hockey game years prior.
Photo Courtesy of Lauren Moran

9/11, McGee was so happy she was able to see her family, hug her dad and be among the community on the 20th anniversary. “Being a New Yorker on 9/11 means so much more than remembering those who have lost their lives,” McGee said. “It means to be strong

and to know that despite the differences of beliefs, humanity will always come together when necessary. We must take care and protect each other, always.”

From an untraditional journey to goal

BY CHRISTOPHER CASSIDY

After declining offers from Division III programs and spending a semester at a community college, Junior goalkeeper Anthony Bellomo found his spot on Stonehill’s Division II soccer team. No schools checked all the boxes off during his initial recruiting process. “At one of the schools, I wouldn’t have been able to play freshman year; I would have had to try out in the spring,” Bellomo said.

“Another one, I liked the program, but I just didn’t like the academic opportunity.” Bellomo went to high school in Salem, New Hampshire, and he played three years of varsity soccer. He decided on Northern Essex Community College in Haverhill, Massachusetts where he spent his fall semester of freshman year before transferring to Stonehill College in the spring of 2020. “I had a good year at Northern Essex,” he said. “I finished top five in the country in saves that

year, and it felt like I created a good name for myself there.” Bellomo made 167 saves which ranked fourth amongst goalkeepers in all the NJCAA and had an .852 save percentage which ranked seventh. Going through the recruiting process, Bellomo went to a recruiting camp at Stonehill, where Head Coach Jim Reddish offered him a spot on the team. “When he said there was an opportunity to play now, I wanted to jump on that,” he said.

Due to the pandemic, Bellomo had only spent two months on campus before the school forced everyone to go home. When the campus reopened in the fall of 2020, Bellomo suffered from thoracic outlet syndrome in his left shoulder. “I learned remotely and did physical therapy for my shoulder,” Bellomo said. “I was forced to miss practice through that whole period of time.” Although he returned to campus for the spring

semester, he was limited to just four practices a week and five scrimmages because of the new COVID regulations on athletics. Fall 2021 marks Bellomo’s first real season as Skyhawk. “All of the guys are great,” he said. “They did a great job making me feel comfortable and a part of the community.” Bellomo said he has dreamt of the opportunity to play at the NCAA level since he was a kid, and is just grateful to have the chance to do so this year.

BY CHRISTOPHER CASSIDY

Recovering skyhawk returns to the field

After a dominant 2018 season where he rushed for 961 yards and 12 touchdowns, Brian Kearns Jr. was expected to put up even more spectacular numbers in the 2019 season. Unfortunately, on September 14, 2019 Kearns Jr. stumbled on a play and tore his ACL in his right knee. “Tearing my ACL three plays into the game was devastating,” Kearns Jr. said. “It was a lot to go through and it was a long rehab process.” Kearns Jr., a fifth-year senior, has impacted the Skyhawks football team in ways that no other running backs playing division II have before based on his stats.

In his five seasons he has run 2,256 total yards and has scored 25 rushing touchdowns which is the current Stonehill record. After Kearns Jr. returned to full strength from rehab, the team found out they were not going to play a season until the fall of 2021 due to the Pandemic. “I finally got the opportunity to get back out there last Saturday,” he said. “It was a surreal moment, and it was something out of body because I could not believe I was back out there.” Kearns felt that it was never in question that he would strap the pads back on following

the devastating injury and he was grateful to have the opportunity to do so against Bloomsburg. “I had been playing football since I was five years old. I knew my last play in football was not going to be me being carried off the field by my teammates,” he said. In his first game back, Kearns Jr. had 15 carries for 103 yards and his counterpart Justin Felder had 31 carries for 177 yards and three touchdowns. According to Kearns Jr., he and Felder are possibly the best running back duo in the country. “Justin has grown so much since coming in as a

freshman,” Kearns Jr. said. “He has become an unbelievable player and leader on and off the field, and our relationship has grown so much.” When a team has two 2,000-yard rushers on it like Felder and Kearns Jr., it makes it difficult to prepare as opposing teams face the scary Skyhawk backfield. The Skyhawks are now 2-0 this season following their dominant 54-21 victory last Saturday over Southern Connecticut State University. Felder ran for 183 yards on 22 carries with five touchdowns, and Kearns Jr. added to the yard total with 86 yards on 13 carries and a touchdown of his

own. The first conference game of the season is on the road against the Bentley Falcons on September 18. The Skyhawks look to defend their record against the big rival team and dominate the field like they have the past two weeks.



SUMMIT SPORTS

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THE SUMMIT

October 6, 2021

“It’s a Madness, “Skyhawk” Madness

BY RACHEL GALATIS

It’s been two years since the last “Skyhawk Madness” at the College Center gymnasium, but organizers are hoping this year’s event will make up for it.

“I think Skyhawk Madness will be a good way to bring our Stonehill community back together while introducing not only our seasoned athletes but our new athletes as well,” Sydney Ledoux, the chair of the Student Government Association spirit committee said.

The October 14 event kicks off the start of the men’s and women’s basketball team seasons. All students are welcome to attend and are encouraged to wear as much Skyhawk attire as possible. The dance team and cheer team will perform, and there will be other entertainment as well.

Ledoux said a full house is expected, and everyone hopes that students will have the same energy, enthusiasm, and attitude as in the past.

“I hope to see students flooding in with school spirit and rocking all their unique Skyhawk gear, and I can’t wait to see how the students react to the small contests, t-shirt launches, DJ, spotlights, and

many more surprises to come,” she said.

The first Skyhawk Madness event was held 15 years ago in 2006. The event usually ends around midnight, leading some students to refer to it as “Midnight Madness.” This year it will start at 9 p.m. promptly.

A senior on the women’s basketball team, Bella Santoro, said that Skyhawk Madness is the “best night at the “Hill,” and her team is excited to be a part of it.

“My team and I will be at center stage of it all, first dancing out to all our madness songs, then competing against the men’s team in a three-point contest and cheering on other teams as well,” she said. Skyhawk Madness always takes place in mid-October and is known for being one of the “loudest” events on campus, several students said.

Santoro said she remembers walking into the gym to attend the event for the first time and it reminded her that school spirit is one of the reasons she chose to enroll at Stonehill.

“The spirit and passion of the students and our community has not just been for sports, but for Stonehill as a whole, and it’s unlike any other event, especially Skyhawk Madness,”

she said.

For the event, students are encouraged to dress in purple and Stonehill gear, along with any Stonehill accessories.

In the past, some have even painted their faces.

Joe Spadorcia, founder of the student-run sports broadcasting club, “The Flyover,” said that he and other members of the club are excited to cover this event.

“The Flyover will be creating a recap video of Skyhawk Madness including all the dances, competitions, and games,” he said.

“The Flyover” covers sporting events and promotes sports-related happenings on campus. The club works in two teams: one team with the WSHL to cover football, soccer, and field hockey games, while the other team takes photos and videos to post on social media.

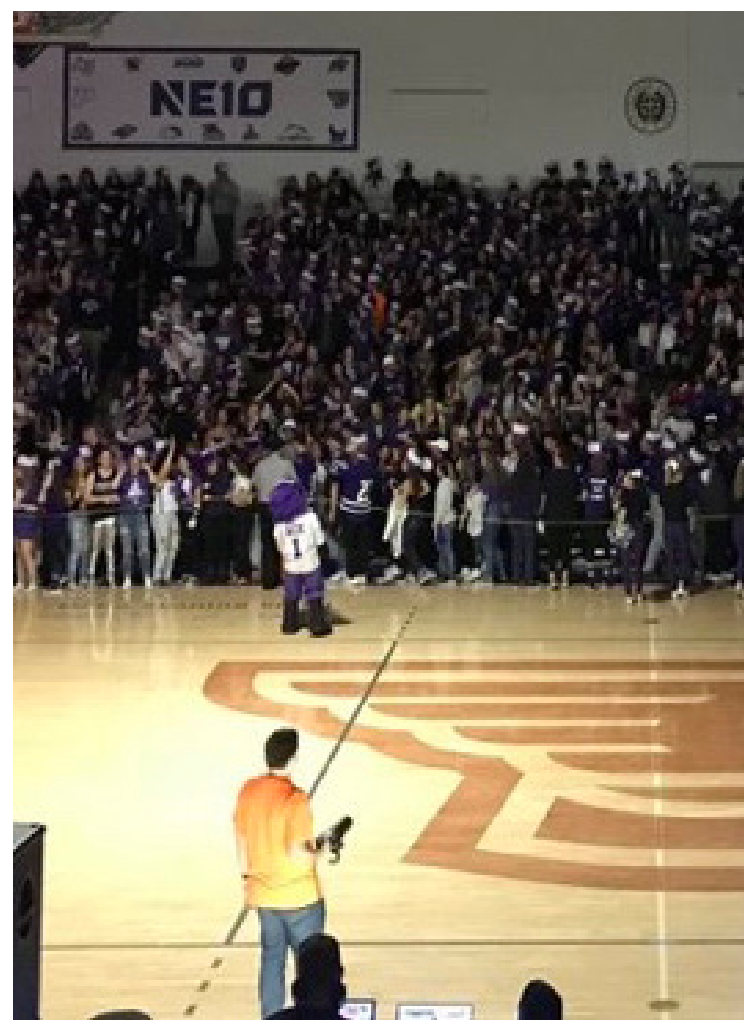
Spadorcia said the club has built most of its following through recaps posted on social media, such as the recent segment “Chris at the Tailgate,” which can be found on Instagram and Twitter, @HillFlyover.

He said that the club has a goal to host a live pregame show before the football season ends, something he is

“personally excited about.”

“This is an event the club is excited to tackle as a challenge and hopefully promote the schools’ fall sports teams,” Spadorcia said.

Photo Courtesy of Stonehil Athletics



While Skyhawk Madness did not happen last year, this is the event from 2018..

UPCOMING SPORTING EVENTS

Women’s Soccer: Thurs., Oct. 7 @ 12:00 p.m.

Men’s Tennis: Thurs., Oct. 7 @ 3:30 p.m.

Women’s Swimming: Sat., Oct. 9 @ 1:00 p.m.

Women’s & Men’s Crosscountry: Sat. Oct. 9

Field Hockey: Sat., Oct. 9 @ 12:00 p.m.

Football: Sat., Oct. 9 @ 12:00 p.m.

Women’s Volleyball: Sat., Oct. 9 @ 1:00 p.m.

Women’s Tennis: Sat., Oct. 9 @ 1:00 p.m.

Men’s Soccer: Sat., Oct. 9 @ 5:00 p.m.

Women’s Golf: Sun., Oct. 10

