Aztec dancers Ali Tachinelli perform in front of the Melville Library at Earthstock 2013 on Friday, April 19. Earthstock also hosted the band Peat Moss and the Fertilizers and other green initiative booths to promote conservation.

The Science Guy talks energy at Earthstock

By Mike Ruiz

As this year's Earthstock wound down Friday, Bill Nye the Science Guy told a sold-out crowd in the Student Activities Center Auditorium that students do not need to "do less" to change the world.

Instead, he said, invoking Nobel Prize winner Richard Smalley, "We need to find ways to do more with less."

To illustrate his point, Nye showed the audience the four kilowatts of lighting for free, even to rooms with no windows.

In addition, he touted another form of green energy: the wind.

"We have access to enough wind energy to power North America five times over," he said. "The problem is transporting that energy."

One way to meet the challenge could be juicing through a matrix of solar panels on his California rooftop, as well as a Solatube dome and his electric car—well, he conceded, just a lens and the audience the four kilowatts of energy to power North America five times throughout the night. Carbon resurfaced a lot of big-picture thinking.

"The problem is actually the consequences of our actions, said Nye. "We are going to have to make drastic changes to our lifestyles to change the world."

Catholic colleges v. public: distributing contraceptives

By Bolyne Joseph

While public colleges provide condoms without charge and allow condom distribution, Catholic colleges and universities, including Boston College, have banned students from distributing free condoms on campus. "Boston College and most Catholic colleges and universities, including Notre Dame, Georgetown, Holy Cross and Providence, do not allow public distribution of condoms on campus because it conflicts with our values as Catholic institutions," Boston College spokesman Jack Dunn said.

Boston College administrators sent a warning letter to Boston College Students for Sexual Health (BCSSH) demanding that the group stop distributing condoms to students on campus because it conflicts with the university's Catholic institutions.

"Boston College and most Catholic colleges and universities are made. The department does not need to make drastic changes to their lifestyles to change the world."

"The code of conduct governs the university's Catholic commitments and expects students to follow the university's code of conduct."

"No disciplinary actions have been taken yet, but BCSSH is willing to continue condom distribution on campus nevertheless. It wants condoms to be available and accessible to students regardless of the institution's religious path."

"If we knew why it was suddenly an issue now, we would have intervened earlier," Nye said.

By Kelly Freevele

The music of Kendrick Lamar filled a college stadium this past weekend. But this stadium was not at Stony Brook University—it was at SUNY Buffalo.

Rumors have circulated around campus that the reason why Stony Brook University is not having Kendrick Lamar perform at the end of the year concert is because SUNY Buffalo had already claimed him. Marc Househist, the Student Activities Entertainment coordinator at SUNY Buffalo, knew nothing of this rumor and USG officials at SBU are claiming it is not true.

There were many factors that had to be considered for this year's Brickfest concert.

The first obstacle was that Stony Brook University Arena, which typically holds concerts, is under construction during the dates of the concert.

According to USG president Anna Lubitz, she felt the best alternative was to hold the concert in the Kenneth P. LaValle Stadium because it would allow the most people possible to attend.

After the venue was chosen, potential dates had to be

According to Zachary Guarnerino, student programming director, a talent agency called Concert Ideas was contacted and USG received a list of artists available in the price range of the university.

A vote was held in December regarding who should perform.

Dates for the concert also took time to clear because USG could not conflict with any previously scheduled sports games. After the vote, the university decided to invite Kendrick Lamar and Steve Aoki.

University police must clear who performances decisions are made. The department does a thorough background check in order to ensure the safety of Stony Brook students, according to Guarnerino.

This time, Inspector Robert Swan called three universities who had hosted Lamar and three universities who had hosted Aoki in the past. This is where...
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What's Inside

NEWS:

Turkish students find American education appealing

Instead of a drive or train ride to get home for summer break, sophomore İpek Demirgezer will be taking a 12-hour flight to see her family in Istanbul. She isn’t alone—Turkey is the 10th leading place of origin for students coming to the U.S. and Turkish students make up roughly 2.8 percent of New York’s international student population.

PAGE 4

SB Compliments holds vigil for Boston

On April 17, about 100 students gathered to mourn the victims of the Boston Marathon bombing in a candlelight vigil led by members of Stony Brook Compliments and MSA Chaplain Sister Sanaa Nadim.

PAGE 5

Prominent climatologist says world is in state of carbon emergency

Wallace Broecker addressed Stony Brook University on April 19 as the keynote speaker at Earthstock, discussing climate change and proposing potential solutions to the ongoing problem of carbon emissions.

PAGE 7

ARTS:

Emerson String Quartet celebrates member’s final performance

Stony Brook’s Emerson String Quartet has been labeled America’s greatest quartet by “TIME,” and its members have garnered multiple accolades, including nine Grammys. On April 17, one member of the quartet, cellist David Finckel, played his very last show at the Staller Center, where the group has played since 2002.

PAGE 12

Strong casting makes "42" a home run

Unlike other movies about Jackie Robinson like “Soul of the Game” and “Blue in the Face,” “42” focuses less on Robinson’s iconic status and gets to the heart of what really matters—baseball. Chadwick Boseman and Harrison Ford put forth excellent performances as Robinson and Dodgers owner Branch Rickey, respectively.

PAGE 13

Students behind the scenes make Staller work

A lot of theatrical magic happens on the Staller Center’s stages, but the mechanics behind it all require more elbow grease than fairy dust. For sophomore Heather Young, working as a stagehand is, in her words, “the best campus job out there.”

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SPORTS:

Maysonet and Bamiro prepare for NFL

SBU football has won multiple conference championships, but has yet to get a player drafted into the pros. Now, players Miguel Maysonet and Michael Bamiro, who have both garnered interest from NFL teams, present the best chance at fulfilling that dream.

PAGE 25

Baseball defeats NYIT, takes 2 of 3 against Maine

SBU’s baseball team was dominant against NYIT on Tuesday, both on the mound and at bat, and garnered a 1-0 victory against Maine on Sunday.

PAGE 28
Turkish students find American education appealing

By Hanna’ Tamveer
Assistant News Editor

Instead of an hour drive or a two-hour train ride to get home at the end of this semester, sophomore psychology major Ipek Demirgezer will have to endure a longer journey to see her family: a 12-hour flight to Istanbul, Turkey.

This is not the first time Demirgezer will be going home. She has been making the trip three times a year—for winter, spring and summer breaks—for the last six years. And she has not been the only one.

According to a census by Open Doors, which tracks international student movement, in the 2011-2012 school year, 11,973 students from Turkey came to the United States to study at a primary, secondary, undergraduate, graduate or Optional Practical Training level, making Turkey “the 10th leading country of origin for students coming to the United States.” The west Asian country obtained that position in 2000 and has kept it since.

In New York, Turkish students make up roughly 2.8 percent of the state’s international student population. Stony Brook University ranks as the institution with the fifth highest number of foreign students with 3,726 students, based on Open Doors’ state census from 2012.

While graduate students make up a little more than 50 percent of the Turkish student population in the United States, Demirgezer and many of her friends arrived in the United States alone at age 14.

“I always wanted to go outside of Turkey and live without my parents,” Demirgezer said. “Then my dad found out about an opportunity to go to the United States so I [said] ‘I want to go,’ and I came here.”

The appeal in coming to the United States at such a young age, she said, is much more than just the educational opportunities. “We thought it would be easier to learn English when we were younger,” she said.

Although senior computer science major and president of Stony Brook’s Turkish-American Student Association Zeynep Doganata was born and raised in the United States, she says that fluency in English for Turkish internationals can take them a long way.

“When you come here, it’s a cultural experience, and really English is a huge thing,” Doganata said. “In Turkey, even if you study really hard and everything and do well in your English classes, it’s not the same as living in [an English speaking] country. Even if you don’t get as much out of your education, to go back with perfect English, you can get very far in Turkey.”

But at 14, the adjustment to life in the United States was not easy for Demirgezer. “It was so hard because I was so little and my family was so important for me,” she said. “I didn’t know that it would be this hard and for a couple months, a couple years actually, I wanted to go back to Turkey [but] it was my decision to come to the United States so I tried to get used to it.”

But now that she goes to Stony Brook, she feels more at home at her off-campus residence.

“I have some Turkish friends here and they go to the same school,” Demirgezer said. “It’s easier to share a house with people from your country because of the food and the cleaning and like we know each other and we grew up in the same culture. It’s easier for me.”

Academics in the United States also came as a surprise to Turks. The Turkish education system requires high school students to take a national exam in order to gain admission to a university in Turkey, and therefore, college entrance is much more competitive. Students can only get into top universities for their desired programs of study if they achieve a certain score on the exam.

“It’s very difficult to switch majors,” Doganata said, whose parents went through the Turkish education system. “Here, you can change your mind. There, it’s kind of more predetermined by your scores and you don’t look at you being well-rounded as a student, as much as the U.S.”

Freshman business major Furan Kinoz, who came from the Anamur area of Turkey to the United States alone when he was 13, was taken aback by the stark difference between the two systems.

“I actually didn’t know that the education was easier than in Turkey or that there was a government to set up a job for students, not to push them for something they are not going to use in their life.”

But while education and immersion are important to Turks, they very much retain their national cultures while they are here.

“Turks have a very strong connection to their cultures,” Doganata said. “There’s an effort to live and share that culture and that’s what we do here [at the Turkish-American Student Organization]. We love certain things about Turkish culture that we want to live it, gather around together and we want to share that with the [Stony Brook] community.”

However, Demirgezer’s plan has not changed in the six years that she has been here. “I just want to go back after I finish college,” she said. “It’s not easy to go to the United States at the age of 14 [and] it’s an experience that not everyone can have so I want to use this experience and the education that I get here for my country when I go back.”

Campus news briefing: course evaluations and pool renovations

By Kelly Zegers
Staff Writer

At this week’s USG senate meeting, Patricia Aceves, director of the Faculty Center, presented revisions to online course evaluations. According to Aceves, a faculty member has been developing new questions for the evaluations over the last year and a half based on focus groups composed of students.

“We got a lot of good feedback from the students,” Aceves said.

Part of the process to make the changes included looking at the course evaluation questions asked by other schools within the Association of American Universities. Aceves said, “Rather than having to reinvent the wheel, we pulled almost all of the questions we could gather from other AAU’s and found out what they asked their students.”

The first recommendation was to change the number of standard university-wide questions for courses from 10 to four. Those questions currently ask students to rate courses based on a scale from "excellent" to "poor" and are likely to change to a grading scale of A through F.

Aceves explained that students are "really familiar with the grading system" and added that, "It’s difficult sometimes to say it was an 'excellent' class, and 'excellent' to me might be different from what 'excellent' is to you." She asked the senate for feedback and no opposing ideas were raised.

In regard to the questions that have a seven-point scale from "Strongly Agree" to "Strongly Disagree," Aceves said, "It’s really hard to make fine discriminations and when the rating scale is too long people are less likely to figure it out because you have to think hard." She added that "it really doesn’t make that big of a deal. We really want to know just a concise general sense of what you liked or didn’t like about the class.

According to Aceves, another question intended for inclusion in the revised evaluations examines the effectiveness of the class instructor in teaching the subject matter. Along with this would be two open-ended questions asking what students liked about the course and how the course could be improved. These changes are intended to be made in hopes of taking out the redundancies of the current questions.

It was found from other AAU institutions that faculty were evaluated in comparison to their peers across campus.

“Right now in the 10-scale questions that you see, our faculty are evaluated for promotion and tenure based on the averages of those ten questions,” Aceves explained.

The revision would instead break that up into two questions, and the deans or the chair would look at the scores of those two questions in making personnel decisions, comparing them to their department, college or school, and across the university.

“The promotion and tenure committee are just fine with that,” Aceves said.

In discussing comments on courses, Aceves said that the written feedback is “the most valuable part to a professor, so one of the reasons they didn’t mind getting rid of the ten [questions], and reducing it to two really scaled scores was because it’s your comments that they want the most.”

Also presented at this meeting was the Stony Brook University Pool Renovation Resolution. USG President Anna Lubitz, who drafted the resolution, explained that the reason there is no funding right now to renovate is because capital is going toward critical maintenance needs.

Lubitz said, “SUNY cut all campus budgets dramatically so this is what we’re left with to deal.” She described it as a “resolution pressing the university, as well as SUNY Student Assembly, and the State Assembly to give us more funding to get renovations started.”

Lubitz added, “As of the approval, it’ll take three years to renovate, so the longer we wait for an approval from the state and the university, the longer it’ll take to renovate and I would rather see the renovation take place sooner than later for students.”

Lubitz asked the senate to help get signatures for a petition on the resolution, adding that it would push the administration to voc in favor of the students.
SB Compliments holds vigil for Boston

By Caithlin Pena
Staff Writer

The sun was already setting as students rushed to get to their next class or to head home after a tiring day of school. But that night, with candles held in their hands flickering in the darkness, about 100 students, the majority of whom were strangers to each other, mourned as one.

On April 17, Stony Brook Compliments held a vigil for the three victims of the bombings in Boston—two young women and an eight-year-old boy. The incident shocked the nation as two bombs detonated during Boston’s annual marathon.

The vigil was led by two Stony Brook Compliments members who do not wish to be identified for this article and Sister Sanza Nadim, the Muslim Student Association’s Chaplain.

Nadim began the vigil with a Christian prayer followed by an Islamic prayer, assuring students that although everything may be grim today, tomorrow will always be better.

There was then a moment of silence in remembrance of those lost and injured. Those present expressed their feelings, with words of comfort passed around and embraces exchanged.

Freshman theatre arts major Xixi Ling attended the vigil because she had family living in Boston and was worried for their safety. She had also applied to a college in Boston and loved visiting the city.

“I just appreciate that everyone [her friends and family] is safe,” she said.

Senior linguistics major Michelle Talcan had friends who were present at the marathon. She remembered coming home from the dentist and realizing that she could not get in contact with any of her friends.

“I was terrified that something had happened,” she said. “If I was scared just not knowing where my friends were, and not even sure that they were there, imagine the people who were sure that their friends were there or their family.”

Senior chemistry major Michael Saccomanno had no family or friends in Boston. However, when he heard about the incident, he said he felt “total shock.”

Saccomanno decided to attend the vigil to pay his respects to the victims and those who came to the assistance of the injured.

Nadim parted from the students with these words: “There is no difference between the humans of the world. And that we all seek contentment and we all seek peace. Let not their pain and passing be in vain. Let us all tonight believe that through the roubles of despair, we can truly build castles of hope.”

Addressing concert security for Brookfield in the stadium

Continued from page 1

problems emerged.

Upon contacting universities, it was discovered that Aoki concerts held at other universities were wrought with hospital transports due to the ‘slam dancing’ that often occurred during performances.

“Slam dancing’ is a form of moshing where people throw themselves into each other, usually moving around in a circle, resulting in many student injuries.

Due to the fact that Aoki did not pass security checks and Lamar came as a package deal with Aoki, the university did not feel comfortable allowing the performance.

The change in venue raised security questions with planning beginning months in advance, according to Assistant Chief of Police Eric Olsen.

As the concert date approaches, the venue is surveyed. University police work with a private firm that will also be providing security and together decide on both the number of officers necessary and where to best position those officers to ensure the safety of the attendees.

Officers will arrive several hours before the concert begins and will stay in place until all the attendees have safely left the area.

There will also be additional officers on patrol all over campus after the concert to ensure the safety of the attendees as they return to the residence halls, their vehicles and public transportation options.

The University Police are consulted, but do not take part in the final decision on where the concert would take place.

A representative from the campus police department attends weekly Events Management Committee, or “EMC,” meetings with Student Activities and USG representatives.

Atlanta-based rapper Ludacris was announced as the headline for this year’s Brookfield end-of-the-year concert.
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Prominent climatologist says world is in state of carbon emergency

By Emily McTavish

Wallace Broecker, 81, does not want 'father of global warming' on his tombstone. "I'm just Wally," he said in a press conference on Friday, April 19 before addressing Stony Brook University as the keynote speaker for Earthstock. Broecker instead gives credit to another scientist who used the term in a Gary, Ind., newspaper in the 1970s.

The Newberry professor of geology at Columbia University is known in the field of climatology as the father of climate science. In fact, the phrase "climatic change" was used in a piece he wrote that was published on August 8, 1975.

Broecker did, however, take full credit for coming up with the 'Ocean Conveyor Belt' model, which is used to describe the effects the world's oceans have on global climate changes. "I was the first one to say that our ocean can undergo very rapid, large-scale changes in the way it operates," Broecker said.

Broecker is currently working on "manufacturing" and developing carbon sequestering devices-safe, silo-like instruments designed to neutralize fossil fuel emissions," according to The Earth Institute at Columbia University's website. Although Broecker works without a computer, he has a typewriter.

According to Broecker, there is not an accurate way to predict the consequences of the continued or increased rate of carbon emissions, but he believes the consequences are real and dangerous. "I believe that you can take [carbon dioxide] directly out of the atmosphere at something less than a dollar per gallon to put in terms of gasoline-easy to understand," Broecker said. "So that's affordable."

Broecker is developing a device to neutralize carbon emissions at Columbia University. For Broecker, ideally every nation would take out the carbon dioxide emissions they had put in each year and knows it would be a huge burden for the United States. The United States Environmental Protection agency reported that in 2011 carbon dioxide emissions made up 84 percent of all greenhouse gas emissions in America. "If we can't do that or if we don't do it I think CO2 is going to keep going up for 50 or 80 years because in order to stop CO2 from going up we have to reduce the burning of CO2 by an ordered magnitude," Broecker explained.

Broecker also explained an alternative to burying the carbon dioxide is to add more sulfur dioxide to the stratosphere, the second major layer of Earth's atmosphere. However, according to Broecker, this solution will not work because it works like a "Band-Aid."

"It doesn't make a cure because you're still adding CO2 to the air," Broecker added, and he said using that model would mean more sulfur dioxide would need to be continuously added to the stratosphere to compensate for it.

In addition, Broecker explained the opposition to take action beyond 'green initiatives,' and he called himself an optimist in almost anything except the "CO2 emergency."

"When garbage became a problem we started to collect it," Broecker said. "When sewage became a problem we started to treat. We can't dump CO2 into the air. It is just not good for the planet."

While the reality of climate change is clear to Broecker, he knows he will not see a majority of the impacts. "You can write me a letter and tell me about it wherever I am," Broecker said. "I don't want to live through it, but I sure would like to know how it plays out." On Friday, Broecker did not have plans for Earth Day other than to go to work as usual.

"I like to do my own science," Broecker said. "I'm good at it. I love it."

Accessing condoms on campuses

Continued from page 1

have addressed it already," she said.

BCSSH members want students to have access to free condoms and is not sure why their Safe Sites, or dorm rooms whose occupants give out free condoms, lubricants and other materials, have become an issue, as the group did not receive specific reasoning for the opposition.

Lennox said the group provides condoms to students who are not able to purchase them on campus, and that it "felt the need to step in and provide our peers with the materials and information necessary for them to make smarter decisions, when they have chosen to be sexually active."

Boston College is coping with the distribution of condoms on campus. According to Lennox, the university's administration is scheduling multiple meetings to take strides forward. Public institutions such as Stony Brook University, on the other hand, provide free condoms to students.

The Health Education Office is a part of the New York State HIV Prevention Materials grant. It receives grant-funded materials such as finger cots, dental dams, personal lubricants and condoms and distributes them to students.

According to Kenneth Valerio, health educator at the university's Center for Prevention and Outreach, the office provides these materials to more than 100,000 male and female students.

The costs for condoms are derived from the Student Health Fee. "We freely distribute upon request. The number of students asking to purchase condoms has dramatically reduced over the past three years," said Valerio.

The university's resident assistants and residential hall directors began receiving a large bag containing finger cots, condoms and personal lubricants about three years ago.

"As long as we continue to receive materials at no cost from New York State HIV Prevention, we will continue free distribution of materials received utilizing campus resources," Valerio said.

Stony Brook's freshman seminar classes teach first year students about practicing safe sex, birth control, sexual relationships and sexually transmitted infections. The undergraduate college advisors, who teach the seminars, prepare several in-class activities such as a condom demonstration and an "STI Challenge," which debunks several myths about sexual intercourse.

Students are encouraged to evaluate their own personal health habits and visit the Student Health Service Pharmacy where they can purchase condoms. Four condoms are sold for a dollar.

Police Blotter

On Monday, April 8, police responded to an accident at Kenneth P. LaValle Stadium. The complainant stated that another car backed into her car and sped off leaving the scene.

On Tuesday, April 9, a driver in the Life Science Parking Lot allegedly keyed a vehicle.

On Wednesday, April 10, police responded to a complaint of criminal tampering in Stimson College.

On Wednesday, April 10, police responded to three individuals allegedly harassing another student at LaValle stadium.

False Fire Alarms

On Thursday, April 11, a patient at the university hospital allegedly pulled a fire alarm.

On Friday, April 12 at 11:01 p.m., there was a false fire alarm at the Student Activity Center.

On Friday, April 12, there was a false fire alarm pulled at 11:41 p.m. at Kelly Café.

On Saturday, April 13, a false fire alarm was pulled at Stimson College at 12:53 a.m.

On Saturday, April 13, there was an attempted assault at Schomburg Apartments that led to an arrest.

On Sunday, April 14, police responded to a shattered window at Hendris College.

Compiled by Ashleigh Sherow
Graduating seniors ready for caps, gowns and class rings

By Caitlin Pena
Staff Writer

Graduation is almost here, and Stony Brook University seniors are preparing to don the signature red cap and gown and receive their diplomas. Seniors may also choose to purchase another piece of memorabilia—the class ring.

It is a symbol that commemorates a student's achievements and graduation from the institution, according to a website called Classringshop.com, which provides information on class rings and where to purchase them.

The Official Ring Collection of Stony Brook University, according to a brochure by the Alumni Association, "is a timeless, tangible symbol of the bond between all SBU graduates and the institution that contributed so much to shaping their future successes."

These rings have a classic signet style that displays the image of the Stony Brook Seawolf and a student's year of graduation on one side and the degree he or she is receiving on the other. Ring styles also differ for men and women. Men's rings are traditionally larger than women's and are issued in medium and large sizes. Women's rings simply come in a small size.

But Balfour, the class ring company the university has chosen to provide the rings, has supplied the future graduates with choices. Students can choose among which metal they prefer—yellow or white gold in 10, 14, or 18 karats; silver; or celestium; a finish—antique or natural; a band engraving; and a stone jewel embellishment.

But what really distinguishes one class ring from another is the design. Another option Balfour is providing students with is the choice between the traditional and original signet design.

Seniors who choose the traditional design will have the Stony Brook shield on their ring as opposed to the original signet design, which features the Stony Brook three stars and five rays design.

For sociology major Limei Zhu, a class ring is a symbol of her determination to finish college. Zhu is proud to have been a Seawolf for four years and her ring will be proof of that.

"I want to be able to have a memory of Stony Brook," she said. "It will be a way for me to present to others about I've graduated from there."

But for some graduating seniors, a class ring is not the sole reminder of their time at Stony Brook. Psychology major Ivy Peckman, for example, feels that in addition to the ring's cost being a deterrent, it is not a necessity.

"There are other graduation things I prioritize more," she said, "like my cap and gown and grad photos."

Although some would consider a class ring to be a memorable artifact to have, the ring's importance depends on the person.

For example, the class ring reminds Zhu of four years of hard work. Peckman has her high school class ring.

"It's mostly just a token to remember my high school years," she said, "and it's not as important as, say pictures I took, or something like that."

But whether or not a graduating senior decides to buy a class ring, it is the memories of their time as a Seawolf at Stony Brook University that truly counts.
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Above: Rubber ducks, which students could purchase during the week, race down the water feature between the Administration Building and the Staller Center for the Arts. Photo by Wesley Robinson. Left: Anthony Laviscount picks up one of the ducks from the race. Photo by Ezra Margono.

Above: Students participate in various arts and craft activities with recyclable materials. Booths and tables were set up along the academic mall. Photos by Wesley Robinson.

Earthstock 2013

Below: A student hops through an obstacle course that included recycling bins on the Staller Steps. Photo by Wesley Robinson.
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The Earthstock 2013 Committee of Stony Brook University thanks the following sponsors for their generous support and contribution to another successful celebration of Earth Day.

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Stony Brook University
String quartet celebrates musicians' final performance
By Brandon Bennett

Stony Brook's own Emerson String Quartet has been labeled "America's greatest quartet" by "TIME" magazine. Its members have been recognized for their ability to perform at a high level, their technical mastery and for their ability to exhibit a great deal of creativity.

The New York-based string quartet has been in residence at Stony Brook University since 2002. Established in 1976, the group's namesake was legendary American poet Ralph Waldo Emerson. Since their inception, the Emerson String Quartet has released more than 30 albums and won nine Grammy Awards. Just recently, the quartet celebrated its 30th Anniversary with a nine-concert "Perspectives" series in Carnegie Hall.

The group's current lineup includes violinists Eugene Drucker and Philip Setzer. These two violinists were students of the late-great Oscar Shumsky. Viola player Lawrence Dutton and cello player David Finckel round out the group.

In addition to teaching at several schools and workshops, the group holds a premier workshop in Stony Brook for serious pre-professional string quartets that has been active since 2004.

"It's very exciting to have classes and then to be able to get to see successful musicians perform for us," said David Haray, a sophomore literature and philosophy major. "It's just sad to see him leave," said Haray. "He has also gained acclaim for reaching at Carnegie Hall and the Jerusalem Music Center. The cello player has also been instrumental in establishing teaching residencies under The Chamber Music Society of the Lincoln Center in Korea and Taiwan.

"I've been coming to watch them play for a while now," Stony Brook senior and business major Charles Greenaway said. "It's sad to see Finckel go because no one will be able to fill his shoes."

After their performance, the quartet exited the stage only to return once again for an encore. "Finckel is very charming on stage and has great chemistry with the other performers, but it is really upsetting to see him leave," said Haray.

The quartet has announced that Paul Watkins, a seasoned cellist, conductor and chamber musician, will officially replace Finckel starting in the 2013-2014 concert season. Watkins, who is almost two decades younger than the rest of the group, offers the quartet the opportunity to strengthen its music values.

Producer Da Hong Seetoo (left) joins the Quartet at the 43rd Grammy Awards.

This was Finckel's final Staller performance as a member of the Emerson String Quartet.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

String quartet celebrates musicians' final performance
By Brandon Bennett

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TWO ARTSY EVENTS

1) PUSO-Fest
The PUSO organization will be hosting the PUSO-Fest on Friday, April 26 at 6:30 p.m in the SAC Auditorium. The event is free for all, which will feature dancing, singers, musicians and skits.

2) "Ain't Nothing But a Thang"
The Black Women's Weekend playwriters guild and weekend life present "Ain't Nothing But a Thang," from April 26 to the 28 in the SAC Auditorium. Tickets are $2 for students, and $4 for non-students.

3) Taiko Tabler
Come learn about Japanese Taiko drumming with SBU's Taiko Tides on April 22 and 25 at the TAC Patio and SAC Ballroom B. The event is open for all and will feature free bubbles tea and raffles for attendees.
Cover band Peat Moss and the Fertilizers not necessarily green

By Chelsea Katz
Staff Writer

Peat Moss and the Fertilizers is not your garden variety cover band.

When preparing to break into the wedding industry, the band decided to take their typical club set-list and convert it into a wedding show. Nowadays, Peat Moss plays weddings, charity benefits, clubs and Stony Brook's annual Earthstock.

"We can go from Frank Sinatra and Elvis and Frankie Valli to Jay-Z or Rage Against Machine and cool Lady Gaga," Greg Ammirata, the keyboardist, said.

Peat Moss formed 18 years ago, when its members were still in high school. Of the original five members, two remain. When the group first started playing at clubs, they realized they lacked a name. A friend recommended that they call themselves Peat Moss and the Fertilizers.

"We packed the place and other bars wanted us and before we knew it, we were stuck with the stupid name," Ammirata said. He is one of the only two original members of the band.

After the members of the band graduated college and started working, they started booking gigs more frequently. They quit their jobs and overtime, their current management agency, approached them. They soon started playing in Boston, Vermont, New Jersey and Connecticut.

"It was night and day once Omnipop started booking us," Ammirata said.

Despite its environmentally-conscious name, Peat Moss is not particularly driven to the green lifestyle. Ammirata said, "People just see Peat Moss and the Fertilizers and they think we're one with nature," Ammirata said. "We just show up with our instruments and play!"

Steve Mecca, the lead vocalist, said that he has tried to go paperless and that he plants seeds here and there. Ammirata said he just tries to not turn down charity events.

"Tom McGuire, the bassist, wouldn't call himself an activist but tries not to be wasteful. He recycles at home, adding that his wife thinks that he overdoes it. While some bands have rituals before getting on stage, Peat Moss does not really have any traditions.

"When you're the singer, you have to do those vocal warm-ups before you go on or you hurt yourself," Mecca said. "It kind of sounds like a moan, a high-pitched moan to make sure that I can hit all the notes I can hit for the night."

He said that the band makes fun of him, and they like if the drummer, tries to join him. According to Ammirata, the band is the only one who cannot sing. "I start from playing at clubs and college campuses, Peat Moss frequents weddings. When the economy headed into a recession, clubs became less and less available. The band chose to take a less cookie-cutter approach. While the band tries to accommodate what the newlyweds expect, McGuire called the band's approach "classic and current and entertaining."

Ammirata said he just tries to not fight with the newlyweds and that he has tried to go paperless and that he plants seeds here and there. Ammirata said he just tries to not turn down charity events.

Contrary to what many people think, Peat Moss and the Fertilizers make a conscious effort to keep the environment in mind when performing. "It was night and day once Omnipop started booking us," Ammirata said.

Peat Moss plays annually at Stony Brook's Earthstock event.

Only two original members of Peat Moss and the Fertilizers remain in the band.

Some strong casting helps make "42" a knockout

By Brandon Benarbe
Staff Writer

Jackie Robinson's impact is one we still experience today, whether from the questions about race and action his work raised; the eternal retirement of his number 42, or The Jackie Robinson Foundation and scholarship, which one Stony Brook student, senior Linnerta De La Cruz, receives.

Still, Robinson is best known for being the first African American to play major league baseball. Robinson's role as a major league baseball player was a major contribution and inspiration to the civil rights movement. It broke the racial segregation that plagued professional baseball, and Robinson's talent challenged the issue of segregation.

The movie "42" is another telling of Jackie Robinson's rise to fame with the Brooklyn Dodgers. Unlike "Soul of the Game," and "Blue in the Face" (two other films based on Robinson), "42" focuses less on Robinson as an icon and family man, and instead puts the focus on what really matters—baseball.

The story follows the rise of Robinson from the Negro league to the Brooklyn Dodgers as he must learn to battle racism both on the field and off. To accomplish this, director/writer Brian Helgeland focused heavily on the relationships between Robinson and the rest of the Dodgers. The most important relationship—and highlight of the film—is that of Robinson (Chadwick Boseman) and Dodgers owner Branch Rickey (Harrison Ford).

This relationship forms the basis of the story, as Rickey quickly becomes a father figure to Robinson. He is aware of the racial tension and hate that Robinson is sure to receive and tries to train Robinson to "have the guts not to fight back." Rickey also acts as a bridge between the other players and Robinson, constantly justifying Robinson's place on the team.

Ford is great as Rickey, bringing in a level of enthusiasm to this role that we have not seen from him in a while. His character shouts, smokes cigars and pushes players with delightful glee, but expresses great sorrow when needed. He absolutely owns every scene he is in, and it would be great to see him in more roles like this.

Even stronger than Ford, though, is Boseman as Robinson. This is Boseman's first real outing on the big screen and the actor absolutely nails it. He brings a high level of charm to a film that explores some very mature themes. There is one very cheesy scene in which Robinson throws a ball at an awe-struck kid, but Boseman's charisma makes the viewers believe they are watching the story of a man, not a legend.

The supporting cast is mostly strong. Lucas Black (Pee Wee Reese), Nicole Beharie (Rachel Robinson) and Andre Holland (Wesdell Smith) all perform their parts well enough, but they do not play a large role. Other characters do not fare as well, such as Alan Tudyk (Ben Chapman), who simply does not work as an antagonist.

Still, with all this in mind, the movie has some flaws. Because it is based on a true story, the movie lacks any tension. And because the film is a sports movie, it follows a very simple principle—there is a scene in which Robinson struggles through practice, another in which only Robinson can win the big game and a lot of inspirational speeches. These are, however, very small flaws that don't detract much from the overall film.

Sports movies have experienced a renaissance within the past few years, with films like "Miracle," "Ali" and "The Blind Side" all exploring the depth of the relationship between sport and player. "42" easily deserves a place next to those films.

It is a smart film that takes a unique angle of an already-told story. The movie rides on the strength of the two leads, and they completely own it. "42" is a great movie that takes everything it wanted to do and knocks it out of the park.
Asian-American artists highlight student photography

By Katherine Kurre
Staff Writer

Two artists recently visited the Charles B. Wang center to celebrate their latest art exhibitions. Corlly Lee and Chee Wang Ng each had their own exhibition on display in the Wang Center. On Wednesday, April 17, a reception was held for them where they both spoke about their works.

Jennifer Iacona, the coordinator for Asian/American Programs, opened the reception by briefly introducing Lee and Ng and drawing attention to the student photographs that were also on display. She said in her opening remarks that Lee's work is political and seeks to bring attention to those who are usually invisible to American society. She also said he "has spent over 40 years of documenting Asian-Pacific-American culture.

Frak Shih, president of the Organization of Chinese Americans (OCA) Long Island Chapter, also spoke about Lee. "Our goal (of OCA is) to advocate for social justice for Asian/Pacific Americans. To promote civic engagement and cultural education and to force the cultural heritage. And you think of those three goals, you really can't do one of them without doing the other two of them," Shih said in his opening remarks. "You can see how Corlly's work embodies all those three goals. I see him as an advocate in that he advocates to break down a lot of stereotypes. You will see him celebrating Asian break-dancing or Asians playing the bagpipes."

Lee said that his exhibit, "Asian Room/American Soul: The Photographs of Corlly Lee," is the largest one he has ever had on Long Island and that it comprises 64 photographs. However, he focused more on the student's artwork. "Corlly did a workshop explaining his work," Iacona said, "and he gave them an assignment. The students had to go photograph Asian life on the campus and their community. Lee judged them and picked the best to be placed on display in the Wang Center.

"What I was really concerned about during this exhibit was to have students, which I know at Stony Brook represents 27 percent of the student population, so that means every fourth student is Asian," Lee said. "So the idea came up to do a photo exhibit. I saw a little bit of myself in those photographs," Lee said.

In addition to mentioning Lee, Shih also briefly spoke about Ng. "Chee Wang Ng is a product of the diaspora," Shih said. "The Chinese have this incredible diaspora. They're all over the world."

Ng's work, "Five Elements: Six Roots Contemplate Its Origin in the Spoon Fed World," was specifically designed for the Wang Center. The former director, Dr. Santa S. Mukhi, invited Ng to display his work in the Wang Center. She had wanted Ng's exhibit "108 Global Rice Bowls" on display, however, the exhibit focuses around sound. "I saw the site," Ng said. "The 108 bowls wouldn't work because the fountain is too noisy."

Based on the raised black floor, Ng wanted to create a new exhibit. He had been working on the five elements part of the exhibit for a while, and the spoons worked out with the raised black floor.

The exhibition comprises various red, yellow, green, and blue bowls and multiple white spoons. Each spoon is different and from a different location in the world. Several of these spoons are also housed. "Chee Wang Ng has this beautiful exhibit," Shih said. "His work talks about the diaspora."

The goal of Ng's exhibition is to help people to realize the differences and commonalities between themselves and others. He made the point that while all bowls serve the same purpose, every bowl is different.

"We are same and different," Ng said. "We are individual and we exist together." The exhibitions have gained popularity and have even had a "New York Times" article written on them. "They've gotten really great coverage," Iacona said. "A lot of community members have come to see the works."

The exhibitions began on March 1 and will be on display until May 12.

The multi-colored bowls represent the five elements.

With changes and technical hiccups, Murder Mystery kills

By Giselle Barkley
Staff Writer

Mystery and murder filled the air in SAC Ballroom B as Stony Brook University's Weekend Life Council and Pocket Theatre joined forces to bring this year's Murder Mystery Dinner, called You Have the Right to Remain Dead or campus.

On Saturday, April 13, Stony Brook students were briefly taken to the Deep South, where a father's big inheritance encourages his family to plot against him. But the audience was in for a twist when the show's narrator was mysteriously murdered.

It was a show within a show directed by Will Addison, a senior theatre arts major. Members of Pocket Theatre and Weekend Life Council played actors who then played characters in the Deep South scene, where the murder was to occur.

However, once the narrator of the production, Harrell Clenthammer, played by Nelson Pescucci, a Stony Brook student and Pocket Theatre member, was murdered, members of the play reverted from their Deep South characters to their actors.

But that was not the only surprise in this year's production. For the first time, students, who once could play a character in the murder mystery, were now strictly audience members playing detectives.

"When you do a murder mystery like it's been done in the past...if everyone is interested and involved it goes really well, but if people aren't, it's really self-made," Addison, first time director and Weekend Life Council member, said. "With a theater production, it's going to happen, there is going to be a story. The audience can participate, but doesn't have to create a character."

In previous years, students were able to do just that. They were the characters and they solved the murder as the night progressed. But according to Addison, the event's attendance was unusually small.

He claims this arrangement attracted more people. The audience was provided with entertainment and food from the Rise and Shine Miso.

But attracting a larger audience came with some hiccups. "I guess I didn't really know what I was getting into," Addison said.

The production was put together in a month and a half, a shorter period of time than usual. Addison as well as Sounds person Paige Brook, student and member of Pocket Theatre, stepped in to play Earl/Steve Randall and Blanche LaTooure, respectively.

There were technical difficulties with lighting. The lights in Balloon B were either on or off. This made scenes, which called for a spotlight or the actors running throughout the room during "blackout" difficult.

"Choo, Wang Ng has this incredible diaspora. They're all over the world."

Without a stage, the performers had to improvise the set.

Students like Janesa Eads, a freshman English major, expected there to be a stage. However, since the theater rooms in Stefler Center do not permit food, the production was held in the SAC. Without a stage on set, "they just had to force the cast to leave the room during various scenes."

Some cues were missed either because lights did not go off at the correct times or because extra noise from the hallway made it difficult for the actors to hear.

Regardless, the show must go on, and so it did. Though several audience members, including Dylan Van-Den Berg, a senior theatre arts major, admitted that the ability to play a character would be "one step further," many students enjoyed the event.

"Having the director walk around in character while we're eating and engaging in discussion with people is also making the play more engaging," Van-Den Berg said.

Like Addison, Van-Den Berg agreed there are some benefits to a Weekend Life and Pocket Theatre run show.

"I think that this is very appealing to people, it attracts a different kind of audience," he said. Despite the ups and downs of the production, Addison, like many thought the play was successful. The event was a learning experience for everyone involved, including members of the audience, who learned that the killer was the last person expected.

Student and Pocket Theatre member Victoria DiCaro's actor, Leigh Dorsett, was the murderer. Dorsett played the Deep South-based character Hycinth in this show within the show. She began the play in the Deep South holding a gun and ended it with one exiting the stage.

The cast and crew, however, learned something different. "After having put it on now, I know for the future what things I can delegate to other people on Weekend Life Council that I don't need to worry about," Addison said.

He continued to say that planning the event at least two months in advance will be beneficial.

"The hardest thing is remembering that no matter how many productions you put out, the audience doesn't have a script," Addison said.
Working behind the scenes, students make Staller work

By Deanna Del Ciello
Senior Editor

The Staller Center at Stony Brook University is home to approximately 500 shows per year. There is something new to see nearly every weekend, and with so many shows coming and going, the set needs to be changed, the stage needs to be readied and the lights need to be set.

There is a lot of theatrical magic happening on the various stages of the Staller Center, but the stage changes take a little more elbow grease than fairy dust.

When the performers are done taking their bows and the attendees leave, the stagehands come and get ready for the next show. They climb 50-foot ladders with even longer cable wrapped around their shoulders. They unload and reload sets in and out of trucks. They lift boxes and trudge lights up and down every inch of Staller's stages.

But for the Staller Center, not all stagehands are professionally trained. Many do not have any knowledge of what it takes to prepare a stage for a performance. Many are just students looking for a job.

For Heather Young, the physically demanding job of being a stagehand at the Staller Center was the perfect place to make some extra cash.

"I love it. It's honestly the best campus job out there," Young said. Young is a sophomore from Orange County, N.Y. She is studying biochemistry and has no plan to make a career out of working in the theater. "You’re active and constantly doing stuff. And the people are wonderful!"

Young has been working as a stagehand since her freshman year. She learned about the job through a friend in her freshman seminar class. But being a stagehand is nothing new for her; she was a member of stage crew for all four years of high school and was president of the Audio Visual Club in her senior year.

"I was a super, super, super shy."

For not being on the radar, the job has benefited Young in more ways than just making her more outgoing. She described the job as being extremely physically demanding.

"It's not a typical desk job," Elizabeth Silver, production manager at the Staller Center, said. "We're going to make you work."

Silver was a student at SBU in the mid-1980s and has been working at the Staller Center for 25 years. The physicality of the job does not deter Young, though.

"There are tedious parts," Young said. "But my experience has been completely and utterly positive." Silver hires students to work as stagehands because she likes to teach people who have even just a slight interest in theater.

Silver is currently working on new plans to get someone come in already knowing everything there is to know. "I can be one of those boxes that's keep up, shut up and stay out of my way. But I'm not," Silver said. "I nurture potential because that student, can become your right-hand man."

Young has become another appendage for Silver.

"She's energetic, she listens, she watches," Silver said. "She's one of those students you want to mold and make 20 of them. She's on time, she asks questions, she wants to learn. Normally you look for just a spark of that and she has all of it."

Young also works as a stagehand for the Wang Center. She has more room to grow there, Silver said, as the crew are smaller and she is able to take more control.

"She's gained more confidence as a stagehand because of working at Wang," Silver said. "She's grown because of them."

Young plans on working as a stagehand for the remainder of her college career but does not plan to pursue it professionally.

"It's a field that's very difficult to make a living in unless you are faultless and I know personally I am not faultless," Young said. "I would love to go into it, but not as a career. It's very physically exhausting and I can't see me doing that until my 50s or 60s."

She wants to be a medical doctor with a Ph.D.

"I highly doubt I'll be able to do that," Young said. "You have to have insane scores on the MCATs and I'm barely even competitive for med school as it is."

She is also considering becoming a doctor of osteopathic medicine. Doctors who specialize in osteopathic medicine practice a form of health care that utilizes the body's natural processes to help it heal itself.

While it is not the career that she plans on pursuing, being a stagehand has given Young a home.

"It was something that I joined and it was all the weird kids," Young said. "It was the kids who did video games and didn't fit in anywhere else and it was my family. I love it."

Karaoke's popularity fading from local Stony Brook area

By Dipjyti Kumar
Staff Writer

It is that time of year when the stress of finals is reaching new heights of tolerance and the deadlines never seem to end. One way to ease the mounting physical and mental pressure is by having fun. While some embrace the fun side of singing off-tune and shamelessly enjoying it, there are others who would rather watch the fun unfold from the Middle Court.

Either way, karaoke is a good social activity and should be tried by those who could not stop singing after their first song. The student-friendly atmosphere is wonderful."

Boehning and his colleague would out, one of the teachers Erin Ars said, "We're just having a girls' night based on age and taste in music. The start a country music night.

Katie's is another karaoke venue located close to the campus.

Karaoke nights on Sunday from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m., and the selection of songs vary based on age and taste in music. The long lines can be off-putting if you get in late, but an early dinner at the restaurant, which does have a good selection of dishes, can help.

The Bench still has its happy hour on Tuesday and also has plans to improve customer turnover. The team is currently working on new plans to start a country music night.

We are trying to do a country night, cheap Jack Daniel shots and Budweisers," Boehning said.

Karaoke is a good way to vent and we hope the Bench brings back its once popular Karaoke Tuesdays.
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www.campusdining.org
Boston bombings shake city

By Anastha Vooskerbeeje

OPINIONS

Relief. That was the feeling that rushed over every Bostonian on Friday night. It was the end of a long week in Boston history. Patriot’s day is a holiday predominantly celebrated in Massachusetts and Maine that commemorates the battles of Lexington and Concord, the first battles of the American Revolution. To those who venture to Concord, remembrance battles start the day. It’s also a day on which the city stops to go out and watch and support the thousands of runners who aim to finish the grueling 26.2 mile run from Hopkinton to Boston, Mass. Every year, I would rush over every Bostonian on the course.

For the runners, it’s a display of true mental and physical strength. It’s the most prestigious in the world. It’s an event that is very special to every Bostonian, and to me, it’s always an uplifting day.

The Marathon is a display of true mental and physical strength. It does not discriminate and it brings out the best athlete in people. Many run for the first time after raising thousands for charity, and the physical toll the race takes on many of its participants make one wonder why people even run at all. It’s an amazing sight to watch people of all ages run side by side and support each other, regardless of their background. It’s a race that has no boundaries.

Marathon Monday seemed like any day, but in the afternoon, about two hours into the race, two bombs exploded at the finish line. I was horrified when I turned the TV on. In front of my eyes were the same streets I grew up on. Just one street over from the event is a popular shopping area; Copley Square, the location of the finish line, is a center for hotels, shopping and the Public Library. Boston is such a small city; only two short blocks away are the heart and soul of Boston. Two short blocks away is the Public Library.

The scene was out of the question. As the race unfolded. I was sitting at school, my friends were running, but wasn’t sure if they were okay. I logged into social media, the photos of their bib numbers. And then, as I started to cry, my friends’ names started to emerge. One photo at the time stood out to me. The person photographed, who was later identified as Jeff Bauman, played a vital role in identifying the suspects. In the photo, Bauman sat in a wheelchair, aided by two other men in a state past shock. Both his legs were missing. His bones stuck out, and his flapping, charred skin blended with blood. It was a photo that could have come out of a war zone, yet it came from my hometown.

Along with the rest of the Boston community, I was shocked as I watched what was unfolding. But one thing stood out to me; the immediate bravery and strength of those on scene. Through the confusion and chaos, there was a strong sense of pride. I was proud to see how quickly people responded and put their own lives at risk.

By Anastha Vooskerbeeje

Romantic. That was the feeling that rushed over every Bostonian on Friday night. It was the end of a long week in Boston history. Patriot’s day is a holiday predominantly celebrated in Massachusetts and Maine that commemorates the battles of Lexington and Concord, the first battles of the American Revolution. To those who venture to Concord, remembrance battles start the day. It’s also a day on which the city stops to go out and watch and support the thousands of runners who aim to finish the grueling 26.2 mile run from Hopkinton to Boston, Mass. Every year, I would rush over every Bostonian on the course.

For the runners, it’s a display of true mental and physical strength. It’s the most prestigious in the world. It’s an event that is very special to every Bostonian, and to me, it’s always an uplifting day.

The Marathon is a display of true mental and physical strength. It does not discriminate and it brings out the best athlete in people. Many run for the first time after raising thousands for charity, and the physical toll the race takes on many of its participants make one wonder why people even run at all. It’s an amazing sight to watch people of all ages run side by side and support each other, regardless of their background. It’s a race that has no boundaries.

Marathon Monday seemed like any day, but in the afternoon, about two hours into the race, two bombs exploded at the finish line. I was horrified when I turned the TV on. In front of my eyes were the same streets I grew up on. Just one street over from the event is a popular shopping area; Copley Square, the location of the finish line, is a center for hotels, shopping and the Public Library. Boston is such a small city; only two short blocks away are the heart and soul of Boston. Two short blocks away is the Public Library.

The scene was out of the question. As the race unfolded. I was sitting at school, my friends were running, but wasn’t sure if they were okay. I logged into social media, the photos of their bib numbers. And then, as I started to cry, my friends’ names started to emerge. One photo at the time stood out to me. The person photographed, who was later identified as Jeff Bauman, played a vital role in identifying the suspects. In the photo, Bauman sat in a wheelchair, aided by two other men in a state past shock. Both his legs were missing. His bones stuck out, and his flapping, charred skin blended with blood. It was a photo that could have come out of a war zone, yet it came from my hometown.

Along with the rest of the Boston community, I was shocked as I watched what was unfolding. But one thing stood out to me; the immediate bravery and strength of those on scene. Through the confusion and chaos, there was a strong sense of pride. I was proud to see how quickly people responded and put their own lives at risk.

Continued on page 19
Potential for change in American-Russian relations

By Keith Olsen

As the crisis in Boston comes to a close, the people of America undoubtedly seek a reason behind the chaos and desire such an answer. We will pore over the information regarding the bombers and determine who they were, what they were like and why they would turn to such horrendous violence in order to further their goals, whatever they might be.

One of the most interesting details that has become public in the aftermath is the nationality of these perpetrators, which has enormous significance and could point us towards a motive. The two men sought to bring America to a standstill, to America from Chechnya, a region of Russia that has been the focus of an intense civil war and insurgency. Over the past two decades, there have been two uprisings in which Chechen separatists have attempted to achieve independence for the region. Each of these results have been heavily crushed by the Russian administration.

If these bombers are indeed affiliated with the Chechens, then America will turn to such horrendous violence in order to crush the rebels in Chechnya. It is discovered that these two brothers were acting on behalf of the Chechens, then America will immediately push thoughts of terrorists organizations, training camps, Islamic culture and the violent behavior of those living in Chechnya to the forefront, and it angered me to hear how quickly just one association led to a downward spiral of accusations. Although some may have made it clear these are just possible scenarios, the general public did not see them as such.

Watching the Boston bombings unfold

Continued from page 18

 UFOs. Runners stopped to help fallen spectators and other runners. First responders, volunteers and really anyone who could, helped. A beautiful day turned into an ugly site of carnage and blood in a matter of seconds.

As I couldn't understand why, Boston, of all places, was hit, nor could I understand why the marathon was targeted specifically. A marathon isn't a political or religious event. It is an event that celebrates the human spirit, and that's exactly what these bombs tried to hit. The bombs went off, but what unfolded after wasn't complete panic; it was a scene of hundreds of people running to help. It was people working side by side to stop bleeding, holding crying children and standing together as a city.

And for the hours that followed, my city responded in a way that was unprecedented. Through Google Docs, a sign-up sheet was created to provide housing for runners who couldn't get back home. Those who weren't able to complete the race ran on the parallel street, past where the marathon was supposed to be, and kept going for another two miles to the hospitals to donate blood. Those who passed the finish line distributed water throughout the day. This attack by two cowards was the first victim. Another photo story told the story of a man trying to save his girlfriend, to whom he planned to get engaged. The photo showed the moment he obtained certain information. The lack of extreme attention to detail. The lack of information reminders me that the larger news organizations don't have the same principle in the Vietnam War against the Vietnamese Nationalists because of their conviction in communism. The theoretical situation would be different in that while fighting, against self-determination, against the Vietnamese Nationalists, America would be fighting against terrorism rather than communism.

While this is all merely speculation, the potential consequences of this act of terrorism must be carefully examined. There is certainly the possibility that the two acted entirely on their own, but the human mind easily draws uncorrelated events together. Although this should generally be avoided, many of the stories written about the marathon were written at miniscule compared to the feelings of those who were on those streets.

In the following days, I was glued to my laptop and the TV. I constantly monitored my Twitter feed and refreshed news outlets for any information. I was in a time of desperation, and the need for answers, the media had failed me. Information just wasn't being checked. On Wednesday, CNN reported that a suspect had been arrested, while other sources didn't have the same story. In a time with so many facts, I was more than disappointed to see major news organizations using false information.

When the marathon for the Tsarnaev brothers, who had been identified as suspects by Bauman, had begun, local news coverage was my only source. Listening to both the police scanner and watching WCVB—Boston's news channel—I heard the sounds of helicopters, with officers白宫ing as reports of grenades. Local news coverage provided the most fast

on SBU's campus held a candlelight vigil to reflect on the loss of life, not just at the marathon, but around the world today. More than 100 students showed up to just stand together and listen to each other's experiences and feelings about the bombing. It reminded all of us that the hate and anger in the world doesn't dominate the population. Dzhokhar Tsarnaev was captured, I only saw a 19-year-old boy who had been misguided. There was a part of me that wondered how could someone raised in the U.S. could be led to believe such radical ideas? I personally don't believe that Islam is so violent. Its teachings are poetic and teach the importance of doing good. It doesn't make any sense. Seeing a 19-year-old boy fall to the level of terrorism to convey a message is both scary and disappointing. As I stood with other Stony Brook students, I was reminded that we are all responsible for not spreading hate because of the actions of two people. The media immediately pushed thoughts of terrorists organizations, training camps, Islamic culture and the violent behavior of those living in Chechnya to the forefront, and it angered me to hear how quickly just one association led to a downward spiral of accusations. Although some may have made it clear these are just possible scenarios, the general public did not see them as such.

“IT'S understandable that in a time of chaos, facts can be wrong, but journalism turned to social media by the end of the hunt"
Impasses in Congress force states to take their own action

By David O'Connor
Managing Editor

This week, the United States Senate decided the will and opinion of approximately 90 percent of the American people didn't matter and did not pass a measure that would have vastly expanded the background check system for purchasing firearms. It is not the first, nor will it be the last time, that Congress disappoints its constituents, but there is a larger trend emerging here. From the strong possibility of striking down the Defense of Marriage Act to not enforcing new gun laws, the federal government appears to feel less able to take any position on social issues and prefers neutrality over either pleasing or angering its base of voters.

All of this has not caused a lack of new social policy laws, however. Activism on issues such as same-sex marriage, abortion, gun regulation, etc. is still very strong and pushes through laws aimed at advancing a position on those issues. The difference is that those new laws are not coming from the federal government; they're coming from the state governments.

For example, the states of New York and Connecticut, the scene of the Newtown massacre in December, have passed some of the strictest gun control legislation in the nation in the past few months. Arkansas and North Dakota have passed some of the most restrictive abortion legislation in the country recently. And as for the issue of same-sex marriage, the Supreme Court itself may rule that it is an issue for the states to decide individually, declaring that the federal government should provide marriage benefits based on each state's definition of marriage, not a national definition.

Despite close to 250 years of the federal government's growing more influential relative to the states, it is remarkable how much control each U.S. state has over its local affairs. In the last couple of decades, state autonomy appears to have had a revival. The federal government has not shown the social activism that once did back in the 1960s and 70s when it was one of many proponents of the Civil Rights movement, for example.

One boring, yet not to be forgotten, fact is that the United States has gotten a lot bigger since that time. As our friend Bill Nye reminded us on Friday, the country has added more than 100,000,000 people since the 1964 World's Fair in New York. It has become increasingly difficult for the central government to accommodate the interests and desires of an increasingly larger and more diverse population. To add on to that, interest groups and lobbyists have become very strong as they have better resources, otherwise known as billions of dollars, at their disposal to influence national policy.

Interest groups can, of course, influence state policy as well, but one of the things that a state has going for it that the entire country doesn't is that it has a more concentrated population that tends to share similar views. Of course voters within each state have differing views, but voters in solid blue or red states tend to be generally more in line with one another on social policy within their states than with other parts of the country.

To offer examples of this, two ForeignKey Mayor Michael Bloomberg, formerly a Republican, is an advocate for same-sex marriage and addressing climate change, and Democratic U.S. Senator Joe Manchin from West Virginia is a guns rights advocate and has received a high rating from the National Rifle Association. These men have been consistently gotten re-elected, so they must be doing something to please their voters.

A lot of Democrat and Republican voters will vote for Obama and Romney, respectively, but for the candidate of the opposite party for senator or congressman. This is because someone may agree with the Democrat or Republican Party on a national level but be relatively liberal or conservative within their own state. To continue with the example of Senator Manchin, he may be a Democrat, but he's a West Virginia Democrat that has many of the social views of the majority of West Virginians.

Mayor Michael Bloomberg is an advocate for gun control.

To return to the first point, the sclerosis and incompetence of the federal government to put together any coherent social policy has forced states to make their own efforts. Voter confidence in Congress has sunk to pitiful levels, but their approval of state governments remains relatively strong.

As the federal government appears unable to put forth the policies that voters think are essential to maintain the public good, they will increasingly turn to their state governments to at least win the policy war at home if not for the entire country. Ultimately, given the system we currently have, this might be the most sensible solution. One would have no fundamentally reform the way the federal government works and is elected if they wanted it to be a more efficient and effective entity.

Arkansas and North Dakota have passed some of the most restrictive abortion legislation in the country recently. And as for the issue of same-sex marriage, the Supreme Court itself may rule that it is an issue for the states to decide individually, declaring that the federal government should provide marriage benefits based on each state's definition of marriage, not a national definition.

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Women's Lacrosse defeats BU 18-11
Clinches AE regular season title, nets eighth straight win

By Jason Mazza
Staff Writer

The Stony Brook University women's lacrosse team honored the city of Boston and its people during a moment of silence on Sunday afternoon, prior to its game against Boston University. It was a beautiful moment for all in attendance as the bright sun glistened off the metallic bleachers of Kenneth P. LaValle Stadium. In troubled times, it's often sports we turn to for solace. Despite the rather peaceful tone that was set, there was still a game to be played between conference rivals Boston University Terriers (5-8, 2-4AE) and the No. 10/11 Seawolves of Stony Brook University (13-2, 5-0AE).

With only two conference games left before the America East championship, both teams looked to finish strong to gain some momentum going into postseason play. Stony Brook, however, would continue its strong play, defeating BU 18-11, scoring its eighth straight victory and clinching the America East regular season title, as well as home advantage for the conference playoffs.

It was clear from the start that defense would be non-existent and fouls would be plentiful. The first half hosted 33 fouls and 18 goals alone.

"We played really sloppy in the first half," said Stony Brook coach Joe Spallina. "They're (Boston) a really talented team and they weren't letting us do everything we wanted and I think we needed to readjust."

But the real story of the first half was Stony Brook senior midfielder Demmianne Cook, who had four first half goals to break the Stony Brook women's lacrosse record for all-time single season goals with 69.

"Demmianne is amazing. She does things with a (lacrosse) stick no one else can do. We're really going to need her in May," Spallina said.

A pleasant surprise for the Seawolves was senior midfielder Kaitlyn Harrison, who came into the game with just five goals on the season but managed to net an additional five goals in Sunday's game alone.

"She's a senior. A senior that stepped up when we needed her," Spallina said. "She hasn't necessarily got the opportunity to do everything we've known she can do but today we felt she matched up really well and she came through. It's performances like that are going to take us deep into May."

Junior goalkeeper Frankie Caridi made five saves to earn the win for Stony Brook. Inactive on Sunday was senior captain and leading scorer Claire Peterson. According to Spallina, she's day-to-day and working hard to get back. He added that she should be healthy in time for the America East championship.

With the 18-11 win, Stony Brook secured home-field advantage throughout the America East Championship.

Up next for the Stony Brook Seawolves is their final conference match against the Binghamton Bearcats (2-10, 1-4AE) in LaValle Stadium on Saturday at 1 p.m.

Continued from page 28

He then advanced to second on fielder's choice play, before Parenty singled him home for the go-ahead run. Lee was then able to close out the win for the Seawolves in the bottom of the frame. The Black Bears nearly won the game in the bottom of the ninth.

With two on and two out in the inning, Lee allowed a single to the middle to Maine hitter Troy Black.

But centerfielder Mason was able to field the ball cleanly and made a strong throw to the plate. Junior catcher Anthony Italiano then received the ball and tagged out Maine runner Nick Bernardo before he reached home, to force extra innings.

The Seawolves avoided being swept in the three game set against conference opponent Maine.

They are now 14-26 overall on the season, and 7-11 in America East play.

Sophomore midfielder Emily Mercier had two goals and an assist against Boston University on Sunday.

Baseball loses two to Maine on Saturday, wins on Sunday

Freshman infielder Brett Tenuto had two hits against NYIT on Wednesday. He is hitting .202 on the season.
Freshmen Eastwood, Rogers, bring Canadian flair to SBU

By Mike Daniello

Stony Brook football has won multiple conference championships with the 2012 season being the most recent. The team has brought the small Division I school into the spotlight, but still needs to do one thing: get a player drafted professionally.

Senior running back Miguel Maysonet has the best chance to be drafted, with predictions even calling for him to go as high as the fourth round.

His former roommate and teammate Michael Bamiro, who has one year of eligibility left, is also getting some looks as he prepares for the 2014 NFL Draft.

Maysonet has been dynamic since his days at Riverhead High School. Due to his close relationship with his mother, Maysonet decided to stay close to home and attend Hofstra University, but Hofstra lost its football program and Maysonet decided to go red and become a Seawolf.

Maysonet rushed for 5,110 yards in his college career, with 4,725 of those coming at Stony Brook. In his 13 games in the 2012 season, Maysonet ran for 1,964 yards and scored 21 touchdowns.

He averaged 7.4 yards per rush and had an explosive game against Syracuse, which gave him more spotlight. "I talked to a lot of scouts that called me and talked to me and they said you are on the radar, but yeah, that Syracuse play just opened more eyes," Maysonet said.

Maysonet has been spending the last few months preparing for the NFL Draft.

The draft starts Thursday, April 25, but he will be looking for his name to be called in the following days.

He attended the NFL's Scouting Combine in February and went to Pro Day at Stony Brook tool. "I wanted to have a Pro Day here because Stony Brook has done so much for me...I don't know if scouts would have showed up if I had it at Rutgers," Maysonet said. "I was happy and the other guys were thankful for having Pro Day here."

Junior Michael Bamiro on the other hand, will spend his senior season without his friend and roommate and will also juggle graduate school and football.

"It's going to be difficult, but it's going to be easier. I won't have to be in classes all day. It's going to be a lot more online classes and I'm on the fast track," Bamiro said. "I'm going to get out of here by summer."

After playing in all 13 games at right tackle, Bamiro was named first team All-Big South.

He also blocked for two 1,000-yard rushers in Maysonet and Marcus Coker.

Michael is not the first Bamiro to have attended Stony Brook. He is one of three brothers: Steve, who played for the Harlem Globetrotters. He was known as "Ram Bam" on the team.

"We're a really young team," said Rogers. "One game we even started seven freshmen and our future is really bright and I know the class coming in next year is going to be really good."

Friends off the field, Maysonet and Bamiro prepare for NFL

Michael Bamiro, a 6-foot-8, 345 lb. right tackle, has said he has already garnered interest from NFL teams.

Maysonet is hoping to become Stony Brook's first-ever player drafted into the NFL, which starts on April 25.
Marian Wright Edelman
The State of America's Children

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By Joe Galotti
Staff Writer

The Stony Brook softball team was unable to get much going offensively on Saturday afternoon, as it suffered a 2-0 loss to Maine. The Seawolves are now 5-5 in America East play and have lost four of their last six games.

Junior Christine Lucido, who had a six-game winning streak of her own coming into the game, took the loss. She pitched 3 2/3 innings, and gave up the only two runs of the game.

The Black Bears first got on the board in the third inning on an RBI single by Jeannine Stevens. Then Maine added another run in the fourth inning, on an RBI double.

The Seawolves' pitching was once again strong in the game, as they gave up less than three runs for the 23rd time this season. Freshman pitcher Jane Sallen, who has been a big part of the Stony Brook pitching staff all season, pitched 2 1/3 scoreless innings in relief of Lucido.

The Seawolves have also now been shut-out nine times this season. Sophomore Bria Green was one of the few bright spots in their lineup today, picking up two hits on the day.

Maine had lost six straight conference games coming into Saturday. The Black Bear also picked up their first home win of the year.

Stony Brook will next play Binghamton on Saturday.

The Stony Brook softball team started strong in its doubleheader against Rutgers on Wednesday, but faltered in the second game. A strong outing by junior Christine Lucido led the Seawolves to a 5-1 victory in the opener, but they suffered a 7-1 loss in the following game.

With its win in the opener, Lucido gave Stony Brook seven strong innings and pitched her fifth complete game of the season to pick up the win. She allowed only one run on seven hits and struck out four.

Sophomore Bria Green would get the Seawolves on the board in the second inning, hitting her team-leading sixth home run of the season to tie the game up at one. They then added two runs in the third inning, on an RBI single by junior Nicole Hagerty.

The score remained the same until the seventh inning, when freshman Alexandra Pisciotta drove home a run on an RBI double. Sophomore Shalya Gioia then drove in two runs on a double of her own, to give Stony Brook a 4-1 lead.

Maine would make it a 4-2 game on a home run by Jean Stevens, but that was as close as they would come to tying the game.

Sophomore Alison Cukrov picked up the third win of her career when freshman Nicole Hagerty closed out the game with a 1-2-3 7th inning.

Sophomore pitcher Nicole Hagerty was outstanding in relief, pitching 1 1/2 innings, without giving up an earned run. She also struck out seven, as she picked up her sixth win of the season. Maine's Alexis Bogdanovich picked up the loss, despite allowing only one earned run in 9 2/3 innings of work.

Stony Brook's first two runs of the game came on RBI hits by Hagerty and Green. Green and Gioia both had four hits in the second game for the Seawolves.

The Stony Brook pitching staff was the major reason they were able to win two out of three against Maine over the weekend. Seawolves pitching posted a 1.25 ERA, and held Maine to a .238 batting average in the three games.

Stony Brook will have some to rest after playing 22 innings of softball on Sunday. They will begin a three-game series over the weekend.

The Seawolves' pitching was once again strong in the game, as they gave up less than three runs for the 23rd time this season. Freshman pitcher Jane Sallen, who has been a big part of the Stony Brook pitching staff all season, pitched 2 1/3 scoreless innings in relief of Lucido.

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The score remained the same until the seventh inning, when freshman Alexandra Pisciotta drove home a run on an RBI double. Sophomore Shalya Gioia then drove in two runs on a double of her own, to give Stony Brook a 4-1 lead.

Maine would make it a 4-2 game on a home run by Jean Stevens, but that was as close as they would come to tying the game.

Sophomore Alison Cukrov picked up the third win of her career when freshman Nicole Hagerty closed out the game with a 1-2-3 7th inning.

Sophomore pitcher Nicole Hagerty was outstanding in relief, pitching 1 1/2 innings, without giving up an earned run. She also struck out seven, as she picked up her sixth win of the season. Maine's Alexis Bogdanovich picked up the loss, despite allowing only one earned run in 9 2/3 innings of work.

Stony Brook's first two runs of the game came on RBI hits by Hagerty and Green. Green and Gioia both had four hits in the second game for the Seawolves.

The Stony Brook pitching staff was the major reason they were able to win two out of three against Maine over the weekend. Seawolves pitching posted a 1.25 ERA, and held Maine to a .238 batting average in the three games.

Stony Brook will have some to rest after playing 22 innings of softball on Sunday. They will begin a three-game series over the weekend.

The Seawolves' pitching was once again strong in the game, as they gave up less than three runs for the 23rd time this season. Freshman pitcher Jane Sallen, who has been a big part of the Stony Brook pitching staff all season, pitched 2 1/3 scoreless innings in relief of Lucido.

The Seawolves have also now been shut-out nine times this season. Sophomore Bria Green was one of the few bright spots in their lineup today, picking up two hits on the day.

Maine had lost six straight conference games coming into Saturday. The Black Bear also picked up their first home win of the year.

Stony Brook will next play Binghamton on Saturday.

The Stony Brook softball team started strong in its doubleheader against Rutgers on Wednesday, but faltered in the second game. A strong outing by junior Christine Lucido led the Seawolves to a 5-1 victory in the opener, but they suffered a 7-1 loss in the following game.

With its win in the opener, Lucido gave Stony Brook seven strong innings and pitched her fifth complete game of the season to pick up the win. She allowed only one run on seven hits and struck out four.

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Men's Lacrosse defeats Hartford 10-9 in OT
LaForet's goal keeps Seawolves in playoff hunt

By Jason Mazza
Staff Writer

Stony Brook men's lacrosse (7-7) traveled to Connecticut this week to face No. 15 Yale and conference rival Hartford. With both games being decided by one goal, the Seawolves confidence was at an all-time high as the team was happy to at least grab a win against Hartford.

On Monday, the Seawolves went to Yale (8-3) for their first match against an Ivy League opponent this season. With 1:24 left in overtime, Yale's Harry Kucharczyk scored the go-ahead goal to stifle Stony Brook's hopes.

The Seawolves relied on their defense for the majority of the match with another impressive performance from goalkeeper Dan LaScahyr, who tallied 12 saves in total.

On Saturday, Stony Brook looked to end a three-game losing streak and even its overall and conference record up at 5-0. Just in case Monday wasn't enough drama, the Seawolves took the Hawks (7-5, 2-2) to overtime for good measure.

Senior JJ LaForet stole the overtime spotlight for Stony Brook as he took the overtime draw straight to the net for an impressive road win for the Seawolves.

Senior Jeff Tundo continued his strong season on Saturday, leading the team with three goals and an assist against Hartford. He will be one of three seniors honored Sunday.

Next up for the Seawolves is a big conference matchup against SUNY rival University of Albany (10-3, 4-0) at home, on Saturday, April 27.

The Seawolves are currently in a three-way tie for second place in the America East standings. A win against Albany would clinch a spot in the conference playoffs.