

THE STONY BROOK PRESS



wolfifest

2013

~~frank ocean~~

~~kendrick lamar~~

~~childish gambino~~

sublime

all-american rejects

j. cole

~~one republic~~

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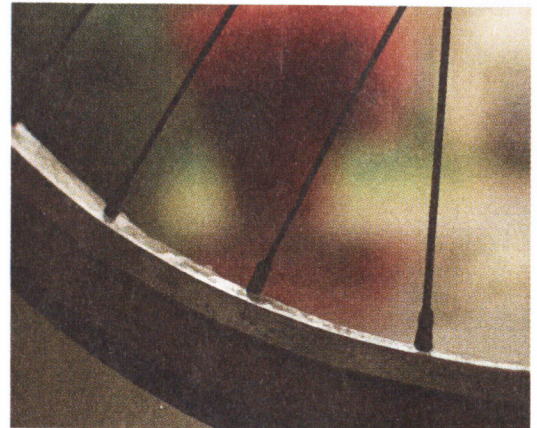
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The Stony Brook Press
Suites 060&061
Student Union
SUNY at Stony Brook
Stony Brook, NY 11794-3200
Email: editors@sbpress.com

SNOW WAY OUT, MAN



PHOTO BY REBECCA TAPIO

Albert Einstein once said the definition of insanity was doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results. If we follow Einstein's logic, then Stony Brook University would meet his criteria for insanity.

Earlier this year, Long Island was devastated by Superstorm Sandy. The University was spared most of the devastation and only suffered from power outages and downed trees. However, the infrastructure of the university slowed to a halt. Buses were hardly running, dining halls remained closed and classes were cancelled for five straight days. Who could forget the Great Wi-Fi Outage of 2012, which left students stranded without access to the web for nearly 24 hours.

On Feb. 8, disaster struck again when Winter Storm Nemo charged its way up the east coast, with Long Island in its crosshairs. The result was nearly thirty inches of snowfall in a 24 hour period. Cars were left abandoned on highways, tens of thousands of people in the Town of Brookhaven were without power and many major roads were closed.

On campus, the situation wasn't much better. Sidewalks were left unpassable, forcing students to walk in the street in their endless quest to find an open dining hall.

Walking around campus the week prior to the storm, one would have a hard time imagining a devastating force of nature was lying just several hundred miles to the south. While the storm battered every state below the Mason-Dixon line,

Stony Brook sat and waited for its arrival.

But why? Why were there not front end loaders and bulldozers lined up in the SAC parking lot waiting for the chance to remove snow? Why was it that the first snow plow didn't make its appearance until Friday afternoon, long after the snow began to fall? Why weren't main entrances to buildings being cleared throughout the course of the storm, to ensure that firefighters or paramedics could get in, if need be?

These are questions that many students were asking themselves when they awoke on Saturday morning only to find that there was no clear exit from their buildings. Not to mention nobody in sight trying to free them from their icy prison.

Many of us dug our way out of our buildings ourselves Saturday morning to trudge through the nearly waist deep snow in search of something to eat, only to find closed dining halls, or insanely long food lines. In Kelly Dining there was actually a line waiting to just get in.

After this, many of us began the long, cold walk through the streets to 7/11 or Dunkin Donuts, hoping that they were open.

Classes were cancelled that Monday, but the University decided to hold classes on Tuesday, even though much of the surrounding area was still buried. This decision was made before much of the campus itself was even clear of snow. The walkways that were clear were left unsalted and covered in a thin sheet of ice. If the Office of Emergency Management's job is

to ensure the safety of students, then they certainly failed in aftermath of this storm.

One thing that needs to be seen in the future from the University is preparation. Preparation needs to be conveyed to students in some manner, even if we can't see it. If preparations were underway Wednesday or Thursday before the storm, it would've been nice to receive an email.

If the last six months have shown us anything, it's that storms of this magnitude are here to stay for the foreseeable future. As a society that will most likely constantly be in the paths of these future storms, we need to adapt. We need to learn not to panic, to keep our cool and most of all prepare.

These storms don't come out of nowhere, and we often have at least several days notice before their arrival. Instead of sitting and doing nothing except deliberate about how bad it might be, we need to prepare. Maybe more importantly we need to know that we're prepared.

We need to see what our University is doing to ensure that we'll be safe. The solace that will come with that will hopefully stick with us throughout the course of the severe weather. Because just knowing someone is definitely looking out for us is an enormous amount of comfort.

Hopefully the administration will someday look back on Superstorm Sandy, or Winter Storm Nemo and wonder how they ever let something like that get the best of them. As for now, we can only hope that we will learn from our mistakes.

oops.

In our December 11, 2012 issue, we were pretty sure the world would be ending a mere 10 days later. We're sorry if we inconvenienced you/caused mass panic and/or hysteria.

SCIENCE ON TAP: ADHD

by John Fischer



Photo by John Fischer

Attention Deficit Hyperactive Disorder (ADHD) is not a topic you would usually discuss at a bar...unless of course, that bar is hosting Science on Tap.

Science on Tap is an event put on by the Center for Communicating Science during which Steven Reiner, a journalism professor, sits down with a scientist to discuss science over a few beers.

The event featured its host Steven Reiner, a professor at the Stony Brook School of Journalism, and Mary Kritzer, a professor of neurobiology and behavioral science. Kritzer discussed the neurological connection between the disorder and the brain, and ended by answering questions from the audience.

Upon recollection of this first Science on Tap, Kritzer remarked that it required her to “think on her feet. We had great questions from people. Some, I’d never thought of before. I really got a lot from the audience.”

ADHD is a neurological disorder that is normally diagnosed during a person’s childhood. Children with it are said to have trouble socializing with others and display an inability to focus on a single task. People with the disorder are prone to aggressive behavior and more likely to engage in risky activities, including drug use. Kritzer said is “primarily an issue for the young, especially teens,” and may cause memory impairment.

“That frightens me,” said Reiner.

During the discussion, Reiner commented that research shows that there has been an increase in diagnoses in children by 25 percent over the last few years. Kritzer said the reason for this

increase remains unclear, but may be related to more awareness and treatment of the subject.

Although ADHD is not her area of expertise, Kritzer is a researcher who specializes in the pre-frontal cortex, an area of the brain that scientists believe may be where the source of the disorder occurs. As to what that source is, scientists are still not sure, but speculate that it may relate to an irregularity in levels of dopamine, neurotransmitters that transfer information between cells, which allow for a person to carry out tasks.

Scientists believe that in people with ADHD, dopamine levels move up and down at an irregular rate, causing a person to become confused or lose focus on the task at hand. According to Kritzer, studies have shown that testosterone allows the nervous system to regulate dopamine levels so that information is transmitted correctly. She declined to list any medications, as she is not certified to prescribe them to people.

She also said that research shows males are four times more likely than females to be diagnosed with the disorder. “I think that the way that their brains are set up to regulate dopamine leaves them more vulnerable to the disadvantage where dopamine imbalance can occur,” she said.

Kritzer said she feels ADHD is a known disorder, but the public still doesn’t understand it.

“I think people are aware of it. So, it’s not really awareness, but acceptance that it’s a malignancy or disorder that can be treated, or should be like any other organ of the body.”

WOLFIENEEEEEEEEEEEEETT!!!

by Alyssa Melillo

The recent difficulties connecting to WolfieNet and holding a connection for a long period of time can be attributed to an increase in the amount of connections to the network, according to Michael Ospitale, campus network manager for the Division of Information Technology.

Ospitale wrote in an email that the increase in connections has created an additional demand on network infrastructures such as wireless devices, causing slow connections or none at all.

"The issue most likely is coming from infected machines connected to the Resnet network," Ospitale wrote. "Many infected machines will scan the network as well as try to connect to outside servers, creating a significant load on infrastructure."

Networking Services is currently working to resolve the issue, and the initial corrective action to fix it has yielded positive

results so far, Ospitale wrote. However, he could not estimate how much longer it will take.

Part of resolving the issue with WolfieNet included installing 60 new wireless routers in Tabler Quad over winter break to improve coverage in the suites and study lounges, as well as repositioning routers from the C room to the centrally located B room within Tabler suites.

The two-year-old network is the first fully deployed wireless system in the residence halls. Ospitale wrote that it is common for campus residential networks to experience problems, as their complexities require continuous changes to keep up with demand, new devices, infected machines and noisy radio frequency from non-university wireless routers.

NEW HOTEL OPENING ON CAMPUS

by John Fischer

Stony Brook University's Hilton Garden Inn will begin checking in guests Thursday, Feb. 21.

The hotel, located on 3.7 acres of land east of the administration building's parking garage, is designed to provide overnight accommodation for the more than 500,000 guests that visit Stony Brook throughout the year.

"The concept for a campus hotel has been under consideration for more than 20 years, and I am very excited to say that we will soon be able to offer this overnight guest accommodation service to the University community," said President Samuel L. Stanley in a press release. "Our goal is to offer a comfortable accommodation to the many thousands of visitors we invite to and host at Stony Brook every year, and it will soon be a reality."

Construction of the hotel began in 2009 through an agreement made between the university and SBHC Private Equity IV, LLC, a local development company headed by Dr. Robert J. Frey, an SBU alumnus from the class of 1987. The hotel is operated by Hilton Garden Inn Franchise and under the management of Crescent Hotels & Resorts, LLC.

SBHC, Hilton and Crescent did not return requests for comments.

The structure is five stories high and contains 135 rooms: four presidential suites along with king, double queen and junior suites. Many rooms are equipped with features, such as a shower chair, to help people with physical handicaps.

The hotel is also environmentally friendly, as it is certified under the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Development, which constructs buildings that conserve more energy and operate at lower costs. Furniture and artwork are provided by Hilton through a program called Project Grow, which manufactures accessories with nature-like designs and auras to

provide a peaceful and sustainable environment for its guests. The hotel is the first in the Hilton franchise to be built from the ground-up under Project Grow.

Adorned with fireplaces, flat screen TVs and wooden chairs, the hotel lobby includes a board room for SBU officials and business guests, a meeting room that can be divided into three smaller ones, and a restaurant and bar that are open to everyone.

"It's open to the public. We serve breakfast, lunch and dinner," said Jeannine Lang, director of sales, who added with a laugh, "You have to be 21 to drink, as we all know."

The gym and indoor swimming pool, however, are off-limits to anyone who is not a guest. All non-guests are also prohibited from using the hotel parking lot, as only those with a room key will be able to leave through the hotel gates. Anyone caught violating this regulation will be ticketed by the university police.

Guests are encouraged to use the main entrance to the university at all times when returning to the hotel due to its location and the fact that the north and south entrances close at midnight. The hotel does not expect the influx of guests to disrupt campus transportation.

"They tell everyone to come through the main entrance because that's where the hotel is located," said Lang. "I don't think there will be a lot of traffic."

While many students say they do not know much about the hotel, some, such as Saara Jessani, welcome it, saying it will allow families and friends to have a place nearby if they want to stay overnight.

"I am from out-of-state," said Jessani, a sophomore psychology major from Arizona. "It makes the school more inviting. Now, my family can come here. It's more convenient."

THEY SEE ME RIDIN'

[ON A BICYCLE FROM THE NEW BIKE SHARE]

by John Fischer



Stony Brook University, in collaboration with the Environmental Stewardship, is upgrading its bike share program to promote a healthier and more environmentally-friendly mode of transportation on campus.

The program will be unveiled in March at a ribbon-cutting ceremony and is designed to reduce student reliance on bussing and driving, which are criticized for the amount of fossil fuels they use up. In preparation, four bike stations have already been constructed with two at the Student Activities Center, one outside West Apartments and one located in the South P-lot. Traditional S-channel bike racks will remain on campus.

"One major goal with the whole system is our community legislatures using bikes instead of getting on buses or in the car," said James O'Connor, director of sustainability and transportation operations. "Maybe we don't have to exploit transit services...we wouldn't need to increase our carbon footprint. Maybe we can reduce it."

Originally started in April 2011 under Senior Vice-President Barbara Chernow of the administration and former executive Amy Provenzano of the environmental stewardship, the idea came from the same program's application in cities such as New York and Toronto. The updated version will start out with fifty bicycles made out of strong and sturdy material, with a gradual increase the number of bikes and stations over time.

Students may rent a bicycle for one hour, free of charge, by sliding their SBU IDs in to a slot in the bike rack. They are then allowed to ride them both on- and off-campus. When a student is finished, he or she can lock the bike by placing it back in one of the racks. Though the program does not offer helmets, it does encourage students to wear them. The use of helmets is optional according to New York State law.

"I would like to see the bike share program grow and like to see it become successful," said James Ambrose, site manager of transportation and parking. "And ultimately make students and the community more aware of a more sustainable mode of transportation on-campus."

After the first hour, students will be charged \$2 to their accounts for every hour they use the bike. The fee increases to \$8 for five hours, \$32 for 24 hours and \$64 for three days. After the three-day period, the bike will be considered lost, and the student will have to pay a \$1,150 fee.

Faculty, staff and visitors may also take part in the program through a subscription plan of \$4 daily, \$14 weekly, \$28 monthly and \$84 for nine months. The program will be unavailable to everyone over the winter break when the bikes will be stored away.

Some students though feel the fee is unnecessary and unfair and feel that, at the very least, students should be exempt from paying it. "Nobody really wants to pay for a bike rack when you can chain it against the wall," said David Wong, a junior sociology major. "I feel like if it wasn't free, it was a poor investment choice because everyone knows that college students are broke."

O'Connor and Ambrose feel that the program has the potential to decrease the number of on-campus buses and the transit fee that is part of Stony Brook tuition. Some students though disagree and say they feel that while the program would be a good addition, it would have little impact on the environment or mode of transportation.

"The environment. No," said Sayid Yasin, a sophomore health science major. "The buses will still run. And it's not like many people will actually drive to their classes. They will take the bus. This is just another mode of transportation."



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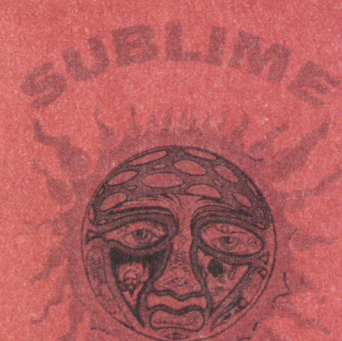
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**SURVEY
SCANDAL
ROCKS
USG**

by Bushra Mollick

IT IS IMPORTANT TO NOTE THAT ALTHOUGH SOME OF THE SOURCES USED FOR THIS ARTICLE REMAIN ANONYMOUS, IT IS TO SOLELY PROTECT THEIR POSITIONS IN **USG** AND/OR **SAB**. To OPENLY DISCUSS WHAT GOES ON DURING PRIVATE **USG** AND/OR **SAB** MEETINGS WOULD BE A BREACH OF CONTRACT, THEREFORE JEOPARDIZING THEIR CURRENT POSITIONS.



STONY BROOK STUDENTS

are already predicting who might perform on campus this year.

Wiz Khalifa sold out last year, and Bruno Mars's show did well the year before. Posters using the USG logo have been falsely advertising musical groups around campus, such as Creed and Insane Clown Posse. And let's not forget to mention the one with a naked "Larry the Cable Guy," who's holding the very same USG logo dangerously low on his crotch. The posters are a hoax, but are only adding to the confusion that has recently blanketed USG's attempts to choose an artist.

Stony Brook University received a chance to contract a duo performance from electro musician Steve Aoki and rapper Kendrick Lamar. The overall process of setting up a performance is fairly simple. USG sends out a bid months before the contract is signed. The bid is meant to be a "temporary hold" of the artist. If anything goes wrong, such as a failed security check, the bid is retracted. However, this semester's process, as Aoki might say, didn't have "No Beef."

In order to best understand what kind of artist

students want, the Student Activities Board (SAB) sent out a survey during the summer. The survey yielded about 200-300 results, according to one USG member, who spoke on the condition of anonymity. As expected, many students wanted the school to book very popular artists, such as Rihanna or fun. SAB reposted the very same survey when classes resumed in the fall, adding about 500 responses.

With the arena, the usual location of the end of year concert, currently under construction, SAB had to find a new venue. Given the number of students that often attend the end of year concert, holding it at Staller steps would be too dangerous and costly. This is especially true in regards to all the security measures that must be taken to control a large crowd. Another USG member, who also asked to remain nameless, suggested that South P might be a good venue. This is problematic as many commuter students would not be able to park their cars due to the set-up of the stage and standing area. Additionally,

traffic would play a major issue as non-ticket holders could ride by the outdoor concert.

Given this information, there was no other choice but LaValle Stadium. In September, SAB met with officials from the Athletics Department to discuss its use. Chris Murray, Manager of Athletics Marketing, said that they were "completely for the idea."

"We looked at our spring schedule and we had to come up with three days. We had to find a time that the field was clear and we had one day in April and two in May."

was where the conflict began. Two members of the board have stepped forward and said that directly after the release of the bid, Zachary Guarnero, the director of the agency of SAB, allegedly stated that Anna Lubitz, the current president of USG, would "not want rap" and/or "like" the particular artists chosen. One of the USG members also claimed that Lubitz, who is romantically linked to Guarnero, came into the office the same day of the alleged comment and conveyed her disapproval of another hip-hop artist.

Stony Brook Concert's End of the Year Concert Survey

The Second Survey

Page 1 of 1

1. Did you attend the Wiz Khalifa concert last year?
 - Yes
 - No
2. If you responded "No" to the first question, why didn't you attend the Wiz Khalifa concert?
3. If you responded "Yes," how satisfied were you with the concert?
 - Very Satisfied
 - Satisfied
 - Not Satisfied
4. If you responded "Not Satisfied," what could have been done to make the show better?
5. Which genre would you prefer for the end of the year concert? (The following artist examples are not guaranteed to perform)
 - Pop Rock (i.e. Train, Neon Trees, The Fray)

LaValle Stadium can seat over 8,000 students, not including standing area on the field itself. Murray said that allowing so many students on the field would damage the turf. He suggested that the best solution would be to build a stage adjacent to the press box, facing the seats. Students would be able to comfortably enjoy the show, and the pressure on the field would be the stage alone.

Before winter break, SAB was approached and told that they had gotten a date for the Aoki/Lamar duo performance. The board was ecstatic. But this

"During the meeting where we voted on the Aoki tour, I was asked to express the opinions of President Lubitz since she had to meet with administration and wasn't able to attend the SAB meeting," said Guarnero in an email. "One of the things that she asked me to make clear was that in our bylaws it says we should make it our goal to provide diverse acts to appeal to students with a wide variety of musical preferences. Since last year for 'Brookfest,' we had a show featuring a rapper (Wiz Khalifa) and a DJ (Mimosa), I thought that

repeating last year's show would not be a proper way to utilize the money we were given. President Lubitz shared that sentiment, so during the meeting I expressed this; however, it fell upon deaf ears as the vote was unanimously in favor of the Steve Aoki tour."

After a bid is reached, it must be signed off by the USG President, in this case Lubitz. Prior to her signing, another survey appeared, which had not been seen by a majority of the SAB.

The board is comprised of six members, and of them, only four are allowed to vote.

representative of SAB, said, "Regarding the second survey, members of the SAB who are in charge of deciding artists had no idea the survey had gone out. It was not seen by any of us before it was sent out."

Guarnero acknowledged that the board was unaware of the survey. He said, "At the time I felt no need to approach SAB members as I wanted to get the survey done before the next meeting so I could have a decent amount of results available when we decided on our backup plans should the Steve Aoki/Kendrick Lamar tour not pass security checks.

administered surveys, it does not ask for the demographic of the student.

Lubitz commented on the surveys in an email and said that, "the initial poll sent out at the end of last semester (besides the survey sent out during the summer) was found that students could vote multiple times. USG corrected this initial poll's software defect and made a second poll, through Student Activities, where students could vote only once by logging in with their NetID and password. The second survey obtained approximately 1,000 responses

to refer to the "dangerous" activity that may go on during the Aoki/Lamar concert. Chief Robert Lenahan was contacted to clarify the "slam dancing" comment. In an email, he said, "In the case of Steve Aoki, we contacted three schools and all indicated serious concerns with the practice of "slam dancing," specifically because of the amount of reported physical injuries received by attendees. Injuries sustained at these venues included broken bones and numerous other physical injuries. If he were to perform, all three schools highly recommended having

4. What genres of music would you like to see on campus?

The First Survey

- Alternative rock
- Country
- Electronic/Dance
- Folk
- Hip Hop/Rap
- R&B
- Rock

Other (please specify)

5. Who would you like to see perform on campus?

This includes representatives from the Commuter Students Association and the Residential Hall Association, an SAB treasurer appointed by the USG Treasurer and the vice president of communications. These four voters are set to represent the votes of the entire campus. In the case of a tie, the vice president of student life is allowed to vote.

When the second survey was released, without the knowledge of these four members, suspicions rose. Oscar Icochea, CSA

This matter has been addressed amongst the members of the board and we have decided to increase communication between us."

The first survey is relatively general. It asks for the student's year, favorite musical genre, etc. The second survey, however, is much different. It directly refers to the Wiz Khalifa concert, and every follow-up question asks why the surveyor was "Not Satisfied" with the event. The questions seem skewed, and unlike like most SAB

Zarchy Guarnero, the director of the agency of SAB, allegedly stated that Anna Lubitz, the current president of USG, would "not want rap" and/or "like" the particular artists chosen.

from students. The poll was not created to change results."

While this may be the case, it still leaves the question as to why the two surveys were so radically different, particularly after certain members had stated their disapproval of the artists.

Surveys aside, the ultimate power is in the hands of the University Police Department, as they have the authority to pass or fail an artist for security checks. According to USG members, UPD had used the term "slam dancing"

additional medical personnel in attendance."

After Aoki/Lamar had been rejected, SAB moved on to another list of artists to run through security checks as well. Of them, five had been approved. One Republic, All-American Rejects, J. Cole, Big Sean and Sublime.

Since the initial approval process of these five choices, Big Sean has also been cut.

As for Murray and Athletics, "Once we get the green light from them (UPD), we're ready to go."

SHHHHH.

by Arielle Dollinger

Color him mysterious. His voice is steady. He chooses his words carefully; he speaks as if he's composing a written piece, with the absence of slang and the presence of well-constructed sentences.

He agreed to a phone interview on the condition of anonymity — even to the reporter on the other end of the phone line.

"I'm a student at Stony Brook, and I have a history of starting things on campus," he reveals.

He is the founder of Stony Brook Secrets — a Facebook page on which Stony Brook University students can confess their innermost thoughts and feelings.

He is human, but he'd prefer it if people didn't think of him that way.

He says he does not want to be the object of anyone's focus, or even to be seen in his or her peripherals, when they think of his creations.

"It's not about me, knowing who [the people who submit the secrets] are, using it against them," he says. "But you know, sometimes for me, you get a secret and you're like, 'wow, I want to respond to this person, I could connect with this person,' but you can't do that."

"These are faceless pages, and there is no personality behind them," he says. "No one knows who it is."

Some do. Others soon will; it is only a matter of time. He does not seem to realize this. He hired moderators to help

him post, as the volume of submissions grew.

He calls himself an entrepreneur.

He is an undergraduate, but not a member of the

a Facebook message. The creator, who posts the secrets on the page, would therefore see the sender's name. With the Tumblr system, this is no longer a concern.



Undergraduate Student Government.

His Secrets page works like this: students send in "secrets" through the Stony Brook Secrets Tumblr page. In this way, the page's creator has enabled reputation-conscious individuals to send their confessions and questions anonymously.

When the page was first created in December 2012, secret submission was a process done through

He has new concerns now. At the time of the phone interview, mid-January, he was working towards what he says was a necessary partnership with the university's psychology department and Counseling and Psychological Services.

"The chances of them coming on board is beyond 100%," the page creator says. "Honestly, it would be a crime for them not to do it."

He says that the university

will feel good about having a student who "feels empowered" to start pages like his.

However, he has since realized that the Facebook page is not affiliated with the university, and decided it should stay that way.

He predicted in January that the page would reach 5,000 "likes" by the start of the spring semester. Three weeks into the semester, the "like" total stands at 4,236.

Students, and possibly non-students, have shared all sorts of secrets. Girlfriends cheating on boyfriends, sex escapades, familial discord, money problems, school problems. And then there are the confessions of self-harm.

The page's creator does not typically respond to messages people send him. Confessions of self-harm are the exception.

"I try to say, 'hey, I know this is an anonymous page, but just know that there are these outlets, there are these support groups on campus,'" he says. "So I'm not pressuring them. It's kind of just an educational awareness kind of situation."

He sends people like these the number to CAPS.

His current project, however, is to take the Facebook page and bring it to life. He is working to turn Stony Brook Secrets into a non-profit organization, which he explained by throwing out a bunch of jargon.

The page's faceless creator also founded Stony Brook Compliments, Stony Brook Admirers and Stony Brook Suggestions — groups similar

to SB Secrets, through which students of the university can communicate with each other anonymously and with no direct obligation or accountability.

●●●●●●●●●●

Nickolas Srica, a junior majoring in health science, was tagged in a post on the Secrets page because someone anonymously confessed to having a crush on him. Though he says he was “somewhat flattered,” he also says that the tag was an exhibition of an unfortunate societal trait.

“I honestly feel like it epitomizes what our generation is becoming,” Srica says. “We all turn to the Internet and social media to gain this sense of confidence to say things we would probably never say in real life, and it’s a shame that all of the personal interactions and confidence to say how we feel in person have pretty much disappeared entirely.”

Srica is also skeptical of how legitimate the posts are.

“It’s more likely that half of these posts are either jokes from people’s friends, or an anonymous act of courage that will never mount into anything real,” he says.

Aimee Pomeroy, Undergraduate Student Government executive vice president, was also on the receiving end of some admiration in the group. She says she was flattered and that she supports the page, which she likens to the SB Secrets event on campus each spring, when people submit handwritten secrets to be posted in an art gallery setting.

“Both are a great

opportunity to vent and express emotions, but it also makes students feel connected,” Pomeroy says. “When you read the hundreds of different secrets and see so many that resemble your own, it really makes you feel part of the campus community.”

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But then there are trolls.

The trolls of fairy tales live underneath bridges and wait to jump out at people when they least expect it. The trolls of the Internet aren’t quite so charming.

Devoted followers of the Stony Brook Secrets page may recognize the name, “Isabella Claxito.” Little do they know, Isabella does not exist; the male commenter who goes by the pseudonym does.

Claxito refused to reveal his true identity. He says he prefers to comment on Secrets anonymously because he tends to say “harsh things.” He did reveal that he is a “he,” resides in Brooklyn and is a first year engineering student at SBU.

“I rather keep it confidential and say whatever I feel like saying without ruining my rep,” Claxito says in a Facebook message.

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Despite people like this, the creator has a business plan he says.

He wants to turn Secrets and Compliments into non-profit organizations. They would begin their lives as university clubs, and eventually become non-profits, he explained.

According to the brain behind the effort, participants will “retain anonymity, while increasing interaction, and the

organization will harness that by making the peer interaction more real.”

When asked to elaborate, and explain concretely what the organizations will do, he says that those are “secrets.”

He dreams of turning pages, which he plans to turn into international non-profit organizations.

He could not elaborate on that.

He says that he is currently pitching his ideas to venture capital firms “who believe in socially responsible initiatives, allowing the organization to grow and have undefined potential.”

According to his timeline, he will establish a team by the end of spring and implement the changes by fall.

Psychologist Brad Jacobs, whose daughter is a student at SBU, had not heard of the page until he got a phone call for an interview.

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Though he could only speculate, he had his ideas about the motivation of both secret-submitters and the secret poster.

“Whatever secrets [people] have, they need to tell them sometimes just to feel understood and recognized, and seen,” Jacobs says. “People have a need to be understood and seen.”

He likened the opportunity for anonymous venting to the historical popularity of “Dear Abby” letters – people would sometimes write letters to Abby anonymously, in an attempt to receive advice and just to tell somebody without dealing with the consequences

of telling someone they knew personally.

According to Jacobs, the act of secret submission can act as a sort of discharge for guilt, anger, negative feelings and even positive ones. And looking for comments on secrets posted on Facebook is the equivalent of looking for feedback, he explained, in an effort to feel less alone.

Jacobs explained that people have obvious needs and more subtle needs.

“People often do things to meet a need,” he says. “We eat because we’re hungry, we sleep because we’re tired.”

Perhaps less obviously, he says, people need recognition, appreciation and control.

And as for the creator of Secrets, Jacobs could only psychoanalyze in a speculative sense.

“He could just be, you know, a do-gooder,” Jacobs says. “It may be somebody who themselves needs recognition for like, good things.”

In addition, Jacobs explained, the organizations people create may represent their own need for something like that.

On Feb. 17, the page creator posted an announcement, informing readers that he would not be posting secrets “for the foreseeable future.” According to the post, the pause will serve as a moment of silence in honor of the death of SBU student Jocelyn Pascucci.

DEAD SPACE 3

by Brianna Peterson



Dead Space 3 retains the series' reputation for being an unpredictable horror game, but loses the allure its predecessors developed with their unique storylines.

The game opens with a scruffy and depressed Isaac Clarke. He's lost his girlfriend, he's still haunted by his nightmares, and he's behind on rent. It's understandable that he is unwilling to help when soldiers break down his door. They believe that there is a way to finally destroy all of the Markers, and only Isaac can help do it.

This storyline reminded me of *Assassin's Creed 3* in that it uses what giantbomb.com refers to as the "all story," where the protagonist is the only one who can accomplish something that will prevent the destruction of a world, race, etc. It also contains a higher-up force that controls the situation and has been used in games like *Assassin's Creed* and *Halo 4*.

One cool aspect of the game is that it's the first in the series to have the ability to play co-op. Most major story scenes remain the same, awkwardly placing the other playable character, Carver, in them. There is a specific co-op storyline, however, that focuses on Carver and his past. While playing co-op each player sees something different. During one quest the person playing Carver heard a little boy crying out for his father, while Isaac heard silence. However, only the side-stories change when played from different points of view. The main story isn't any different from

either character's perspective.

There is another addition to this game, gun crafting. You have the ability to personalize and build a gun that is suited to how you play the game. For example, I love the plasma cutter, it's always been a personal favorite. When I went into the crafting menu I managed to create a giant plasma cutter that had a secondary weapon, the shotgun. Circuits are used to level up reload, damage, clip size, and can be accumulated as you play.

There are various modes of the game as well. After beating the game, modes like Survival and Classic offer new challenges for additional game play. Survival mode is where no ammo or health is dropped, it can only be obtained by crafting it. Classic mode is where there is no crafting and only the original weapons can be used. It's a mode that's similar to the original *Dead Space* gameplay. For those who really want a challenge, Hardcore mode deletes your save file upon your death, forcing you to start from the beginning.

Save for the typical hero storyline, the game has beautiful graphics, great gameplay, and multiple difficulties that test your inventory management skills and patience. *Dead Space 3* is fulfilling and has a personalization aspect that can vary each player's experience. It's a beautiful game with a typical story. Be careful, though, those necromorphs can be assholes.

WALKING DEAD RECAP

by Rebecca Tapio

“What I wouldn’t give for the sweet sound of a jumbo jet,” Carol says, lamenting the quiet in a world that is devoid of technology.

The Walking Dead returned on March 10 to reveal a group exhausted and burnt out by the stress of survival, clinging to the present and remembering the past.

Many are haunted by the guilt they feel for people they believe they’ve wronged. Carl is absorbed with guilt for “being mean” to his mother before she died giving birth.

When Merle Dixon, the violent and oftentimes unpredictable racist who was cuffed to a roof in Atlanta in the first season and forced to cut off his own hand to escape, runs into Maggie and Glenn (the last young couple on the planet) on a supply run and takes them captive, the memories of the first days of the outbreak resurface.

He has to choose between his first allies, who deserted him when he went out of control but who know where his brother Daryl is, and the Governor, a manipulative leader who uses him as the heavy but never asks him to change his personality or his ways.

Merle embodies the entire group’s choice between the past and the present.

After intense scenes of war with the Governor, along with his town, Woodbury, the group is reunited and Rick, their leader, has to make a choice: lose Daryl, or live with Merle. His choice is quick, and he rejects the past as easily as he rejects the walkers

who have hounded them since the beginning.

Daryl chooses his blood and his past over the present, leaving the people he has fought and bled with for months to go with his emotionally and physically abusive brother.

Rick moves on. The people he has lost follow him, and he can’t put the ones he has kept safe in any more danger. But they walk with him.

His wife, Lori. His best friend, Shane. The people he tried to protect, Sophia, Amy, Morgan. Rick failed them all, and he’s quickly losing his mind because of it.

His son, Carl, and new baby Sophia are all he has left. But as a new group, led by the highly moral and dignified Tyreese, tries to join his, he rejects the future because he can’t stand for them to become part of his failed past.

Carol, who lost her young daughter Sophia, remains aware of her connection with the past. She was abused by her husband, but is actively trying to reconcile with who she was and how to become as strong as she can.

She and Daryl were romantically connected. But she understands why he left.

As she tells Beth another member of the group, if her late husband walked through the door alive and told her to come with him, she doesn’t know whether or not she would.

For Daryl, along with the rest of the group, it is the same. They don’t know how they’ll react until the past truly comes back to haunt them.

ARE YOU A BITER OR A BREATHER?

1. Do you have a constant and insatiable hunger for flesh?

- A. Not constant
- B. uhgguhh
- C. I’m a vegan

2. What is your view on North Korean nuclear missile tests?

- A. We cannot stand for this undue aggression. A preemptive strike is the only way to ensure our national security. Invade North Korea!
- B. uhgguhh
- C. None of the above

3. Did Goku come to Earth in Siberia?

- A. Who’s Goku?
- B. uhgguhh
- C. That’s what you think, Captain Cocky!

If mostly A’s: Get out of here Mitt Romney!

If mostly B’s: Prepare to be shot through the heart. But you’re too late.

If mostly C’s: Are you still reading?

SANDWICHPALOOZA

by Evan Goldaper and Tom Johnson

A review of the Union Deli's new signature sandwiches



THE UNIVERSITY

So a few weeks ago, I gave The University a try. Although it was everything it claimed to be, the ingredients ultimately came together in a way that I found to be largely unappealing, and I was left confused and frustrated. And the sandwich wasn't good either. Maybe it's because I don't like Swiss cheese, but I suspect it's something more. I was kind of hoping that with the arrival of a signature sandwich menu, the Union would finally learn what barbecue sauce was. Then the sandwich is topped off with essentially two pieces of onion and the same greasy chicken I've been eating for four years. And that's The University: it's exactly what it needs to be, but it's not going to make you especially happy. And the sandwich isn't great either.

THE FINAL EXAM

"Final Exam" is a pretty apt name for this sandwich. Much like its namesake, it's dreadful and you feel like you've been railed in the ass once the experience is over. Sporting a not-so-sexy ingredient list of peppermill turkey, Swiss, bacon, something by the name of "savory remoulade," lettuce and tomato, the sandwich was a terrible disappointment. I actually felt cheated out of my \$8 after a few bites, which is a rare occurrence.

THE NICHOLLS ROAD

Unlike the local roadway that shares its name, The Nicholls Road is actually a pretty dope and pleasant experience overall. On the day I got mine, there was an absolute lack of all bread options other than kaiser rolls, which was unfortunate, as I'd wager that the sandwich would definitely benefit from some traditional hero bread. That being said, the combination of chipotle chicken, cheddar, bacon, lettuce and mayonnaise works better than I would have expected, and has actually become my new favorite on-campus food option when I have some money to burn. It's just a shame that it takes its name from something so terrible.

THE STONY GRILL


The first problem I had with the Stony Grill was that its name does not suggest a vegetarian sandwich, but some sort of barbeque concoction. Still, I'm really glad that there are more vegetarian options available, because I assume a man can only eat so many cheese quesadillas before he goes insane. The Stony Grill is definitely the best non-Mexican vegetarian option I've had here on campus, but that's not saying much. The tofu is surprisingly good for campus food, and I always forget how much I love guacamole. However, there might be too much eggplant. It's unbelievably greasy, and there are too many slices of it on the sandwich to really taste the tofu. Additionally, I'd ask the sandwich-maker to hold the lettuce, because their lettuce is gross. Ultimately, the Stony Grill is ripe with promise, but fails in its execution. Perhaps in time, it will become a wonderful dinner, but now it's just odd.

THE ALL AMERICAN

The All American is near identical in its makeup to nearly every sandwich I've had that shared its name at a myriad of sandwich shops. However, where all of the other delis excel with one of the most basic sandwich, the Union Deli flounders with it. While the combination of roast beef, ham, mayonnaise, lettuce and tomato may seem simple and straightforward, it is completely underwhelming when slathered in far too much mayo and dressed with the saddest lettuce I've seen in years. Eating it, I was reminded of a very sad sandwich I had at a gas station in the Midwest.

THE STONY BOLD

Much like The Nicholls Road, the Stony Bold makes up for much of the lackluster offerings in the deli's lineup of sandwiches. The inclusion of jerk chicken is a welcome addition to an otherwise stale menu, and melds really well with the chipotle gouda and oh-so-mysterious "savory remoulade" that the deli has recently added to its arsenal. As the name suggests, it's a much bolder option as far as the range of flavors are concerned than many of the other sandwiches, and it's ultimately much better for it.

A brown tabby cat is captured mid-jump, leaping over a large snowdrift. The cat is wearing a thin red collar with a small bell. A red speech bubble with a white glow emanates from the cat's mouth, containing the text 'FREE PIZZA!!!'. The background is dark, suggesting a night scene. The overall image has a blue border.

**FREE
PIZZA!!!**

**ACTUAL GRAPHIC
DESIGNERS NEEDED**

If you or someone you know is interested in doing graphic design or any other sort of creative stuff, come to our open house on Wednesday Feb. 27 in Union 060



GAME OF PORCELAIN THRONES

POOP IS COMING

STADIUMS OF SHIT: SEASON 2

SAC THIRD FLOOR

by Daniel Cashmar

HELLO, FELLOW SHITTERS!

As you may know, our dear friend and authority on bowel moving, Andy, has passed on...to post Stony Brook life. However, with his passing, pooping enthusiast and man of few, if any, boundaries Tom Johnson has joined our never-ending adventure to find the perfect place to gently place one's buttocks and let the nature flow.

With that said, I'd like to now direct your attention to the bathroom on the third floor of the Student Activities Center, near the staircase. I thought this would definitely be a low-traffic bathroom, as opposed to the SAC lobby bathroom, but I was

As you may know, our dear friend and authority on bowel moving, Andy, has passed on...to post Stony Brook life. However, with his passing, pooping enthusiast and man of few, if any, boundaries Tom Johnson has joined our never-ending adventure to find the perfect place to gently place one's buttocks and let the nature flow.

wrong. There was always one other person in the bathroom who seemed to be very vocal about how relieving his pissing was. I never knew that being able to piss could be the most amazing experience of one's life but the "Oh god, yes~" followed by guttural grunts I overheard proved me wrong. The light didn't really pass very well into the stall, allowing for some romantic mood lighting as you squeeze your cheeks. Aside from the vocal audience and the mood lighting, I'd have to say it was your typical Stony Brook bathroom experience – thin toilet paper and questionably clean toilet seats. On the topic of toilet seats, why not place some toilet paper down for your butt to sit on? You're already the prince of wood pulp, so just do it. I believe in you.

COMMUTER LOUNGE BATHROOM

by Tom Johnson

I've found the vast majority of the experiences with public restrooms on campus to be rather unsavory and deplorable, outside of the few special places I keep within the inner circle. That being said, one of the more unfortunate experiences in crapping-on-the-go is to unload in the bathroom of the library's commuter lounge.

The first thing you're likely to notice is the smell. I can only describe said scent as being near identical to that of this bathroom in a subway station on the Upper West Side that I had the misfortune to stumble upon after realizing that binging on Korean barbecue, burritos and cheap vodka might have been a bad idea.

The bathroom itself is nothing special in terms of amenities. A single sink, stall and urinal line one wall. The urinal appears not to flush, but rather to pool until it eventually drains of its own volition. The porcelain fixture, which I'm sure has seen better days, has now deteriorated into a mess covered in pubic hair and some crusty orange substance that I honestly can't even begin to imagine the origins of.

In a pinch, I made my way to where the magic happens: the stall. While on the larger side, it's not nearly as cozy as many of its counterparts in other parts of the library, let alone elsewhere on campus. I could never really tell if the door had locked properly, which was extremely unfortunate and unsettling, considering

that there was an almost constant stream of people coming in and out of the place.



At the end of the day, it was one of the most stressful shits I've taken in recent memory. It certainly didn't help that the flush mechanism didn't want to work and took upwards of three minutes for the monster I had birthed to make its way to its final destination.

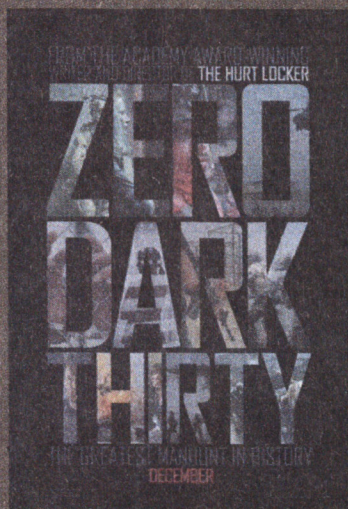
There really are much better bathrooms in the immediate vicinity, like the one on the second floor by the elevators. That one's pretty baller, so try there.

THE STONY BROOK PRESS

Oscar Predictions

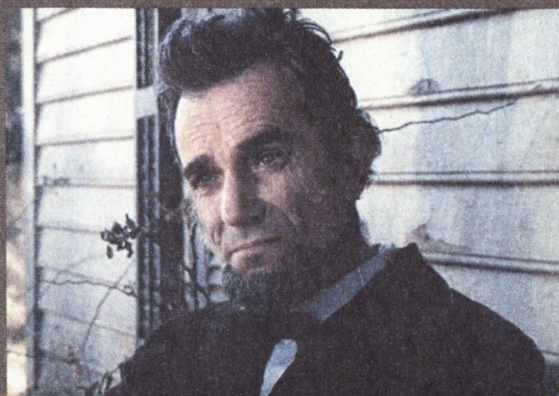
Best Picture

Zero Dark Thirty



Best Lead Actor

Daniel Day-Lewis



Best Lead Actress

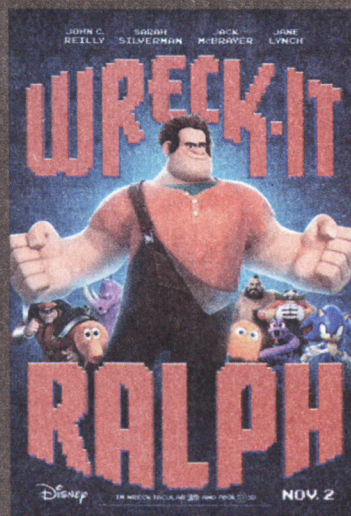
Jennifer Lawrence



Best Animated

Feature Film

Wreck-It Ralph



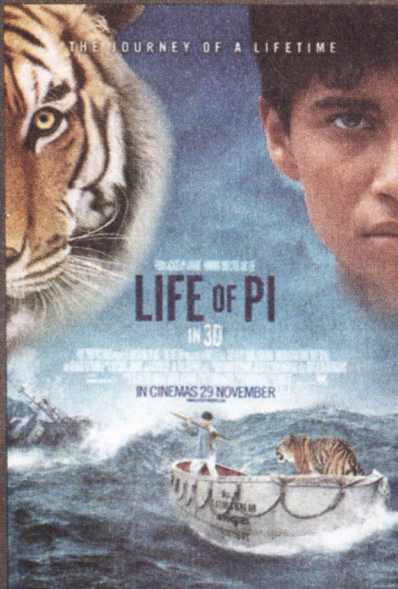
Best Directing
Steven Spielberg



Best Music
Skyfall

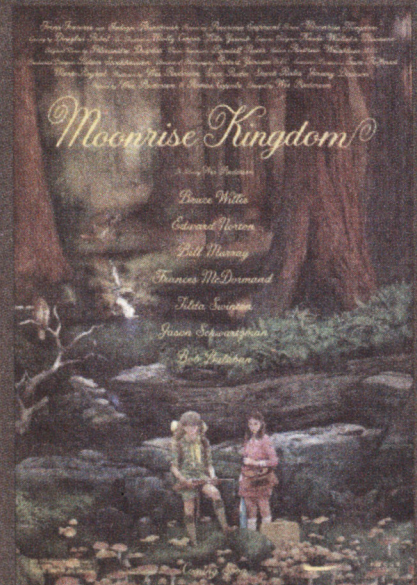


Best Visual Effects
Life of Pi



Best Original Screenplay

Moonrise Kingdom



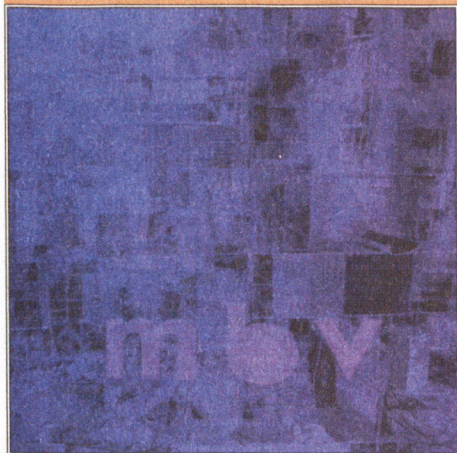


THE NUTSHELL

CONTRIBUTORS:

Samuel Liebrand
Rebecca Tapio
Tom Johnson

MBV MY BLOODY VALENTINE



I could sit here and dwindle my allotted word count away with allusions to just how many years it's been since My Bloody Valentine released their legendary last album *Loveless* (spans four Presidential administrations, *Seinfeld* was on its third season, Nirvana's *Nevermind* came out barely a month earlier, if their last album were a person it would be legally able to drink, etc), but it would be a shame to let it overshadow just how good their torturously long-awaited follow-up turned out to be.

Despite its unimaginative title and lame album art, *mbv* not only avoids embarrassment, it exceeds expectations and serves as a worthy successor to My Bloody Valentine's previous classic. Unlike the immediate and hard-hitting *Loveless*, the tracks on *mbv* stretch through building and winding song structures, revealing its layers and subtleties with multiple listens: the violin screech in the split-second silence on "Only Tomorrow," the rolling tremolo effect on "New You," the ting of metal guitar strings overlaying the engine-like distortion on "Who Sees You." And underneath it all are genuinely catchy and uplifting melodies in soft-spoken voices that act as the center of gravity.

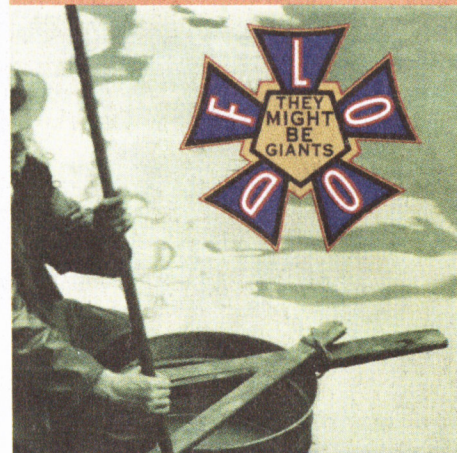
Although *Chinese Democracy* comparisons are inevitable, *mbv* achieved something the long-anticipated Guns N' Roses release did not: transcend the legend of its supposed existence as a work of art of its own merit. Maybe we can expect another great My Bloody Valentine album in 2035.

ALL THAT ECHOES JOSH GROBAN



Debuting at #1 on the Billboard 200 following its Feb. 5 release, Josh Groban's sixth studio album continues to make 33-year-olds and me swoon. Maybe it's the sort-of pop thread that flows through *All That Echoes*, or maybe it was that one time he sang Kanye West's tweets, but Groban manages to combine talent and self-effacing humor without being completely obnoxious. Have you ever read his tweets? That shit is hilarious. Although it lacks a #1 single, *All That Echoes* will make Groban the artist you secretly love while outwardly hating for years to come. Favorites that will make you wish you could connect emotionally with another person include "False Alarms," "Brave" and "I Believe (When I Fall In Love It Will Be Forever)."

FLOOD THEY MIGHT BE GIANTS



I'm gonna put it all right out on front street straight out the gate: They Might Be Giants hot "new" jam, *Flood*, is a work of genius, and should be revered as such.

Songs like "Dead" cut you deep to the core, letting you know how it feels to be not unlike that of a bag of groceries accidentally taken off the shelf in a market before the appropriately indicated by its printed expiration date.

Conversely "We Want A Rock" gets right to that innate human desire we all have deep down inside to go out and find a rock to wind a string around, you know?

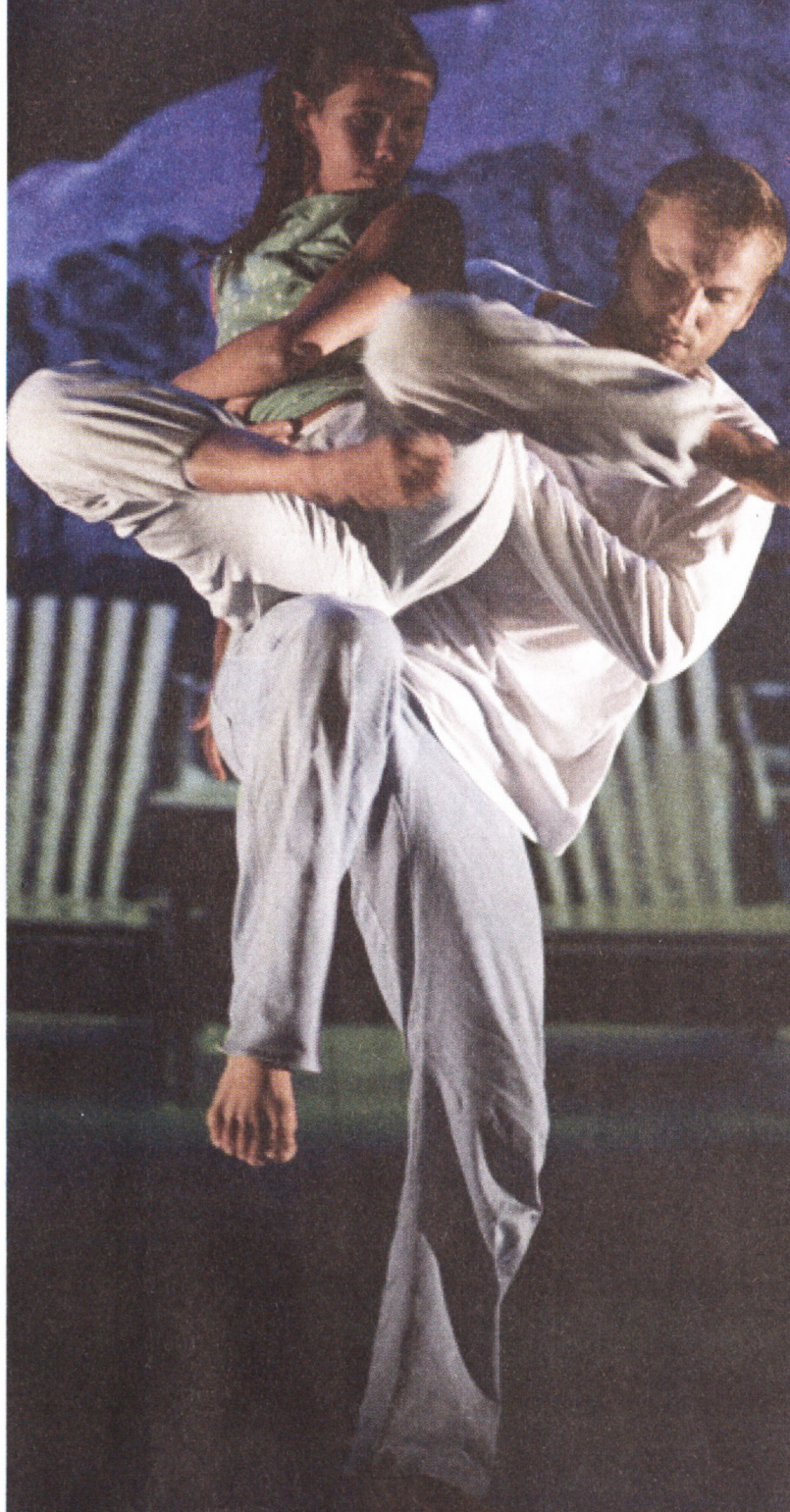
TMBG manage to tug right on the heartstrings with songs like "Lucky Ball and Chain," which gives a heavy sense of disappointment. The very specific type of disappointment that has you sighing and saying "well shit, that sucks."

The album really is a great improvement over their last release, *Lincoln*. That's not too say said album is crap, *Flood* is just far and away the best of the three albums released to date.

Sure, some philistines are bound to complain about things like "Birdhouse in your Soul" and "Particle Man," but those aren't people you'd generally want to associate anyway, so it all works out in the end.

MOTIONHOUSE DANCE

by Caitlyn Rondino



Motionhouse Dance, one of the top theatre and dance companies in the UK, took the main stage at the Staller Center for the Arts to perform *Scattered*.

On Feb. 16, as the doors shut and the lights dimmed, the first dancer appeared under the spotlight. A large half-pipe sat on the stage and was soon illuminated by images of large glaciers and cracking ice.

Scattered combines dance, gymnastics, film and acrobatics to deliver illusions such as sitting on an iceberg and hanging from the edge of a waterfall. The production focused on the fundamental aspects of water and the role it plays in life. A running faucet, raindrops and skimming across puddles were some of the scenes used.

The half-pipe became more than a backdrop, but an interactive and key player in the performance. At times performers came sliding down it onto the main stage or crawling backwards up it. The images projected onto it were also interacted with the dancers. When they would jump on to it, it would create the illusion that they were drops of water splattering on a surface.

Tranquil music and soothing sounds of flowing water accompanied these scenes. Halfway through the performance, they began to use harnesses and bungee lines to create even more astounding illusions, dropping themselves from the top of the half-pipe gliding back and forth and floating back to the top.

Motionhouse Dance has produced a number of performances, but is currently only touring to perform *Scattered*. Once they return to the UK, they will begin performing *Broken*. The dancers themselves are highly accomplished as well as extensively educated in the arts. They moved throughout the performance with one another harmoniously.

The theatrics of the performance were exciting and kept the viewer anticipating the next scene. It's an incredible visual production from start to finish. *Scattered* has received excellent reviews from publications such as *The Guardian*, *The Herald* and *The Observer*.

The audience gave Motionhouse Dance a well-deserved standing ovation.

THE PULL LIST

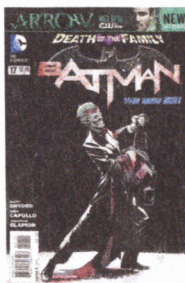
by Sean Fischer



Avengers # 5
Jonathan Hickman
Adam Kubert

In line with the previous issues, Hickman continues to focus on massive scale threats while developing and fleshing out the team itself by focusing on its individual members by establishing the newest additions to the Avengers roster and by extension, the Marvel universe. This makes the series a great jumping on point for new readers by focusing on the origins of these legacy characters, while long time readers will appreciate how established continuity is utilized in these origins. Adam Kubert's pencil-work as always is incredibly strong and the range of his artwork is ideal for a story that shifts between intimate moments between a grandfather and granddaughter on a farm in the heartland of America and that of a ship fleet battle in the Shi'ar Empire in deep space. The style of writing is reminiscent of Hickman's run on *Secret Warriors* in that it displays his exceptional skill in fleshing out original characters while establishing their place in an expansive universe.

Batman #17



Scott Snyder
Greg Capullo

With this issue we see the end of the multi-title *Death of the Family* crossover. Much like previous issues in this arc, it does little more than call to mind superior stories dealing with the dynamic between the Joker and Batman, while undoing any remaining sense of nuance to the relationship between the characters. For what the storyline lacks in content, it attempts to make up for by shocking the reader in the most base ways possible. Ultimately, it serves as a reminder that

the gravitas associated with a comic event of this magnitude is oftentimes unwarranted due to the lack of quality of the story itself and despite the implication of major change, status-quo will usually take precedent.



Superior Spider-man # 3
Dan Slott
Ryan Stegman

After a somewhat lackluster start to this series, it seems to have found its footing in this issue. Slott manages to strike a strong balance between weaving an overarching storyline and character development. One of the problems with this run, and specifically with the character of Otto Octavius is that at his core, Spider-man ought to be a character that evokes sympathy, something Octavius does not as a body-snatching former villain. In this issue however, by drawing on past experiences of the character it becomes easier to empathize with him, and justifies his more brutal methodologies in the context the story presents. All the while, the more dynamic ways in which the disembodied Peter Parker takes advantage of his situation pushes the plot forward, and perhaps foreshadows that this current situation will not be long lived.



Green Arrow # 17
Jeff Lemire
Andrea Sorrentino

Jeff Lemire takes over writing duties from Ann Nocenti in a new storyline. Either out of coincidence or editorial coordination, the overlying themes of conspiracy and legacy and the general tone of the issue make the comic resemble the *Arrow* ongoing television series. This said, its distinct enough from the television series in its emphasis on more intense

action as well as an implied supernatural aspect of the plot. The art by Andrea Sorrentino feels like a cross between the grittiness of Michael Lark's *Daredevil* run with that of J.H. Williams' creative layouts. Overall, the issue reads as a fast paced introduction to a new storyline that has plenty to offer a reader unfamiliar to the new series or the character in general, as well as fans of either the previous run or the television series.



Multiple Warheads # 4
Brandon Graham

Oftentimes, one of the limitations of comics, especially in what can be considered mainstream works is that they are made with a cinematic mindset. This at times can be detrimental to the medium in that it neglects the potential strengths of the form by not utilizing the unique elements of sequence and layout that are not possible with other form. Graham's *Multiple Warheads* is one of the few recent comics that takes advantage of the medium in this special way. The comic reads less as a linear narrative but rather as an exercise in clever word play, world building, and unconventional design. The lack of a linear narrative and the shifts between finely detailed art to extreme uses of negative space could potentially be jarring for some readers, but the originality displayed here merits the price of the comic alone.



VIOLENCE AND VIDEO GAMES

by Brianna Peterson



The debate that video games are directly linked to increased aggression and a rise in violence has been getting a lot of attention recently due to the Sandy Hook Shooting, as well as the increase in shootings over the past year. The public, and even news organizations, have accused video games of being the cause of the increase in violence. This is not true, at all.

Last month, President Obama submitted a \$10 million plan for the Centers for Disease Control to focus research on the relationship between video games and violence. Up until recently, there hasn't been a study that confirms that they have a cause/effect relationship with each other. There have been studies that say that people who played video games consistently were more aggressive, but they haven't offered solid enough evidence because each individual is affected differently.

Video games have always been accused of desensitizing children to violence. While they have realistic violence in them, there are aspects of said violence that makes the experience different for a person killing in a video game rather than in real life. There are silly sound effects, ridiculous amounts of blood, sometimes even glitter, and endless amounts of ammo in the guns. All of these aspects are unrealistic and take away from the severity of killing a human.

These effects, however, don't occur in real-life. Glitter doesn't explode all over you and triumphant music doesn't play if you beat your sparring buddy in your kickboxing class. There is more of a "this is real" feeling that you get. You can get hit and, yes,

it will hurt; something that doesn't occur when you go and play *Battlefield 3* or *Call of Duty*. There is a detachment that occurs while playing violent, realistic games like these. Why? Because you can't get hurt and because you don't really know how to use that AK-47 you always equip in *Battlefield 3*.

Playing video games like these grant one the ability to feel as if they are invincible, that they can take their frustrations out on that one player who is trolling you every time you re-spawn. These games give you the chance to take out your aggravation in ways you can't really do in real-life. When video games became popular, youth violence decreased by 40 percent, according to *Time Magazine*.

The only reason that video games are being targeted is because it's an easy solution to a complicated problem. By banning or heavily monitoring video games there is the hope that violence in the U.S. will decrease or, at least, that it should decrease. The instances of violence in the U.S., specifically shootings, can be because of a plethora of reasons. Video games could be one of those reasons once and a while, but not every single time. The debate over video games causing increasing violence won't settle down just yet. Every time someone commits a mass shooting there will always be that one person who cries, "video games did it!"

At some point, hopefully, every one will realize that there isn't a reason to believe the boy who cries wolf.

SEAWOLVES BEST VERMONT

by Andrew Carrieri

The Stony Brook Seawolves mens basketball team claimed the number one position in the America East Conference in their victory over the University of Vermont Catamounts on Feb.15.

Coming off a home victory over Binghamton University three days before, the Seawolves entered the game with a 9-2 record in conference play. The Catamounts record was at 9-3 following a three-game winning streak.

Vermont outscored the Seawolves 8-6 over the first four minutes of play. Catamounts guard Ethan O'Day contributed two quick baskets to extend their lead.

The next several minutes featured extended scoring runs by both teams. The Seawolves gained momentum, going on an 8-0 run to take a 14-8 lead; guards Marcus Rouse and Dave Coley both added three-point shots of their own. After a five-point possession by Vermont

narrowed its deficit to one point, Rouse hit consecutive treys to extend the Seawolves' lead to 20-13.

Unfazed, Vermont quickly came within one point with 9:57 remaining after guard Trey Blue hit back-to-back three-pointers.

The Seawolves responded with a 7-0 scoring spurt that culminated with a long trey by forward Tommy Brenton. Coley hit a jumper as time expired in the first half, and the Seawolves took a 35-29 lead into the locker room.

Stony Brook's Rouse led all scorers with 11 points off the bench in the first half, hitting four of his five field goal attempts, including all three of his shots from beyond the arc. Brenton also had a solid half, scoring nine points, while contributing two rebounds and two assists. Blue led the Catamounts over the first 20 minutes with nine points.

Consecutive baskets by

forward Jameel Warney gave Stony Brook its first double-digit lead of the game, 39-29, at the beginning of the second half.

Though Vermont forward Brian Voelkel converted a dunk of his own, the Seawolves responded with an alley-oop throw down by forward Eric McAlister and a corner trey by guard Anthony Jackson. Jackson's basket gave Stony Brook a 44-31 lead 3:46 into the second half.

Vermont guard Luke Apfeld hit a three-point shot, cutting the visitors' deficit to 44-34. The Seawolves then proceeded to take control of the game with an 11-0 run, during which the Catamounts committed three turnovers and missed all seven of their shots. A conventional three-point play by guard Sandro Carissimo ended Vermont's drought with 10:42 remaining in the game.

Consecutive foul shots by

Stony Brook's Warney with 7:13 remaining broke a 6-0 Vermont run and gave the Seawolves a 57-40 lead.

Stony Brook cruised to a 65-48 victory.

With 16 points, Rouse was the high scorer of the game, followed closely by Brenton with 13 points. Warney had a double-double, scoring 12 points and pulling down 10 rebounds.

Carissimo led Vermont with 14 points. 13 turnovers proved fatal for the Catamounts.

The Seawolves improve to 19-6 overall and 10-2 in America East play with this victory, gaining sole possession of first place in the conference. The team finishes its current three-game home stand against the University of Maryland Baltimore County at 7 p.m. on February 19.

Upcoming Seawolves Basketball



Men

Tue, Feb 19 vs	UMBC	7:00 PM ET
Sun, Feb 24 @	Maine	1:00 PM ET
Thu, Feb 28 @	Boston U	7:00 PM ET
Sun, Mar 3 vs	Albany	2:00 PM ET



Women

Wed, Feb 20 vs	UMBC	1:00 PM ET
Sat, Feb 23 vs	Maine	4:00 PM ET
Sat, Mar 2 @	Albany	2:00 PM ET



Year of the Snake: Feb 10, 2013 - Jan 30, 2014

Fifteen Days of Lunar New Year Holidays

New Year's Eve (2/9) - Lantern Day (2/24)



Photo: Zodiac Fountain, Charles B. Wang Asian/American Center
Architect: PH Tuan | Snake Design: Artist Minglong Wang

Originally written by Maria Ng, Class of 2008

Update 2013 by AA E-Zine Staff

The Lunar New Year is an important annual celebration for more than a quarter of the world's population. Each year it falls on a different day according to the Western (Gregorian) calendar, because the Western calendar is based on solar, not lunar, movements.

Each Lunar Year is associated with a specific animal for a cycle of twelve animals. This year, the Lunar New Year fell on February 10th. For China and the countries which also use the same animals, it is the beginning of the Year of the Snake and the end of the Year of the Dragon. The type of snake changes, however, with each cycle. This is the year of the water snake. In other years it represents one of the other five different Chinese elements - wood, metal, fire, or earth.

Fortunately this year it also fell on a Saturday so Stony

Brook students who live in the LI/metro NY area were able to go home without missing classes. View it like asking Christians to celebrate Christmas stuck on campus.

Like American Thanksgiving and Christmas combined, the Lunar New Year is when families all come together for a magnificent feast on the eve before, and for many countries, midnight is celebrated with firecrackers and red envelopes. The envelopes contain money and are gifts from parents and grandparents. International students join together to make a temporary family and Chapin, Schomberg, and West are filled with heavenly aromas.

SB China alumni, on the other hand, have a long vacation. Business virtually shuts down for up to ten days as millions return to their native homes. The transportation systems are packed to capacity. It is considered the largest migration of people in the world.

The Lunar New Year is associated with many traditions dedicated to family. Traditionally it was highlighted with a religious ceremony that honored the gods and the family's ancestors. In China and many other countries it lasts for fifteen days. It begins on New Year's Eve with the onset of the new moon and ends with the Festival of the Lanterns fifteen days later when the full moon appears.

Preparations for the New Year begin weeks before the actual day. It is a time of renewal. The traditions and rituals associated with this important holiday center on the themes of liveliness, prosperity, good luck and happiness. Superstitions are followed so that the family may have a happy and prosperous year. Families clean their houses from top to bottom. Getting rid of dirt symbolizes getting rid of bad luck. Families decorate the house with paper scrolls and couplets in calligraphy or paper cuts. Each scroll is engraved with blessings and wishes for happiness, wealth, and longevity. Figures of children in traditional Asian garments are hung in doorways, seen as the personification of "good luck."

In some places, the practice of shopping for the perfect plum tree is similar to the Western tradition of buying a Christmas tree.

These preparations lead up to the beginning of the New Year which begins not on New Years Day but on New Year's Eve. On the night of New Year's Eve, families gather together to eat a large feast, traditionally including a whole fish, and in the northern half of China, dumplings.

Happy New Year! Congratulations and be prosperous!

Cantonese: Gung hay fat choy!

Korean: Sae hae bok ma ni pa du se yo!

Mandarin: Gong xi fa cai!

Tibetan: Gnam lo gsar le bkrashis bdelegs, thugs bzhes lhun 'grub!

Vietnamese: Chuc mung nam moi!

The food chosen has a specific significance. Like the decorations, they symbolize prosperity, good luck, longevity and happiness. After the feast, the family will stay up to play games until midnight. At the stroke of twelve, fireworks are set off to bring in the New Year.

Check out the 2012 Winter AAJ. Chinese international student May Wang wrote a great article on how her family celebrates the New Year. She even included recipes of foods she (in the US) and her mother and stepfather (in Qingdao) made to take photos of just for the article. Noah Kim wrote about Seollal in Korea. Frank Chenjun Feng and Ja Young wrote about Losar in Tibet, including the differing views of celebrating it while the Dalai Lama is in exile. www.aa2sbu.org/aaaj/AAJWinter2012.pdf

Each zodiac animal represents different human personality traits just as Western zodiac symbols do. Snakes are seen as keen and cunning, intelligent and wise. It is the intuitive, introspective, refined and most collected of the animal signs. They are attractive and graceful people, exciting and dark at the same time.

Contemplative and private, the Snake is not outwardly emotional. S/he can appear cunning and reticent and works very modestly in the business environment, but the Snake will plot and scheme to make certain things turn out exactly as they want them to.

Snakes are influential, insightful, quite motivated and intellectual, very determined and resolute about success. They will have what they desire. It is worth it to them to not only be recognized for their efforts, but to be rewarded as well. They are affectionate with their families and friends but do not show this side of their personality to colleagues or business partners.

Wikipedia describes the legend behind how much of the Lunar New Year is celebrated in China.

"According to tales and legends, the beginning of Chinese New Year started with the fight against a mythical beast called the Nian or "Year" in Chinese. Nian would come on the first day of New Year to devour livestock, crops, and even villagers, especially children. To protect themselves, the villagers would put food in front of their doors at the beginning of every year. It was believed that after the Nian ate the food they prepared, it wouldn't attack any more people. One time, people saw that the

Nian was scared away by a little child wearing red. The villagers then understood that the Nian was afraid of the color red. Hence, every time when the New Year was about to come, the villagers would hang red lanterns and red spring scrolls on windows and doors. People also used firecrackers to frighten away the Nian. From then on, the Nian never came to the village again. The Nian was eventually captured by Hongjun Laozu, an ancient Taoist monk. The Nian became Laozu's mount."

The Lunar New Year is the most highly anticipated holiday and many Asian and Asian American organizations sponsor events to celebrate it across America with parades of lion and dragon dancers and firecracker ceremonies. The weekends around the holiday in NYC's Chinatown and Flushing have lots of activities - and Stony Brook University follows suit. You can read about both ASA's and Confucius Institute's Lunar New Year Galas, and watch videos of their performances, on the AA E-Zine website - and there is still time to join in the upcoming festivities at the GCC (Global China Connection) or VSA (Vietnamese Student Association) events on Feb. 20th.



year of the snake

THE STATESMENG

"INFORMING" STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY FOR MORE THAN 50 YEARS



THE ABSTINENCE ISSUE

"VIRGIN" IS NOT A DIRTY WORD
(REMEMBER, IF YOU DO IT IN THE BUTT, YOU'RE STILL PURE!)