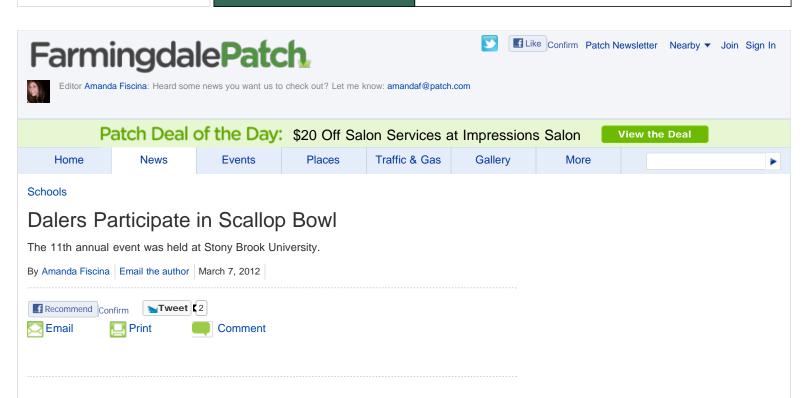
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A team from Farmingdale High School led by science teacher Peter Macchia competed in the 11th Annual Scallop Bowl held at Stony Brook University on March 3.

The School of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences hosted 80 students from 15 high schools across the region for an all-day competition that included Q & A "buzzer" rounds and team challenge questions that tested student knowledge of oceanography and related sciences.

The Farmingdale team placed in the top 8 guaranteeing them a spot in the 2013 competition. The Bronx High School of Science was crowned champions for the second time in the history of the event and will go to the 2012 National Ocean Science Bowl finals in Baltimore. Mt. Sinai was awarded second place and a rookie team from Great Neck South High School finished in third.

The Bay Scallop Bowl is New York's regional competition in the National Ocean Sciences Bowl. This year's theme was "A Sea of Change: Development and Evolution," focusing on how technologies are evolving to address our nation's need for forecasting systems, offshore renewable energy production, and research on emerging issues such as ocean acidification.

"By increasing awareness among high school students about the plight of our coastal environment, the Bay Scallop Bowl nurtures the next generation of scientists and citizens who will be guardians of our marine environment, said Dr. Minghua Zhang, dean of the School of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences.

The school's Associate Director William Wise and Staff Assistant Kim Knoll organized the Bay Scallop Bowl, which was supported this year by the

Consortium for Ocean Leadership, the Alfred and Jane Ross Foundation, Battelle Memorial Institute, New York Sea Grant, the Blue Ocean Institute, the Institute for Ocean Conservation Science and New York State Marine Education Association.

"It's a fun and exciting competition that exposes students to the wonders of our oceans and draws these energetic, bright minds to the vital fields of marine science and policy that are so important to society today," said Dr. Jim Ammerman, director of New York Sea Grant.



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