

# the OBSERVER

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#### NOVEMBER IS: NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH



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# SNHU's Second Annual Family Service Day Held at Nearby Park

Stephanie Brault
Contributing Writer

Every fall semester at SNHU, students have the opportunity to invite their families to visit for a weekend. This year's Family Weekend at SNHU included Family Service Day, which was held on Saturday, Oct. 23 from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Bear Brook State Park in Allenstown, N.H., 15 minutes from the SNHU campus.

This was the second year that a community service activity was incorporated into SNHU's Family Weekend. During their time at Bear Brook State Park, those who participated helped to clean a specific area of the park. Participants spent the time picking up branches and logs and



placing them into piles, which the park staff would burn afterwards

"This clean up benefited the staff of the park," said Becca Jewett, sophomore and staff member of SNHU's Center for Service & Community InvolveCleaning up Bear Brook State Park ment. "In the future, when everything is cleaned up, their hope is to transform the park into a campground for everyone

Bear Brook is New Hampshire's largest developed state park, but has a very small staff; it would have been very difficult for them to clean the park alone. Staff and members of the CSCI were aware of the park's need for help with this project, so they contacted the park to coordinate the event.

"I think it was a good event, and it was really designed to get the families involved in service," said Gavin Telfer, assistant director of Student Life and the Student Center. Telfer helped to organize the event, which included taking care of the food and catering, event registration, and notifying people about the event. He added that, although it was a simple project that lasted just a few hours, the work that students and their families com-

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## SNHU Creating New Facilities Building

to enjoy."

Alex Keriazes
Staff Writer

Students and faculty have probably noticed the increase in construction over the past couple of weeks near the main entrance of campus. The facility department is constructing a new, 26,000 square foot building that will serve the department in one convenient location behind the commuter parking lot across from the tennis courts.

After nearly two decades of planning, the final decision was made last year to begin building. The new facility is expected to be completed this June.

Facilities Management Director Bob Vachon believes the new construction is much



One of the current facility office buildings

needed.

"We as a campus are getting bigger, and I think there has been a realization that we are trying to service more buildings than ever before," Vachon said. "In order to keep up with the growing expansion of the school, we need to be better situated."

The facilities department currently has four main buildings spanning across campus. The new building will enable the entire department to be based

out of one main location. This should result in more time efficiency and better communication among workers.

"It's very tough to manage a department when we're so spread out," Vachon, said. "This building will let us communicate much easier."

Although the estimated cost is four million dollars, workers believe the structure is an exceptional value.

"The building is very practical," said Vachon. "The building is pre-fabricated, which helped us save some significant funds. The site work and utilities were the pricy part in choosing this location."

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# Letter from the Editor

**Tim Callahan** *Editor in Chief* 

Hello, readers! We managed to put together an even larger issue than the last, so if you thought that 20 pages was a fair amount, then you'll certainly be impressed by the 24 pages of content that we produced this time. At least, I hope that our readers are impressed... Anyway, there are quite a lot of topics covered in this issue, and all of the normal features are present. Samuel Doe did a phenomenal job wrapping up the midterm elections that happened last week, and I personally thank him for writing it on relatively short notice. Service by students and organizations around campus are particularly apparent in this issue. Patrick Trouve and Lauren Hujar consider the web-based initiatives offered by SNHU, specifically focusing on course evaluations and the newly instituted MySNHU. Finally, Alex Costas did a nice job considering the impact of Deion Branch on the Patriots' offense, although I'm sure fans want to forget about that particular team after Sunday's drubbing at the hands of the Browns.

Last issue, we attempted to rigidly adhere to the AP Stylebook guidelines for down casing. When we went over the issue, however, the overwhelming majority of the Observer staff voted down this practice in favor of title casing, which we have used in the past. Any opposition to the adoption of title casing was quashed from the outset, and the majority ridiculed those who opposed for their foolishness. In reality, an understanding was reached, and we consciously made the decision to abandon that particular guideline of AP Style. Aesthetically, down casing was not very appealing to most, although those who favored it cited the general practice of newspapers. If you have any feedback on this practice, then please feel free to let us know. Now, I'm probably boring our readership with trivialities, but I just wanted everyone to know how much thought and love we put into every issue. Cherish it!

Hunger and Homelessness Week is currently ongoing, and I hope that everyone takes at least a moment of his or her time to consider this serious issue. There are signs about campus that bring homelessness into stunning reality. Although we were unable to include an article about this week due to conflicts with the deadline, we still hope to highlight some of the events. On November 10, Outreach is sponsoring an NCH Speakers Panel in Walker Auditorium during which the speakers will discuss their experiences with being homeless. Sessions are during the free period and also at 6:00 p.m. Additionally, the Center for Service & Community Involvement is hosting a service opportunity to put together Thanksgiving baskets for Friends of Forgotten Children on Nov. 13 from 9:30 a.m.-12:45 p.m. These are only a couple of the events occurring during Hunger and Homelessness Week, and I encourage everyone to get involved.

Unfortunately, the following issue will not be coming out for another month or so due to Thanksgiving break, but that just means you should enjoy and appreciate this one all the more. Get to know it a little bit and become friends. I'm sure you won't regret it.

## Where's Petey?



Petey is back yet again in this ever more expansive issue of the Observer, and you are tasked with finding him. To quote Jim Nabors, "Surprise, surprise, surprise!"

For those of you keeping track at home, the answer to the last clue was 19. To get this answer, one only had to add one to the given 37 and divide it by two. Very tricky, we know, but we designed it to require at least a modicum of thought (instead of mindlessly rifling through the paper to find the all too obvious location of Petey). We can only hope that the clues are either helpful or interesting...

Mae is the oldest of five

children. Moe is two years younger than Sam. Sam is four years older than Joe. Joe is three years younger than Pat. Pat is one year younger than Sam, and Mae is five years older than Joe. If Petey is located on the page that is indicated by Pat's numerical place in the family plus one and then squared, then where's Petey?

-The Observer Staff

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We really don't know how we're aware of Gomer Pyle.

The Southern New Hampshire University Observer is a news publication produced by Southern New Hampshire University students and funded largely by the Student Government Association of the University. It is our responsibility to inform the SNHU community about events on and around campus. The Observer will print any material found to be factual and in good taste by the editorial staff of the paper. The views published do not necessarily reflect the views of Southern New Hampshire University. The Observer is published biweekly during the academic year and is printed by the Foster's Daily Democrat of Dover, NH. To contact the newspaper, please e-mail us at

observer@snhu.edu.

# Cyan Magenta Yellow Black

# News

## **ESS Helps Pond Cleanup**

Brittney Lezon
Contributing Writer

On Saturday, Oct. 16, the Environmentally Sustainable Students club at SNHU helped clean up Nutts Pond in Manchester, N.H. with other volunteers.

Jen Drociak, volunteer coordinator of the River Assessment Program at the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services, has been coordinating several pond cleanup events throughout New Hampshire for the past 10 years. The Manchester Urban Ponds Restoration Program (UPRP) has evaluated seven bodies of water in Manchester, including Crystal Lake, Dorrs Pond, Maxwell Pond, Stevens Pond, Pine Island Pond, and Nutts Pond.

"It is a fun event to do in the club," said Tim Norton, junior and the media relations and advertising officer of ESS. "It feels like you're making a small difference."

Over the past 10 years, UPRP has organized 78 cleanup events with 463 volunteers who have spent 1,644 hours collecting 1,499 bags of trash. However, these numbers do not include the items illegally discarded such as shopping carts, car parts, tires, and construction debris.

Wearing rubber gloves and rain boots, volunteers walked around the pond and trails picking up any trash in site. Those who participated in the cleanup picked up as much trash as possible.

"It is an event open to the community that ESS has been participating in for the past few years," said Casey Krafton, junior and president of ESS. "There was a lot of community members involved, not just SNHU students. It was nice seeing other people [get] involved."

"We found a few shopping carts in the water, so some [people] ended up pushing them around with the full trash bags," Krafton added.

"[I'm] grateful we had so much help, and such great volunteers," said Drociak. "Some of the volunteers have been returning to each and every pond cleanup for several years. They are some of the most diligent and hardest working volunteers I have ever known."

As our society continues to "go green" and conserve as much energy as possible, many people wonder how the average person can contribute to making a difference in their community.

"Sometimes it seems that all we think about are these huge global issues that seem pretty overwhelming and intense," said Krafton. "They are important, but it's also nice to take time and make noticeable differences right here."

For more information about UPRP, visit www.manchesternh. gov/urbanponds.



Tim Norton, Kate Johnson, and Jen Drociak pulling out a shopping cart.



A sketch of the new building

## Facilities Building

Continued from page 01

Another significant benefit of the new building will be the amount of reduced traffic through campus. The new building will provide an easy route for large trucks to access without having to drive through campus, over the small, underweighted bridge, or along the sharp turn just north of the campus. The

building is also strategically placed by not being visible from the main road or campus. The eventual plan is to have the building connect to East Side Drive to allow for an alternative route.

The existing facility buildings located near the Merrimack River also pose a safety hazard. The buildings have high-tension wires running above by PSNH, causing the potential of a hazard. The plan is to eventually have the old buildings torn down over time.

# Hospitality Students to Host Fall Events

Angela Palladino
Contributing Writer

Students in Dr. Kimberly Monk's Special Events Management class (HOS 340) are working to bring a number of student run events to SNHU and its surrounding communities this fall. The class, primarily for hospitality majors and minors, offers a curriculum that focuses on giving students real world experience in event planning.

The class of 20 students is split up into four groups of five. Each group must handle every part of the event planning process: developing the idea, planning the event, working within a budget, staffing, and managing the event. The students focus their events to aid local charities.

"This class offers an excellent opportunity to gain hands-on experience in the industry," said senior Kayla Webb. Webb's group is planning an on-campus wine tasting to benefit the Hooksett Adopt-A-Family Program.

Monk's class gives students a chance to experience a unique learning environment and to put their business skills to the test. However, this class is no joke. The students that take this class have to maintain a full load of written course work on top of planning their events.

"It is a lot of fun, but at times it can be hard juggling school, work, and other commitments, while planning a large scale event," said junior Kelly Haskell, whose group is planning an event to raise money for a local girl named Bella Tucker, who recently underwent quadruple amputation surgery. Haskell added, "It's difficult managing everyone's different time sched-

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## News

## Second Annual Family Service Day

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pleted in clearing the area truly made a difference.

"I feel that this was a good event because people are working very hard to clean the park and it's for a good cause," said Rebecca Harris, sophomore and staff member of the CSCI. "This event is different than most of our other events because it involves environmental work." She also pointed out that the setting of the event was very intimate because students and their families were able to work within close proximity of one another.

Jewett said she felt that the clean up at Bear Brook was a good way for students to spend time with their families. "It allowed families to work on a common goal that benefited others," she said. "There were times that my mom and I talked a lot about different subjects. We both had a lot of fun with this project. Being able to provide service was great, and being at a service project together was an added bonus."

Telfer also thought the project was a success. "It was good for families and parents of students to participate, as well as those students who participated individually," he said. Telfer also added that there was clearly a need for the project, and the good weather was a nice touch. "I think it added a dimension to Family Weekend that we haven't always had."

For those interested in upcoming community service events and opportunities, the CSCI is in Stark Hall, Room 14, and can be reached by e-mail at serve@snhu.edu.

# Online Evals Cemented in SNHU Community

Patrick Trouve

Copy Editor

In the interest of organization and efficiency, SNHU has continued to utilize its process of online course evaluations to assess the academic programs and faculty within the institution. This process will stand to serve as the primary mode of data collection regarding the student-perceived quality of faculty and academic matters.

Aaron Flint, SNHU's manager of instructional support, was instrumental in bringing the online course evaluations to the students. He explained that, in early 2008, he was approached by the school's vice president of academic affairs about exploring alternatives to the traditional paper evaluations that had been used at the university in years past.

"We looked at a variety of software products and considered building our own evaluation system in-house," said Flint. "After lengthy examination of what each product could do and what it would cost, we settled on CoursEval, a product of Academic Management Systems, for a pilot. This was chosen because of its emphasis on security and anonymity, richness of features, and cost."

After testing these new course evaluations in a sample of courses, Flint had determined that CoursEval was productive and met the needs of the SNHU community.

"Having access to evaluation results online allows for timely reporting and analysis," explained Flint. "We no longer have to dig through boxes of evaluation forms to find information."

By organizing all course evaluations in an online data-

base, it became immediately easier to access that information and address the necessary concerns.

CourseEval also allows certain staffing issues to be alleviated. Previously, with the use of paper evaluations, it took as many as 15 university staff members to sort and analyze evaluation data. Now, only one staff member is necessary to manage the online evaluations, freeing up other university employees to address an assortment of other administrative tasks that were previously impossible to accomplish.

Online evaluations have also addressed the security and confidentiality concerns associated with traditional paper evaluations. Previously, the students' evaluations of their courses and instructors passed through several hands. This compromised the anonymity that the evaluations were intended to foster. With online evaluations, the students' comments go directly to the instructor.

Online evaluations also adhere to the university's mission to become a more environmentally-friendly institution. "Moving to online evaluations is a small effort at SNHU's increased emphasis on going green," said Flint. "A significant amount of paper is saved each semester by going online."

Finally, online evaluations provide a more easily accessible evaluation process to directly benefit the students and university as a whole. Flint explained that online course evaluations give students an ample amount of time to offer clear answers to the evaluation questions, something not always possible with the rushed process of paper evaluations.

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# Indonesia in a State of Destruction

Marissa Twombley

News Editor

In one week, Indonesia has entered a state of destruction by being hit by a tsunami and having a volcanic eruption. According to WMUR, Mount Merapi erupted and "killed 18 people [and] forced thousands to flee down its slopes [while spewing] burning ash and smoke high into the air on the island of Java." In Indonesia, they have reported that "21 more active volcanoes have increased rumblings."

Also, 800 miles away, a 10 foot tsunami, which was triggered by an earthquake, hit the Mentawai islands, sweeping away "hundreds of homes, killing at least 113 villagers, [and] up to 500 others are missing."

After the tsunami hit the islands, rescue officials could not go in and try to look for survivors because of stormy seas; therefore, the rescue process took a long time. As more victims are being discovered, the death toll is rising. After the rescue process had taken effect, the tsunami death toll was up to 311 people and 20,000 people are without homes. As for the volcanic eruption, the death toll is now at 33 people, and 17 people are injured from the event. The earthquake that struck Indonesia this past week was a reported 7.7 magnitude.

This devastation has rendered many people in mourning and affected the President and Vice President of Indonesia. President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono was in Vietnam and raced home within 24-hours of the catastrophes to help aid survivors. He stated that the islands that were hit were part of the Ring of Fire, which is prone to earthquake and volcanic activity. Yudhoyono organized for cargo planes to drop food, shelter, medicine and clothing to the hit areas of the islands.

Vice President Boediono of Indonesia toured the devastated areas and met with survivors and officials from the disaster. At one point, there was a spot with body bags, and he paused to give recognition to those who were lost.

As rescuers are struggling to help aid survivors and locate missing villagers, they have brought in surfers from SurfAid International to help look. The surfers are only discovering more deaths, and some villages are completely destroyed and have no survivors.

This is not the first time that an earthquake has caused dangerous effects in the Indian Ocean. In 2004, in the same location, an earthquake occurred, causing a tsunami that killed 230,000 people in the surrounding countries.

Many people are still looking for their loved ones and any survivors, and one can only hope that they are found and brought back to safety.



Mount Merapi Spewing smoke and ash.

## Hospitality fall events

Continued from page 03

ules while finding time to plan and execute each event as well. We're excited to raise a lot of money for this great cause and we hope everyone that attends has a great time."

The students in Monk's class have dedicated countless hours to planning these events to help support worthy causes in the local community. All the events are open to SNHU students, faculty, staff, alumni, and the general public. To find out more information about these events, contact Kimberly Monk at k.monk@snhu.edu.

The following are the dates, times, locations, and prices for the four events that are being put on by Monk's Special Events Management class.

SNHUPPORT

Sunday Nov. 14, 2010 - 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. SNHU Hospitality Center.

Free entry for the currently enlisted, \$8 suggested donation for others.

Wine Tasting - Experience the Classics, Explore the

Friday Dec. 3, 2010 - 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. The Quill Restaurant, SNHU.

\$10 for SNHU students, \$12 for SNHU faculty, staff, and alumni, \$15 for general public.

• Bingo for Bella:

Sunday Dec. 5, 2010 - 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. Londonderry South School.

Free entry, \$5 per bingo card.

• Winter Ball:

Thursday Dec. 9, 2010 - 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. Last Chapter Pub, SNHU.

## Alumnus John Hart Shares His Tips for Success

**Danielle Dalton** 

Contributing Writer

On Thursday, Oct. 21, SNHU students and faculty joined the Career Development Center in welcoming alumnus John Hart for his lecture entitled, "Career and Life Tips for a Successful Climb Up the Corporate Ladder: Advice and Tips I've Learned Along the Way."

In this discussion, he answered the question: "How can students be successful in the working world after graduating from SNHU?" Forty-four people attended the talk in the Hospitality Center, and 48 others watched online via a live stream.

During his presentation, Hart asked students the big question: "What do you want to be when you grow up?" Then he implored the audience to go even further by asking themselves, "What do I need to do to get there?"

For Hart, the keys to finding and maintaining success are finding the right mentor, preparing for the interview, having strong networking skills, and separating oneself from the competition.

He also believes graduates need to know their audience in the working world. Dressing for success may seem like an old fashioned idea, but Hart believes it is fundamental to dress in a manner that a corporate manager would find appropriate.

"No one is ever offended by a suit," Hart said.

After earning his Bachelor of Science in physical education from the College of New Jersey in 1978, Hart came to a turning point in his life by accepting a job in the medical sales industry. This is an industry he never saw himself in, but he describes the change as "the single most important decision of [his] life." In 1988, Hart earned his master's degree in business from SNHU and has been immersed in the medical sales business ever since.

Hart is currently the president and CEO of Vidar Systems Corporation in Herndon, V.A. where he is responsible for overseeing national sales, representing his corporation on a global scale, and motivating employees to complete their work diligently and efficiently.

"I agree with the tips he presented," said senior Nate Keefe. "They were general topics, but everything he said obviously works if he has become so successful. It gives me hope for after I graduate."

Katherine Perry, outreach coordinator of the CDC, believed the event went extremely well.

"The information vided was exactly what students needed to hear in order to see how one position can lead to another [while climbing the corporate ladder]," Perry said.

Amanda Cronin, freshmen in the 3-year honors program, remarked that Hart's presentation was information she has heard before, but now that she is in college, she feels these tips hold more weight.

"When I was in high school, I never paid attention to presentations like this...because it just didn't affect me," said Cronin. "Now we have to start thinking

about the real world and what we are going to do after SNHU."

Hart also talked about the idea of MBWA, or "Management by Wandering Around." He takes daily walks around the offices so he can learn a little about each and every worker.

"To get responsibility, people have to trust you and believe you care about them," he said. He believes that in order to keep a leadership position, business owners and CEOs must get to know their employees.

"Hearing this presentation made me think about how I can come off to others after I have gotten a leadership position," said Colleen McDonald, freshman in the 3-year honors program. "I will try to make an effort to get to know my employees and be respectful of their time."

If you have questions regarding alumni, John Hart, or careers, please contact the alumni office at alumni@snhu. edu or the Career Development Center at careerdevelopment@

## **MySNHU:** New Online Function Designed to Suit You

Lauren Hujar

Contributing Writer

MySNHU, a new online function on the SNHU website, is designed to accommodate students' needs into one stop. Launched on Oct. 29, the functions include updates on alerts, announcements, SNHU news and events, as well as being able to access personal e-mail accounts and popular applications such as Blackboard, Chalk and Wire, Shapiro Library, live chat, and the campus store.

To start using mySNHU, vou will have to enter some initial information regarding your SNHU e-mail and password. Once you have logged into the MySNHU homepage, click on "enter your credentials" in the upper left corner of the screen. The information you enter will allow your schedule to be represented in My Week and your unread e-mail messages to be displayed.

Along with being able to access all of the most used applications on one website page, they have also added a couple new features called My Week, My To Do, Pictures of the Week, and mySNHU Self Service. My Week, My To Do, and Pictures of the Week functions include a handy, easy-to-access calendar in which you can keep track of your appointments and class schedule, a personal my to do list, and a photograph rotator that allows pictures to be stored and displayed randomly to the

MySNHU Self Service is a feature that is separated into two tabs: a self-service tab which will display academic and financial functions, as well as technology support, personal profile management, and public safety information. The second tab will include other PenPal services such as your grade point average by term, term statement, and the ability to view your 1098-T

Christopher Ballou, senior, feels that this new feature will be a great accommodation in a college student's fast paced life.

"I don't have much time in between classes, or the time in my everyday life, to be waiting for each individual website page to load when I simply would like to check my e-mail or keep updated on SNHU news. It is very frustrating.," said Ballou.

Although mySNHU has just opened its portal on the website, they will be updating the portal in phases. Coming soon will be the ability to keep updated on SNHU life, how to get involved in clubs and organizations, and program sites which will give you the opportunity to share insights and information from an industry perspective.

## News

#### Online Evals

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"With online evaluations, students usually have about two weeks to complete their evaluations," Flint explained. "This allows them to take the time they need to give thoughtful responses at their convenience without the distractions of the classroom."

Flint described that, although CoursEval is convenient, not all students take advantage of the opportunity. The number of completed student evaluations has declined since going online.

"I don't think any online evaluation is effective because the students don't do them," said Alex Polley, senior. "I only did them in class because they were put in front on of me. They're not required, so they don't become a priority."

Some faculty at the university, such as History Department

Chair Dr. Kenneth Nivison, believe changes are still necessary in the constructing of proper course evaluations.

"I'm not convinced of the effectiveness of the evaluations," said Nivison. "The real problem with the evaluation has nothing to do with the mode of delivery, but rather with the kinds of questions that the evaluation asks. Since all courses are different, it stands to reason that a one-size-fits-all approach to course evaluations is bound to be severely limited."

Nivison added his belief that instructors should be permitted to create their own personalized evaluations to possibly provide better, more useful feedback to instructors.

"In my experience, the generic evaluation doesn't really give me much useful information about the course beyond

what I gleaned from casual feedback provided by students over the course of the semester," Nivison explained.

Flint believes that online evaluations will continue at SNHU. With a year's worth of evaluations available to SNHU administrators, CoursEval has proven to be valuable. Flint also noted the importance of the evaluations, adding that they are a primary way to introduce improvement in university operations.

"The more students [who] complete their evaluations, the better the feedback that instructors and administrators have to work with," Flint said. "Course evaluation feedback is truly valued and is important to the decision making of the university. I hope that all students will take the time to complete their course evaluations."



CoursEval aids in the improvement of SNHU's faculty and courses

## One Stop Office

Theresa Vogel Contributing Writer

The One Stop office, which is under construction now and will be completed in January, is set to make it easy for all of our academic, financial and other miscellaneous worries to be addressed. The One Stop office will combine parts of the Registrar's office, the Bursar's office and Financial Aid office.

Robin Gagnon, director of Financial Aid, explained, "The reason for the One Stop is to streamline the processes and duplication of services for our students. Our goal is to avoid the hassle of students being transferred or referred to multiple

offices in order to accomplish a simple task."

As virtually all students witness, college life nowadays is much more complex than just going to class and getting homework done. Students must take care of their financial aid packages, sign for their loans, register for classes, petition to graduate, etc. No doubt, life on SNHU's campus is hectic, and this office is planned to ease the stresses of students.

"To provide our students with higher quality and efficient service, our location in Exeter Hall has gone through a significant facelift. The construction is almost complete. We have two more phases to go to be fully transformed. We are excited for these changes as it provides the opportunity for the new approach to the financial services and the ultimate goal of the One Stop," said Jeff Penta, SNHU's Communications Manager. "Both offices have worked hard to get to where we need to We have hired many new faces from different financial services background that will add an extra dimension to the One Stop. We are excited for your dedicated team and the ability to maximize our service to all of our student populations."

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### International **Education Week**

Marissa Twombley

News Editor

Education International Week celebrates SNHU's cultural diversity and global connections. SNHU has more than 700 international students from 65 different countries, and this particular week is all about celebrating them.

While speaking with Deborah Donnelly, assistant director of International Student Services, she stated that American students will benefit by, "providing opportunities to get to better know some of the international students here on our own campus." We are a very diverse campus, and International Education Week will highlight these students' education and exchange worldwide. Donnelly points out that, "in this increasingly global society we live in, it's more important than ever to understand one another and different cultures/viewpoints. Not only is it useful in preparing for today's global job market and interconnected world, but it's fun."

This is a good way for our students to network with each other here in New Hampshire and around the world, and we get to understand first-hand about their countries and about themselves.

International Education week will take place from Nov. 15 - 19, with events happening each day. On Monday Nov. 15, there will be a South American menu for the Dining Center from 11:30 a.m. till 2:00 p.m. There will also be a study abroad information session from 12:30 p.m. until 1:30 p.m. in the Corcoran Conference Room in the Student Center. This information session will provide students with information on studying abroad and the options that are available. Also, there will be a

program called "Into Africa" from 3:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m. in Walker Auditorium in Robert Frost Hall. Here, Dr. Michele Goldsmith and her student Nate Boesch will take you on a journey through Africa and discuss their experiences studying mountain gorillas in Bwindi Impenetrable National park, Uganda.

On Tuesday, Nov. 16, there will be a Chinese lunch from 11:30 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. in the Dining Center. There will also be a presentation on "American Workplace Behavior," from 3:30 p.m. until 4:30 p.m. in Room 321 in Robert Frost Hall. This is a workshop held by the Career Development Center for international students who are interested in working in the United States. Also, singer-songwriter Dilana Robichaux will be in the Last Chapter Pub at 8:00 p.m. This event is sponsored by CAPE and will provide us with a rock musical performance and discuss how she got her start in South Africa and the Nether-

Wednesday, Nov 17 is a very busy day for International Education Week. Starting off is a Middle Eastern/Indian lunch in the dining center from 11:30 a.m. till 2:00 p.m. There will be an International Cultural Fair from 12:00 p.m. until 2:00 p.m. in the Student Center and the Las Chapter Pub. International students will be sharing their countries' artifacts, food samples, music, computer presentations and demonstrations. There will be an International Drama Committee from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. in Walker Auditorium, where we can enjoy short plays such as "The Picnic," "Mack's Restaurant," and "Test Time." In the Last Chapter Pub from 7:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m., there will be bingo, where you can win gift certificates to local international

please turn to page 07

# Cyan Magenta Yellow Black

### News

# International Education Week.

Continued from page 06

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#### One Stop Office

Continued from page 06

Gagnon explained that the One Stop office will benefit virtually everyone involved in the SNHU community.

"The One Stop will benefit our entire student population—Undergraduate Day, Online, Continuing Education, and Graduate on campus and online," Gagnon said.

Sttudents won't be the only people to benefit from this new office. Gagnon went on to explain that the faculty and staff members will also benefit because they have the opportunity have their processes "automated and streamlined."

Not everyone is pleased about the One Stop office. Jacquelyn Dussault, junior, was rather distraught with this new project.

"I feel that this new project is focused on freshmen and does not benefit the upperclassmen at all. Previously, we were able to meet with who we wanted to meet with and not have to wait in line," Dussault said. "Nothing against the freshmen class, but the upperclassmen know who to talk to and do not have time to

wait in lines. The passing along to someone else is still present just not in different offices. I just does not seem practical."

According to Rober Vachon, director of Facilities Management, One Stop's financial budget is \$500,000. Since the office is yet to be completed, this does not mean the project will cost this much.

If you are interested in learning more about the One Stop office, contact Robin Gagnon at r.gagnon@snhu.edu or Robert O Vachon at r.vachon@snhu.edu.

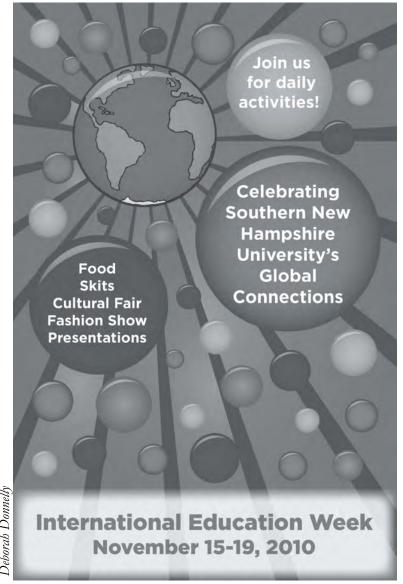
restaurants. Lastly, there will be a Late Night International Breakfast from 10:30 p.m. until midnight in Windsor and Hampton Residence Halls. Here, you can sample breakfast from six or seven different countries, which will include France and Jamaica.

On Thursday, Nov. 18, there will be a Greek Lunch from 11:30 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. in the Dining Center. There will also be an International Fashion Show from 12:30 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. in Walker Auditorium, Robert Frost Hall. Lastly, for Thursday, "Crossing Borders," a documentary about four American and four Moroccan students who travel through Morocco, will be shown from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in Walker Auditorium.

The last day of International

Education Week is Friday, Nov. 19 where a Vietnamese lunch will be prepared from 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Again, "Crossing Borders" will be playing in Hospitality salons A and B from 12:00 p.m. to 1:15 p.m. Finally, there will be another study abroad information session from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the Corcoran Conference Room in the Student Center.

All of these great events are free, and everyone is welcome. For more information on International Education Week, there will be posters and fliers around campus plus highlighted in Student Life @ SNHU Week at a Glance. If you have any questions, you can contact the International Student Services office in Belknap Hall.



Poster for International Education Week

November 10, 2010 7 the OBSERVER

News

## **Red Tide Sweeps Congress**

#### Samuel Doe

Staff Writer

This past week's election saw one of the largest power shifts in Congress in recent history. In the biggest single-election gain for either party since 1948, the Republicans seized control of the House of Representatives with (as of this writing) a 64 net seat gain. The Democrats still control the Senate, but with the Republicans gaining six seats to bring the Republican-Democrat ratio to 47-51, the virtual "super majority" they had enjoyed is gone. Because legislation usually originates in the House, the Republicans will be in a position to set the agenda in Congress, obstruct further policy measures proposed by President Obama, and possibly defund the measures that have already been enacted.

Included among the Republican wave were a number of candidates endorsed by the Tea Party, the populist movement that sprung up in objection to the fiscal policies of President Obama and the Democrat dominated Congress. Marco Rubio, a Tea Party candidate who won a Senate race in Florida, expressed the opinion that the election was not really an act of approval of the Republican Party. Rather, it was a referendum on the policies of the Obama administration so far.

John Boehner (R-OH), who is expected to replace California Democrat Nancy Pelosi as Speaker of the House, took a similar tack in his victory speech on Election Night. According to him, the election showcased "a repudiation of Big Government... and... politicians who

refuse to listen to the people." The "Pledge to America," the platform Republicans campaigned on this past election cycle, promises to, among other things, repeal and replace the national health care plan signed by Obama and to cancel the stimulus money that remains unspent.

It was not entirely a bad night for the Democrats. Some states remained largely untouched by the Republican tidal wave that swept the country, including the state of Massachusetts. Although a relatively small number of Republicans won office on in state governance, Governor Deval Patrick managed to hold on to his seat, as did all of the Congressmen from Massachusetts. Among the latter group is Barney Frank, who has represented Massachusetts in the House of Representatives since 1981.

New Hampshire is a different story. Democrat Governor John Lynch held onto his seat, but Senator Paul Hodes was not so lucky; he lost his seat to Republican Kelly Ayotte. Democrats Carol Shea Porter and Ann McLane Kuster in the House fell to former Manchester mayor Frank Guinta and Charlie Bass, respectively.

On election night, President Obama placed a call to Boehner, saying that he was "looking forward to working with him and the Republicans to find common ground, move the country forward and get things done for the American people." In his speech that same night, Boehner said: "We hope President Obama will now respect the will of the people, change

course, and commit to making the changes they are demanding. To the extent he is willing to do this, we are ready to work with him."

Both sides seem to have their work cut out for them. A pre-election poll by Rasmussen showed that 52% of voters did indeed consider the election as a referendum on Obama's policies so far. On the other hand, two more Rasmussen polls showed that not only did 33% of voters expect to see no noticeable change if the Republicans took over Congress, but 59% percent thought it at least somewhat likely that most voters would be outright disappointed with the Republicans by 2012. Both sides, it seems, have a great deal of mistrust to bridge if they hope to survive the election in two



The Capitol Building

# Opinion

# Is BP's Oil Spill Truly Gone?

Bianca Maynes
Staff Writer

On April 20, BP's oil rig exploded in the Gulf, creating a spill had some devastating effects on our economy and environment. It took experts until Sept.19 to permanently cap the oil leak; however, this disaster is far from over.

Despite what the media says, BP's crude oil is still present in the Gulf. In fact, according to the Associated Press, researchers have discovered "significant amounts of crude below the sea's surface" and "fear the oil that remains could harm species lower down the food chain." Although the oil may not be visible on the surface of the Gulf, it is certainly not gone.

In fact, there is a very good possibility that this oil spill could spur up some public health issues. Copepods, or small crustaceans, are at the bottom of the ocean food chain. If they are contaminated by the spill, the fish that we eat can be easily contaminated. This potentially puts society at a slight risk. The Gulf's economy is very reliant on the seafood industry. Yet, if there is any question regarding safety, health administrators must draw a line. Toxins such as the benzene and hydrogen sulfide contained in the Gulf's evaporating oil could have an impact on our health as well as our wildlife. Needless to say, the corals and sponges sheltering our fish are under great pressure from the oil spill and face this looming contamination issue.

So why don't we ever hear about this on television? BP's business suffered a huge blow from this oil leak catastrophe. Is it possible that BP could be paying off the media to leave the issue alone? They are wealthy enough to have verbal power over the situation; their "Gulf Response" link is the first one that shows up on a Google search about the spill. The consequences, however, are undeniable. BP's website explains what they are trying to do to clean up the spill, but they are evasive when asked what consequences the spill will have on wildlife. They claim that everything is still a projection, but the plant life is looking pretty good and can probably recover.

It is important for all of us to remember that, although this tragedy is being kept under wraps, it is still very prevalent. We must be conscious of the seafood we eat, and hope that our environment can recover from this devastating blow.



The effect of BP's spill on wildlife

### Why the Long Lines?

Maranda Twombley

Creative Editor

It always seems that no matter what time of day I head to the café in the Student Center, the lines are outrageously long. I find most students, as well as myself, to be very patient; however, when I want to get a bottle of water before one of my classes, I have to wait 15 minutes just to purchase it.

Something needs to be done about the amount of waiting time in those lines. An incident I experienced was when I went to the Student Center Café to purchase a bottle of water and a granola bar. There was only one cash register available at the coffee counter, with the line having wrapped around to the entrance of the café. I was

hoping the line would move quickly.

I waited about five minutes while watching a staff member take orders for bagels and sandwiches. Along with myself, there were several other students who were just purchasing a bottled drink. After about 15 minutes I got out of line and put my merchandise back because I had to get to my next class. Other students seemed to follow me in suit as well.

As soon as I was leaving, the staff member who was taking sandwich and bagel orders went to a cash register and started ringing up merchandise that were not part of the coffee counter. I have to say, I was pretty upset that I waited in line for 15 minutes for a single bottle of water and a granola bar. I was not purchasing anything

from the coffee counter, which made me upset that I even had to wait in that line.

I think their needs to be a serious change with the way the Student Center Café is to be run. Maybe adding another cashier to get the lines down would be a big help. Also, a lot of students don't realize that there is the same café in other buildings around campus: in the Academic Building, Hospitality Building, Webster Hall, as well as the Dining Center. I make the extra effort and time to go to the dining center to get a bottle of water, and then walk halfway across campus to get to my class. Doing this is faster than waiting in line at the Café close to my class. Hopefully, this issue can be addressed and ultimately resolved.



The student center is full of people after 11 o'clock classes have let out.

## Opinion

# Facebook: The Social Virus

**Kyla Natali**Opinion Editor

It's better than Myspace, more personal than Twitter... It's the Facebook. In an instant, friends, family, and co-workers can have access to what's going on in a person's life. It is unreal how connected the human race has become thanks to social networking. It is also unfathomable how many active users there are in the World (500 million to be exact). One can tag their friends in posts, upload hundreds of photos in one click, create groups, and more recently, track the friendship log on profile pages. What can't Facebook do?

Rather, what can Facebook do? Facebook has been linked to many controversies over the years. It's hard to imagine how co-founder Mark Zuckerburg handles the negative press his creation receives. People criticize websites like Facebook due to the lack of privacy and potential safety concerns that every user is subjected to. No matter how pri-

vate we think our information is, it is possible that anyone can see your photos, statuses, wall-posts, and other friends.

Over the past weekend, I was talking to a friend who knew someone that recently lost her job due to the "racy" photos she posted on her profile. She thought it was fun to dress up in lingerie that she had just purchased from Victoria's Secret. Ironically, her status read, "Loving the new job, going on a retail spree to treat myself." A week after she posted those pictures, she was fired and told that her irresponsibility for portraying a questionable company image was the reasoning behind her job loss. I wonder what her next status read.

I understand that narcissism is a growing problem in the United States and that people enjoy putting up a thousand pictures of themselves. However, if modeling is not in your future ambitions list, then putting questionable pictures is not advised.

Trust me, there have been times when I have questioned the validity of these stories. I wondered if they were just myths conjured up by parents, universities, or employers to control what we put out there for the world to see. Honestly, I have heard enough, and I would rather limit the information that goes on my profile. I do not think it's that devastating to sacrifice divulging all my information and photos to Facebook.

My intent is not to tell people how they should manage their social life on the internet, but after I heard my friend's recap of her friend's job loss, it made me think. We all work really hard (at least I think we do) in school so we can graduate and land a great job. Either we, or our parents, shell out a large sum of money so we can even go to college. The satisfaction that we receive from our future careers is a lot more gratifying than how many people liked your status, or photos on Facebook.

## Can We Just Discuss: High Stress Workout

Chad Marden

Photo Editor

As midterms pass us by and finals quickly approach, things are going to start getting more hectic. As important as getting your work done is, it is just as important to keep your mind and body sound and at ease to get the most out of your work. With that said, here are some things to keep in mind should things get a bit too heavy:

Firstly, keep yourself organized. There's nothing much more stressful than getting smacked in the face by a project you didn't see coming. Keep a schedule of due dates handy and try to get projects done early if possible to free up time later.

Next, make time for your-

self as well as your work. Everyone needs some down time. Constantly digging your heels in will drive you crazy – sometimes to the point of physical illness. Part of keeping organized and scheduling yourself means setting aside time to do the things YOU want to do.

Finally, if all else fails and you just can't take the pressure, don't be afraid to talk to the folks at the Wellness Center here on campus. They actually have people there who specialize in stress management. Remember, letting stress get to you affects your work, and the school wants you to be at the top of your game. And if you can't get to Wellness, then that's what your friends are there for. Be happy and healthy, folks.



Ball of stress





# Cyan Magenta Yellow Black

## Opinion

# Rules of the Freshmen

Joseph Daly
Staff Writer

Congratulations, freshmen! You've finally made it. It must be hard to believe, but you are halfway through the first semester of your collegiate experience. How does it feel? Have you learned anything new?

Well, I certainly have. As pleasantly bizarre as my time in college has been, I am enjoying myself thoroughly. Freshman Kristina Valcourt has learned a thing or two about her new adjustment too.

"I've learned not to be so uptight about schoolwork, and not get angry about every mean thing that's said to you," Valcourt said.

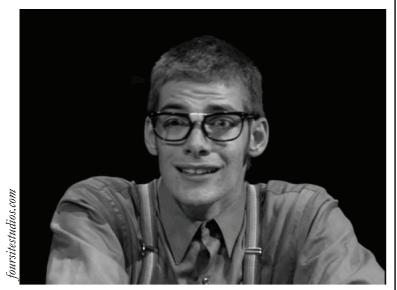
Other freshmen I've talked to have felt the same way; the change in our lives is extraordinary, but we're managing everything quite well.

The transition from high school to college was not all that simple, though; there was plenty to learn. Beneath the SNHU student handbook lies the "unofficial" rules, tips, tricks, secrets, restrictions, and conceptions that every freshman must know. Although I've yet to discover every essential regulation, I witness or experience a new

one almost every day. Let me enlighten you all so that you, too, can prepare yourself for future uncertainties:

- 1.) Live responsibly.
- 2.) MANAGE your time WISELY.
  - 3.) Naps will save your life.
- 4.) Always bring your key with you.
- 5.) Livin' it up? Overload on work? Lib it up.
- 6.) If you're heading to the Penmen Snack bar after class, be prepared.
- 7.) Laundry that has been in a washer or dryer for over an hour is no longer your laundry.
  - 8.) Get involved!
  - 9.) Stay healthy.
- 10.) Wear flip-flops in the showers and bathrooms
- 11.) If anyone offers you a foreign object, do not take it.
  - 12.) Avoid "The Drama."
- 13.) No matter what they say, destroying property is not "cool."
  - 14.) Be yourself.
- 15.) Always expect the unexpected.

You may adhere to this advice as much as you please. If nothing else, remember that college is supposed to be one of the greatest and most memorable experiences of your life. Enjoy yourself and discover all you can before your college career is over.



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# Clubs and Orgs

## **International Student Spotlight:** Anye Valery Mambo

#### Samantha Cohen

A & E and Clubs & Orgs **Editor** 

For this edition of the International Student Spotlight, I was fortunate enough to sit down with one of SNHU's very own Resident Assistants, Anye Valery Mambo, and got to find out some very interesting informa-

1. Where are you originally from?

I'm originally from Cameroon, a country located between west and central Africa.

2. Where did you do your undergrad program?

I did my undergrad program in Cameroon at the University of Yaounde II.

3. What are you studying in your graduate program?

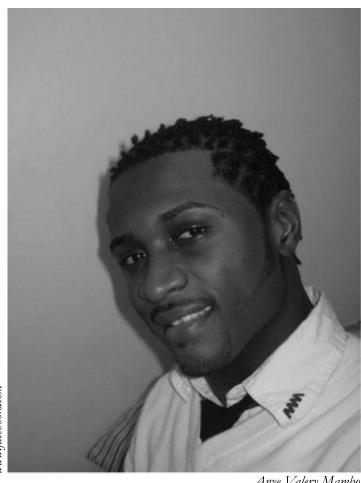
Global Master of Business Administration (MBA) with a graduate certificate in Human Resource Management.

4. What made you come to The U.S.?

Education actually brought me to the U.S. It was my desire to pursue a graduate degree in business administration in the United States upon obtaining my Bachelor's in business.

5. What stood out about SNHU that made you pick this school?

SNHU was recommended to me by my mentor, who at the time was pursuing his Master's in international community economic development. Information obtained from him, coupled with some research about SNHU, triggered my decision to



Anye Valery Mambo

pick SNHU as the ideal place to obtain an affordable and competitive MBA.

6. I know that you are an RA— has that bettered your oncampus living experience?

Becoming an RA has meant more responsibilities and more challenges for me. However, it has made living on campus cost effective for me. The job came at about the time when I was making up my mind to move off campus. I wouldn't say being an RA has bettered my on campus living experience per se, but it has opened my eyes to the realities of the real world and being able to manage your time and accomplishing tasks in a timely

7. What are some differences between your home and

First, the U.S. is like five or six times bigger than my home country. Relationships are more informal in the U.S., whereas they are more formal in my home country. My home country has two official languages, French and English, while the U.S. has just one official language.

8. Is your family still at

Some of my family members are still at home, some are here in the U.S. Others are in Canada and England.

9. What's the hardest thing about living so far away from

The hardest thing about living so far away from home is that I miss people who are so dear to me. I miss my grand mum, my uncle and I generally miss home.

10. What are some of your hobbies and what do you do for fun?

I like watching movies both American and African movies-and I love soccer. I play soccer for fun, and I also hang out with friends for fun.

11. How long have you been in the U.S.?

I've been in the U.S. for approximately 17 months.

12. Have you been anywhere else besides New Hamp-

Yes. I have been to Boston, New York, Atlanta and Balti-

13. What are some of your future plans?

I plan to pursue an Optional Practical Training (OPT) and to complement my MBA with work experience before going back home.

14. What's one thing you would like the SNHU campus to know about yourself?

I would like the SNHU campus to know that I'm a great, responsible and hardworking person. I'd do whatever it takes to get to the extra mile

15. Include any other information you would like.

Being at SNHU has been a wonderful experience for me so far. I've never regretted the decision I made to come to SNHU. I actually see myself coming close to achieving my dreams and desires.

#### SNHU in Wonderland

Andrea DeMore Contributing Writer

With Alice & Wonderland recently bursting back into the media spotlight, Andrea Thomas felt that it would be a great theme for SNHU's 2010 Fall Week. As the chair of the Major Weeks Committee in Coordinators of Activities & Programming Events (CAPE), it was Thomas' responsibility to organize and plan a week (Mon. Oct 18 - Sun. Oct 23) of fun events for the student population at SNHU.

Overall, Thomas was pleased with the results of the week. The hypnotist "was so nice and he arrived early to have dinner with me and my committee. His act was marvelous and the things that he made the hypnotized people do were perfect. Everyone got a huge laugh out of it. One of the girls said that one of her friends was, 'Doing the Papa John's delivery guy.""

I met Tuesday night's guest, slam poet Alvin Lau. He was meandering about campus because Thomas had gone off campus to find him. He was really nice and funny, not nearly as dramatic as one might think a slam poet to be. Although I couldn't stay for his performance, I heard great things about it.

Wednesday night was Big Money Bingo! Bingo is ALWAYS a popular event, regardless of whether it's Big Money or not. They gave out over \$400 in prizes. Alora Heffernan won a giant iPod boombox, which she said she was very pleased about.

With the impending family weekend, some parents arrived early and attended comedian Kevin Shea's event. He included them in his jokes and made them a bit more appropriate for the

Please turn to page 13

## Clubs & Orgs

#### SNHU in Wonderland

Continued from page 12

mixed audience. The Last Chapter Pub was packed, and it was overall a great event. Thomas was overjoyed that Shea was such a hit.

On Saturday, there was a field trip to Mel's Funway Park and Spookyworld. Thirty-five people attended and had a blast. Mark Littlefield, junior at SNHU and Treasurer of CAPE, said, "It was

really fun. It was a short bus ride and we got to spend the day in the park, and then enjoy the novelty of Spookyworld at night."

Fall Week 2010 was wonderfully planned and went exactly according to plan. Many students are saying that they can't wait for Winter Week, which Thomas will also plan and CAPE will sponsor.

#### Making Great First Impressions: Today's Career and Internship Expo

Chance Clutter
Contributing Writer

On Wednesday, Nov. 10, the Career Development Center will be hosting its semi-annual Career and Internship Expo from 11 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in the upstairs banquet area of the Dining Center. In a tough economy, the opportunity to meet a variety of employers who are specifically interested in hiring YOU for internships or for full-time positions can be invaluable. But if you do not dress right, you might actually hurt your chances as opposed to improving them.

Students attending any job fair should always consider what they are wearing prior to attending the event. You only get to make one "first impression," and usually a hoodie and torn jeans does not quite say "hard-working professional." Generally, males will be expected to be wearing a conservative suit and tie with dress shoes. Females should also be dressed conservatively with a

pant suit or appropriate kneelength skirt. Grays, blues, and blacks are all typical colors with maybe a brighter shirt or blouse color underneath. Remember, your goal is for the employer to pay attention to you and what you say, not to be distracted by what you wear. That includes limiting the amount of jewelry, make-up, and cologne/perfume as well. If an employer can hear or smell you BEFORE you actually get to their table, you have definitely made an impression, but not a good one. Also, remember to break-out that iron or head to the dry-cleaner if need be. For those of you without a suit and no option to buy one, wear the best outfit you have (or borrow one). Do not let an opportunity to further your career go wasted just because you decided to wear a t-shirt and pajamas to meet these recruiters.

It's your career. What have you done lately?



SNHU Career and Internship Expo flyer

## Peer Educator of the Month: Lauren Hawkins

#### Samantha Cohen

A & E and Clubs & Orgs Editor

If your grades are slipping, or you are just looking to get a little extra help, there are so many resources available here on campus. One stop you could make is by the Learning Center, located in Stark Hall. At the Learning Center, students are able to get mentored and tutored by their own classmates. Students may feel more comfortable working with someone close to their own age, and it has been very successful so far.

Each month, a specific mentor or tutor is selected for their outstanding hard work and dedication. They are recognized as the peer educator of the month, and for the month of September, the peer educator of the month was Lauren Hawkins

1. What exactly is a Peer Educator?

A peer educator is a person who helps students in need of time management assistance and assistance in a specific topic such as writing or math.

2. What subject do you specialize in?

I am currently a level one trained writing tutor, and just recently started peer mentoring.

3. How did you get started in peer educating?

I first started when I began mentoring the Jump Start program in the beginning of my sophomore year, and then was requested by my English 121 professor for writing tutoring. This is my first semester as a peer mentor during the school year, but second year being a writing tutor.

4. How did you get chosen as Peer Educator of the month?

Chad Detjen nominated me.

5. Do you get any rewards/privileges because of this?

It is something I can put in

my portfolio, which I am always looking to build on.

6. How do students ben-

efit by learning from a peer rather than a professor? Some students are more

comfortable with peers, more willing to ask questions, or just need it explained to them in a different way.

7. How do you benefit from teaching other students?

It helps me learn as well; as a writing tutor, I am constantly refreshing my grammar skills and citations when helping a student on a paper.

8. Are there ways other students can get involved in peer educating?



Well, if you do really well in a particular class, then your professor will sometimes recommend you to be a peer educator in that subject. That is the most common way students become peer educators.

9. What would you like the SNHU campus to know about the Learning Center or about peer educating?

That it is a great resource. Walk-in tutoring is available almost every night of the week in the major topics. As a student, you pay for programs like the Learning Center to help you do well in college. You should take advantage of the resources at hand while you have them.

## Clubs & Orgs

### Not Enough Space?

# Events from 11/10/10 - 11/23/10

#### Wednesday 11/10

Hunger and Homelessness Week

Fall Feast 2:30 p.m.-5 p.m. in The Pub

Comedian Tommy Johnigan 8 p.m. - 11 p.m

in The Pub

#### Thursday 11/11

Hunger and Homelessness Week

Phi Delta Psi Lip Sync 7:30 p.m.-10 p.m. in The Pub

#### Friday 11/12

Hunger and Homelessness Week

#### Tuesday 11/16

Tie Dye Novelty 12 p.m. - 5 p.m. in The Pub

Dilana 7 p.m. - 11 p.m. in The Pub

#### Wednesday 11/17

Bingo 8:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. in The Pub

Thursday 11/18

Battle of the Comedians 7:30 p.m.-10 p.m

in The Pub

#### Saturday 11/20

Dance in the Pub 10 p.m.-2 a.m. in The Pub

Sunday 11/21

Dance in the Pub 10 p.m.-2 a.m. in The Pub

Tuesday 11/23

Thanksgiving break starts at 6 p.m.

Classes resume on Monday.

#### Lauren Head

Layout and Web Editor

It is uncommon for a club or organization to not be able to get the room that they want. Most of the time, if a room is not available, it is because the club or organization did not book the room in time. However, this semester, the dance club has had trouble trying to reserve a room for the club to practice in.

Kayla Richard, the dance club president, said, "We are not able to hold a steady practice on a weekly basis with steady times, which complicates practice. It also does not allow members who work on or off campus or are involved with other organizations to be part of the club. Having a practice schedule only a week in advance has forced many of the members to quit."

Dance club is one that does not only perform for campus events such as soccer games and basketball games, but they also perform at charity events and other off-campus organizations. With no set schedule, the dance team has not only lost members, but was unable to perform at these events. Dance has tried to resolve these issues with Elizabeth Goff,

assistant director of Campus Programming and Leadership; Kristen Bates, head of Conference Services; and Chad Mason, associate director of Athletics.

"Elizabeth has been extremely helpful with attempting to find a space, but there is just no room for our club to practice on campus at a reasonable hour of the day," said Richard. "We have also spoken to members of Residence Life, yet space that is open has not been provided for the club to have access to."

While there have been problems with reserving space, Athletics and Conference Services have been trying to remedy the situation. "There is simply not enough facilities on campus to be able to accommodate all of the varsity teams, intramural, clubs & organizations with facilities during these peak hours," said Mason.

The peak hours of the athletic center are from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m., which are prime times for not only clubs, but for the athletic teams.

With Conference Services, time may not be such an issue as space. Most classrooms cannot fit 45 plus members in a room.

"Although there have been a few instances of organizations looking for repeated space during academic class time, that can be a challenge," said Kirsten Bates, head of conference services.

Other areas, such as the ballrooms in the Hospitality Building and the Banquet Hall in the Dinning Center which could hold the Dance team, are unavailable because they are made of carpet and can be worn down easily.

One of Richards's goals is for the dance team to have a permanent spot on campus.

"This is the second year in a row the club has had space issues, and I do not want to graduate leaving the burden of finding a space on the underclassmen," said Richard.

"There is a high number of members and they have a right as a club members to participate in an activity they love and are paying to be a part of."

The issue seems to be, with winter sports coming up soon and other activities that have to be inside, if the Dance team will even have a place to practice, much less a scheduled spot.



Dance winning an award at last years Leadership Conference

# Creative

## "The Easel"

Maranda Twombley

Creative Editor



Known as Michelangelo, his full name is Michelangelo di Lodovico Buonarroti Simoni. As a famous Renaissance man, Michelangelo was gifted as a painter, sculptor, architect, poet, and engineer. Beginning his extraordinary career, two of his more famous sculptures were "Pieta" and "David." One of his more famous paintings is called "The Creation of Adam," painted upon the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel. Depicted in this painting are God and Adam, where God is to have sparked the life of Adam. The fact that God and Adam have their arms reaching out to each other is a suggestion that man is created in the image of God. Not only was this painting part of the ceiling, but the entire ceiling was painted of many different scenes. Depicted is a painting of "The Creation of Adam."



#### "Pondering One" Chris Mehu Contributing Writer

Her action and movements were out of control she was in her own daze.

Passing by walking through the people at the bar she had trouble reaching me it's like she was in a maze.

There was no settling with her it was now or never I think now.

Beauty was thirsty for another drink should I have bought her one a special one don't have to tell me how.

A little too passive at times out of respect.

Could that have just cost my whole stack of cards?

The way this game of us is played out will sort the deck.

Selfish in that I want her all to me myself.

Sharing would be crazy with this.

Eyes don't do it you would have to have felt our kiss.

Nothing to serious just young fun.

Should I have stepped up and held your hand on that bar?

Leaving home for the night it seemed you would be forever far.

Just to say it more than once you're my shining star.

Ears of mine heard you talk that you needed a real man.

Why need, when I'm here to feed?

Chris doesn't regret much if anything at all.

Happy and smiling I stay during any future coaster fall.

Wish my bank was unlimited because I would spoil you like the princess I see.

Your dark long hair up or down completes your beauty along with your rare eyes.

She contains a distant smile that I want to chase to catch.

## Creative



Statue

### "Idle Moments" Chris Mehu Contributing Writer

Even if there are these many opportunities that lay in front of me good,

I stand waiting in the cold winter cold at a cross-

I stand waiting in the cold winter cold at a cross-road not understood.

Attacking the man is to himself that plans for many things, plans for too many things.

Worked too hard today expecting way too much praise.

If not today earlier there will be other days, there will be other days.

Something has made him strong, He seems to have grown.

With one's comfort in yourself you're never really alone.

At the chance to face a good comfortable change in living.

Maybe even a career in fame through calm relaxing singing.

God has all of two hands, which have at times have been reached out in front of me.

Effort to this God is the debt for life I bring.





Purple Escape

#### "Untitled" Maranda Twombley Creative Editor

It has been said that a woman is to find happiness in everything that she does. Realizing how incredible her life is with just the ordinary everyday experiences. Walking outside your door is an adventure into the world; never knowing who you might meet, or where you might end up. Conquering fears through the eyes of others is just the beginning. Being able to avoid a life of unhappiness is a miracle. I write these words because I try to say them over and over in my head. I try to forget the misery and hope that these words can push me forward in my life. However, there is always something blocking my mind. Overtaking my mind through jealousy, fear, anger, and depression. Women are to be sacred, fragile, and loved. Wanting to wake up one morning, throw on my best heels, and take on the challenges of the day. Instead, waking up today with no adventures, no risks to be taken, and no thrill of wanting anything. Just wanting to hide myself from the world forever. Realizing that fairy tales don't always come true, I will look behind the scope and into the future that I choose to live. Looking towards a light at the end of this tunnel, I shall put on my best heels, open my door, and walk into an adventure that will take my mind away. I have been waiting for this moment my whole life. The day comes and goes with eventful memories that will be captured by my family forever. It is the day after Christmas, and my heart is racing with unimaginable happiness. The man I have been in love with for more than eight years has asked me to join him in fulfilling the rest of his life. What more could a girl want for Christmas? My mother calls me Chrissy but name is Christine. Our story began in a small coffee shop where I ordered a small decaf and he ordered a small decaf as well. We were inseparable ever since.

# Arts & Entertainment

#### "Jackass 3-D"

#### Fred Whittle

Staff Writer

The other day, I took the opportunity to go and see "Jackass 3-D" in theatres with several of my friends. I didn't, however, see it in 3D. I took the less expensive route and saw it in a normal format. This film was the third in the Jackass series and marked the ten-year anniversary of the franchise. I personally wouldn't call "Jackass" a movie; there is no plot or reason for anything one will see in the film. It is a series of stunts that take both courage and stupidity. Which one is more apparent? I'll let you decide for yourself if you plan to see it.

When the film was said and done, my friends and I all agreed on similar things. It succeeded in being very humorous throughout the whole thing as well as having dozens of creative stunts much like the others, but the risk of injury and danger level

of the scarier stunts didn't quite match up with the previous two movies.

Don't get me wrong, there were plenty of painful and hard to watch dare devil scenes, but I didn't get the same "half those guys are so lucky they're alive" feeling leaving the theatre. Nothing competed with Knoxville's big red rocket or Steve-o putting chicken in his underwear and climbing over alligators, as seen in the previous movies.

One thing that there sure was a lot more of was the disgusting side to Jackass. There were basically no limits in this movie. Instead of the random scenes of running up behind and buzzing cast member's heads, they decided to pee on random people. The camera was held low for a close shot and yeah...you get the point. During my time in theatres, several people actually had to walk out during the nastier points. There are several scenes where feces, snot, throw

up, and the drinking of another man's sweat all contributed to a bit of a nauseous feeling. Tickets do not come with a barf bag if you were curious.

But don't let these scenes scare you (you can always just look away...right?). Despite a few let downs, "Jackass 3" did live up to most of my expectations. The entire cast from the previous two movies was there, which was definitely a plus. From jumping a jet ski forty feet into a non-water landing, to bungee jumping in a port 'o potty, this movie will make you laugh, hold your breath, and, yes, possibly feel a little sick. But it's "Jackass," the title explains itself. Oh, and new technology was used and several stunts are shot with Phantom high-speed cameras which shoot at 1,000 frames per second. So not only will you see a tooth get pulled that is tied to the bumper of a Lamborghini, you will get to see it happen in very, very slow motion.

Rating: 3.5/5



''Jackass'

# SNHU Gets a Visit from Saundra Dubow Azmitia

#### Maranda Twombley

Creative Editor

SNHU was presented with a wonderful event on Tuesday, Nov. 2. Actress and playwright Saundra Dubow Azmitia was kind enough to visit SNHU and read some of her memoir to the audience.

Growing up in the 1940s, Azmitia's mother wanted her children to obtain a life of security and wealth. Being able to satisfy her mother's wishes while also fulfilling her dream in the theatre arts, Azmitia appeared in many genres and plays. One of her more famous plays was in a one-woman show called "Two Suits and One Act," which is a play that depicts the events through Gertrude Stein's life.

As the Gertrude Stein of her time, Azmitia has won various awards for programs, has written her memoire entitled "Do it Differently!" and has written a screenplay for her memoir.

Born in Indianapolis, Indiana, Saundra went on to graduate from The Pasadena Playhouse

College of Theater Arts located in Pasadena, California. As a poet, writer, and actress, Azmitia has delighted the students and faculty of SNHU with her winning career and memoir.

With her very detailed, descriptive, and theatrical reading, Azmitia has given young writers the story of how one woman survived in the world theatre of arts. In her reading, one particular line became important: "Risk yourself." This important message was delivered to everyone to realize that you need to risk yourself in order to get anywhere in the future.

Detailing her memoir, Azmitia has worked with Dustin Hoffman in The Pasadena Playhouse College of Theatre Arts, and she has three children. As advice to give to young readers, Azmitia mentions not to give up, and if you are struggling, there are exercises to do in order to motivate oneself. Having worked on her memoir for thirty years, Azmitia finds every role she has played as a challenge. As for writing, she will always be writing.



Saundra Dubow Azmitia's Memoir, "Do it Differently," Do It Differently!"

November 10, 2010 17 the OBSERVER

## AOE

# "Into the Wild": A National Bestseller at SNHU

#### Kristin Staine Contributing Writer

On Wednesday, Oct. 27, the SNHU community was invited to watch the movie "Into the Wild" in the Dining Center. The Office of Academic Affairs, the SNHU Common Book Committee, and Student Life sponsored the event. The doors opened at 7 p.m. and closed at 10:30 p.m.; admission was free to all students

Jon Krakauer's book "Into the Wild" was chosen as the Common Book for the 2010-11 school year. As stated on the SNHU website, the Common Book Committee chose this book because "students will find the book and its issues to be both accessible and interesting, and that our reading will stimulate interest on questions and topics that are important and relevant to us all."

"Into the Wild" is based on the true story of Christopher McCandless, a man who leaves everything he has ever known behind and heads into the Alaskan wilderness. Why he wanted to start a new life is unclear, but the movie goes through the steps he took to make it happen. McCandless went across the country, met dozens of new friends, and ultimately died because he lacked knowledge of the wild.

Marilyn Fenton, chair of the SNHU Common Book Committee, said, "New Hampshire is not Alaska, but we too have wilderness that can be dangerous. In embracing nature, we take risks, and nature can be the winner in a Man vs. Nature contest."

Fenton strongly believes that Krakauer is a journalist who makes interesting artistic decisions in presenting this story and felt that the book had worthy topics to showcase.

Anna Gratta, a senior psychology major, attended the event and came out with new perspectives.

"Even though I am not a freshman and did not read the required book, the movie really opened my eyes and let me see how some people just want to free themselves from society," Gratta said.

Every year, when the new required reading book is selected, a scholarship opportunity is also revealed. Freshmen who had read the book could enter an essay contest on topics that were provided to them at orientation. Those who write the essay are entered to win a \$1,000 scholarship and have the opportunity to serve on the Common Book Committee for the next academic year.

For more information regarding the event or "Into the Wild," contact the chair of the SNHU Common Book Committee, Dr. Marilyn Fenton.



McCandless (Emile Hirsch) bumming it on the road.

# SNHU Professor to Introduce New Play

#### Kyle Roman

Contributing Writer

On Thursday, Nov. 11, Charles Wilbert, SNHU playwright and professor of English, will introduce his most recent play, "Dancer on the Floor of Heaven," in Walker Auditorium at 7 p.m. This will be the first time "Dancer on the Floor of Heaven" will be presented to the public. It will be a six-person reading starring Gary Carkin and Sandra Dubow as the two leads.

Wilbert contacted six theaters in New York, three of which are experimental theaters. They're more interested in new plays and won't touch anything established, which Wilbert sees as beneficial.

"I'll know by next spring if any of the theaters will be interested because it takes about half a year to get accepted," he said.

"Dancer on the Floor of Heaven" is about Maxwell Bodenheim and his experiences with Peggy Grace before and after her death. Wilbert chooses to write his plays about people, generally depicting the lives of historic figures.

The characters in "Dancer on the Floor of Heaven" are fictional besides the main character, Maxwell Bodenheim, a bohemian poet from 1927 Chicago. He was 35 years old when he fell in love with Peggy Grace, a professional actress and ballet dancer. After nine weeks, she died of pneumonia. This devastated Max.

"I judge my actors by how well they project their lines rather than appearance," said Wilbert. "We go by voices when it's readers' theater."

This is not a typical performance where people must memorize their lines. The performers will be standing at a table where they will read the script. The audience will simply listen to dialogue. One person will narrate stage direction to tell the audience where the scene is taking place.

When the actors finish reading, there will be the opportunity to comment on the performance; afterwards, a reception will follow to give time for more comments.

Wilbert advised SNHU's Drama Club for 25 years. He is given credit for forming the new Drama Club because his passion interested students to join. During this time, plays were performed on a stage personally built by Wilbert in Franklin Hall. Wilbert has directed over 50 college productions. He is most known for his Realometers. It won him an award for best play in the 1980's

"Dancer on the Floor of Heaven" will be presented Thursday, Nov. 11, in Walker Auditorium at 7 p.m. The admission is free for anyone wanting to attend.

# Students Look to Save Money on Halloween Costumes

#### Mark Hennessy

Contributing Writer

Hundreds of students at SNHU are pressed for money. As Halloween came and went, the pressure to purchase expensive costumes was on. Stores like iParty and Wal-Mart capitalized on the Halloween season by selling cheaply made costumes and accessories for prices around \$40 or \$50.

Dressing up for Halloween is very popular among SNHU students, and it was not any different this year. Some have found different ways to purchase costumes and save money.

"I bought mine on Amazon. com," said junior Megan Buchanan. "It's easy to find good costumes that nobody else will have."

Buchanan was successful in buying her costume online, along with other students such as junior Shiloh Felt.

"I found a really cute carpenter costume on EBay," said Felt. "I went to the Halloween store at the mall and everything was just too expensive."

Other students decided to go a different route for their Halloween attire to go easy on their wallets. Alex Costas, a junior at SNHU, said, "I found everything I needed at Goodwill, and got it all for less than fifteen dollars."

The nearest Goodwill is located in Hooksett only a few miles from campus, which made it appealing to students looking for Halloween costumes.

"Goodwill is great," said Fred Whittle, junior. "It has so much weird stuff that is just perfect for Halloween."

These are just a few different places students found their Halloween costumes all for around \$20. When compared to the price of a simple afro wig at iParty costing \$15, internet websites like Amazon and cheap retail stores like Goodwill seemed like a perfect fit for SNHU students.



Halloween Costumes

## $A \mathcal{C}E$

#### Cult of the Classic: "Zardoz" (1974)

Chad Marden
Photo Editor

"Zardoz" is one of those cult films where more than 90 percent of people have heard of it, but less than half of those folks have actually seen it. There are some very mixed reviews about this film floating around. Personally, I'm amazed that this even exists. It's by far one of the strangest things I've experienced in some time... and I've seen "Forbidden Zone."

The story takes place in a post-apocalyptic future. The false god Zardoz, controlled by thespian Arthur Frayn (Niall Buggy), controls the breeding of primitive "Brutals" to produce for his race of bored and undy-

ing "Eternals" who have created a utopian society... until one of the Brutals, Zed (Sean Connery), stows away in Zardoz's head.

My problem with this film is that it doesn't seem to know what it wants to be. It dances on the borders of sci-fi adventure, student art film, and sleazy b-grade exploitation (half the women are topless for a majority of the movie), unsure of where to set up shop. As a result, the action we see is confusing, disjointed, and alienates the viewer. It's as if Stanley Kubrick went insane and made a Stag Film! Oh, and the ending is depressing too. I won't ruin it, but rest assured you'll most likely be disappointed.

The fact of the matter is that if I want a sci-fi epic, I'll watch

the extended cut of "Dune." And if I want a pretentious art film, I'll play "A Clockwork Orange." Those movies should NOT be crossed with "Caligula"! I can only recommend this if you want a truly trippy popcorn movie, or if you're just really eager to see a braided ponytail adorned Sean Connery in red hot pants and thigh-high boots.



I can feel Sean Connery dying inside...

# Top iTunes Movies

#### Movie Sales

- 1. Toy Story 3
- 2. How to Train Your Dragon
- 3. The Karate Kid (2010)
- 4. The Kids Are All Right
- 5. Car Toon Master's Tall Tales
- 6. Iron Man 2
- 7. Zombieland
- 8. Sex and the City 2
- 9. Get Him to The Greek (Un-rated)
- 10. The Sound of Music

#### Movie Rentals

- 1. The Karate Kid *(*2010
- 2. Sex and the City 2
- 3. How to Train Your Dragon
- 4. Predators
- 5. Winter's Born
- 6. The Girl Who Played With Fire (Swedish Filn
- with English subtitles
- 7. Iron Man 2
- 8. Prince of Persia: The Sands of Tim
- 9. Date Night (Extended Edition)
- 10. Jonah Hex



Musical notes

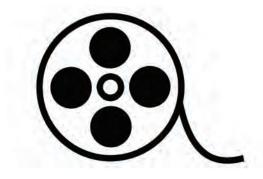
# Top iTunes Music

#### Music

1. What's My Name? (feat. Drake) - Rihanna &

#### Drake

- 2. We R Who We R Ke\$ha
- 3. Like a Go Far East Movement, The Cataracs
- & Dev
- 4. Only Girl (In the World) Rihanna
- 5. Raise Your Glass Pink
- 6. Firework Katy Perry
- 7. Just a Dream Nelly
- 8. Just the Way You Are Bruno Mars
- 9. Bottoms Up (feat. Nicki Miinaj) Trey Songz
- 10. Whip My Hair Willow



## $A \mathcal{C}E$

## $A \mathcal{C}E$

#### "Costume Quest" Review

Alex Guittarr
Staff Writer

Do you remember the good old days when you were eight or nine and Halloween seemed like the greatest holiday ever created (next to Christmas)? Remember the pounds upon pounds of candy? The cheesy-yetawesome costumes? Although "Costume Quest" is embarrassingly short and far too easy, the overall charm and creativity that Double Fine is known for comes out in full force in this game. And for only \$15, one can look past its short-comings (at least for a little while). Although held back by a couple major flaws, "Costume Quest" is a cheap and charming adventure that anyone can enjoy.

The game features Reynold

and Wren, feuding twins who try and trick or treat while dealing with the fact that they pretty much hate each other. The player starts the game by deciding which of the two to control. The twin not selected ultimately gets kidnapped by goblins within minutes of the game starting, and the other twin must rescue before their curfew is over.

The story itself is bland and uninteresting, but that is to be expected of an Xbox Live game; however, what's worse is the length. "Costume Quest" maxes out at about 9-10 hours, and that's if you take it really slowly. With only three areas to explore and not a lot of depth in the game play, before the player knows it, they'll blink and the credits will be rolling. However, neither the story, nor the minimal game length really stands out in "Costume Quest." What really

makes it stand out is its charming and exciting atmosphere and personality.

The game's primary objective was to capture the essence of Halloween as seen through the eyes of a child and breathe life into it. Double Fine pulls this off through various means. The player will come across all types of different children and adults in each area that anyone can relate to, whether it's the popular kids, the adults trying to steer kids away from candy, the kids who can't afford "good" costumes and have to make their own, and so on. Each area is also spruced up with all sorts Halloween-related decor and activities. Thrown together with Double Fine's usual amazing sense of humor, "Costume Quest" really manages to get the player in the Halloween spirit. And that's before the most

stand-out concept of the game is revealed: the combat.

Easily the greatest (and strangest) part of Costume Quest is the battle sequences. Essentially, while the player searches each neighborhood for their sibling, they will have to battle goblins and other enemies, but instead of fighting them as children, the characters transform into giant, stylized versions of their costumes, such as giant robots, the Statue of Liberty and...a fry monster (I don't get it either). Beyond the absurdity of the actual concept, these battles, although quite simplistic (only three attacks are available and there are is no item storage), they still have an epic feel to them, mainly due to the magnitude of the battles and attacks used by the characters. Unfortunately, the fun battles cannot mask the game's shallowness

and simplicity. Along with the minimal number of attacks, the rest of the game boils down to finding candy, fighting the occasional goblin and buying "battle stamps," which are used by each player to give them advantages in the fights. However, even with this flaw, the game play is still strangely compelling, whether it is because of the traditions means of video games or allowing people to somewhat relive the glory of Halloween.

Although "Costume Quest" does poorly in a couple of departments, the rest of the game stands out well enough to make it quite fun. Once the player looks past the length and difficulty, "Costume Quest" is a fun way to spend a weekend and a fine addition to the Xbox Live library.

Score: 7/10



Although ridiculous, Costume Quest's battle sequences are quite fun

to to the course of the course

## $A \mathcal{O}E$

# Downey Jr., Galifianakis Deliver in "Due Date"

Patrick Trouve
Copy Editor

With obvious anticipation for 2011's "The Hangover 2" to be released, produce Todd Phillips (Old School, The Hangover) has managed to offer up a film to hold over most comedy junkies for the time being. "Due Date" stars Robert Downey Jr. and Zach Galifianakis as two unlikely companions on a cross country road trip that seem to find trouble wherever their opposing personalities go.

The plot involves Peter Highman (Downey Jr.), a drymannered architect who is slated to complete his business trip in Atlanta in order to make it back to his native Los Angeles for the birth of his child. As one could expect, this plan goes awry at the hands of Ethan Tremblay (Galifianakis) whose clueless, yet personable attitude ultimately forces Highman from his flight and in need of a ride across the country.

Despite getting off on the obvious wrong foot, the over-

friendly Tremblay offers a reluctant Peter a ride with him to "Hollywood." What ensues are extremely comedic, laugh-outloud experiences as the pair try to cope with a lack of finances, Tremblay's adornment for a coffee tin filled with his recently deceased father's ashes and, of course, Tremblay's perverse dog that serves to annoy Peter the entire trip.

What comes out of the film is an eventual friendship that one could, perhaps, never see coming when initially examining the characters' personalities. The marijuana-junkie Ethan, although essentially harmless and good-natured towards his companion, only serves to bother the business-oriented Peter in his quest to be there for, what he feels is, the most important day of his life.

Between Tremblay's drug addiction, mannerisms, and perm hairstyle, one could argue that Galifianakis was the star of the picture; however, Downey Jr. was excellent in his own right, and the way the actors--and their respective character's personal-

ities--played off of each other, truly made the movie as hilarious as it turned out to be.

The only gripe I could point at in the film is the familiar, yet hilarious character Galifianakis portrays. Ethan Tremblay is essentially the same person as Alan from "The Hangover." This could be indicative of either Todd Phillips' producing or Galifianakis' acting scope. Regardless, both characters were enjoyable to watch in their respective films, and Ethan served as a slight reminder of the hilarity of "The Hangover," and the eventual "The Hangover?"

Ultimately, "Due Date" delivered laughs from start to finish. At times where the film was starting to fall flat, Galifianakis landed the pair in another set of seemingly unconquerable circumstances to keep the audience amused. Fans of "The Hangover" will certainly enjoy Galifianakis as he, once again, offers his unique style of comedy to the silver screen.



Downey Jr. and Galifianakis didn't always get along in "Due Date"

# Zombies Walking Onto the Scene

Tim Callahan

Editor in Chief

To counteract the current vampire hysteria, AMC provided viewers with "The Walking Dead," a show about a zombieladen apocalypse and those few who are still alive. Based on a comic book series by Robert Kirkman, "The Walking Dead" was created by Frank Darabont, a director who is most famous for "The Shawshank Redemption" and "The Green Mile," and it does enough within the confines of its hour-long episodes to potentially make George A. Romero proud.

Viewers who are familiar with zombie culture may recognize a plot device that "The Walking Dead" borrowed from the movie "28 Days Later." Rick Grimes, a police officer and the protagonist of the series, finds himself in a coma during the time when the zombie outbreak occurs, and when he wakes up, the world around him has completely fallen apart. Grimes spends his time becoming acclimated to his new environment, while looking for his family and helping any other survivors that he may find. Although some might cite the coma as outright plagiarism, the plot device does make sense and forces Rick and the viewers to discover this new world around him in a way that is emotionally involved.

Tests on the humanity of the characters are what separate "The Walking Dead" from previous narratives about zombies. Rather than simply resorting to cheap thrills and shallow action sequences found in many campy entries into the genre, "The Walking Dead" uses zombies as a foil to mankind and how individuals would react to such a situation. Furthermore, human relationships seem to be the driving part of the show, including a seeming love triangle and the inability for one character to kill his zombified wife. If you couple these principles with excellent acting, writing, scenery and a very particular attention to detail, then AMC seems to have found another hit.

Aside from the excellent acting and characterization, there are still the gruesome elements of a zombie story that one would expect, and the quality of the "walkers" (as they are referred to in the show) is quite good. At one point in the second episode, Grimes and Glenn, a spunky loner who is quick to criticize, do their best to imitate the zombie walk ability found in "Dead Rising." Cruising down a street full of zombies with blood and organs painted on them, the characters experienced a particularly tense trial that effectively evoked a reaction within the viewer

Yet another cool feature attached to the show is the ability for fans to win a walk-on role as a zombie. By watching the show and entering a code on the show's webpage after every week's episode, viewers have a chance to win the role, with a new winner every week. Such a contest keeps fans watching and provides an outlet for their zombie fantasies, so keep watching and shamble on!

"The Walking Dead" airs Sunday nights at 10 p.m. on AMC. If you're into zombies (or are not wholeheartedly against the premise), then be sure to tune in and have your mind blown... errr....eaten.

Seen a movie and want to write a review about it? Send an e-mail to the Observer at observer@snhu.edu today

# Sports

#### Women's Cross Country Making Strides

#### **Christie Cole**

Contributing Writer

SNHU's women's cross country team is a team to watch out for. They are currently ranked fifth in the U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association Division II East Region poll. This is the highest ranking a SNHU cross country team has ever achieved.

"We all wanted to do well so we put in the effort over the summer and came in ready to train hard," said runner Emma Lundberg, a junior at SNHU.

Their tough workouts included thousand meter repeat runs and ladder repeats on the track, which consist of running a series of 200, 400, and 600 meter runs. During the season, the team focuses on specific workouts based on the kind of race they will run that weekend.

"They want to do better so they keep working, yet still have fun in the process, which is a big difference because it brings out the attitudes of success," said head coach Sid Slark, who is in his eighth year with the team. Slark leads the team along with assistant coach Mary Garrity and senior captain Melissa Hurley.

Lundberg, the Penmen's top runner, is personally altering SNHU's record book. She has been named Northeast-10 Athlete of the Week five times this season and has been honored by WMUR as a "Hometown Hero." Lundberg posted four of the top six 5K times in the program's history just in the season's first four meets. She also took first place in two races this season.

In the first race at the Shacklette Invitational, Lundberg took first place with a time of 19:17 to propel the team to a second place finish. Lundberg then broke the school's 5K record with a time of 18:16 in the team's second race at the UMass Dartmouth Invitational. On Oct. 2, SNHU finished tied for first among 26 teams at the Pop Crowell Invitational, with Lundberg finishing second overall for the second best time in program history at 18:52. Most recently, Lundberg finished first overall and led the team to a second place finish at the Golden Knights Joust on October 22.

"Emma has the three D's to success: dedication, determination, and discipline to make it happen," said Slark.

The cross country team's accomplishments this year are garnering attention among other schools as the program has now reached a high level of respectability among its competitors.

The rankings give the Penmen an estimate of where they stand compared to other teams. They do talk about the rankings together, but they try not to let it go to their heads, and instead want to prove that they deserve to be where they are.

The Penmen will see their season come to an end at the NCAA East Regional at Franklin Park in Boston on November 21



Emma Lundberg has placed in the top ten of every Division II race this season.

#### Men's and Women's Soccer Both Ousted in NE-10s

#### Michael Ghika

Sports Editor

One team went under the radar and made a late season push. The other will tell you that it failed to live up to its own expectations.

Picked to win the conference title prior to the season, the men's soccer team finished its regular season 11-3-3. However, after beginning the year 11-1-1 with nine shutouts, the Penmen went 0-2-2 in their final four games before Le Moyne advanced past SNHU on penalty kicks in the Northeast-10 Quarterfinals on November 2.

The decision as to whether or not the men's team received a berth in the NCAA Tournament was handed down on Monday, Nov. 8, albeit press deadline. The Penmen were ranked fourth in the East Region after the loss to Le Moyne, and six teams are selected in each region across the country for the Division II tournament.

Meanwhile, the women's team began the year 4-6-1 before closing out the regular season with six straight wins to earn the No. 5 seed in the NE-10 tournament. But after completing the regular season schedule, surging to a 10-6-1 record, the Penmen

fell to American International 2-1 on Oct. 31 to put an end to their season in the NE-10 Quarterfinals.

The loss came in heartbreak-

The loss came in heartbreaking fashion for the Penmen after taking a 1-0 first half lead on a goal by senior Andrea Wilson. AIC tied it up with less than 15 minutes remaining in the second half before putting home the game winner with 55 seconds to go.

For the season, junior Ariel Teixeira led the way with 19 points on six goals and seven assists for the Penmen, while sophomore Kaleigh Roberge had seven goals and four assists for 18 points. Senior Danielle Courtemanche had four goals and four assists and grad student Alyssa Thayer finished the year with three goals and four assists.

Teixeira, Roberge, Courte-manche, and sophomore Daniela Abruzzese started all 18 games on the season. Sophomore goal-keeper Maggie Weldon also played in all 18 games, putting up a 0.94 goals against average mark with 54 saves.

For the men, senior Danny Hernandez led the team with six goals, while senior co-captain Mike Adam had five goals and six assists for a team-leading 16 points. Sophomore Christian Rodriguez also had five goals and four assists.

Goalkeepers Joey Kapinos (28 saves) and Jon Mayo (30 saves) each made eight starts apiece to combine for a 0.42 goals against average.



Junior Ariel Teixeira led SNHU in points (19) on six goals and seven assists.

## Sports

#### Branch Back in New England

#### **Alexander Costas**

Staff Writer

The first week of October certainly was not painless for your typical New England sports fan. Hearts were broken, swears were cussed, and the beloved number 81 was forever forgotten. Left with the absence of one of the greatest deep-threats ever in Randy Moss, the thought of Patriots quarterback Tom Brady

throwing for six points seemed mindboggling. With that, the Patriots dusted off the offensive playbook from years prior that focused on short yardage passing. The result? The best record in the NFL thus far at a dominant 6-1

When it comes to making the right decision for the organization as a whole, the team always seems to make the right call. After trading Moss, the Patriots brought back familiar face and Super Bowl XXXVI Most Valuable Player Deion Branch. A menace across the middle of the gridiron, Branch's positive attitude and leadership brings a new flavor to the Patriots huddle.

With 14 catches in his first three games back, Branch has totaled 148 yards and a touchdown. While Brady led the organization to three Super Bowl victories in a five-year span, Branch was a key element in two of those titles. Now with Branch back in the fold, the offense has returned to the familiar strategy of a short passing game which has, without a doubt, been a valuable transition.

As for Moss, Minnesota Vikings head coach Brad Childress certainly will not be receiving a Christmas card from the wide receiver this holiday season. Moss was waived by the organization last week, allowing the Tennessee Titans to bring him aboard after claiming him.

Will the Pats miss Randy? Only time will tell. He is now on his third team in just over a month, and with an impressive six wins in just seven games, the Patriots don't seem to be showing any signs of Moss withdrawals.

#### Women's Hoop Team Hopes for Restored Health

#### Stephen Wood

Contributing Writer

After sitting out last year due to injury, three key players on the SNHU women's basketball team are once again healthy for the upcoming season. Graduate student Julia Houghtaling, senior Libby Cullerot and redshirt junior Megan Smith are all set to return when the season begins Saturday, Nov. 13 against Concordia (N.Y.) College at the SNHU Fieldhouse. The game tips off at 6 p.m.

Houghtaling, a co-captain, missed last season due to multiple concussions she suffered.

After sitting out the year, she is now back and in good health following lots of work throughout the summer and fall.

"I cannot wait to play," said Houghtaling. "It was difficult at first because not only could I not play, but I couldn't work out either so I was out of shape. Once I got back into it, and in shape, everything started to come back."

Senior co-captain Libby Cullerot tore her ACL and MCL in her right knee midway through last season and was out seven months before being cleared to play. After surgery and an extensive rehabilitation process, she is

now physically healed.

"I got hurt right in the middle of last season, and it was really hard to sit out during that exciting time," said Cullerot. "I just wanted to get back before because sitting out made me realize even more how much I love being a part of the team and contributing."

Junior Megan Smith tore her ACL and was forced to miss all of last season. She is finally back on the court 10 months after surgery.

"The hardest part has been recalling and re-teaching bodily movements and having your brain and body work together again in an athletic manner," said Smith. "My knee has its good days and its bad days where it can be painful to move, cut, and jump, but that is normal for an injury like this."

"Each is at a different stage in her physical recovery," said assistant coach Kara Williamson. "They have all worked extremely hard to get themselves in the best possible shape, but it will take some time before everything comes natural again. Experience and leadership are going to be the most valuable assets the three will contribute collectively this season."

Houghtaling has averaged

9.9 points and 6.3 rebounds per game in three seasons with the Penmen, and is 229 points shy of 1,000 point mark for her career. She would become the 14th player in program history to do so.

Cullerot was averaging 6.6 points per game before her injury last season and is a deadly shooter from three-point range. Smith, a low-post threat, shot nearly 52 percent from the floor in 2008-09 prior to her injury.

Fans can find all team news and results at snhupenmen.com.





From left to right: Julia Houghtaling, Libby Cullerot and Megan Smith.

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#### Spotlight @ SNHU: Ann Nicodemi

Marissa Twombley

News Editor



The Learning Center staff is made up of many coordinators, including the new Writing Tutoring Coordinator Ann Nicodemi. Nicodemi received her B.A. in English from SUNY Geneseo and her M.A. in English and Irish Studies from Boston College. Out of the many universities and colleges to choose from, Nicodemi chose SNHU to pursue her career because, "I appreciate its dedication to student-centered learning, and also because I think The Learning Center is a pretty awesome place."

Nicodemi's duties in the Learning Center vary.

"[I am] in charge of all of the aspects of writing tutoring in The Learning Center. I am responsible for hiring, training and evaluating writing tutors, and I also do some tutoring now, I am working on getting the word out to SNHU students about the types of writing tutor- and let's welcome her to SNHU.

ing services that we have avail-

Having a writing tutoring coordinator has many benefits, especially for students.

"I think I benefit students because I help to ensure that they receive the best possible writing tutoring options, and also because of the way that I facilitate the process of obtaining these services," Nicodemi explained. "If a student comes into my office to talk with me about getting some help with writing, then I will help her decide the best way to get the assistance she needs. I work with the writing tutors to follow through with this student and make sure that she receives excellent tutoring.'

If anyone is interested in learning more about writing tutoring, you can get in touch with Ann Nicodemi via email at myself," Nicodemi said. "Right a.nicodemi@snhu.edu, or visit her office in Stark 30. She would love to meet with more students,

# **Voices and Faces:** What are you thankful for?



"I'm thankful for my grandmother and my 1% milk."

Julie Lu; AKA, "J. Lu"



"My family, my friends on campus, and definitely having a job."

Maryna Demetri



"I'm going to be cliché and say my family." Cassandria Shawver



"I get a lot of headaches, so I'm going to go with Advil."

John Carbaneo

