



# the OBSERVER

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observer@snhu.edu

Manchester, NH

## SNHU Globally Ranked by Fast Company

**Fred Whittle**  
*Staff Writer*

Southern New Hampshire University was ranked twelfth out of the top fifty businesses in the world. Ranked by Fast Company's annual guide to "the businesses that matter most, the ones whose innovations are having an impact across their industries and our culture."

They recognized and were fascinated by the recent success of SNHU. "We want to create the business model that blows up our current business model," says President Paul Leblanc.

Apple, Facebook, and

Google took the top three spots of the list in that order. At number twelve, the headline beneath SNHU's placement reads "For relentlessly reinventing higher education,

online and off." These top fifty companies are very popular. For example, one spot ahead of SNHU is HBO ranked at number eleven and other notable and well-recognized

companies that were ranked below SNHU were the NFL at number fifteen, Starbucks at number twenty-four, and UPS at number thirty-eight.

Senior and Communication major, Tricia Williamson shares her thoughts, "It goes to show that it doesn't matter how large your business is, it is how you manage what is at hand. Image is very important within a business, especially in education."

"It does not surprise me that we were given this honor. Not only were we the only

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## What do Students Think about Guns on Campus?

**Marissa Twombly**  
*News Editor*

Campus Universities around the country are in a battle to decide whether to allow firearms onto campus grounds. According to WMUR in New Hampshire, the senate has voted to study a bill on whether to allow guns on college campuses and other public property.

Many people of the community are outraged and state that this will only cause chaos and shootings on campuses, but other universities disagree with this. Liberty University in Lynchburg, Virginia, has had more than 60 members of the faculty, staff, and even students apply for permission to carry



*Bradley Jardis and Tommy Mozingo at Plymouth State University*

concealed weapons on campus. In November of 2011, the Board of Trustees of the College changed policy on firearms and it recites that "the school's police department [can] give permission to members of the university community

to carry guns under certain conditions," according to WMUR.

Jerry Falwell, Jr., the Richmond Times-Dispatch chancellor, stated that he hopes this policy will deter campus shootings and defends the

policy by stating that 70 other institutions allow weapons on campus with prior police permission.

Right here in New Hampshire, activists protest Plymouth State University arguing that guns should be allowed on the campus. They say that the universities policy of no firearms on campus is illegal and disarm people from self-defense purposes. Two activists, Bradley Jardis and Tommy Mozingo, in support of allowing guns on campus, cause quite a stir stating that they were going to bring unloaded rifles on campus to make a statement. Many classes were cancelled and students were asked to stay indoors if they felt unsafe. The

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**FEBRUARY 29:  
LEAP DAY**



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## Letters from the Editors

**Megan Kidder**  
*Co-Editor-in-Chief*

Happy Leap Year Everyone!

We've done it. We are half way through the Spring 2012 semester, already. Does time really fly when you're having fun? Or am I just used to Spring semesters dragging on relentlessly? Regardless of how you're feeling about this semester thus far, it is imperative to be excited about Spring Break. Although not actually in the spring, it is still a time for ridding memories of bad test grades, possibly going home for quality time with family, working extra hours, or even going on a vacation to some exotic land (or not so exotic, I plan on traveling to Florida.) The most important function of Spring Break is relaxation.

So whether you're staying in New Hampshire, reading a book, going to MTV's Spring Break Party on a lush island, or sleeping your days away, I hope you all relax, rejuvenate. Go have fun and take care wherever you may find yourself. Lastly, I hope you come back to school refreshed with a story to tell.

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 Hippo Press. To contact the newspaper, please

e-mail us at  
observer@snhu.edu.

**Sarah Silvestriadis**  
*Co-Editor-in-Chief*

Hello everybody! It's been exciting around here at SNHU. Fast Company has ranked SNHU number twelve out of fifty on the worlds' "Most Innovative Companies" and we beat Starbucks and the National Football League! You can read the full story in this issue. Also in this issue, SNHU recently announced their latest project to build a new library, dormitory, and new parking, (I know you commuters are excited about that!) Speaking of getting excited, it seems like every time I walk by the Last Chapter Pub, there is more free stuff being given away! My friend Tony and I recently walked by to see that they were designing splatter paint sunglasses, graffiti-style bags, hats, and scarves. Needless to say that "free" is any college student's favorite word. I remember as a prospective student, (can you believe that it was just last year, freshmen?) that out of all the colleges I was looking into, SNHU was the most personable, and also gave away the most free stuff. With all the changes going on, SNHudents have a lot to be excited about in the next few years. Now enjoy your free copy of The Observer!



Staff Photo

Like to keep up with the news?  
Try writing some for the Observer!  
We're always looking for new writers.  
Contact the observer@snhu.edu

# News

## The Norovirus

**Megan Kidder**  
*Co-Editor-in-Chief*

Recently, three American cruise ships docked early due to an overwhelming number of passengers and staff infected with the Norovirus. ABC Nightly News displayed ill passengers sluggishly disembarking their journey at sea.

Not only cruise ship travelers are at risk for The Norovirus, which seems to be on the rise this year. A cruise ship is a breeding ground for a virus like this one. Just as a cruise ship, other close quarters like nursing homes, schools, and college campuses (especially the dorms) are at a higher risk of spreading the virus. This is why SNHU has already taken the initiative to protect students from coming down with any ailments this winter. The Wellness Center on campus has created an informational page with links to the CDC, which educates students about the contraction and spread of this impending illness.

The Norovirus is a prominent cause of acute gastroenteritis. Chills, aches and pains, fatigue, vomiting and diarrhea plague sufferers. Contrary to popular belief, this virus is actually a respiratory sickness, not a flu. The University Nurse of the Wellness Center, Sharon Dyer, emphasizes that this virus is highly contagious and passed through contact. The Norovirus is spread when contagious material is touched. Also, uncooked foods such as sushi are more likely to carry the virus from being touched with contagions. Washing hands and keeping up with hygiene are student's best defense against contracting or spreading the virus.

Dyer refers to the SNHU community as a "vulnerable population," because of its highly occupied public spaces such as dorms, classrooms, library, gym, and cafeteria. The Wellness Center urges students to keep living and public spaces clean. If a student is aware of any believed signs of the virus in bathrooms or other

areas on campus they should let an R.A. or proper facilities personnel know about the situation. The best prevention is to keep SNHU sanitary. Dyer credits Residence Life and Sodexo for their best to prevent the spread of the virus.

SNHU is one of the many college campuses that could be infected with the Norovirus this winter. Some cases do have the potential to go unknown, however. The virus can only be accurately diagnosed by a doctor through bloodtests. Many people could endure the virus, deeming it just a bug. There is no quick cure for this virus but rest (preferably at home) and hydration. The Wellness Center speculates that the Norovirus making an appearance in the SNHU community is a real possibility.

Erin Davies, an on-campus student says, "I'm really glad it is only one or two days just incase it does go around." Although students may not feel threatened by the Norovirus, it is still realistic to take precautions.

## Students Excited for SNHU's New Additions

**Sarah Silvestriadis**  
*Co-Editor-in-Chief*

The Southern New Hampshire University campus has been buzzing with the news of a brand new dorm building, parking garage, and library. A three-hundred bed dormitory on the east side of campus, a library next to the Dining Center, and a parking garage rumored to be put near the Athletic Center is planned to be finished construction by 2014. On Friday, February 14, the plans were approved by the Board of Trustees with a budget that could reach up to \$45 million. SNHU President Paul Leblanc told the Union Leader: "We just have more and more students who come, and we keep growing." In two years the student population at SNHU has grown from 1,880 undergraduate day students to 2,358 students.

With a new dorm on the East Side where the newer apartments and sophomore dorms reside, SNHU will have more space to put students and possibly let the population grow. The dormitory is to be completed by September of 2013. "A new dorm would be nice so students don't have to live in hotels due to overcrowding," commented Erin Morrow, a freshman at SNHU, "and I like our current library, but a new one would be nice." The new \$18 million, fifty thousand square foot library will contain a brand new learning commons, complete

with private study rooms, a café, and over one-hundred-thousand books. It is planned to be debuting in January 2014.

Plans for a new eight-hundred space parking garage is set to be completed in January 2014 along with the new library with an estimated \$12 million price tag. "Students have asked for more green space on campus, parking is already tight" said Leblanc. SNHU and Harvey Construction of Bedford are exploring the options of removing parking in between Robert Frost Hall and the Hospitality Center, or building the parking garage near the Fieldhouse.

Some students have voiced their concerns about whether or not the new additions will be ready on time. Freshman Nick Deletetsky said, "I don't think it will be done by the time we graduate, nothing ever goes planned accordingly." Concerns arose over the addition to the Student Center and the new mailroom, which was supposed to be completed by the time the students returned from this past winter break and is still under construction. "In reality it won't be done on time," said Morrow, "the mailroom and the Student Center was supposed to be done by now." Once the construction is done, Deletetsky states that the brand new campus will draw more potential students, and said that the new additions would "draw more attention to the school."

## SNHU Stands Up Against Bullying and Violence

**Sarah Silvestriadis**  
*Co-Editor-in-Chief*

"Hate and violence have no place on our campus," remarked Sheila Lambert from the Southern New Hampshire University Wellness Center. The Wellness Center kicked off their "Enough is Enough" campaign on February 2nd. The committee presented a banner in the Dining Center where students, faculty, and staff signed the pledge to stand up against bullying and violence. During the week of Feb. 2-11th there was an "Enough is Enough" video playing around campus. Hundreds of signatures covered the banner, and Lambert commented, "We're teaching

people to step in and not be a bystander."

On February 11 the "Enough is Enough" committee brought the pledge to the women's basketball game where they encouraged the audience to take a stance against bullying and violence by signing the pledge. The committee also promoted the campaign at the men's hockey game that evening where they had more pledges, announcements, and "Enough is Enough" t-shirts were thrown into the audience.

The Wellness Center, Generation Equality, SGA, Residence Life, Athletics, and Campus Programming and Leadership have worked collaboratively on the "Enough

is Enough" campaign. The campaign will also be promoted at: the "No Hate Campaign" on February 27 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Corcoran Conference room, at "The Clothesline Project" presented by Phi Omega Psi where students can make a t-shirt to support the victims of sexual abuse, at "The White Ribbon Campaign" which brings all men together to sign a pledge supporting violence against women, and at the annual "Walk A Mile in Her Shoes" event. Look for advertisements on dates of upcoming programs and come to be a part of the "Enough is Enough" campaign. "All of the events coming up are part of Sexual Abuse Awareness Month,"

said Lambert. "The underlying message is to understand, and to be part of the solution, not the problem."

The "Enough is Enough" campaign is a NASPA (Students Affairs Administrators in Higher Education) national campaign aimed to stop violence and bullying in all forms whether it is in person, in cyberspace, or through text messages. Last fall

SNHU won NASPA'S Regional Program of the Year Award for the "Enough is Enough" campaign as well as the National NASPA Program of the Year. Lambert will be attending the NASPA conference in Phoenix, Arizona in March to promote the campaign and show how it has benefitted the SNHU community.

# The NHHEAF Aiming to Help College Students

Marissa Twombly  
News Editor

Thinking about student loan debt? Want help in learning money management skills? The New Hampshire Higher Education Assistance Foundation is an organization seeking to help college students and their money management skills. The NHHEAF Campaign for Financial Education is a series of financial workshops that allow New Hampshire residents and college students learn about the importance of handling money and borrowing money sensibly.

The Campaign for Financial Education workshops provide brochures as well as web and classroom workshops that teach money management skills. "We want to help students make smart borrowing and money management decisions. And the educational programs we offer are making a difference. Despite the fact that the national student loan default rate increased to 8.8% in 2010, New Hampshire has among the lowest default rates at 3.4%," states Tara Payne, VP for College Planning at NHHEAF.

According to the press release off of the NHHEAF website, "As the economy continues to struggle, college tuitions increase and the average NH student

college debt load is declared the highest in the country." Students should be considering these workshops provided by the NHHEAF to help understand financial planning. "Many students share with us that borrowing student loans was the only way that they would have been able to pay for college. We recognize that student loan financing is a reality for most college students. Still, having a financial plan is critical to successful repayment. That's where our campaign for financial education comes in," states Payne.

The organization also provides The College Equals Opportunity scholarship in which business leaders from New Hampshire companies share their success stories and challenges, as well as college experiences. Scholarships are awarded to students who demonstrate leadership qualities and academic achievement. Every month the organization also provides a \$1,000 scholarship through their "Take it to the Bank" program which students and families are provided with advice to assist them in their college planning.

The NHHEAF also

supports students applying for the renewal FAFSA. "If SNHU students receive financial aid and have questions about applying again for the 2012-2013 school year, they should meet with an expert on campus, but also feel comfortable to contact NHHEAF anytime to set up an appointment to file the FAFSA in person or over the phone. The FAFSA filing appointments are free and offered in partnership with the NH Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (NHASFAA) in which SNHU has membership."

The NHHEAF is hosting two upcoming webinars that are free to access and online. They offer advice about managing your money, building your credit and student loan repayment. The webinar "Credit Worthy" focuses on credit for your future and will be held on Thursday March 1, 2012 from 5:00 PM – 6:00 PM. The "It's Not Free Money for College" webinar focusing on student loan repayment will be held on Monday April 23, 2012 from 5:00 PM – 6:00 PM.

For any more information on the NHHEAF, visit <http://www.nhheaf.org/index.asp>. College counselors can also be reached at 1-888-7-GRADUATE.



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## Fast Company

Continued from page 01

school listed within those fifty, but also we are the only school that offers an integrated three-year business program in which you can receive your Bachelor's Degree. That is remarkable," Mark Painchaud states, a senior and Business Administration Major at SNHU.

SNHU's success has attracted potential partners who could help spread the model. Fast Company goes on to explain that LeBlanc hopes that by 2014 SNHU will boast the country's biggest online not-for-profit education system.

Fast Company is the world's leading progressive business media brand, with a unique editorial focus on innovation in technology, "ethonomics" (ethical economics), leadership, and design. Fast Company magazine was founded in 1995 on a single premise: a global revolution was changing business, and business was changing the world.

## Guns on Campus

Continued from page 01

activists, however, did not bring the rifles but brought pamphlets about the importance of having guns on campus instead.

On WMUR, Bob Johnson states "no place for guns on any campus, you have a right to an education, not to making trouble." There were opposing views as well. Devon Fuchs states "college students may be young, but they are still citizens, and still have all the rights that other citizens of the State of New Hampshire enjoy, including the right to keep and bear arms. A lot of these kids live on campus, so this rule is essentially saying they cannot have a gun in their home, that's wrong, plain and simple."

# Opinion

## Why Should I Consider Working for a Nonprofit?

**Christiana Amesquita**  
*Contributing Writer*

Before coming to Southern New Hampshire University in Manchester, NH, I spent nearly three years at a small nonprofit farm and museum hidden in the mountains between the Lakes Region and the Mount Washington Valley. It had beautiful roaming pastures, farm animals, and wonderful educational programs. It also happened to be the only job available in rural NH for miles to come. In 2008, after I graduated with a BA in Mass Communications, I didn't know, at the time, the plummeting job market would steer me into the direction of a nonprofit organization. I would have never considered the nonprofit world otherwise.

There are 1.5 million nonprofits in the United States

according to CareerWomanInc.com and I found myself in one of them, completely new to the game in every way. As I shifted from who I thought I wanted to be, I threw myself into the role of a PR Coordinator where at least I was able to use my new degree. What did I find? This was rewarding work. Not only was I helping the museum by promoting everything they had to offer, I was also connecting visitors to a world where they could learn about history, education, and self-sustainability. I would later go on to develop the Museum's marketing plans and would help increase their annual attendance numbers higher than they had ever reached before.

The nonprofit world may not be right for everyone, but if you have an interest in helping others, are passionate about a cause, or want to make a difference

in the community, maybe even the world; here are few things to consider!

You may wonder...

Do I need a special degree? Whether your major or interests lie within finance, healthcare, marketing, political science, technology, human resources, education, etc., your skills are transferable and nonprofits need them.

Are there nonprofit jobs available? Just like with any job, it will take effort to find open positions and with 1.5 million nonprofits in the U.S, that's a lot of options. Whether it's a charitable organization or an educational institution like SNHU; there is an organization for you.

Meet likeminded and talented professionals. From board members to your co-workers, you will work in an

environment with other talented professionals with interests similar to your own. You can have the chance to network, learn from each other and often times receive more one on one time with your boss or director who can serve as a great mentor. Nonprofits also create a perfect setting to hone your teamwork, communication, organization and leadership skills, due to typically smaller staff and budgets.

You can make an impact. Working to support a cause is fulfilling and when you see the positive effects on the community because of your efforts, it becomes more than a job. What's better? When you're doing something you love, it will keep you motivated! You may not make a corporate salary, but the lasting impact you can make on the community or world, is priceless.

Here are a few fantastic nonprofits to explore: the Make a Wish Foundation, Invisible Children, City Year, United Way, the AMC, Big Brothers Big Sisters, the American Cancer Society, ABAN and the Remick Country Doctor Museum & Farm.

If you would like to hear more about the nonprofit world, stop by the Career Development Center or contact me by email at [c.amesquita@snhu.edu](mailto:c.amesquita@snhu.edu). I would be more than happy to share with you my experiences. In the meantime, check out SNHU Recruit and CareerShift for internships and jobs related to nonprofits. Both can be accessed through the Career Development Center pages on MySNHU. Remember, it's your career...what have you done lately?

# Horoscopes

**Michelle Diaz**  
*Contributing Writer*

**Aries:** Effort and persistence will go a long way this month! If things don't seem to feel as if they're progressing, DON'T PANIC! Things will be okay, keep working hard and doing what you're doing. Relationships could be turning for the better, so don't be surprised if you find fantasy leaking into reality. Stay strong Aries!

**Taurus:** Feeling a bit sensitive lately? This month would be a good time to consider taking a trip to the Serve office and doing some community service hours. Compassion seems to take center stage for you throughout February! Go on Taurus and give back to the community!

**Gemini:** Don't let relationship issues bog you down this month! Stay strong and keep

going, the most important thing is to remember that even if you have to handle one concern after another, keep focused on your long-term goals. If things get a bit heavy, don't hesitate to talk to someone and you might find some constructive feedback coming your way.

**Cancer:** Emotions are high this month Cancer! Remember to keep a level head and perhaps seek spiritual guidance when you find yourself in need of answers to material and personal questions. You've got this Cancer!

**Leo:** Time to re-evaluate some things this month Leo especially if you find yourself with unfulfilled needs. Be courageous and let yourself express these feelings! As your relationship expectations grow more realistic you start to get a wonderful grasp on both fantasy and reality, so use it to your advantage. Delving into some emotional fields might be a

bit unsettling, but keep in mind to trust your intuition and you may find it beneficial to open up!

**Virgo:** Virgo! You may find it beneficial to set your overly critical nature aside for a little bit. Try not to focus on the superficial aspects of yourself and others and look within. If you've found yourself overwhelmed by a needy individual, this could turn into something positive later on.

**Libra:** This month is time to put your best foot forward in social situations and show your generous heart! Finding some conflict at work or in group projects? Try your hand at mediator and do your best to promote peace and harmony!

**Scorpio:** This month is definitely a time where you need to be careful with spontaneous decisions when it comes to your financial investments. While following your intuition is great, taking a bit of extra time to do

some research might turn out to be very beneficial.

**Sagittarius:** Keep strong this month Sagittarius! Stay true to your positive nature when things may seem overwhelming this month! Family and friends are a good resource you should definitely turn to, and this might be a good time to mend some broken relationships! Stay optimistic and keep in mind that thoughts and dreams require action in order to be realized!

**Capricorn:** Detach from your rigid views of life this month Capricorn! Embracing a free spirit and perhaps taking on more of an ambitious attitude could be in your favor. Be careful when it comes to some overly needy individuals, but on the same side try your best to stay compassionate. Take note Capricorn: Let go of some of your safety nets!

**Aquarius:** It looks like a

good month for you Aquarius. However, while you're living it up, it important to remember the needs of others as well! Do you feel like some goals aren't being reached? That's okay, remember if things aren't going as you expected, the goal of your dreams is to spur something greater! Pay close attention to your finances - maybe cutting back on the mall trips isn't such a bad idea!

**Pisces:** If you keep being tempted to ignore the reality of life... don't do it! Get your head out of the fantasy for a little bit and come back to Earth. Perhaps you should be willing to use a bit of your fantasies as a way to inspire others around you. Life seems to be on your side, especially when it comes to attaining your goals and making some dreams come true. Keep in mind to remember that you possess everything needed to be happy, just set aside your doubts!

# Arts & Entertainment

## Man on a Ledge

**Samuel Doe**

*Staff Writer*

In what is surely one of the more original movie ideas of the year, Sam Worthington stars as the eponymous Man on a Ledge. He has staged a suicide attempt as part of an elaborate plot to clear his name of a crime he did not commit. Worthington's character, Nick Cassidy, is an ex-cop sentenced to 25 years in prison for the theft of a precious diamond, framed with the help of someone in the NYPD. To hold the plan together, Nick must win over the police psychologist called in to talk him off of his ledge, Lydia Mercer (played by Elizabeth Banks). In the meantime, while the attention of newscasters and a city full of spectators is riveted on Cassidy, the way is clear for his brother, Joey Cassidy (Jamie Bell) to prove that Nick didn't steal the diamond – by stealing it himself.

Man on a Ledge is not, perhaps, a truly great movie, but it is an extremely fun one. Worthington and Banks are both excellently cast in the lead roles. The movie does not have any huge surprises in store, but parts of it are, nevertheless, quite intense, a feeling enhanced in places by rather clever cinematography.



Filmofilia.com

The movie does have its flaws. Ed Harris turns in a good performance as the movie's villain, but he's not given a lot to work with. The character seems a bit contrived, and his motivations a bit far-fetched. Joey's girlfriend, Angie (Genesis Rodriguez), is a mediocre character played by a passable actress. Although the film's beginning is very strong, the ending is abrupt and leaves a few loose ends untied.

The main problem with Man on a Ledge is that it does not maintain the striking originality of the premise throughout the entire film. If it had, it might have managed to make itself into something very singular. However, it remains a very fun film, and well worth watching. In short, if someone looking for the next Fugitive, stay clear, but if you're looking for a great night out at the movies, Man on a Ledge is an excellent choice.

## Movie Review: Joyful Noise

**Dennis Wright**

*Staff Writer*

Joyful Noise was released in theaters January 13, 2012. With big names like Queen Latifah and Dolly Parton in the trailers, people will go and expect to laugh themselves to tears by the time the credits roll around. That is not necessarily the case with this movie. Someone who goes to see this movie will not regret the time they spent watching, but they may feel a little disappointed all the same.

Joyful Noise takes place in a poor southern town and focuses around a small church choir. With the recent death of their choral director, Vi Rose Hill (Queen Latifah) takes over the choir by the will of the church council. G.G. Sparrow (Dolly Parton), the widow of the former director, feels that she should have been made director. This apparent slight, along with differing opinions about the working of the choir, set these

two formidable women against each other.

Vi Rose Hill is mother to two teenagers; her son, Walter (Dexter Darden), is depicted with Asperger's Syndrome. The daughter, Olivia (Keke Palmer), is a head-strong teenager that does not like living under her mother's "tyrannical" thumb. This is possibly why she falls for Dolly Parton's grandson Randy, a local bad boy played by Jeremy Jordan. In order to impress Olivia, Randy joins the choir and brings contemporary ideas with him. This does not sit well with the classical Vi Rose or the rather conservative nature of the church council.

To the disappointment of the choir, their rivals beat them at regionals of the Joyful Noise Competition once again. To put salt in the wound, the church declares that they can no longer fund a losing choir. With this added stress, along with the longtime absence of her husband, Vi Rose forbids Olivia

to see Randy.

When the judges of the Joyful Noise Competition learn that Vi Rose's rivals hired professional singers, they let the church know that they will be going to California instead. The church agrees to sponsor them one last time on one condition: Randy is not allowed to go with them. They do not like his modern ideas and consider his remixes of religious music to be blasphemous.

This movie was good, but predictable to a fault. While musicals are always cute, this one was not as funny as would be expected. With a Parton/Latifah combo, people should have been rolling in the aisles. Most critics find this movie to be sub par. Still, if audiences are interested in a feel good movie, with a happy ending, this is the movie to see. It may be lacking in plot, but it does contain that happy ending that all are looking for.

## Ten Years of McIninch Art Gallery Celebrations

**Maranda Twombly**

*Creative Editor and Arts and Entertainment Editor*

The McIninch Art Galley celebrates 10 years of outstanding exhibits with the help of donations from committed patrons. The gallery displays art exhibits from original artists both within the Southern New Hampshire University community as well as the greater New England area. This special event highlights the dedication and hard work displayed throughout the gallery.

Marking this exceptional anniversary, the communities throughout southern New Hampshire were fortunate to have bestselling author, Gregory Maguire, demonstration a remarkable presentation. Maguire is the bestselling author of Confessions of an Ugly

Stepsister, Lost, Mirror Mirror, and most notably known for the Wicked Series.

The Wicked Series includes four astounding novels based on the Wicked Witch of the West. These books include Wicked: The Life and Times of the Wicked Witch of the West, Son of a Witch, A Lion Among Men, and lastly, Out of Oz. Maguire's presentation was focused on his first book of the Wicked Series. His novel has been turned into a Tony Award-winning Broadway musical, Wicked.

Dorothy Kosinsky, Director of the Phillips Art Collection, introduced Maguire who began his presentation with information about his early childhood and adult life. Growing up in a strict home lifestyle, the Maguire children were limited in what they were allowed to do. Attempting one

of the few opportunities given to himself, Maguire began to write and thus, his career as a writer began.

As a novelist, Maguire discussed his most notable book written, Wicked, with the audience and shared an excerpt from the ending. The excerpt read discussed the Wicked Witch, Elphaba, conversing with her son, Liir. Maguire is just as exceptional a speaker as he is with his writing; he speaks as the different characters and draws the audience members into the scene.

Maguire commenced the presentation with another excerpt from the fourth book of the Wicked Series, Out of Oz. The book itself, as well as the excerpt read, discusses Dorothy on trial for the murder of the witch. The series itself takes a spin on what society

knows about the Wicked Witch, from what has been seen in movies and plays. This is exactly what Maguire wanted the reader to feel: the difference and the sadness of the life of Elphaba.

As the presentation commenced, Maguire held a question and answers session. Afterwards, he signed autographs and spoke with the guests of the presentation in the lobby of Robert Frost Hall. 10 years of celebration with the McIninch Art Gallery completed the event with an outstanding author.

# Social Media

## Keeping Up with Phi Omega Psi

**Debra Ricci**  
*Contributing Writer*

The sisters of Phi Omega Psi have been very busy since returning from winter break. They have been a part of several events such as “Wild, Wild West,” Club Day, RUSH, and several sister-bonding activities. The theme of RUSH this semester was Hollywood themed, which turned out to be a fun event for all, and the sisters are looking forward to welcoming all the great girls who are looking to join the sisterhood. After RUSH, Phi Omega Psi hosted “Muffin for Your Muffin” which is an event they put on every year where students can purchase muffins for the special person in

their life, and have them delivered as a special treat.

Two more fun events that the Greek community has to look forward to this semester are “Fish Wish” and “Greek Games.” “Fish Wish” is hosted by Phi Omega Psi and will be hosted in the pub where students can come play games and win some FREE gold fish! There is a little bit of time to spare before Greek Games begin, but the committees will be meeting up to plan all of the events and the Phi Omega Psi sisters can’t wait to partake in the festivities. This semester looks like it’s going to be a great one with new girls, events, and good times, and the sisters are very excited to see what’s next to come!

## NASCAR Kinetics Viewing Party in Full Motion

**Alex LaCroix**  
*Contributing Writer*

For the second straight semester, Southern New Hampshire University’s NASCAR Kinetics class will be hosting a viewing party for a selected NASCAR race. Last fall, the successful event took place at the New Hampshire Motor Speedway (NHMS) in Loudon, NH where fans received the full NASCAR experience. This semester the NASCAR Kinetics team will bring that same atmosphere closer to home. This semester’s viewing

party will be held on April 1st during the “Goody’s Fast Pain Relief 500” which takes place at Martinsville Speedway. The “Ms. Brown M&M’s Viewing Party” will take place at Jillian’s Billiards Club, Bar, and Restaurant located off Canal Street in Manchester. In addition to the race, the Kinetics team will provide fun and games to enhance the NASCAR experience and give away some great prizes. Students are welcome to join the Kinetics team on April 1st at Jillian’s for the race, giveaways, and free food!

## Panama City Beach and Student Universe Announce World’s Largest Bikini Parade Attempt

**Melissa Porcelli**  
*Contributing Writer*

PANAMA CITY BEACH, FL., February 8, 2012 – During these frosty months that start the year, cold weather dwellers and college students certainly have one thing in common – counting down the days until spring. College students can hardly wait to trade their books for fun in the sun. Each year, thousands of students descend upon Panama City Beach for Spring Break, and 2012 could literally be one for the books. On March 6th, Panama City Beach hopes to smash the Guinness World Record title for the “World’s Largest Bikini Parade” by hosting a line-up at Harpoon Harry’s restaurant, located on the sandy shores of the Gulf of Mexico.

“Our beautiful beaches have long been home to exciting events – especially during Spring Break,” said Dan Rowe, president and CEO of the Panama City Beach Convention & Visitors Bureau. “This year, we are proud to offer the Bikini Parade challenge to our spring breakers as a fun activity that will make some waves in the history books and benefit a good cause.” The attempt challenges current record holder, Gold Coast, Australia – where 357 women paraded last year, and will benefit a local charity with a donation from event organizer, Student Universe. The competition has been heating up between the coastal communities, with statements from the Australian city declaring their intentions to retain the title. Rules for participating on either coast are simple: bikinis of all colors and designs are welcome, but “tankinis,” one-piece suits, shorts or cover-ups will not make the count.

For more information on the

Panama City Beach Bikini Parade or Spring Break 2012, please visit [www.studentuniverse.com](http://www.studentuniverse.com). Students are encouraged RSVP to the event on Facebook, where they can also learn more about the details on the record-breaking attempt, or on Twitter @StudentU\_Inc.

Boston-based Student Universe is a technology company that operates the most visited student deals website/service in the United States. By verifying student status the company is able to offer its members access to exclusive deals and experiences. The company launched its online service in 2000. Millions of students use the service each year. Contact [press@studentuniverse.com](mailto:press@studentuniverse.com) for more information.

Panama City Beach is situated on 27 miles of sugar-white sand beaches bordering clear, emerald-green waters where the Gulf of Mexico and St. Andrew Bay converge. With more than 300 days of sunshine annually and attractions such as St. Andrews State Park and Pier Park, the region has long been favored by travelers seeking an affordable beach vacation with year-round offerings for families, couples, groups and adventure-seekers. These include championship golf courses, spas, sporting events, award-winning dining and diverse recreational activities. Panama City Beach recently opened the Northwest Florida Beaches International Airport, offering non-stop flights on Delta Airlines and Southwest Airlines. Go to [www.visitpanamacitybeach.com](http://www.visitpanamacitybeach.com) for more information.

## HSA Attends Special Events Conference

**Sarah Silvestriadis**  
*Co-Editor-in-Chief*

Southern New Hampshire University’s Hospitality Student Association attended the Special Events Conference in Tampa, Florida in January 2012. The conference provided hospitality students with the opportunity to attend educational sessions and trade show to learn the ropes of the events industry. The Executive Board of the HSA, Justin Vezina, Robert Sideman, Amanda Guil- lot, Kaitlin Sampson, and their faculty advisor, Susan Torrey, travelled to Tampa where they tried their hands at planning weddings, bar mitzvahs, and all kinds of different events with catering, decorations, and venues. The Trade Show displayed the newest trends for the hottest events and presented business opportunities for the students. “The industry is always changing and is faced paced and we love that,” Kaitlin Sampson, a junior at SNHU and Vice President of the HAS, commented.

Sampson also spoke about meeting peers from all over the country at the conference, and met SNHU alum Patti Reed-Ciaccio who was also a hospitality major while attending former New Hampshire College. Ciaccio gave the students insight on the hospitality industry and advice such as “never stab anyone in the back,” and to be personable with everyone, which will get students very far into their future careers. Sampson remarked, “we love working with people,” which makes these students perfect for the hospitality business.



# Creative

## "The Pink Dress Part VI"

Megan Kidder  
Co-Editor-in-Chief

"Where are you going?" Morgan called to me as I clicked my heels down the cement steps outside the church.

"Home." I didn't bother looking back.

"You were so close," she said. She caught up to me.

"I wasn't close to anything" A lump rolled up my esophagus. "I ruined his wedding, that's all I did. I didn't change anyone's mind."

"You said what you needed to say," she said. Only a real friend could remind you of your small accomplishment during a catastrophic failure.

"It just didn't pan out the way I planned." It was hard to exhale despite the fresh air.

"Call if you need me." Morgan hugged me. I scraped my feet across the pavement to my car.

When I arrived at my apartment I snuggled a brown paper grocery bag. I closed the door behind me with my heel and reached to place my keys on their hook. I missed and let them jingle to the floor. I told myself I'd pick them up tomorrow, if I even left the house tomorrow.

I made my way to the kitchen, flicking on each light switch along the way. I put the paper bag on the counter and started putting my items away in the fridge. I closed it and opened the junk drawer filled with takeout menus. I wasn't preparing a lonely dinner for one; I'd just get takeout for two and eat both servings before realizing it.

I decided on Chinese. There was nothing like Lo Mein to aid the healing process. As I hit talk on the phone, I decided against it. I would order food later. Instead, I grabbed a spoon, a glass, a bottle of wine, and a pint of double fudge brownie nut ice cream.

After setting my heartbreak ensemble on the coffee table, I peeled off my pink dress and kicked off my shoes. I wished the dress wasn't so pretty.

On the couch in my non-matching bra and underwear, I settled with Dirty Dancing. As Baby and her family arrived at their summer destination, I popped the cork on the bottle of wine. I contemplated the glass but took a gulp from the bottle instead. I was okay with being pathetic so I dug into my ice cream too.

"Go back home, Baby. Love isn't worth it," I yelled with a mouth full of ice cream at my television.

I couldn't tell if it was the Mamba music or a knock on my door as I shoveled in another tablespoon of ice cream. I turned down the volume. It was my door.

I wrapped myself in a beige blanket from the back of my couch and waited for another knock. Without thinking about the fact that I was in a blanket and underwear or that there could be an axe murderer on the other side of the door, I opened it.

He stood there in a wrinkled suit. It was no axe murderer. It was Nash.

## "Untitled"

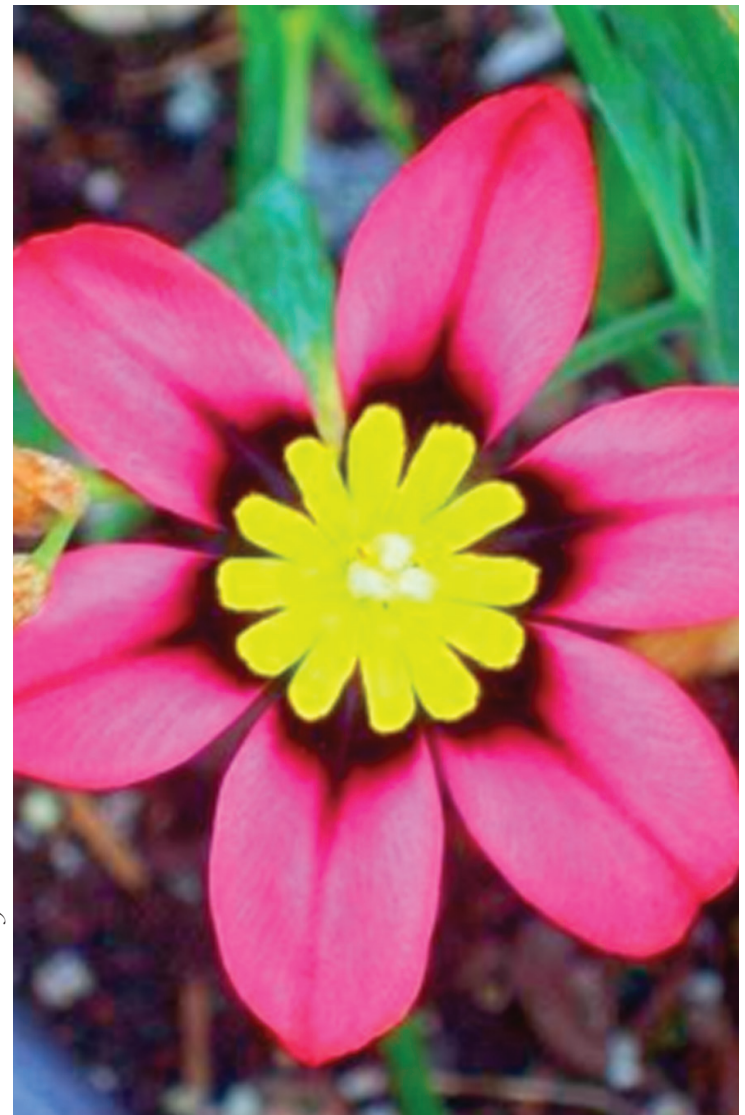
Dennis Wright  
Staff Writer

A bird is spirit of the air  
They fly across the sky true and free  
People look so see them swoop and sweep  
And think them a treat to see

The rose is a thing of beauty  
A flush of petals red, right and tall  
But due to the roots that lock it down  
The rose cannot move at all

A rose may be a thing of beauty  
But all are wary of its thorns  
People don't come near to hold it  
For fear that their skin will be torn

The rose watches birds fly across the sky  
Birds of black, red, white and blue  
And the rose wishes with all its lonely heart  
That it could fly like a bird too



Maranda Twombly

Pink Flower