International Business Association hosts MLK Jr. service project day

The Southern New Hampshire University community was joined by Debra Redfern on Jan. 19 to celebrate the second annual Martin Luther King Day of Action. In honor of Rosa Parks, her cousin, Debra Redfern agreed to speak and inspire the SNHU community to remember, celebrate and act upon the social freedoms our country gained thanks to Civil Rights leaders.

Martin Luther King III visited campus last year, and the overwhelming success of the program inspired student leaders Almira Alic, Prince Soko and Okendo Lewis-Gayle to make the Martin Luther King Day of Action a tradition. This year the theme of Redfern’s speech was that “courage brings deshiny,” and she reminded students that “teaching love and brotherhood is an important commitment to social justice.”

A fifteen minute tribute to Rosa Parks’s life was compiled and played during the presentation. During the presentation, the room fell silent as everyone viewed Rosa Parks getting arrested for refusing to give her seat to a white man. The film continued to show a snapshot of the 381 day bus boycott in Montgomery, Ala. Fifty thousand African-Americans chose to abandon the buses and walk to work, to school and everywhere else they needed to go in order to protest segregation on city buses. After more than a year of walking, Rosa Parks and her followers achieved their goal to desegregate the buses.

At the conclusion of the bus boycott, Redfern remembered Rosa Parks saying, “I am living to bring peace, justice, love and equality... Without vision, dreams will die.” Parks continued her life as an activist for social justice. Parks and her husband had to move from Alabama to avoid death threats, but these threats did not deter Parks from continuing to promote her vision for equality throughout the United States.

At the conclusion of her speech, Redfern said to the audience, “Ask yourself if you will make a commitment to never forget and never give up.” At the end of the program, young children who attended the program from neighboring schools asked Redfern for autographs and pictures, while others approached her with questions about her cousin, Rosa Parks.

SNHU campus welcomes Debra Redfern

Amanda Russell
News Editor

The whole project involved college students, high school students, non-profit organizations, commercial businesses, and help from the Office for Service and Citizenship and the Office of Disability Services. The immensely successful day of service projects organized by IBA came on the heels of a prominent MLK day of action event in January with guest speaker Debra Redfern, cousin of Rosa Parks.

IBA was nominated for club of the month in February for their series of events and for their efforts in bringing the SNHU community together.

Are You Addicted to Facebook.com?

Caitlin Murphy
Staff Editor

Survey Says?

Several laptops on campus have been stolen. Do you know where yours is? Keep your belongings on your person. Never let them out of your sight.

Public Safety Announcement

New Club on Campus!

The T.V. Club
see page 8
The Observer

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Letter from the Editor
Lindsay Frydryk
Editor in Chief

Welcome back to a New Year and new semester at SNHU with the Observer. Each New Year is known for new things, such as one being my new picture with my hair color on its way back to blonde. It will get there eventually. However, my picture isn't the only new addition to the paper this year. We also have new members with amazing ideas to hopefully keep your interest and attract others to read as well.

Caitlin Murphy has added a monthly survey to our paper. Keep an eye out for her and her question. This month she asks, "Are you addicted to Facebook?" which I feel we all have experienced at one point or another since SNHU joined the connection. New member Crystal Gagnon has teamed up with Julie Lamerick to report a section to us you find very similar to a past HBO series. For all of you “Sex in the City” fans, this column is right up your alley. We have also added more thoughts from freshmen such as Jennie Fitzgerald and Daniel Smith. They have reported on their new experiences as college students and what it's like for them at SNHU. I'm sure many of us, no matter what year we are, can relate with them to one point or another.

SGA elections:
Brian Kanarek
Staff Writer

Every February and April, the SNHU student body elects representatives to the Student Government Board, much like U.S. citizens in the majority elect congressman and government officials every November. When the elections are over, the interest of the electing populations tends to drop off. As a result, the newly-elected officials move forward with their own personal agendas or serve as a puppet with a title. They are able to do this because few people give input.

Our university is undergoing heaps of changes, and we all have a stake in them. At the present, everything from the disciplinary system to graduation requirements and the new student center are under review. Change is constant happening. It is up to you, to not only adapt to the changes being made, but also to embrace change by becoming part of it and adding your own valuable opinion. Make SNHU the place that you want it to be. Change has the potential to be positive for everyone. It is what makes life exciting and worth living. Take an active interest in the revolution here at SNHU and most importantly, take an active interest in your life. Recognize that your environment is directly affected by your decisions.

Make SNHU the place that you want it to be. Change has the potential to be positive for everyone. It is what makes life exciting and worth living.
- Brian Kanarek

To the graduating seniors: Come the end of the semester and summertime when you relocate, you will no longer have control over what happens at SNHU, that is, unless you are planning to donate heaps of money to fund the university. This is your opportunity to create a lasting mark. Do this by fighting for what you believe in. Upon graduation, take pride in this place, and be glad that you took time and put in the effort to make a positive contribution to the future of your school. The SGA represents SNHU. When you are out in the community, applying for jobs or graduate school, be proud to say you spent time and put in the effort to make a positive contribution to the future of your school. The SGA represents SNHU. When you are out in the community, applying for jobs or graduate school, be proud to say you spent time and put in the effort to make a positive contribution to the future of your school.

All these new aspects to the paper did not replace the old time favorites. Julie Finch is still compiling the ever-popular Public Safety reports, and Janara Digou and Laura Rotolo are still covering Voices and Faces. So if you want to be in the paper, make sure to keep an eye out for a public safety officer or a camera.

If there is something you want to see in the paper, please don’t hesitate to speak your mind. The staff is doing their best to please our readers. We want to include what you want to read. Being my last semester, I want to make it the best one yet, not just for myself but for those of you who enjoy reading this paper. Thanks for reading. And good luck to all of the seniors who are counting down the days till graduation. Here we go…

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Wednesday, February 22nd, 2006
Public Safety Log

Julie Finch
Staff Writer

Saturday 1/28/06
2:15 a.m.
PS was sent to Winnasquam to assist an RA with smell of marijuana. As PS arrived a student exited room. The student was told over the radio stations. She is not able to find him either.

Sunday 2/4/06
1:15 a.m.
PS was alerted about an altercation between two females and another group of males. The two females had thrown a beer bottle at the group of girls and hit one in the face causing a tooth to chip. One of the two females was an unregistered guest of the other and both seemed intoxicated and smelled of alcohol.

Sunday 2/5/06
1:45 a.m.
Officers were sent to Winnasquam Suite 3 where a mess was found. Four or five ceiling tiles were taken down and destroyed all over the floor. The ceiling also exposed wires some that hanging down. The lounge area had a trash can tipped over and trash was scattered throughout the hallway. The glass exterior door next to the soda machine was also broken.

Saturday 2/11/06
12:45 a.m.
PS saw a car go via campus in front of Attitash. The vehicle then parked and five people got out. PS identified the individual.

A student was observed driving by the gatehouse with a fake decal on their car. As he tried to leave campus, PS stopped him and asked him to register his vehicle. The student admitted to smoking a few minutes prior in the room. A blow tube and glass pipe was taken from the room.

Monday 2/6/06
10:50 p.m.
PS were sent to Chocoura to assist an RA with smell of marijuana. As PS arrived a student exited room. A blow tube and glass pipe was taken from the room.

Tuesday 2/7/06
12:15 a.m.
A student called to report a mysterious green truck had followed her to her dorm. She didn’t get any information about the vehicle because she was worried about her safety. PS patrolled the area and saw the truck leaving campus with two male occupants inside.

Tuesday 2/7/06
12:15 a.m.
A student came to PS to report someone had hit their vehicle. There was damage to the right front door. The vehicle that had hit it was white or light tan color. The student was told to report the incident to the Manchester police department.

Saturday 2/11/06
12:45 a.m.
PS saw a car go campus via the walkway in front of Attitash. The vehicle then parked and five people got out. PS identified the individual, and when asked why they were here, they said they were just looking for a party. PS confiscated 20 Bud Lite beers and made them leave campus.

Sunday 2/5/06
11:30 a.m.
A student from Ossipee was walking toward a building on campus and tried to enter through the door and windows, but it was locked. Hooksett police asked the student to stop, and as police got closer to him he tried getting away by pushing and almost punching an officer. While waiting for another officer to arrive the student was heard saying, “I have the highest GPA here, please listen to me.” Student was arrested for disordering an officer and resisting arrest.

A community of women:
Women in music

Lindsay Frydryk
Editor in Chief

In honor of “Women’s History Month” coming in March, professor and musician Jane Fallon has teamed up with others to promote a series of women in music at SNHU. A variety of events will be held throughout the month of March with a range of diverse music. March 10 will begin the festivities with Women’s Brazilian Trio from 8-11 p.m. in the SNHU Last Chapter Pub. Musicians Deborah Rocha and Entre Amigas will play Latin sounds including the samba, baião and bossa nova.

The following event, In- digerl Showcase I Lunchtime Concert, will be held from 12-2 p.m., March 16 in the SNHU Last Chapter Pub. Musicians will include Patti DeRosa, Tara Greenblatt and Fallon. DeRosa single “Paradise” can be heard across the country on radio stations. She is a singer-songwriter-guitar player, who also once played the steel drum. Her music is contemporary acoustic folk.

In a review of Greenblatt’s music in “Rhythm Magazine,” Jonathan Shulm wrote, “It’s great to see Tara use the West African Djembe as a lead instrument, and have it work so well in the context of her great song writing.” Greenblatt’s music covers a variety of topics with a contemporary style that involves folk, pop, and country. In “Internet Review,” Nicky Baldrian wrote, “Tara Greenblatt’s voice is lovely and soothing.”

Other musical events are to come for Women in Music. To find out more about Indiagirl, go to http://indiagirl.com. They will host a second event closer to the end of March for the series.

PS  was sent to Winnasquam to assist an RA who found a note with pro- n atch on it on their door. There was also beer thrown all over the door. The RA thought she had thrown a beer bottle at the group of girls and hit one in the face causing a tooth to chip. One of the two females was an unregistered guest of the other and both seemed intoxicated and smelled of alcohol. Hooksett and Manchester police were contacted and one girl was arrested for internal possession of alcohol and simple assault and the other for second degree assault.

Thursday 2/9/06
11:15 p.m.
Students reported a theft of the driver’s side fog light of his BMW from the lot behind the townhouses. The value of it was around $80. The student was told to contact the Hooksett police department.

Saturday 2/11/06
2:20 p.m.
A student was observed driving by the gatehouse with a fake decal on their car. As he tried to leave campus, PS stopped him and asked for his decal. He handed it over and said he was not a student here. He was told if he ever was seen on SNHU property again he would be arrested for trespassing and his car would be towed. He said that it was his friend that had made the decal for him.

A student found by the Hooksett police walking center line of the road along North River Road and then urinat- ing in the street. The student walked toward a building on campus and tried to enter through the door and windows, but it was locked. Hooksett police asked the student to stop, and as police got closer to him he tried getting away by pushing and almost punching an officer. While waiting for another officer to arrive the student was heard saying, “I have the highest GPA here, please listen to me.” Student was arrested for disordering an officer and resisting arrest.

Wednesday, December 21st, 2005
The Observer 3

A student from Ossipee was walking toward a building on campus and tried to enter through the door and windows, but it was locked. Hooksett police asked the student to stop, and as police got closer to him he tried getting away by pushing and almost punching an officer. While waiting for another officer to arrive the student was heard saying, “I have the highest GPA here, please listen to me.” Student was arrested for disordering an officer and resisting arrest.
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Sharon Fishel running for Secretary

Hello SNHU Students, It is that time of year again for the Student Government Association Executive Board elections. I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself and to tell you why I think I should be your next Student Government Association Secretary. My name is Sharon Fishel. I am a junior and an American Politics major. I work in admissions and I’m a math tutor on campus. I love helping out students in any way possible. This is my second year on SGA, and it is one of my favorite parts of being a SNHU student. As a class student senator, I have always worked hard to get you, my fellow students, what you need and want the most. I have planned many on campus events, including the Cinco de Mayo and Relaxation Night, which was held at the end of last year. The two committees that I have been doing the most work for this year are the Residence Life Committee and co-chairing the Michelle’s Law Committee. In the Residency Life Committee, we are all helping the SNHU student get most out of his or her experiences on campus. I have been working particularly hard on what we call the “sleepover” with the new dorms along with what will happen with the Lower Suites. I also personally wanted to join the Michelle’s Law Committee because I believe that all college students should not have to choose between their health insurance and their education, especially SNHU students. If you have not heard about this, it is a bill about to go to the New Hampshire state senate. If the bill passes, the law would provide full time college students with health insurance for twelve months if they had to leave for medical reasons. Not only did I want help this law pass in New Hampshire, but Michelle’s Law was named, have every intention of making this a national law.

Kate Jordan running for President

My name is Kate Jordan, and I’m running for the president of the Student Government Association. I am currently SGA vice president and have been part of SGA for 3 years now; therefore, I am very familiar with the organization’s goals and mission. I strive to make SGA better and would love to lead the organization to make great strides for an even better SGA. Also, over the last few years, SNHU and SGA has grown immensely. I would like to help SGA adapt better to the changes and help SGA become more for future years. We currently do not have a transition program. This year’s Executive Board is working on forming a transition program, but I would like to expand and make changes to the program because next year will be the trial run of it. As the only returning E-Board member, my experience and knowledge will be very helpful and important with the transition program. Also, I have many different goals, which I would like to see happen next year.

First, I would love to make SGA more student body friendly and more accessible to hear and resolve problems and concerns. I would like to see our current resources used more to allow students to feel more comfortable in coming to the office in the 2006 Elections were notified about writing an article for The Observer, and given ample time to submit it for publication.

*S All Candidates running for an SGA Office in the 2006 Elections were notified about writing an article for The Observer, and given ample time to submit it for publication.
“Walk The Line” does justice

Stephanie Chick
A&E Editor

“Hello, I’m Johnny Cash.” If the sound of those words tend to make you quiver, then this definitely is a must-see movie for you. “Walk The Line” is the story of country music legend Johnny Cash, starting from his troubled childhood and progressing throughout his turbulent musical career.

The movie, directed by James Mangold and released in theaters last November, tells the tale of the late Cash, played by Joaquin Phoenix, as he struggled with obstacles in his life such as his military service, marrying young, developing his music career, battling an addiction to drugs, and a bitter divorce. Throughout it all, a constant positive force in his life was singer June Carter, played by starlet Reese Witherspoon.

Based on the books “Man In Black” and “Cash: The Autobiography,” the film starts with a young Cash, back then called J.R., as the second son of a farming family. The unfortunate death of his older brother, an event that haunts Cash throughout his life, puts a strain on his relationship with his father that never quite goes away. After a stint in the military, Cash marries his high school sweetheart Vivian, goes away. After a stint in the military, Cash marries his high school sweetheart Vivian, who both do their own singing throughout the movie, did a wonderful job recreating the lives of these two memorable stars. It must have been nerve-wracking to try and fill the shoes of two notable and legendary stars, but despite a few subtle differences, it’s hard to even tell the sound of Joaquin’s voice and Cash’s voice apart. Carter was a singer all throughout her life, beginning when she was just a young child, so her voice was weathered and experienced. With nearly no signing experience, it is understandable that Witherspoon didn’t exactly live up to Carter, her voice was more sweet and heartfelt words.

Throughout the tracks of the album, the listener will hear sweet melodies and heartfelt words. Blunt touches on topics related to finding and losing love, friendship and other related topics. His emotions pour out onto the album, which is attracting more fans. The album creates a mellow tone as it plays through each track.

– Lindsay Frydryk

Listening to “Back to Bedlam” by James Blunt

Lindsay Frydryk
Editor in Chief

Recently released debut album by James Blunt, “Back to Bedlam” is flying off the selves in music stores everywhere, almost selling two million copies. This album following “Parachutes” consists of ten songs including the hit single “You’re Beautiful” which has been constantly rising up the music charts.

Blunt is a British songwriter who will be launch his first ever U.S tour in March. His music has been closely related to that of John Mayer.

Throughout the tracks of the album, the listener will hear sweet melodies and heartfelt words. Blunt touches on topics related to finding and losing love, friendship and other related topics. His emotions pour out onto the album, which is attracting more fans. The album creates a mellow tone as it plays through each track.

– Lindsay Frydryk

“Brokeback Mountain”: A true success

Tracy Sergeant
Staff Writer

“Brokeback Mountain” is based on a 1996 short story. Ang Lee then made it into a movie, and I believe did a wonderful job. This movie captures the lives of these two gay cowboys. It is a movie of love and romance with also explores the American journey. The actors and actresses in this movie are what truly made it such a great movie. It is not easy for two heterosexual men to play such roles. Both Gyllenhaal and Ledger did a wonderful job, and both deserve awards for their performances. There were many other roles that helped this movie to reach its full potential. Besides the acting, the scenes added to the movie, which was filmed in the mountains and really displayed what life would be like during this time. Not only did it add to the movie, but it made me want to be where they were because every picture captured such beautiful scenes in the country.

Finally, I would just say that although many critics made a fuss about this movie because of the story line, I believe it was a great movie and would recommend it to anyone.

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The whole concept of stand up comedy is in essence to make us laugh about the truth, the ironic aspects of life that we may notice but never bring up in discussion. Only a few comedians however, have been able to truly push the envelope. Whether it’s Robert Schimmel or the late Richard Pryor and Lenny Bruce, no one has ever been able to bring stand up comedy closer to the edge than the late Bill Hicks. Hicks is something of an enigma. Many young people today have probably never heard of him, yet ask any stand up comedian today who Bill Hicks is and they will more than likely tell you he was an inspiration and a legend.

Recorded in November 1992 at the Oxford Playhouse in Great Britain, Salvation serves as the “last hurrah” for the continuing legacy of Hicks. Hicks can probably be considered the king of counter-culture comedy, with his routine touching on topics from everything to his hatred for modern religion, his stance on legalizing marijuana, smoking and porno, all the way to even poking fun at the assassination of President Kennedy. As great a comedic legend as Hicks is, all of the albums I have heard or movies I have seen, seem to be a bit repetitive in the organization of his routine. You tend to hear the same jokes told over and over, yet on Salvation, I believe his British hosts allowed him more subconscious freedom to explore other aspects of his routine and even gave him some new material, such as a hilarious bit where he compares Britain’s crime level with that of Los Angeles. After one listen it is no surprise that Hicks is extremely liberal. He makes no attempt to sugarcoat his views on President George Bush and the Gulf War. Don’t be fooled though because Hicks isn’t just about politics, so whether you agree with his views or not, everyone can find something side-splitting hilarious about his routine.

Hicks is a legend, and it is a shame that most people who are obsessed with comedians such as Dane Cook, Carlos Mencia or Larry the Cable Guy have never even heard of him. The comedians I just listed are great (save Larry the Cable Guy in this writer’s point-of-view), but in a world built on war, fear and let’s face it, an overwhelming amount of conservative, republican nonsense, no one has the guts to touch Bill Hicks still causes controversy

John Bergeron
Staff Writer

So Cosmo: London to Target

Ashley Spranzo
Staff Writer

Who doesn’t love Target? I, for one, am definitely a huge fan of this cheap luxury, located just one exit away from SNHU on Interstate 93. From apartment to dorm necessities to food and beauty supply, it’s one stop shopping for almost everything a college student on a budget needs.

Just when you think Target couldn’t get any better, it did! Target and fashion designer Luella Bartley from London have teamed up and introduced a European girl rocker style line, full of funky patterns, cuts, and fun. Bartley, a British born former fashion writer, decided to launch her own line in 2000. She is currently a designer icon among London’s young adult population. The line she designed for Target consists of denim, shirts, skirts, dresses, swimwear and accessories. Each piece has a flare of European spark with girlish charm that is sure to please every style goddess. The clothing is also budget friendly. Prices range from $12.99-149.99. The line arrived in Target stores Feb. 1 and will depart April 30. So hurry and grab this hot new trend because it’s only in stores for 90 days before another new designer teams up with Target and introduces a new look. The line is a part of Target’s “Go International” promotional event in which every 90 days, a new hot designer launches his or her line. Here are top looks Bartley designed herself:
Club Reviews

Lifehouse is coming to SNHU

Katlyn Morin
Contributing Writer

The pop rock/alternative band Lifehouse will perform at the Fieldhouse on April 28 at 8 p.m. The show is sponsored by CAPE and is open to all SNHU students, faculty, staff and the public.

Tickets are on sale as of March 1, 2006 and are available at the SNHU’s info booth and at all Strawberries and FYE locations. Tickets are $15 for all SNHU students, alumni, faculty and staff. The public will be charged $20.

The band’s chart-topping hits include “Hanging by a Moment” and current U.S. single, “You and Me.” Dorothy Welcome, 18, a freshman at SNHU said, “I’ve heard a lot of positive feedback from students on campus, and although a lot of them think Lifehouse was a one-hit wonder, they are not just some local band.”

Since the arrival of Lifehouse with their debut album, “No Name Face,” released in October 2000, the band is still climbing the charts. Their first single “Hanging by a Moment” won a Billboard Music Award for Hot 100 Single of the Year in which singles from Janet Jackson and Alicia Keys were also being considered. Other hit singles include “Spin,” “You and Me,” and the popular ballad “Everything.”

Current members of the band include Jason Wade (lead vocals, guitar), Rick Woolstenhulme (drums) and Bryce Soderberg (bass, vocals).
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Stop Greek stereotypes

Mike Korch
Staff Writer

What is the first thing you think of when you hear a fraternity or sorority? Is it the alcohol, partying, throwing beer bottles when you walk in the door? Maybe chugging handles of Tennessee's finest? What is the first thing you think of when you hear about a fraternity or sorority? Is it the good old tale depicted in movies like Animal House, where the members are drunk all the time and have wild parties? Or is it the truth that Greek organizations believe that hazing is no longer a part of Greek life on campus? What is the truth about Greek organizations and hazing?

By being a brother in one of the fraternities on campus, I could be looked at as having a biased opinion towards Greek Life or that I'm not being honest. I'm not going to be biased in my opinion, but I do want to be honest and let you know what the students on SNHU's campus really think about being in a Greek organization, just to see how much of that un-truthful stereotype is crammed into their heads.

I sat down with him and some of the students they are looking for. They don't mold the type of member they are. They are looking for. They are looking for a well established department, he began the job with no employees or guidelines to run it. He had to be a groundbreaker, secretary, and director all in one. He was given a $70,000 budget and one had four established events to work with. By the end of his three year stay in Milton, he had brought the event count to over 30, creating the Wet and Wild Summer program, a Harley Davidson program, as well as a Superbowl caravan.

After his job at Milton, he moved on to Exeter, N.H., in the same field. Unlike the parks and recreation department in Milton, the Exeter department has hundreds of programs and participants and over 40 years of history. He runs four soccer teams, an indoor soccer team, eight tennis courts, a pool, and two basketball courts. To-day in Exeter, there are 500 youths involved in parks and recreation department activities such as BMX riding, kayaking, lesson, skiing, art programs, and the common sports like basketball and baseball.

There are six full time staff members during the "off-season," and during the summer there are 30 – 40 seasonal employees.

Two sport management majors, Luke McGowan ('06) and Pat Bickford ('06), interned for Bisson and both said it was a fun, informal environment. Their tasks over the summer included mulching the fields, taking inventory, working with the kids. After the fields were set up, working special events such as cookouts, and helping to run the camp that runs from June 25 to August 3.

In closing, Bisson had a few words of advice for the students. The best way to get started in anything is networking. Also, volunteering is important. "Don’t worry about making money, worry about getting experience," he said. Up next the Sport Management Club will continue their speaker series on Thursday Feb. 16 at 12:40 p.m., when Jake Olka from Harvard University’s athletic department comes to speak about his experiences with Harvard and the local arts community. Also, on Wednesday March 25 at 5 p.m., Beverly Smith from the NFL comes to speak to the students about her position as the National Program Director for the Local Initiatives Support Corporations’ (LISC) Youth Development and Recreation Program.
Lost in Suds,  

If you are setting a good example in the apartment by doing your own dishes and buying toiletries and your roommates are taking full advantage of this, you need to speak up. If they cannot handle your concerns, they should reconsider living in the apartments as this is only a small responsibility to living in the real world.

Dear Lexi,

One of my roommates is really annoying. He flips out when people are loud. Yet when he gets loud and we complain, he gets angrier. What should I do?

-Angry Roommate

Dear Lexi,

Let this roommate know that you are annoyed with him and that he is a hypocrite. If all else fails, be quiet.

Feel free to e-mail Lexi at letterstoalex@hotmail.com with questions or concerns! Some will be featured in the next edition of The Observer! Look for Lexi!

My family was incredibly fortunate that day, as my mother was able to walk away from the crash without so much as a cut or scratch. She was driving through an intersection in a neighborhood in Virginia Beach, Va., when a drunk driver ran a red light and slammed into the side of her truck, causing it to roll over twice. The truck came to rest on the driver’s side, and miraculously my mother climbed out of the truck on her own without injury. I like to think that her life was saved not only because of the quality of her truck, but also because she wore her seatbelt. I cannot stress enough the importance of wearing your seatbelt. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Association (NHTSA), proper seatbelt use has prevented roughly 15,700 deaths and 350,000 serious injuries each year. I am grateful to say that my mother’s life is one of those. When we were young, my sister and I used to think that our mom was so strange when she would candidly remind us to buckle our seatbelts by saying, “If you love your kids, belt ‘em.” I realize now that despite it being somewhat embarrassing back then, she was actually showing her unfailing love for us by keeping us safe in a car. Now it is bedded in our heads to immediately buckle our seatbelts the instant we get into a car, and it is probably one of the best things she has ever taught us.

As for those people who choose to get behind the wheel of a car after having a few drinks, think again. I know that people probably think that they have had too many drinks, but it is always better to be safe than sorry. According to Mother’s Against Drunk Driv- ing, 39 percent of the fatal car accidents in the United States in 2004 were alcohol related. Those people never realized that they would be ending their lives, or someone else’s, when they started their car.

You never know what is going to happen when you drive, whether sober or intoxicated. But always remember that the opportunity cost of choosing to drive drunk could be someone’s life, someone’s mother, brother, best friend, or even child. Is that a price you are willing to pay?

The price of driving while drunk

Stephanie Chick  
Co A&E Editor

“Don’t freak out, because Mom is fine,” was the first thing my older sister said to me that beautiful sunny Saturday morning. Instantly my heart beat doubled in pace. Thus began a gut-wrenching, heart-twisting, breath-taking reaction that burned my throat, almost like I just swallowed a red hot coal. Then it burned in my chest, like invisible hands were reaching inside me and relentlessly squeezing my throat, my heart, my lungs.

“There’s been an accident.”

No person ever wants to hear those four awful words about a friend or loved one being involved in a car accident with a drunk driver. Yet it is becoming more and more common to find car accidents that involve drunk drivers, and to find people who know someone involved in such an accident, whether as the victim or as the offender. These accidents may or may not have been life ending, but they have all undoubtedly been life altering.

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Have you ever?

L.O.V.E

Julie Lancaster & Crystal Gagnon  
Staff Writers

Love is defined in Webster’s dictionary as “a deep and tender feeling of affection, for attachment or devotion to a person or persons.” Do you remember your first crush? Do you believe in love at first sight? Have you ever been in love? From the person who embraces love to the person who pushes it away, every view of this term can be different and cater to the person involved.

According to Dr. Robert Sternberg’s triangular theory, there are three different types of love. The first, companionate love, is a love made up of intimacy and commitment. This is usually found in the early stages of a relationship where attraction makes one person want to know all they can about another. The second, fatuous love, includes commitment and passion, but lacks intimacy. Fatuous love can occur with love at first sight. According to Clay- ton, “Love is a psychological Self-Help” book, 54 percent of men say they believe in love at first sight. This means over half of the population has experienced fatuous love.

The third, consummate, is a love that includes intimacy, passion and commitment. When it comes to love, consum- mate is the utopia of love. Experiencing this type of love involves a closeness and in case longing toward this person, with a readiness to do anything for them. Every element that makes up consummate love is felt from both people equally.

Whether you’ve had a crush, experienced love at first sight, are in love, or have yet to experience it, this is proof that love is out there. In the words of John Lennon and Paul Mc- Cartney, “All you need is love, love, love, all you need.”
A freshman’s first semester

Jennie Fitzgerald
Staff Writer

It was Sept. 3, 2005, and I was entering the fall semester of 2005 at Southern New Hampshire University. As an incoming freshman, an 18-year-old girl from Worcester, Mass., and an entitled college incomer, I was experiencing all the normal feelings of any person in my situation. I was excited, nervous, hopeful, due to college being new and neat, but more that anything I was feeling completely independent. Independent of my family, my friends back home and my life as I knew it for the past 18 years. Being the only one out of my friends and family to leave Worcester to go to college, I was feeling lonely in my journey and pressure to do well. Despite all of my insecurities and worries about how others would regard me, I was beginning to get used to it. Being a freshman orientation was something I will never forget.

It was a beautiful, sunny weekend, and the various cocktails were perfect. Although I had just met my roommate, she was the next person I was soon moving in with my two roommates and waking up the next morning in my new home away from home. And the whole freshman orientation was just perfect. I will probably never do again.

The one thing that stick out in my mind about orientation was the Playfair, which was something I’ve never done and will probably never do again. My roommates and I had no idea what it was or what we would have to do, but we soon found out that our shyness would be thrown out the window and we’d have to meet “as many people as possible.”

During Playfair, the entire freshman staff, class council and soccer field with the orientation leaders. A host on stage made us do things to meet others. For example, we had to split into groups according to what month your birthday is in. It was madness seeing about 300 kids scrambling while yelling “November, March, July!” The various activities we had to do were crazy but fun at the same time. Although some people were good at the challenge, the challenge of making new friends was made for everyone who was having trouble making new friends. Although some people were great at the challenge, the challenge of making new friends was made for everyone who was having trouble making new friends. 

As classes started and

WRITE FOR THE OBSERVER

because every Thursday were meant for copy editing... ...Not Drinking!

For more information about joining the staff, please e-mail the Editor in Chief, Lindsay Frydyl, at observer@snhu.edu. See you at our next meeting!!

Opinion

Can We Just Discuss…

Kanye West’s unique approach to public exposure

Libby Parent
Staff Writer

The infamous magazine, “Rolling Stone,” released an issue of their magazine containing Kanye West posing as Jesus Christ. Interesting approach. Not only has this drawn attention, but also protests to purchasing the magazine. ABC News went into detail about many different magazine covers have been a bit “over-board,” nudity playing a huge part. However, this seems to be the last straw as the cover has offended various groups.

Okay. Honestly, I have seen pretty ridiculous magazine covers, but isn’t that whole point? Get people’s attention? Agreeing with this statement, ABC news enforce. A host on stage made us do things to meet others. I didn’t realize that so many people who go here live so close. On the weekends that I was here, though, I had a good time, so I knew at some point my roommates would too.

As I mentioned before, all of my family and close friends were still back at home, so at times I was missing out on things that I wanted to be a part of. The more I went home on weekends, the more I missed being here and dreaded coming back here. I think going home so much affected my experience here in a negative way because I kept comparing them. My friends were all together at the same school, and I was here with people I had yet to make a connection with. I was looking forward to Thanksgiving and Christmas break.

The semester flew by, and before I knew it, it was time to go home for almost a month. Looking back, the first semester was a mix between loving it and not even liking it. I met a lot of new people and learned a lot about myself as well as others. I got to know the school itself and experienced one of the hardest transitions that a young person goes through. I was proud of myself for taking on the challenge with an open mind and optimistic spirit, nevermind earning a 3.8 GPA.

As a new semester came upon me, I came back with the intention to get more involved, stay here more often, and take part in some of the activities I enjoy. I have some opinions myself; otherwise I wouldn’t have an opinion column. But, Kanye, have your opinion and express it in a way that people can actually respect. I know about what he makes. Seeing him add to the argument, I just feel like that’s the just the worst. I just want more coverage of the magazine? Please. Media is crazy these days. We have footage from the front-line during the war in Iraq! Obviously these are different, but media is so extensive and does pretty risqué things: How is this surprising? Plus music is a business, and all the sex and drugs and rock n’ roll make it exactly how people want it to be: dramatic. Clearly, the whole idea of Kanye West as Jesus is clearly not Jesus; however, his song, “Jesus Walks,” is legit, and I don’t mind bopping to it occasionally. That said, the cover was to let consumers believe Kanye West was Jesus. I may entertain the idea of an over-reaction and feelings of offense, but do people honestly think that the cover was meant to insult anybody? Not care about black people” is not true. If I had it my way, Kanye West would not have posed as Jesus just because he thinks he should be worshipped, or whatever his personal satisfaction was. Okay so I won’t blame it all on him… maybe on his publicist too.
Opinion

The freshman experience with an added culinary view

Daniel C. Smith
Staff Writer

The first thing of anything is always hard.

The first time you ride a bike, the first time you read a book, or the first time you know. College is another first that is hard. When I came to college for the first time, I had no idea what to expect. I was moving from an environment where I was comfortable in to an environment that I did not only read about and seen a few times. I did not know what the people would be like, what my roommate would be like, and especially what classes would be like. I had to jump head first into a bottomless pool of knowledge.

The first few days of my life at SNHU were rather interesting and very difficult. Most times, I tumbled into my room, I found a goody-old guy laying on my roommate’s bed. At first I was thinking “I really want to change my roommate,” and then I realized he was just fixing a socket, which my roommate had managed to blow only 10 minutes after he was be arrived. After I found my real roommate, we seemed to co-exist fairly well, but we never got to know each other, until several weeks into school.

After I had conquered my fear of roommate troubles, I found myself entangled in another first, but that is until several weeks into school.

The government declined this request on the grounds that the Arab nations wanted the Danish government to punish the newspaper, but the Prime Minister said the cartoons were not an acceptable basis for punishment and are protected under Danish law.

This response led several Danish Imams to travel to the Middle East and spread word of the cartoons domestically out protest. The protests have renewed debate over freedom of speech and religious tolerance but according to the BBC, “It is the satirical intent of the cartoonsists, and the association of the Prophet with terrorism, that is so offensive to the vast majority of Muslims.”

Most Americans are used to images of flag being despised in far-off countries and effigies of American politicians being burned, but when the flags being burned are the flags of nations which typically stay out international affairs, people begin the take notice and work really going on. Never would this writer have imagined Danish or Norwegian flags being desecrated in the Middle East.

The stresses of college life in the first semester were supposed to be lessened and helped by taking the class called FEX (Freshman Experience Seminar). I’m not sure about the rest of the campus, but FEX did almost nothing to help my work load or my absorption of new material. The class design was made you feel comfortable at SNHU and get you into the swing of college work. The only construc- tive thing I got out of that class was a resume and cover letter.

The point of my rant is not to deter prospective students from coming to the school, but to tell people that no matter what the challenges, SNHU has provided me with the support and courage that I needed to overcome all of the difficulties. The culinary life can be very grueling at times, and it will often wear you out, but I still love what I am do- ing. I am still here as a stu- dent, and now that I am past the first semester, I am getting into many new clubs and put- ting myself out there. Try your best to be a part of something and definitely stay current with all school work. Culinary students, especially, cannot afford to get behind. 

Aogos

Okendo Lewis Gayle
Staff Writer

This winter break Student Government Association Senators Tony Carr, Sam Peret and I embarked on a road trip that will be a constant source for stories for our grandchildren.

On Jan. 1, the three of us departed on a 24-hour-non-stop drive to the Katrina ravaged city of New Orleans. As we drove in, we were overcome by a pervasive feeling of hopelessness. Utter dev- astation lied on either side of Interstate 10: damaged roofs, abandoned cars, empty Wal- Mart plazas. All served as peaceful reminders of the apocalyptic havoc wreaked just a few months earlier by the potent winds and the de- structive waters of Katrina. In these moments with them, we did little we could or helped just about anyone who asked. From plac- ing blue tarps on the battered roofs, to washing dishes at soup kitchens and clearing out homes of drenched carpets, food-packed and refriger- ated items, book and beds, mattresses, all we did with a sense of duty and joy. For or in spite of the laborious and often dangerous tasks that we were given, we never once complained or felt forced by those we helped. On the con- trary, we perceived our efforts as a sort civic responsibility and were glad to lend a help- ing hand. We gained a true understanding of what people mean when they say that “it’s better to give than to receive.”

A notion and a spirit perfectly captured in the song that be- came our anthem, Lean On Me by Billy Withers.

The latter, the few people who have returned to the region, and the people, who have traveled from across the country or the world to help are the real story of New Orleans. As we approached the city of New Orleans, we drove in, we were overcome by a pervasive feeling of hopelessness. Utter devastation lied on either side of Interstate 10: damaged roofs, abandoned cars, empty Walmart plazas. All served as peaceful reminders of the apocalyptic havoc wreaked just a few months earlier by the potent winds and the destructive waters of Katrina. In these moments with them, we did little we could or helped just about anyone who asked. From placing blue tarps on the battered roofs, to washing dishes at soup kitchens and clearing out homes of drenched carpets, food-packed and refrigerated items, book and beds, mattresses, all we did with a sense of duty and joy. For or in spite of the laborious and often dangerous tasks that we were given, we never once complained or felt forced by those we helped. On the contrary, we perceived our efforts as a sort civic responsibility and were glad to lend a helping hand. We gained a true understanding of what people mean when they say that “it’s better to give than to receive.”

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SNHU hockey downs Saint Anselm 4-3 in OT

Tom McDermott
Sports Info Director

Sophomore Joshua Douglas (Mississauga, Ontario) scored the game-winning goal 2:50 into overtime to lift SNHU to a 4-3 victory over host Saint Anselm College in Feb. 7's Northeast-10 Conference hockey action.

SNHU, which posted its first-ever victory over its cross-town rival, improved to 9-8-4 overall and 3-1-0 in the Northeast-10. Saint Anselm dropped to 12-7-1 overall and 3-1 in the league. The two teams joined Stonehill (12-6-0, 5-1-0 NE-10) in a three-way tie for first place in the conference.

SNHU was winless (0-17-1) earlier this year in the consolation game of the PAL Stovepipe Tournament.

Sophomore Brandon Hammermeister (Calgary, Alberta) led the Penmen with two goals and one assist, while classmate Dominic DiMarzo (East Boston, MA) scored the game-tying goal and added two assists. Senior Chris White (Naperville, IL) and junior Chet Riley (Randolph, MA) both recorded two assists for the Penmen. White now stands four points shy of 100 for his career.

Junior defender Brian Dobler (Jericho, NY) gave The Hawks an early advantage at the 3:16 mark of the first period on a blast from the right point. Senior Mike W 1 1 a l e (Milton, MA) and ro o k i e A n d r e w Woodford (Westford, MA) assisted on the play. Mike Nuzi n tzo (Guilford, CT) put the Hawks up 2-0 with less than five minutes to play in the first with a power-play goal from the left point, with Brett Smith (Hudson, MA) and Chris O'Brien (Watertown, MA) assisting.

Hammermeister, who has now totaled a team-high 12 goals and 22 points, brought the Penmen within a goal with a power-play goal at the end of the first period, and knotted the game at 2-2 at 11:43 of the second period. DiMarzo assisted on both goals.

The Hawks regained the lead less than four minutes later when freshman Matt Lowe (Stoughton, MA) scored off a pass from senior co-captain Rob Curran (Holbrook, NY). DiMarzo knotted the game at 3-3 just 1:29 into the third period when he redirected a shot in front of the net for his 11th goal of the year.

The game-winner came at the 2:50 mark of the overtime period when Douglas sent a rebound past Saint Anselm goalkeeper Clay Adams (Chevy Chase, MD). Adams finished the game with a career-high 21 saves, while freshman Matt Courchesne (Bow, NH) posted 24 saves for the Penmen to earn his second-straight win.

The 2006 Winter Olympics

There may still be snow on the ground, but that's not stopping SNHU spring sports teams from getting ready for the upcoming season. From about two o'clock in the afternoon until eleven o'clock at night, the small gym and field house are filled with teams practicing. Along with the winter sports that are still in session, men's and women's lacrosse and softball and baseball have started to get in shape for their upcoming season. Men's and women's tennis will soon also be taking the court to get ready for the spring sunshine.

So right now the gym may seem crowded. But don't worry, before you know it, SNHU spring teams will be in action on the fields. Mark your calendars for the following start dates:

Baseball – March 4 @ St. Thomas Aquinas
Men's Lacrosse – March 12 @ Molloy College
Men's Tennis – March 19 @ Lyndon State
Women's Tennis – March 19 @ St. Rose Golf – March 19-20 @ Goldey Beacom Softball – April 1 @ St. Anselm College

Sports

Erin McGlashing
Layout Editor

The 2006 Winter Olympics are underway in Torino, Italy this year, and quite a few of the athletes competing for United States are from New Hampshire or Massachusetts. Be there is a listing of local athletes competing and a brief biography of each player. There are 11 different competition areas in the 2006 Winter Olympics.

Women’s Ice Hockey

Women’s Ice Hockey

Tricia Dunn-Luoma, 31, 5'8", defense, Derry, N.H.
Jamie Hagerman, 24, 5'9", defense, Wenham, Mass.
Gretchen Bleiler, 26, 5'9", defense, Woburn, Mass.
Katie King, 30, 5'9", forward, Salem, N.H.
Sarah Parsons, 18, 5'8", forward, Dover, Mass.

Men’s Ice Hockey

Men’s Ice Hockey

Anton Apolo Ohno- Short Track Speed Skate- 1000m
Toby Dawson- Freestyle Skiing- Men’s Moguls
Shani Davis- Speed Skating- 1000m
Erin McGlashing- Bobsledding
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Fenway Park gets a make-over

Laura Rotolo
Staff Writer

While the Boston Red Sox enjoy the nice sun down in Fort Myers, Fla., many of Boston’s construction workers are working hard to get Fenway ready for the Sox’s first game on April 11 when the Sox face the Toronto Blue Jays.

After last season’s final out at Fenway Park, Red Sox Senior Vice President for Planning and Development Janet Marie Smith started to begin working on the new looks of Fenway Park. The team will return to a whole new ball park.

The major renovation was to the .406 club located in back of home plate. The .406 club was a semi-private membership club with stadium-style, theater seating and a great view of Fenway Park. The old seats in the .406 club were most recognizable by the giant glass that covered a great view of Fenway Park and the Boston skyline.

According to the Red Sox website, the seating capacity for this season, based upon fire code, will be 38,805, up from 36,298 last year. The renovations are the fifth under current ownership, and after the club finishes all upgrades by the park’s 100th birthday in 2012, the capacity is projected to be 39,968.

Seating renovations are not the only construction underway. Other renovations have taken place on the field. New piping for the sprinkler system has been installed, and the giant speaker system has been improved. Instead of the sound reaching the surrounding neighborhood, it is now only going to reach only the seats of Fenway Park. Lastly there will be a new power station, as well as an emergency public address system on the premises.

For Sox fans, the new renovations will help their viewing pleasure.

The new club is called the EMC Club and features $275 seats. The new club will also be heated and will still have an excellent view of Fenway Park and the Boston skyline.

Also part of the EMC Club is the upper half known as the Home Plate Pavilion, which will be heated and will still have an excellent view of Sox games.

The top portion of the box seats located on the first and third base side has also been renovated. It has been replaced by a permanent base structure. All these renovations are designed to increase seating so fans and money can increase.

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For Sox fans, the new renovations will help their viewing pleasure during the 2006 season.

Coco Crisp replaces Damon in outfield

Sean Walsh
Staff Writer

The Red Sox have found a replacement for the departed Johnny Damon. Coco Crisp has become the heir-apparent for the cult hero Damon to play Centerfield for the Sox.

Crisp, the 26 year old, who last year played left field due to the younger center fielder Grady Sizemore, comes to Boston along with back-up catcher Josh Bard and reliever David Riske.

However, the Red Sox had to give up one of the top five prospects in baseball, and the Red Sox number one prospect, Andy Marte. The Red Sox also had to give up Guillermo Mota, who they received in the Josh Beckett trade.

When Crisp led off two years ago, he struggled as a switch hitter doesn’t walk much.

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Voices & Faces

What’s Your New Year’s Resolution?

By Laura Rotolo

Have You Stuck With It?

“To change my socks everyday.”
Mark Kettenhofer
Sophomore

“My resolution was lose weight. I haven’t done too well so far.”
Deb Murphy
Dining Services

“To grow another inch. 4’11” now, goal is to be 5’.”
Cary Rivett
Freshman

“My new year’s resolution was to go to the gym, and no I have not stuck with it.”
Lindsay Plant
Freshman

“To start working out and maybe get in shape like I was my senior year of high school. So far, so good!”
Krystina Perich
Junior

“To walk a thousand miles.”
Melissa Moreau
Freshman

“My new year’s resolution is to lose weight and eat healthy.”
Grace Taormina
Sophomore

“To do a good deed everyday.”
Monica Frisbee
Sophomore

“To eat as much chocolate as possible.”
Lucretia Joy
Sophomore

“My mine was to stop swearing, but that failed after about two days.”
Amanda Robbins
Sophomore

“To stop partying in the lounge of New Castle.”
Paul Therrien
Sophomore

“To go to my 8AM’s.”
Jessica Guenette
Sophomore

“To complete my education through my MBA and being here at SNHU is making that possible.”
Rich Caruso
Dining Services