

The

Southern New Hampshire University



Observer

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Contributed by KRT Campus

Members of the space shuttle Columbia crew pose for a photo in October 2001. Seated in front are Rick D. Husband, from left, Kalpana Chawla, and William C. McCool. Standing are, from the left, David M. Brown, Laurel B. Clark, Michael P. Anderson and Ilan Ramon. Columbia broke apart on its return to Earth on Saturday, Feb. 1, 2003.

Back to basics: Frost on reductionism

By Garrett Boucher
News Editor

phenomenon such as religious experiences occur in the temporal lobes.

As part of a new series of faculty seminars that will feature various speakers, psychology Dr. Peter Frost spoke on what he dubbed "The Unity of Knowledge: Implications of Recent Developments in Reductionism." While this is quite a mouthful, Frost jokingly admitted, "If there are points for a sexy title...I don't win it."

Reductionism by definition is the theory that complexities both psychological and biological can be explained by looking at their most basic parts, for example, taking a behavior and analyzing to see how the communication between neurons inside the brain might explain it (a.k.a. the basic mechanisms that are at work).

Both faculty and students attended the event that was held in Walker Auditorium on Jan. 24. Frost engaged the audience with questions and was always open to hearing input during his presentation.

He displayed slides and thoroughly explained them as he went along. Though many students may have been hesitant to attend due to a pre-conceived notion of the event's theme, the doctor spoke on many concepts that were covered in Psych. 101: episodic memory (or personal memory), semantic memory (or factual memory) and the different lobes of the brain.

Spirituality was also covered during the presentation as the doctor explained the reductionist approach in explaining the will it was stated neuroscientists believe that this occurs in the anterior cingulate cortex. He also described how some believe that

Natural laws that determine a cross-cultural standard of beauty were also discussed, though Frost stated that to have such a limited set of natural laws is naïve.

He discussed a study out of the University of Texas that shows men, whether consciously aware of it or not, are attracted to women with an hour-glass figure. It was explained that such body types are perceived as more fertile.

In conclusion, Frost spoke of his personal beliefs on the subject matter. He believes in a need to take into account social aspects, not only physiological ones. He also reiterated that we do not always act in ways that can be reduced to micro levels.

An open discussion ended the event in which both faculty and students expressed their thoughts, feelings and personal philosophies.

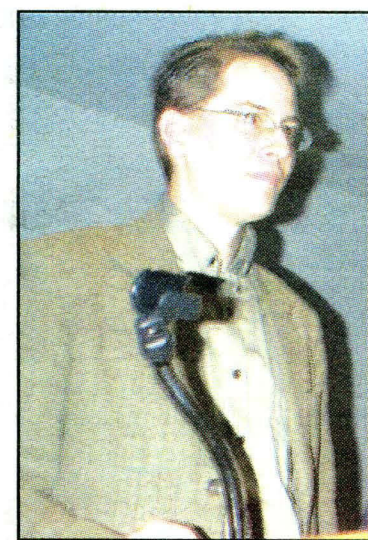


Photo by Garrett Boucher

Dr. Peter Frost, a faculty member at SNHU, recently spoke on reductionism.

Tears from Heaven

By Garrett Boucher
News Editor

Every aspiring young astronaut's dream is to eventually reach the stars. For the six Americans and the first Israeli astronaut in space, this fantastic experience ended in tragedy. On the morning of Feb. 1, NASA's oldest shuttle fleet, Columbia, went into flames 200,000 feet above the ground.

NASA administrator Sean O'Keefe stated, "This indeed is a tragic day for the NASA family." His was one of many heart-felt speeches given by officials at NASA throughout the day. O'Keefe as well as many other Americans and Israelis stood by Saturday

morning at Kennedy Space Center awaiting the arrival of the Columbia crew. They watched in horror as debris and fire flew from the ship. It was approximated that the craft was flying at 17,500 mph when it seemingly disintegrated in mid-air.

Currently, there is no explanation as to what exactly caused this terrible mishap.

Theories run the gamut from systems malfunctions to a separation of one or more of the delicate tiles at the bottom of the ship. It is also suspected that one part of the ship flew off and collided with other parts, causing its rapid demise.

Both the director and the secretary of the Department

for Homeland Security are investing the case but have so far ruled out the possibility that this was an act of terrorism.

The last contact that NASA had with the crew was reported at 9 a.m. ET. After that the Columbia appeared as a shooting star, scattering into all corners of the sky as it headed toward the Earth. People from Texas to Louisiana reported seeing, hearing and feeling the explosion. Both local and national officials kept a close eye on the falling debris, sectioning off the areas where it landed and

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Campus Security Log

Compiled by Kara Dufour
Editor in Chief

Date: 1/23/03
Time: 00:30

Date: 1/13/03
Time: 18:53

At the above date and time an RA from Washington called PS regarding the "t-shirt guy." A PSO went to the location and located him. The "t-shirt guy" was notified that he was trespassing and could not solicit on campus. He left campus.

At the above date and time housekeeping reported that the candy machine outside the SGA office was taken. They also stated that the base to the candy machine was outside the main entrance to the Student Center. Housekeeping did not see anyone in the area.

Date: 1/13/03
Time: 22:40

Date: 1/24/03
Time: 12:21

At the above date and time PS received a call from a female student in Kearsage. The caller said, "I can see a flame coming from a nearby room but it's not a big flame." The student then hung up. Two PSOs went to the location. Entering the room, they found three females and one male and several empty beer bottles. All present denied involvement in the incident.

At the above date and time a male student reported that he received a couple of phone calls of a sexual nature and didn't like them and wanted to know if he could find out where they came from. PS said they would get back to him.

Date: 1/14/03
Time: 00:00

Date: 1/25/03
Time: 02:50

At the above date and time a PSO was exiting the gym and noticed something down in the snow. The PSO looked closer and noticed a skull and words drawn and written that said "White boy E.Z. RIP." A PSO photographed the skull.

At the above date and time two PSOs responded to mischievous behavior at Merrimack. A female student reported that individuals had been banging on her door and throwing a large rock at the door, causing the door knob to be damaged. The suspected students in the incident denied any involvement in the matter.

Date: 1/18/03
Time: 02:25

Date: 1/26/03
Time: 12:05

At the above date and time two PSOs responded to Washington for a medical emergency. EMTs also responded to the scene for a female student for excessive alcohol consumption. Student admitted to drinking in excess, taking sips/drinks from multiple individual cups. The student refused to be transported to the hospital and appeared to be okay.

At the above date and time a vehicle was seen traveling backwards in lot #18 in excess of 30 mph. Vehicle was witnessed backing up from lot #18 near old Frost computer lab and exiting same lot adjacent to Whittier Hall backwards and traveling at a high rate of speed. At 2:30, the vehicle was spotted parked, and was ticketed for wreckless operation.

Date: 1/18/03
Time: 11:30

Date: 1/29/03
Time: 11:30

At the above date and time PS contacted housekeeping with regards to a pile of feces in the hallway of Whittier. Housekeeping responded and cleaned up the mess.

At the above date and time PS responded to water flowing out of a stairwell in New Castle. There was water coming out of the walls in the stairwells to the first floor. Maintenance responded and the water was shut off. Frozen pipe for the outdoor spigot was the cause. A couple of rooms flooded with water.

SNHU's new Sherlock

By Garrett Boucher
News Editor

Winter vacation is a time that most students usually spend with family and friends. For Nayana Hettiarachchi this past break was an experience that came straight out of the pages of a detective novel.

The story begins in a suburb of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, where Nayana's friend Danuna lives. "I came home to my front door broken open." Upon entering his home he discovered that he had been robbed of both his new X-Box and his laptop computer. Startled and confused, he contacted the Edmond police department, which only led to a filed report and a dead end.

It was not until while at a friend's house Danuna saw his screen name pop-up on MSN messenger. He then, advised by Nayana, obtained the perpetrator's IP address by sending him a file that the intruder opened.

After discovering the AOL screen name of the assailant through various chats, Nayana then commenced to further the relationship by using a hacking technique called *social engineering*. Under the assumption that he was speaking with a man, Nayana pretended to be a flirtatious girl; little did Nayana know he was about to get the proposition of a lifetime.

Nayana soon realized that he was speaking with a female and he himself claimed to live nearby in Dallas, Texas. Coincidentally the woman who we

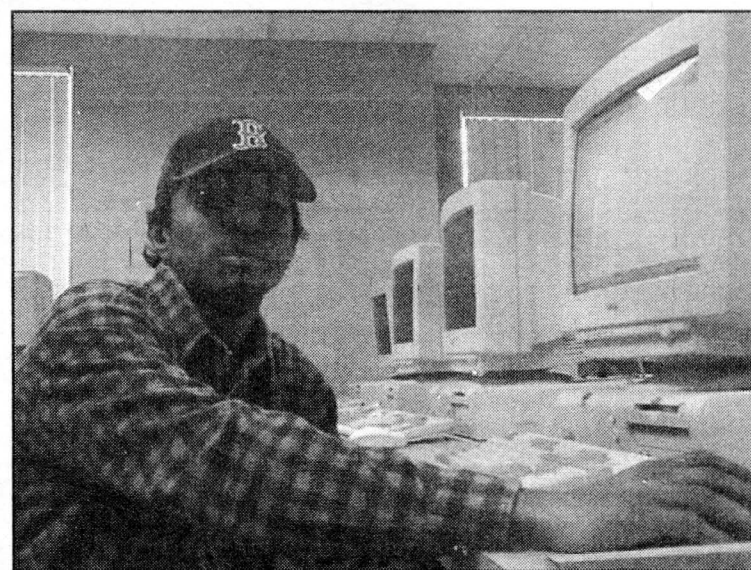


Photo by Garrett Boucher

SNHU has a new detective after Nayana Hettiarachchi (above) uncovered the mystery behind his stolen laptop.

shall call "Eve" frequented that area. She confided to Nayana that she ran an escort service and asked to see his picture. Nayana scanned through the online personals of single Texan women and sent her a picture of a blonde beauty that he was pretending to be. "Eve" then asked Nayana if he would like to work with her; "im gone come get you cuzz you got pottenial" she wrote. "You are so pretty...and me and you 2 geather...are gonna get rich."

At that point, Nayana contacted the Oklahoma City police department with all the information he had gathered from the girl. The police department then obtained a warrant, searched the home and found not only the laptop computer but also a treasure chest of stolen goods. They also discovered that the thief

was involved in a prostitution ring.

Unfortunately, Danuna's computer has still not been returned to him. The detective who handled his case was not available for questioning.

In response to the question would you give any advice to students to keep their personal computers safe. Nayana said, "Don't trust anyone on the net."

Clearly, in the high-tech information age that we are living in, nothing is off limits. Your anonymity as a computer user can be easily uncovered. If you are even to consider such an undertaking as the perpetrators in this story, do not falter as they did. One of the last words that "Eve" said in her conversations with Nayana was "it was god that brought us 2geather."

Make sure to mark your calendar for these fabulous events!

- 2/6 - snow globe pictures in the Student Center from 11 a.m-3 p.m.
- 2/6 - Lip Sync in the Small Gym @ 8 p.m.
- 2/7 - Band Orange Crush in the Pub @ 9 p.m.
- 2/8 - Breakfast in Bed @ 11 a.m. brought to your door
- 2/8 - Night Tubing bus leaves Student Center @ 6 p.m.
- 2/11 - TV Night in the Pub @ 7 p.m.
- 2/12 - Bingo in the Pub @ 7 p.m.
- 2/13- Comedian Louis Ramey in the Pub @ 9 p.m.
- 2/16 - Coffeehouse with Meika Pauley in the Pub @ 6 p.m.
- 2/18 - TV Night in the Pub @ 7 p.m.
- 2/19 - Bingo in the Pub @ 7 p.m.
- 2/20 - Hypnotist Michael Anthony in Walker Auditorium @ 8 p.m.
- 2/22 - Club Night in the Pub @ 10 p.m.
- 2/25 - Bruins game bus leaves Student Center @ TBA
- 2/25 - TV Night in the Pub @ 7 p.m.
- 2/26 - Bingo in the Pub @ 7 p.m.



SNHU seniors with CLASS

By Jessica DeAngelo
Staff Writer

Every year the evening before school starts my family has an expectations talk over dinner. This year's expectations were to get my resume done, to start thinking about jobs, to start planning the future and, lastly, to make the most of my final year of college. What I actually heard was blah, blah, blah—go out and have the most fun of your entire life in the next eight months because you will never have this time back. That is exactly what I did first semester. The words "job," "resume" and "future" never crossed my mind. My main concern was how to make each day the best I ever had at SNHU.

Fast forward four months. It's now the evening before I leave for second semester. Same dinner table, same parents, different tone. What four months ago were expectations had now turned into demands. "You need to do your resume, you must start planning for the future, and you have to start looking for jobs. And you need to do this now because you have only four months of school left." BOOM! That's when it hit me. Thoughts like "This is my last semester of college. What in the world am I going to do? I can't believe I don't have a resume" started running through my mind. Then an overwhelming anxiety started to flood my body. Just when I thought it couldn't get any worse, my father dropped the big bomb on me. "By the way, your health insurance runs out the day you graduate." The anxiety exploded into a full-blown panic.

After my blood pressure dropped back down to normal, I had only one question: Where do I begin? The first thing I thought of was my resume. I sat at my computer and started typing away—name, address, phone number. This was easier than I thought. Then I came to experience. Do they really want to know that when I was 16 I bagged groceries for three months? I was stuck; I had no clue what to include. Then I decided to speak to the people in the SNHU CLASS office and get some serious help.

Jim Kuras, the director of CLASS, put it all into perspective for me. He said the first step is to make an appointment to speak with a CLASS staff member. The meeting takes about 30 minutes and can help you figure out where you are and what the next step is. "Everybody has different needs. Some people

need resume help; some people need help with moving home and looking for jobs there. We work with everyone individually," Kuras said.

As the semester grows closer to the end, CLASS gets busier and busier. "It's better to start sooner than later. Just get it done," Kuras said.

Right now students need to start making connections. On Feb. 13 a job fair at the Center of New Hampshire will include from 50 to 70 companies. CLASS recommends all seniors attend the fair. It will help get your resume out and get you into a professional mindset. Seniors should also start preparing portfolios. A portfolio can contain anything from projects to papers and other academic items that a student can be proud of.

Many students need help with their resume. Kuras said that a big item that students overlook is the e-mail address. Students should always add an appropriate e-mail address to a resume. This means that students should use a standard j.deangelo@snhu.edu rather than a Miller-Light420@yahoo.com address. The resume is a professional document and should contain a professional e-mail address.

Other key items for a resume are including your computer knowledge, software and hardware. Include your G.P.A. only if it's over about a 3.2. It's not necessary to include everything you've done, but participation in college sports teams, sororities and fraternities and other outstanding activities should be posted.

Internships, co-ops and jobs related to your major should always be included. If you lack experience, it helps to add four or five specialized courses taken.

Finally, references. It's best to have three to five references. These references should be on a separate page and should include people like former supervisors and faculty members. Personal character references should not be included.

The CLASS office offers mock interviews Monday through Friday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., and also sponsors workshops throughout the year to help students on their way. All you have to do is make the first move.

The 30-minute CLASS meeting can help you with the next 30 years of your life. Contact CLASS at extension 9630 or stop by Exeter Room 101. The office hours are Monday through Friday, 8a.m.-4:30p.m.

McIninch Art Gallery Student Art Show

April 4 - 24, 2003

Reception: April 4, noon to 1:30 p.m.

How to Enter:

If you paint, draw, take photos, sculpt, or make computer graphics or other artistic works, here is an opportunity to have them exhibited in the McIninch Art Gallery and be eligible to win a cash prize!

Submission deadline: **March 22** (details below). Open to all SNHU students.

First prize, \$100! Other prizes awarded too.

Questions? Call Dr. Craven at (603) 668-2211, x2226 or email r.craven@snhu.edu

All entries must be by students currently enrolled at SNHU. Entries must be clearly labeled with the artist's name, address and phone number, title of the work, medium (example: oil on canvas), and date of completion. Entries will be accepted in room RF 344 on the following days:

Wednesday, March 19 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Friday, March 21 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Saturday, March 22 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

At the time of drop-off, entrants must sign a Student Art Show Agreement explaining the rules of the show and the limits of the Gallery's liabilities with regard to entries. A jury will select the works to be shown and to receive prizes. The jury's decision will be final. Entrants will be notified by Friday, March 28, of the jury's decision. All works will be returned according to the Student Art Show Agreement.

m.gallery@snhu.edu

(603) 629-4622



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the only thing he'd ever burned was a CD.**

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This message is brought to you by the International Association of Fire Fighters.
Harold A. Schaifberger, General President



SHUTTLE, Continued from Page 1

warning people not to touch the pieces due to their toxic nature.

Meanwhile in Israel, many are mourning the loss of father of four Ilan Ramon. As Israeli ambassador to the United Nations, Dan Gillerman said, "He was a symbol...a symbol of excellence and freedom." Israeli networks broadcast uninterrupted footage of the events as they unfolded throughout Saturday.

This incident may sound all too familiar to those who remember the 1986 Challenger disaster. This crew of seven, including a New Hampshire schoolteacher, died 76 seconds into their flight, as a gas leak caused the ship to crumble.

After that horrific event, NASA put off the space program for two years. In the words of President Bush, it sounds as though this time things will be different. Those running the program will attempt to keep their dreams high and their sights set on the future.

Astronauts such as Bill Readdy visibly forced back his tears during his speech. He explained the devotion and love that astronauts have for their work. "They loved what they were doing...and they thought what they were doing was *very* important," he said.

As this story progresses and it is discovered what caused the ship to malfunction, perhaps scientists and engineers will develop new preventative measures to avoid another such atrocity.

Information from this article was drawn from CNN during the special report Saturday, Feb. 1.

Que frio!

By Garrett Boucher
News Editor

For many students returning from holiday last month, cold winds and freezing temperatures made for a miserable start to the spring semester. Including the wind-chill factor, many parts of southern New Hampshire experienced temperatures well into the negatives.

The subzero weather closed schools and caused numerous auto accidents throughout the eastern half of the country. Even those who think that a tropical get-away to Florida will ease their winter blues, be warned! Florida

Pine St. Inn are not equipped to meet the demand. Many had no choice but to risk their lives sleeping outside. Here in New Hampshire, a state noted for its winter activities, some mountains halted their chairlifts because of the horrible conditions.

The cold weather comes at a time when many of New Hampshire's citizens are unemployed. Those who cannot afford to comfortably heat their homes are heavily covered in blankets, waiting for the spring to finally arrive. In the mean time, President Bush has lent \$2.95 million to New Hampshire in hopes that this financial assistance will help the state last through the re-



Photo by Cari Welch

The snow just keeps piling up at SNHU...

has also experienced its coldest temperatures in years. The chill has affected communities as far south as Miami Beach. The cold even threatened the state's \$9-billion-a-year citrus industry.

A little closer to home, the weather in Boston has caused many of the city's homeless population to spend hours in long lines waiting for beds. Since towns and cities all over Massachusetts are facing budget cutbacks this year, many of the day and night shelters such as St. Francis House and

mainder of the season.

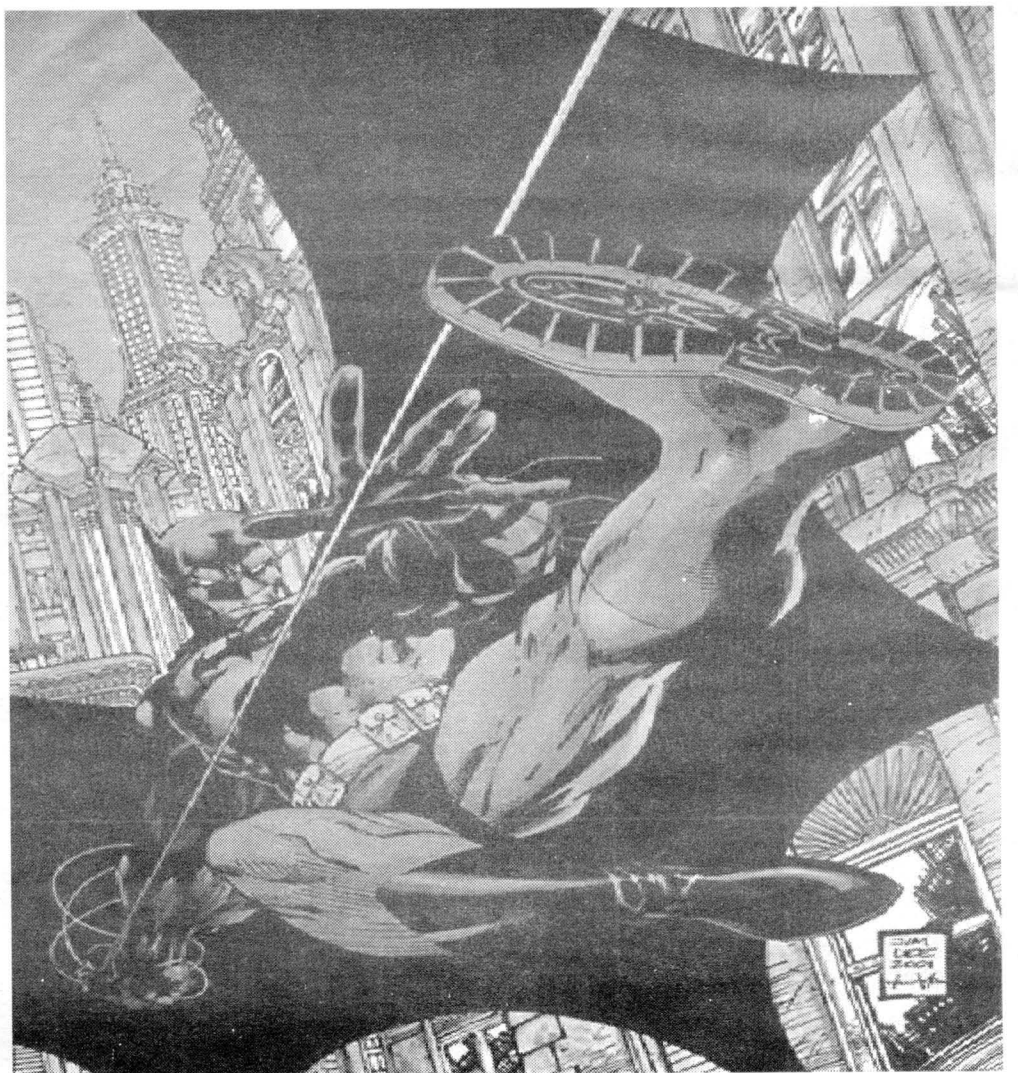
Though we are experiencing weather that is colder than usual for the month, it is still not as cold as in the past. According to the Weather Channel's website (www.weather.com), the lowest recorded temperature in Manchester was -37 C (-35 F) in January 1961.

So think warm thoughts, finish sending in your application to U.S.C. and plan for the glorious summer months ahead.

(LEFT) PHOTO BY RED HUBER / ORLANDO SENTINEL (MIAMI OUT) (January 16) CAPE CANAVERAL, FL —The space shuttle Columbia blasts off Thursday, Jan. 16, 2003, carrying a crew of seven including the first Israeli astronaut, Ilan Ramon.



Photo courtesy of KRT Campus



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Intelligence + Humor = Prof. Walter

By Robert Tenchavez
Contributing Writer

Each person is unique and individual. Like handmade products, no two duplicate persons in this world. Not even identical twins are 100% alike. And being the curious person that I am, the fact that all persons are unique makes them all very interesting to me.

However, if forced to single out one person in my life right now at SNHU, given the limited number of persons I know, and my inability to time-travel (or even to just travel for that matter), I would choose Prof. James D. Walter, my sociology teacher.

Walter is the current Chair of the Sociology Department of Southern New Hampshire University. He has been teaching for years now, 20 years of which have been spent teaching at SNHU. It was New Hampshire College when he began.

Walter earned his undergraduate degree at Kent State, where he graduated with a double major in psychology and sociology. With his love for knowledge, he pursued further studies, earning his master's at Indiana State, and a PhD from Ohio State.

As it turns out, there is so much to learn from this gentleman, even outside the classroom.

What immediately catches a person's attention when entering Walter's office are the decorations and little knick-knacks that fill his room. It is difficult to imagine how this highly esteemed doctor, with all his academic achievements and stature, collects dolls! He has a collection of political dolls including those of Richard Nixon, Al Gore and a lot more, as well as dolls of cultural icons such as Elvis Presley. He even has a poster of Marilyn Monroe hanging in his room. Not only dolls, but also pink flamingos! Perhaps a blood-relation of Bugsy, I mean Benny, Seigel? Or an inveterate gambler? He replies no specific reason, he just likes them.

During the course of the interview, I realized this is a man who has dedicated his life to learning and knowledge, not just his own but also his students. His desire to teach and share whatever he knows about things and about life has been there since childhood, he said. From the start, he knew he wanted to be a teacher. The

final push came from his professor in sociology, Dr. Hilbrandt, who helped him single out sociology as his area of interest: to educate and inform people about how life and relationships work from both sociological and real-life perspectives. About Dr. Hilbrandt, "I just love the guy. He just inspires me."

He is very satisfied with his life now. He desires nothing more but to teach sociology. Although he seems a bit worried about the future, he is very hopeful that the generation of today will make a difference because of the education and awareness they have now. Education, he believes, is the source of righteousness, and only with education can people bring about the ideal world.

Walter is a man of contradictions, someone you cannot easily typecast. His personality is not exactly out-of-the-box. He is a man of achievement and stature in his chosen field, an intelligent and learned man, and yet he collects dolls, loves pink flamingos, and considers himself a fan of sci-fi movies. How refreshing to find such a sense of humor. All these sides of his personality are evident in his classes: the intelligent side where he can go on and on about a topic, as well as his humorous side where he makes side comments or jokes about his topic. This makes his subject more interesting. I remember the first day of class when he said, "Please feel free to ask questions at any point in my discussion because I know I talk too much. But if you guys have no questions, I can go on talking until the end of this term, so please ask questions if you don't want a lot of notes." This statement was both funny and intelligent; he was prodding us to ask questions because this is the best way to learn. Very true, yet very funny.

But what I like and admire most about Professor Walter is his humility, which is seen in so many different levels and ways. He is very approachable and accommodating, always smiling. He does not mind being corrected or questioned. He himself loves asking questions because he likes to learn more.

Prof. Walter is unique and interesting to me because he teaches not just in the classroom, but with his own life as well. As a result what he teaches is useful not just in the classroom, but in real life as well.

By Cari Welch
Photography Editor

SNHU's second Club Day of the year came Thursday, Jan. 23. Clubs of every interest lined the halls of the Student Center looking for new members to participate in their shared interest.

There are many reasons to join a school activity: it gives you a chance to develop a skill, meet new people, have fun, and many of the activities can also help a resume. A communication major who helped on the radio, the newspaper or the yearbook will look more knowledgeable and competitive to an employer than a student who didn't participate.

No matter what your interest, there is a good chance that there is a club on campus for you. From the field hockey club to the Association of Cultural Exchange, SNHU has 39 clubs, and is always willing to help develop more. Signing up for one of the many clubs is not an annual event; a student can join most clubs at any time. It is simply a matter of getting ahold of the club to let them know you are interested.

Club Day

To see what clubs are available, just go to the school website, www.snhu.edu, and click on Student Life, then on Student Organizations. From there you can see what clubs you can join, and whom to contact.

Any students who are interested in starting a new club should see the people in the Office of Student Organizations and Leadership. The cluster of offices is located in the Student Center. There the interested parties can pick up a pamphlet explaining the process of having a club recognized by the school. Re-

quirements start with a minimum of seven members and a minimum GPA; from there the Student Organizations office will meet with you to help you organize your club.

But no matter why you decide to join, participating is a benefit to everyone involved. Joining an organization helps the club to be successful and gives experience and enjoyment to the students who join. Every student graduates from school with classroom experience, but the students who get involved in extra-curricular activities leave with something extra.

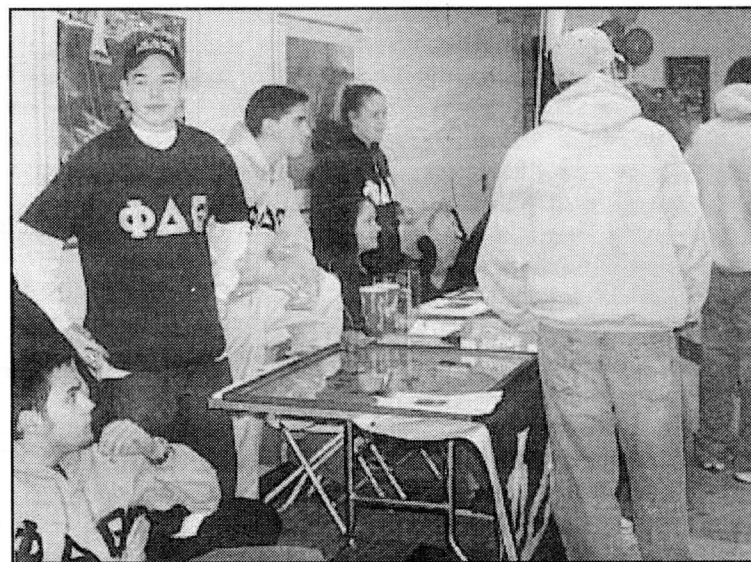


Photo by Kara Dufour

Students checked out many clubs including fraternities and sororities.

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Outside the box

Death galvanized Chico campus to examine students' alcohol use

By Becky Bartindale
Knight Ridder
Newspapers

SAN JOSE, Calif. — As San Jose State University grapples with the stabbing death of a student in an off-campus fraternity brawl last week, another fraternity tragedy from two years ago at California State University-Chico shows how far-reaching such cases can be.

The drinking death of 18-year-old Adrian Heideman of Palo Alto during a fraternity pledge ritual in October 2000 was the catalyst for Chico to confront its "party school" image by working with stu-

dents, fraternities and sororities to combat drug and alcohol abuse.

Now students get wallet cards listing signs of alcohol poisoning and telling them what to do. Marketing campaigns discourage binge drinking. Freshmen can't pledge a sorority or fraternity their first semester. Many sororities won't co-host frat-house parties if there's drinking. And Pi Kappa Phi, Heideman's fraternity, has been banned from campus.

Some 1,400 college students die each year from alcohol-related causes, according to a study by the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism

Fairleigh Dickinson University requires students to log on

By Brian Kladko
The Record

HACKENSACK, N.J. — After a semester of intense discussions, Laura Schwendeman, a sophomore at Fairleigh Dickinson University, has come to know her classmates from Core 106: The Global Challenge pretty well. She just can't recognize any of them.

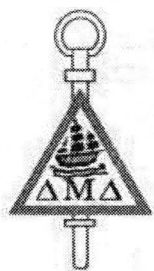
For some FDU students, it's a liberating experience — "going to class" whenever they choose, being able to think before answering a professor's question. Others find the ex-

perience a little frustrating, because of technological glitches or the lack of face-to-face interaction.

But like it or not, there is no escaping it. FDU requires that all of its students take an online course each year the only conventional university in the United States to do so.

FDU decided that online education should be an end in itself. By making students more adept at Internet-based learning, President J. Michael Adams reasoned the university would further its broader mission of being "the leader in global education."

THE SNHU GAMMA NU CHAPTER OF DELTA MU DELTA IS ACTIVE AGAIN



THE NEXT MEETING IS FEBRUARY 18TH
@ 11 A.M. IN WEBSTER ROOM 106

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL
ANNIE HOWARDS @ x3497

Around the world news

By Garrett Boucher
News Editor



U.K. — A Tube train derailed in Central London. The Central Line train was carrying 800 people of which approximately 30 were taken to hospital. Motor failure is blamed for the accident although it is still under investigation. (source: bbcnews.com)

Israel — Sharon wins elections. Poll results awarded Sharon and his Likud party 37 seats in the Knesset (The Israeli Parliament). Arab voters came out in high numbers to cast their votes this year. This number was a steep increase from the 2001 no-show elections that Arabs boycotted because of the police killing of 13 Palestinians. (source: isranews.com)

Colombia — Marxist rebels set to release journalists. On Jan. 21 Ruth Morris, a British reporter, and photographer Scott Dalton were kidnapped in the province of Arauca while on assignment for the Los Angeles Times. The ELN (The National Liberation Army, Ejército de Liberación Nacional) was coordinating with the U.S. daily to release the two captives. The captives were released Feb. 1. (source: CNN.com)

Cambodia — 1,000 enraged students set fire to the Thai embassy. The attack stemmed from a comment made by Thai actress Suwanan Kongying who accused the country of stealing Angkor Wat from Thailand. Angkor Wat is a religious complex that appears on the nation's flag. It is claimed to be the largest religious structure in the world. (source: The Asian Tribune)

Ivory Coast — Army rejects peace deal. The goal of the accord was to end four months of fighting in the country. So far, rebel forces have taken over the nation's northern half. Loyalists want joint control of the military until the 2005 elections are held. President Laurent Gbagbo has not signed anything yet and is urged on protesters to find an alternative solution to the crisis. (source: francedaily.com)

South Africa — President Thabo Mbeki fears a war in

Iraq could increase oil prices and inflation in African nations already struggling with poverty. He fears budget problems and what he calls "devastating economic consequences" for the continent. Mbeki predicts that such impoverishment will counteract the Nepad anti-poverty pact that was signed last year. (source: CNN.com)

Malaysia — Tired of waiting in long lines at the airport? Airports throughout Malaysia will now have machines installed that shall enable travelers to make automated Customs declarations. This technology, provided by RosettaNet Malaysia, will reduce the average time passengers with electronic goods spend at Customs stations to 5 minutes! (source: btimes.com.my)

Venezuela — Chavez isn't going anywhere. Banks end a strike that lasted 59 days. President Hugo Chavez threatened to fine and suspend directors of all the banks involved in the strike. Immensely long lines formed around banks that operated only three hours during the day. The ongoing strike by the opposition has caused medicine, oil and cash shortages all over the country. (source: The Times of India)

Through the looking glass

By Mike Pingree
KRT Wire Service

WHILE YOU'RE HERE, WALK ALONG THIS LINE

A copy machine repairman who had been drinking was sent to do a job at a municipal building in Raritan Township, N.J., but accidentally went to the police station next door.

Before he could leave, alert cops noticed his condition and arrested him for drunken driving.

THAT SHOULD KEEP ARGUMENTS DOWN

A 26-year-old porn movie actress, running for a seat in Chile's parliament, promises that, if elected, she will bare her very large breasts every time any fellow lawmaker quarrels with her about legislation.

AND WE'RE NOT TOO CRAZY ABOUT 'SLOTH'

Le Journal du Dimanche newspaper reports that a group of French chefs will ask Pope John Paul II to remove gluttony from the list of the seven deadly sins. Bad for business.

DID YA' GET A GOOD LOOK, BUSTER?

Rejecting arguments that people have a reasonable expectation of privacy under their clothing, Washington state's Supreme Court ruled that it is not illegal to take pictures up a woman's skirt in public without her knowledge. Lawmakers have sprung into action to close the loophole in the state's voyeurism law.

SCOUTS HONOR?

A Bethlehem, Pa., couple dressed their 7-year-old son

in a Cub Scout uniform and then took him door-to-door to solicit money for a Scout troop that doesn't exist. They scammed almost \$700 before they were caught.

NOW WE HAVE A CLAIM TO FILE

An insurance saleswoman swindled an elderly couple in Tokyo by selling them a policy then canceling it and pocketing the 3 million yen they paid her. After her victims found out about it, she set fire to their home in hopes of killing them to keep from being found out. But the husband woke up and put out the fire.

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The Observer

The Student Newspaper at Southern New Hampshire University

Est. 1932 ♦ Volume IX ♦ Issue 5

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The Southern NH University Observer is a news publication produced by Southern NH 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 our 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 NH University.

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College: The key to the future

By Amanda L'Heureux,
A&E Editor

There are days when the sun gleams over the earth, extending its vibrant rays to light up every part of the atmosphere. The birds are flying about singing their songs, while chipmunks scurry along telephone wires to their nests. Everything seems clear and wondrous. Then there are the days when dark clouds descend over the skies and allow moisture to shower the land and everything seems gloomy and depressing. Weather is strange, just as life is unpredictable. It took only a trip to Michigan to make me understand that an amazing life would not just be handed to me.

I sat there, staring out the sliding glass door of my friend's house as the rain gathered itself across the backyard. Pictures of the past and present lined the walls and occupied the curio cabinet. Music filled the living room, and I sat there taking in my surroundings. The previous day recurred in my mind: the crowded airports with massive security as well as car rides to and from the airport. It was quite the journey. Although I had been to this place a few times before, this time felt different; I felt different, but I couldn't place my finger on why.

It was late afternoon when Lindsay decided she wanted to make a trip to the mall. Putting sunglasses on my head, I reluctantly settled into her car and began staring out the window, glancing at the beautiful houses green landscapes and animals that grazed the lands, as she drove down endless dirt roads. She attempted to start a conversation as I tried to avoid it. The harder I tried, the harder she pushed until I finally gave in. The conversation grew into more than I expected.

Lindsay told me about the community college she attended and how she planned on transferring after a few years to a university that

would allow her to pursue a career in vocal music and move out of the house she grew up in. Then she asked me what I planned on doing with my life. I was embarrassed. The truth was, I had no idea. The thought never crossed my mind. I knew I would move out of my parents' house eventually and start working on a career, but I have only finished my first year of college, am I really supposed

She made me think about what I wanted out of life. I never thought about the future much or what I wanted out of college.

to know how I want to spend the rest of my life if I haven't even declared a major yet?

That afternoon, I learned more about my friend than I had ever known. I learned her goals, her expectations, and her outlook on the future, which were many things I hadn't even begun to think about. She made me think about what I wanted out of life. I never thought about the future much or what I wanted out of college. I went to college because I didn't want a military career like my father. I thought everyone was supposed to either attend college or join the armed forces. Why had I been so naive about my future?

We returned late that night as the moon shined over the lake behind her house and the stars glowed in the clear sky. The two of us locked the car and entered the house. Thoughts of the future filled my mind, and I started trying to predict my own future and what it may bring. College would be my key to the future.

SUBMISSIONS

The Observer welcomes article submissions and letters to the editor. All submissions must include the author's name and phone number. Make submissions to The Observer, 2500 North River Rd., Manchester, NH 03016 via e-mail to observer@snhu.edu as Microsoft Word attachments.

All submissions must be received by the following dates:

Issue 6- February 20

Issue 7- March 20

Issue 8- April 10

Look for the next issue on Feb. 27!

Ask Alfreda

Dear Alfreda,
My boyfriend of one and a half years
is transferring to another university (far
away!).
He wants me to go with him, but I am
afraid to leave my friends and family here.
What should I do?
Bon Voyage Babe

Dear Babe,
 You should NOT go since you obviously do not want to go. Did he consult you when he made the decision to go to another university? If you really have a future with this man, will you be spending the rest of your life following him while he follows his dreams? Stay put, Babe.

Dear Alfreda,
My sister let me borrow her laptop com-
puter for the first month of this semester. I
had some of my friends over one night for a
party and one of them knocked the laptop
over. Now the screen is broken! What do
you think I should tell my sister?
The Microsoft Murderer

Dear Murderer,
 The Truth! But first, find out if the laptop screen can be fixed and what it would cost. Then figure out a way to pay for it. Having a plan to right the wrong will soften the blow when you approach your sister.

Dear Alfreda,
I think my girlfriend has been flirting with
guys on the net. When we're talking on the
phone I can hear her typing on the com-
puter and then, all of the sudden, she gets
another call and claims it's one of her "girl-
friends." I asked her about it one time
and she said I was being too jealous. Do you
think I should break up with her or some-
thing?
Jealous John

Dear Jealous,
 You need to get a grip on yourself. Typing on the computer and receiving phone calls from someone other than you is not proof of an illicit affair. Cool it before she breaks up with you.

All letters for **Ask Alfreda** are kept anonymous. They can be mailed to: The Observer, Student Center Box 1084, 2500 North River Rd., Manchester, NH 03016 or e-mailed to observer@snhu.edu

The views expressed in Ask Alfreda do not necessarily reflect the views of
 The Observer or of Southern NH University.

College or kindergarten?

By Kelly Muller
 Staff Writer

Has anyone else ever wondered why we have an absence policy? It comes down to this...if you miss more than three classes then your grade is going to be seriously altered...usually with a failing grade. Is it really fair to fail a student or lower their grade just because they missed more than three class periods? Especially if the student has passing grades in the class and shows that they understand the material being taught?

At the beginning of each semester, we begin new classes, and each one of us starts with a clean slate. It is our chance to start anew, and get a jumpstart on organizing new study habits to ensure that we successfully complete our four years here at SNHU. The difference between our lives in college versus our lives in high school is we do not have someone such as our parents guiding us and mak-

ing sure that we 1. Attend school regularly, and 2. Complete all of our homework. It is up to us to take the responsibility for ourselves because college is a time of growing and learning without our parents around.

Of course when a new semester begins, it is not long before we start to slip a little, and we do not stick to that new study regimen we tried to create. It isn't long before we find it much easier to go back to our old study habits, and procrastination begins to set in. But, one thing is for sure...the work WILL get done one way or another. It costs more than enough money to attend school here, and if we do not want to waste that money, find ourselves on academic suspension, or wind up on the six-year plan, then we must make sure that the work does get completed. Not graduating in four years only means more money towards an already EXTREMELY expensive college education.

All of these factors bring me to one simple idea: We are

college students of adult age and are capable of taking care of ourselves. Sure, we may need help from time to time, and we are going to make mistakes along the way, but this is OUR college experience, and we deserve to be treated as adults! All of this means that we are capable of living on our own and taking the responsibility of passing our classes. This is where I feel that it is not necessary for the university to have an absence policy. It is not fair that if a student is legitimately passing a class but has more than three absences, that he/she receives a failing grade. How is it possible to fail someone who has proved through examinations and assignments that they have a firm grasp on the information presented in class? If for some reason I do miss a few classes, I should not be penalized for it. This is not high school, and there is a difference between high school and college for a reason. I think there should be a difference between college and kindergarten as well.

Some questions for George

By Elizabeth Dolbeare
 Contributing Writer

I awaited President Bush's Presidential Address last Tuesday with great anticipation. I believed that George W. would use the opportunity to provide us with some answers regarding the issues that are currently plaguing our country. Unfortunately, as I clicked off the television that Tuesday evening, instead of answers, all I had were questions-- questions that, I contend, George needs to start answering.

Our esteemed leader addressed our struggling economy in his speech. As well as proposing permanent tax cuts in an effort to spur our economy, he also stated "government spending should not rise any faster than American paychecks grow" and indicated that the expected increase would be 4 percent. He then went on to propose the following increases in government spending: \$400 billion increase in Medicare, \$1.2 billion in research funding for hydrogen-powered autos, \$450 million for a mentor program, \$600 million to battle addiction and \$15 billion (over the next 5 years) for AIDS relief in Africa. After we add in the cost associated with continued military action in Afghanistan and proposed military action in Iraq and North Korea, we arrive at the first question I have

for George: *Haven't you surpassed that 4 percent already?*

George touched our heartstrings with statistics outlining the number of Americans who do not possess health insurance. However, George made it clear that "a national healthcare system is not the answer" to the problem. So here is my second question: *If that isn't the answer, then what is the answer, George? Don't keep us in suspense. You must have something to suggest or else why did you bring it up?*

George wants to strengthen our economy by encouraging the startup and growth of small businesses. He spoke of "help wanted signs" and what those signs would mean to our nation's economy. How nice but here is question number three:

George, did you overlook the fact that providing health insurance for employees is the biggest expense for many small businesses and, quite often, the deciding factor for NOT hiring new employees?

I was quite impressed when George addressed the Iraqi people directly with "your enemy is not surrounding your country, your enemy is ruling your country." What a powerfully effective statement. And George didn't stop there. He spoke of leading a coalition to disarm Hussein and to give the Iraqi people "food, medicine, supplies and

freedom." Very noble statements, however, they lead to questions four, five and six.

4. *Will you be addressing the Iraqi people directly when it has been determined how many innocent Iraqi civilians are expected to die in this military conflict?*

5. *What coalition? The United States and Great Britain may make a partnership but don't you need more than two countries to make a coalition?*

6. *Aren't you going to tell us the proof you have that arms exist in Iraq? Come on, George, I was really expecting an answer to that question.*

So often I have watched George's speeches with awe. I have been awed by the fact that the President of the United States can stand at a podium and threaten, bully and name call, portraying himself as someone with a severe case of Napoleonic syndrome and no self-control. George did not exhibit any of these behaviors during his address. In a brilliant public relations move, he was calm, articulate and appealed to our fears rather than our anger. And so I arrive at my final question for George:

If you can muster up enough diplomacy in your effort to convince us to support a war, then why can't you muster up any diplomacy in an effort to avert one?

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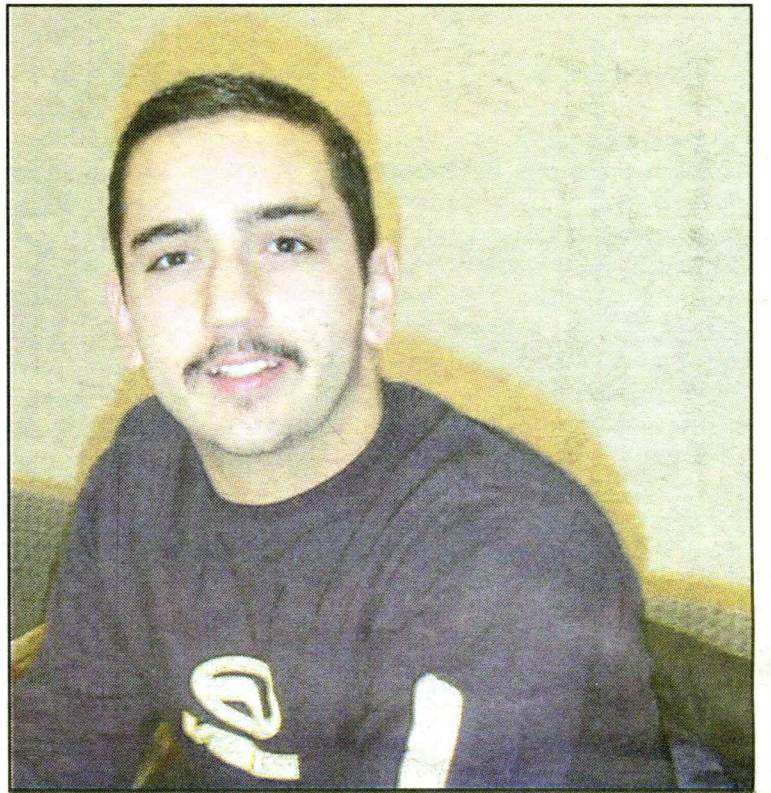
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voices



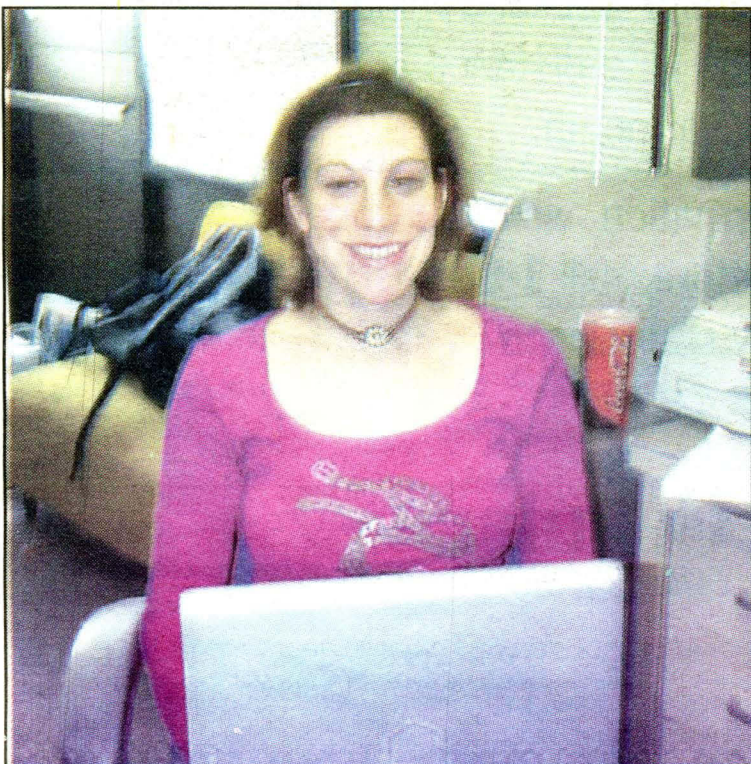
Adam Rauktis
Senior, Communication

"I believe the Observer is a way to reach out to students. Some students write op-ed pieces to voice their opinions about campus life and others write articles to help keep the student body informed about current events on and off campus. The newspaper is a tool for SNHU and I wish more students used it."



Garrett Boucher
Sophomore, International Business

"The paper brings students representation and the opportunity to voice their opinions."



Abby Kyriakoutsakos
Sophomore,
Communication

"Everyone loves to see their picture or their name in print. On such a small campus it is especially validating to know that people have read about something special you've done. It's a great equalizer."



Cari Welch
Junior, Communication

"I think the newspaper is an asset to campus because it is completely student run. It gives the students the opportunity to make themselves heard and make the newspaper into a publication that will serve them best."

& faces

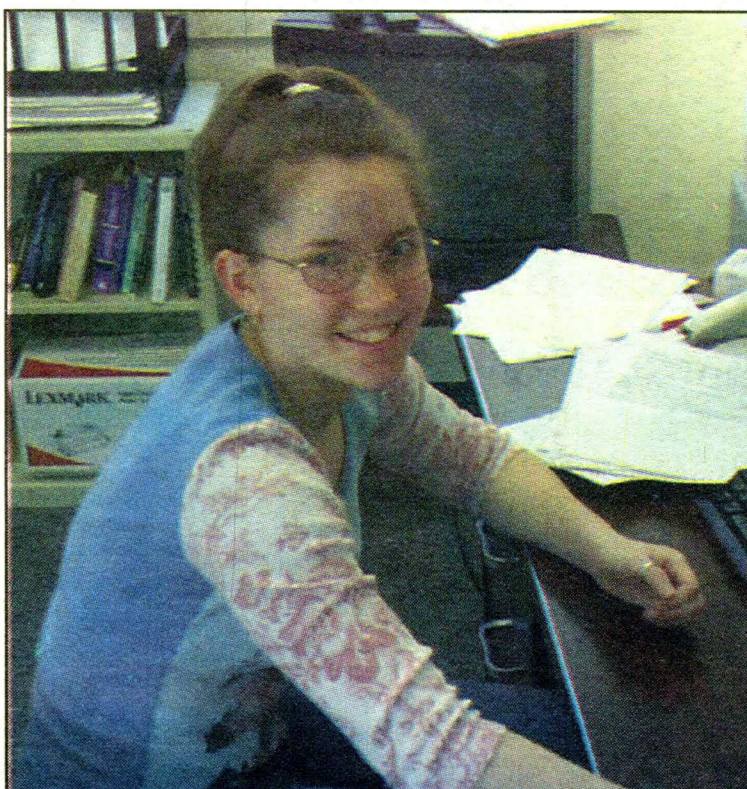


Amanda L'Heaureux
Sophomore, English

"The paper is a great way to inform students about the events in the surrounding towns as well as around the state. Who wants to stay on campus all the time?"

What does the student newspaper, The Observer, bring to campus?

By The Observer's Editorial Board



Kara Dufour
Sophomore, Accounting

"Any newspaper has two purposes: to inform and to entertain. The Observer informs students and faculty of valuable information that they would not find elsewhere, while also giving that sense of entertainment through features such as Voices and Faces and the Public Safety Log."



Katelyn Duggen
Junior, Advertising

"I think the newspaper allows students to voice an opinion about anything, as well as keeping them informed of the drama and everything else that happens on and off campus."

Making tracks

By Amanda L'Heureux
A&E Editor

Since the release of their self-titled album in 2000, Good Charlotte has been making tracks all over the world. It featured songs written to get back at high school bullies and how they dealt with life before graduation. The band tends to write from personal experiences, which helped "The Young and the Hopeless" move up on the charts. After its release in October of 2002, the band exploded into superstardom and proved that modern rock with a punk twist can grab any listener's attention.

"The Young and the Hopeless" established itself as a successor of the previous album. "The Anthem," "Lifestyles of

the Rich and Famous" and "Bloody Valentine" show the more upbeat side of the band, using amazing guitar rhythms. The bass helps to create energy from the lyrics. The more mellow pieces, "Hold On" and "Emotionless," show the more emotional side of the band with lyrics most people can identify with, since many people go through the adversity of having a father walk out or feelings of loneliness when the world abandons them. Those two themes are well presented in their mellow pieces.

The disk is an excellent grab for rock and punk lovers alike. The band is off to a great start with two stellar albums. Check out "The Young and the Hopeless" and visit them online at www.goodcharlotte.com.



Photo courtesy of Good Charlotte

The band Good Charlotte has been gaining fame in the past few years.

**Interested in
joining the
Observer?**

**Attend a weekly
meeting!**

**Meetings are held
every Thursday in
Robert Frost Hall,
Room 301, at 1:15
p.m.**

GZA/Genius

By Barry Jordan
Contributing Writer

Legend of the Liquid Sword
— Released December 10, 2002

In 1995 the Wu-Tang Clan was riding a high of commercial success with the albums *Method Man*, *Ol' Dirty Bastard* and *Raekwon*. Then the GZA, head of *Voltron* (as referred to by his Wu brethren), dropped *Liquid Swords* onto the public. It was a dark album with hardcore beats and unsurpassed lyrics. But since then the Wu has yet to recapture the Midas touch they once possessed. So enter the GZA's latest effort *Legend of the Liquid Sword*, which doesn't set out to save Wu, but does restore their good name.

Legend of the Liquid Sword is definitely GZA's best outing since *Liquid Swords*, and it has to be to bear the same name. The production lacks the overall assistance of fellow Clan member RZA, although he contributes one track. This time around GZA enrolled the services of Jaz-O, Bink, DJ Muggs, Jay Garfield, and Wu producers Arabian Knight and Mathematics. These groups of producers give GZA a good foundation to tell his stories and paint metaphorical pictures.

GZA is not one to alter his lyrics for radio play because style is what gave him the name The Genius. He tells his story of how he came up in the rap game on the track "Auto Bio." This head nodder accompanied by pianos, strings and a drum line has a glorious and grand entrance feel to it. The organ-driven track "Did Ya Say That" also finds GZA taking a look at the disillusioned state of hip-hop. GZA spits "I still run into students who bangin' my first joint/ Wrote an essay of the second LP to prove a point/ That a rhyme is a terrible thing to waste/ Gimmicks and radio the god don't chase."

The GZA keeps his formula consistent with previous albums by painting his usual heavy metaphor-driven track with the tracks "Animal Planet" and "Fame." They are designing in the same fashion as previous works like "Labels" and "Publicity." In the soulful "Animal Planet" GZA masterfully uses animal metaphors like "And the giraffe was a look-out for gorillas in the mist/ And the bats use their sonar to guide and assist/ Those pelicans who smuggle contraband for the whale/ While the skunks spray the scent to keep the dogs off the trail." The track "Fame" uses

all types of famous people to paint a storyline, with lyrics like "Larry's Bird flew outta Nicholas' Cage/ Joe Tex messages from Satchel's Paige/ Betty Wright letters with ink from Sean's Penn."

Other solid tracks like the infectious title track "Legend of the Liquid Sword," "Fam (Members Only)" featuring RZA and Masta Killa, and "Silent" featuring Ghostface Killah and Streetlife take you back in time to the old grimy sound of the Wu-Tang.

However, the album is slow to get from start to end because of its darkness. The beats aren't as up-tempo as other LPs out now, which makes this 15-track album seem to drag along. But GZA's lyrics are captivating and insightful enough to keep you interested from start to end. The GZA doesn't have the street elegance of Ghostface Killah, or the commercial success of Method Man, or the out of this world hysteria of Ol' Dirty Bastard (free ODB!). But what GZA lacks in commercial appeal, he makes up for in pure hip-hop lyrics and originality. *Legend of the Liquid Sword* is a pleasant surprise and all around solid effort from the elder statesman of the Wu-Tang Clan.

Common

By Barry Jordan
Contributing Writer

Electric Circus — Released December 10, 2002

Creative. Imaginative. Innovative. Freedom. These words and many more can be used to describe Common's latest LP *Electric Circus*. Common's 13-track opus could be mistaken for a Pink Floyd set. It's hip-hop fused with jazz, rock, soul, and funkadelic sounds. But Common's fearless attempt to take his sound to uncharted territory drives this CD into the forefront.

Common has never been one to release an album with the same blueprint as his previous album. *Resurrection* sounds nothing like *One Day It'll All Make Sense* or *Like Water For Chocolate*. Common enlisted the same producers from *Like Water For Chocolate* on *Electric Circus*. The Neptunes join ?estlove from the Roots, Jay Dilla and James Poyser to build the unique sound. But that is where the similarities end and the creativity begins.

The album opens up with "Ferris Wheel," a three-minute musical interlude which sounds like a carnival of Pink Floyd and African influences. Then Common offers the Jay Dilla produced "Soul Power," a 2-step beat that is driven by synthesizer, bass and snare drums. Common shows no ring rust as he lyrically rips through the track sharing his disappointment with hip-hop (H.E.R. as he refers to it).

Common continues with his unconventional sound with tracks like "New Wave," "Aquarius," "Electric Wire Hustler Flower," and "The Hustle." He cooks the tracks with electric guitars and distorted voices to create his out-of-this-world sound. He uses every guitar imaginable to generate his sound of an actual *Electric Circus*. "I Got a Right Ta," produced by The Neptunes, shows Common giving us his best metaphors on the album. With lyrics like "I want a Rover, but I'm thinking long range/ I ain't switch over, I just made my own lane... I know the block is hot, but we just can't get ice/ King Kong ain't got shit on me/ I train days to rip emcees, I'm peaking" it is no wonder why Common is regarded as one of the best lyricists in the game.

When Common decides to change his sound to a smooth feeling of jazz and soul fusion, he really out does himself. The Neptunes' produced lead single "Come Close" featuring Mary J. Blige sounds even better on the album. The lyrically simple love song reminiscent of *Like Water For Chocolate's* "The Light" shows Common describing the love he has for his significant other. But even this song sounds out of place in the highly electric album. Then Common teams with ?estlove, Bilal and even Prince himself on "Star *69 (P.S. With Love)." The repeated dial tone over the awkward guitars and drums is perfectly blended while Common speaks about love, but in the physical sense rather than his emotional love in "Come Close." He continues his lyrical dominance on "Between Me, You and Liberation" featuring Cee-Lo blending his metaphors and story telling of three different types of stories of hardship into one package. And "I am Music" featuring Jill Scott is a jazzy, big band hip-hop ride where Common shows his musical freedom.

The only weakness in this album is its creativity. It could be hard for the average rap fan to get into an album like this. This is not your average hip-hop album with street-influenced beats. It will take a few listens to understand where Common is coming from on this album. And by then must fans may just ignore this album altogether. The fans of Common will not be disappointed; he may even find new fans in different genres with this effort. Going against the grain has its advantages and disadvantages. But Common's fearless journey into a new territory is a much needed breath of fresh air in the hip-hop community. Common exudes freedom through this album, and ignorance is bliss.

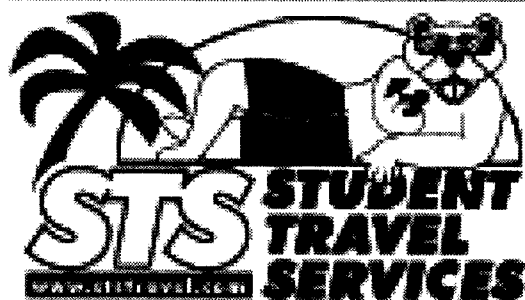
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Final Destination 2

By Roger Moore
The Orlando Sentinel
(KRT)

"Final Destination 2" is a grimly efficient killing machine. Creative and often funny in the ways it finds to off the various victims of "death's grand design," it's a soulless affair that has little of the panache and intelligence of 2000's "Final Destination."

The set-up is elegantly simple. A young person has a moment of clairvoyance and sees a disaster about to happen. No one believes him (in the first film) or her (A.J. Cook, in "2") until the accident happens. In this film, that's a horrific car crash. Kimberly (Cook) saves her friends from a spring break in Daytona Beach.

When this is on video, that oft-repeated "death's grand design" line will make a great college drinking game.

There's death by explosion, death by impaling, death by decapitation, death by drowning, death by elevator and death by pigeons.



Courtesy of KRT Campus.

The stars of Final Destination 2.

But we never have so much as a moment to connect with any of the characters. They're just the uptight "business woman," played by Keegan Connor Tracy, young enough to need a prom date, "the skeptical black guy," given some edge by T.C. Carson. Nobody else, including Cook, makes an impression. Ali Larter, sole survivor of the original "Destination" crew (the one who needs to change agents) shows up and spends all her time explaining

"death's grand design."

Then, BAM, another one bites the dust. Or fire escape ladder. Or airbag.

Buckle your seat belts. Stop speeding and talking on your cell phone. Kick the cig habit, or better yet, don't ever take it up.

And rent the original "Final Destination." This "Final" lacks that grand design.

Distributed by Knight Ridder/Tribune Information Services.

Mystic Stars: Weekly horoscope

By Lasha Seniuk
Knight Ridder/Tribune
News Service
(KRT)

Aries (March 21-April 20). Family relationships are demanding this week. New proposals will trigger several weeks of positive gains in intimate and long-term relationships. This is an excellent time to put feelings into action.

Taurus (April 21-May 20). After Friday, romantic interest and home obligations are on the rise. Spend extra time with loved ones and improve family relations, if possible. Honestly expressed emotion will greatly increase intimacy.

Gemini (May 21-June 21). Later this week, new romantic attractions will be difficult to avoid. Potential lovers will be drawn to your charisma and style. Remain true to your feelings.

Cancer (June 22-July 22). Romance and friendship may involve subtle politics this week. Expect others to be mildly frustrated by social and romantic limitations.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22). Friends and lovers will require extra emotional attention this week. Allow friends and lovers extra time to work through difficult emotions.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). A friendship or subtle flirtation may turn romantic this week. Already attached Virgos can expect to find greater intimacy and sensuality in love relationships.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Many Librans will begin several weeks of fast business improvement and new workplace procedures. After Wednesday, rest and plan unique social or family events. Loved ones need ex-

tra group support and emotional contact.

Scorpio (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Many Scorpios will slowly bring new methods of business or emotional support into their lives. After Saturday, intimate social discussions will bring valuable insight.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Early this week, a boss or business official may reverse a recent decision or introduce an unexpected policy. At present, others need to witness your management expertise and group loyalty.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 20). Long-term romance will experience a compelling phase of open discussion. Single Capricorns will experience intense creativity and a renewed faith in emotional commitment.

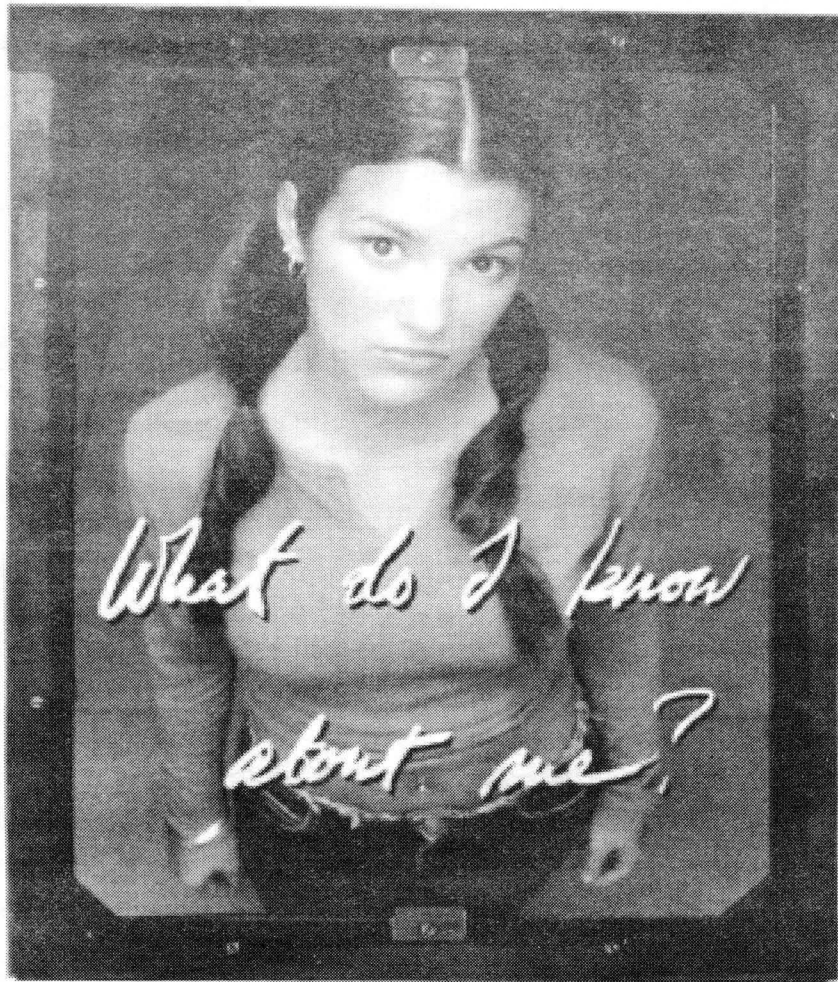
Aquarius (Jan. 21-Feb. 19). Over the next few days, expect the past actions of a colleague or official to help resolve present disputes. After Friday, romantic passions are delightful but highly emotional. Remain loyal to long-term promises.

Pisces (Feb. 20-March 20). Trust your instincts and watch your own behavior for valuable clues. Single Pisceans can expect to become highly creative, socially engaging and confident. Don't hold back.

If your birthday is this week ... New relationships or friendships will compete for your loyalty and may, before, July 8, create an unusual family triangle. Remain consistent and clearly outline all expectations.

For private consultations, please visit www.mystic-stars.net.

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Todd's Tunes

By Todd Strauss
Staff Writer

U2 - *The Best of 1990-2000*

After a second decade of hits, U2 returns with the majority of the singles released from *Achtung Baby*, *Pop* and *All That You Can't Leave Behind*. As good as this may appear to be, this collection is done wrong in so many ways. Two big hits, "Elevation" and "Walk On," are not even included, but the album designed to have songs only from 1990-2000 is not limited to just that decade since "Electrical Storm" and "The Hands That Built America" appear on the CD. Of course, many great-

est-hits albums are expected to have some new songs, but in this CD's case, there are very few singles left intact from their original form. *The Best of* is more like a remix album because of the additions of new versions of "Gone," "Staring at the Sun," "Numb" and "Discotheque." Rather obscure singles, "Stay," "Miss Sarajevo" and "The First Time," also were included on this album, as well as the big hits of the last decade: "Mysterious Ways," "Beautiful Day," "One" and "Hold Me, Thrill Me, Kiss Me, Kill Me." Indeed, the best of U2 appears on this recording, but apparently the band felt obligated to include the worst of as well. What went wrong? Grade: 71 C-

Trivia

Before the legendary Neil Peart joined Rush, their lineup included drummer John Rutsey.

Nickelback and Avril Lavigne may have that American rock sound, but both are from Ontario, Canada.

Vinnie Vincent, Eric Carr and Eric Singer were all members of Kiss at one time or another.

To avoid a lawsuit, 80s female rockers The Bangles were forced to change their name from The Bangs.

January Birthdays: Jimmy Page 1/5/45, Kenny Loggins 1/7/48, David Bowie 1/8/47, Dave Matthews 1/9/67, Pat Benatar 1/10/53, Justin Timberlake 1/31/81.

Nas' God's Son

By Barry Jordan
Contributing Writer

God's Son - Released December 13, 2002

2002 was quite a year for Queensbridge rapper Nas. From releasing his highly successful *Stillmatic*, his never-ending battle with Jay-Z, an affiliation with Irv Gotti and Murder Inc., and the death of his mother, Nas was either front-page news or battling hardships. Nas planned a mock lynching of Jay-Z after he badmouthed his baby's mother. Nas bashed rappers and radio DJ's like Cam'ron, N.O.R.E., Nelly, Angie Martinez and Funk Master Flex just to name a few. Meanwhile his mother would eventually lose her battle with cancer. He dropped LPs like *From Illmatic to Stillmatic: The Remixes* and *The Lost Tapes* (which looks to be the first in a series of unreleased material) to keep the streets hungry. But after all that, Nas has finally dropped his much-hyped *God's Son* on Friday the 13th no less. But does the product live up to the hype?

You bet it does. *God's Son* is a very personal album that

gives you a better perspective on the person Nas is than any MTV Diary. With tracks produced from a wide list of people like Eminem, Alicia Keys, The Alchemist and more, Nas captures a song that is easy to listen to but hard to step with. Tracks like "Heaven" and "Dance" touch on his deepest feelings, especially the death of his mother. "Heaven" sports the chorus "If heaven was a mile away/ who you pack up your bags and leave this world behind." Nas shows through these and other tracks what he is first and foremost: a poet.

The lead single "Made You Look" is a ball of mud thrown right at the flossing, candy-coded rap out on the radio. Nas runs all over this track with metaphors galore and more hardcore lyrics like "Now let's get it all in perspective/For all y'all enjoyment, a song y'all can step with/Y'all appointed me to bring rap justice/But I ain't five-O, y'all know it's Nas yo."

The Eminem-produced "The Cross" is a head-nodding piano beat over rattling drums. The song sees Nas flowing all over the beat while

taking hip-hop to another level by taking up the cross. He sacrifices radio-friendly beat to challenge conventional hip-hop.

Nas digs back into the past to finally put to rest the Jay-Z feud in "Last Real Nigga Alive." He retraces his days coming up in rap, linking up with the Wu-Tang Clan, hanging with Notorious B.I.G., to how the seeds were planted with his rivalry with Jay-Z. Nas explains how beefs were always present, but never as public as they are now with lyrics like "Y'all don't know about my Biggie wars/ Who you thought 'Kick In The Door' was for?" and "B.I.G. told me Rae was stealing my slang/ And Rae told me out in Shaolin B.I.G. would do the same thing." Nas doesn't bring "Ether" for Jay-Z this time around, as he is as done with the beef as people are done with old sneakers.

There are not many visible weaknesses on this album other than it is a bit softer than the previous release, *Stillmatic*. But it does not lose its street edge and proves that Nas is still a force in the rap game.

My Little Elf

By Tia Downing,
Contributing Writer

Somewhere deep,
Yet not so deep
Within myself
There sits a little elf
Upon his little shelf
And every day
I ask and pray
Why do I feel this way?

And his reply
So dear and dry
Is Always -
By and by
You'll know

The reason why.

And so tonight
While we sat and talked
I tried so hard
Not to gawk
At the way
You sat and stayed
So cold and removed
From each part played

I picked and plucked
My way around
Trying so hard
Not to touch
The sacred ground.

Then I realized
So bright and clear
This is why
We are (not) so near

So many times
I wanted to ask and say
Yet my heart tells me
Stay away,

Let him
Go off and play -
For tomorrow is
Another day.

People and their hair:

This is a perm



Prof. Helen Packey

By Prof. David Cox
Contributing Writer

Q: Congratulations on being picked for this installment of "People and their hair" and thanks for agreeing to do it.

A: Thanks for picking me.

Q: Let's get one thing cleared up right away, do you wear a wig?

A: No!

Q: In the first installment of "People and their hair," Robby Vanrykel was profiled. You and he have very similar hair. Do people think he's your son?

A: So far no.

Q: When you were a young girl, was your hair as curly as it is now?

A: No, this is a perm. When I was young I had short hair until high school and then long straight hair until the perm came along.

Q: (jaw drops to floor)

Q: Sorry, Helen, I was temporarily speechless. You look so naturally curly, I've always assumed those curio curls were a gift from God!

A: No, they are a gift from my hairdresser.

Q: What provoked you into "going curly?"

A: I just needed a change, so one summer I decided to



Robby Vanrykel

get a perm. I was teaching on Long Island at the time. I left school for the summer looking like Cher and came back in the fall looking like Little Orphan Annie. I didn't tell anyone that I was going to do it, and when I visited my parents my father did not immediately recognize me!

Q: You obviously like the perm since you've kept it around for about 15 years.

A: It's part of my personality now. When you act a certain way or have a certain look long enough, it becomes part of you and I like the fact that my hair is a little on the crazy side.

Q: Is your husband fond of your curly hair?

A: Yes, because it makes me easier to find me in a crowd.

Q: Has your hair become curlier since you've been working on your doctorate?

A: No, but it has become more gray.

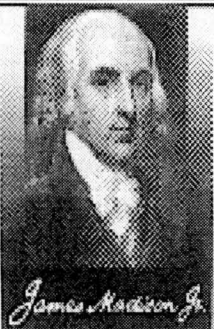
Q: I know you're doing your dissertation. How is it going?

A: It's a slow process, I have about 16 pages done so far.

Q: Good luck. Thanks for your time and for having great hair.

Things to do on Valentine's Day When You're Single:

- Go out to dinner with friends.
- Send/buy yourself flowers.
- Be the original "boycotter" of V-day.
- Egg the dorm rooms/townhouses/apartments of girls who have boyfriends (hehe).
- Make a friend your Valentine.
- Watch a funny movie with friends, laugh and don't think about how miserable you really are (haha).
- Treat it like any other day.
- Go shopping and treat yourself to a new outfit.
- Work.
- Dive into the hundreds or pages of reading you have to catch up on for class.
- Send a secret valentine.
- Stalk your crush and hope that she/he gives in.
- Wear all black.
- Surprise yourself with unexpected gifts... a bottle of great champagne or a red rose beside your bed.
- Whisper sweet nothings into the air, then spin around really fast to catch them in your ear.



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Cupid's hit and miss: Dating horror stories

A couple of weeks ago I received an email from my sister about an incident on the "Tonight Show with Jay Leno." Leno went into the audience in search of the most embarrassing first date a person ever had. The winner described her first date, and there was absolutely no question as to why her tale took the prize. After reading the e-mail and recalling some of my own personal "dating horror stories," I decided to check and see what some of the most horrific dating experiences fellow SNHU students have had. Here is what they said:

Battle of the Ex

I was on my first date with this girl that I had liked for quite some time. We were heading to see a movie at the local theater, and when we arrived she became a little uneasy. After paying for the tickets and popcorn we headed inside. Once we sat down she began to nervously check over her shoulder. I asked her if everything was okay, and she proceeded to tell me that she thought her ex was following us. Thinking it was purely coincidental, I just shrugged it off and turned my attention toward the screen. About half-way through the movie I was getting ready to make my move. With my arm around her I leaned in to kiss her, with no objection from her. The moment was quickly killed by an unruly guy a few rows behind us shouting out some obscenities. We both realized that they were directed at the two of us, and my date just said that we should go. We got up to leave at her request, but it wasn't over. Her ex followed us outside into the parking lot yelling and causing a scene the whole way. Once we reached the parking lot I turned around to confront the guy. I was getting defensive and sharing a few thoughts of my own with him when he shoved me pretty good. I was unwilling to be pushed around by this guy and I shoved back. He took a few swings at me, and before I knew it we were in a

pretty good match in the parking lot. It didn't take long before it got broken up, though. I was pretty upset that her ex had ruined our evening and decided to just take her straight home. That was the end of that; I was just upset that I got punched as opposed to kissed good-night!

-Bruised in NH

Circus Clown

I was at this club one night with my girlfriends, and I met this pretty decent guy. After a lot of dancing we exchanged numbers. The next day he called me, and after some common conversation he implied that he wanted to get together that afternoon. So, I invited him to come over and hang out that day. He replied positively with "Yeah, and then we can sweat between your sheets like we did on the dance floor last night...but I have been planning to go to the circus, so I will come by afterwards." I assumed he was joking and began to laugh. We hung up a few minutes later, and I awaited his arrival. He called me a couple of hours later and said he was on his way and that he had had an awesome time at the circus. When I went to meet him outside, we exchanged a casual hello and small talk as we headed up to my dorm. Once we got inside, he said blatantly enough and without so much as a smile, "So, you ready to sweat?" Still thinking he was just kidding around, I just giggled; after all, it really wasn't that funny. He looked at me with a blank expression on his face, and said, "No, really, that's why I came all the way over here." Appalled by the vulgarity of the guy, I told him that wasn't what I had in mind, and when his reaction was something along the lines of "Why am I here, then?" I kicked him out and never talked to him or saw him again!

-Connecticut Circus Chick

Projectile Pork

My girlfriend of eight months had planned a really

nice dinner for me for our anniversary. She had cooked my favorite dinner and even had bought my favorite dessert for dinner, cheesecake. The night before our anniversary I had been out with some friends and had a little more to drink than I should have. Knowing all the trouble she had gone to and that she was counting on me to make it really special, I decided to tough it out; after all, neither of us had been in a relationship longer than three months prior to this one. About a third of the way through the dinner I was really beginning to feel queasy from the previous night. Not wanting to tell her that I thought I might be sick, I just kept eating, thinking that I would make it. Two more bites of the home-made pork recipe and I was down for the count. Without any time to run to the bathroom, I turned sideways and let it all go right there on her floor. Needless to say, she wasn't all that impressed! Although it wasn't the best anniversary, it certainly was the most memorable!

-Ralph

No Mama's Boy

I invited my girlfriend over one night to watch a movie. We had been seeing each other for quite a while, and things were beginning to escalate physically. We were down in my family room watching the movie *Top Gun*, and conveniently my parents weren't home. Pretty soon our attention left the TV and we began making out. After a while the only thing missing in action was our clothing. The heat was rising fast, and just before it was about to boil a door opened. Although she briefly went unnoticed, my mom had entered the "Danger Zone." She dropped the soda-filled glasses and they shattered all over the hardwood floor. That wasn't the only thing that shattered that night—so did my pride...and my freedom for the next few months.

-Ruined Romp in Rhode Island

Simple Gift Ideas for Your Special Someone

Abandon the traditional red roses for a mixture of exotic flowers.

Write your sweetie a poem/letter including his/her best attributes and the things you adore most about them.

Ask his/her mother what their favorite dinner is and cook it for them for dinner (by candlelight).

Send him/her on a scavenger hunt with clues taking them to the site of your first date and other special and memorable places, and leave a Hershey's Kiss with every clue.

Have a friend take a sexy photo of you and give it to them.

Buy him/her a bubble bath kit and fill the bathtub for them, include some rose petals and candles.

Make him/her a card, personalize it and don't forget to spritz with your "scent."

Give him/her a favorite stuffed animal of yours from your childhood days.

Make him/her a collage of photos of the two of you.

Enlarge and frame your favorite photo of the two of you together.

Make him/her a CD and include "your" song and others that remind you of your Honey.

Go see a psychic together and have your future read (and hope it is good).

Hockey team builds for the future

By Katelyn Duggan
Opinion Editor

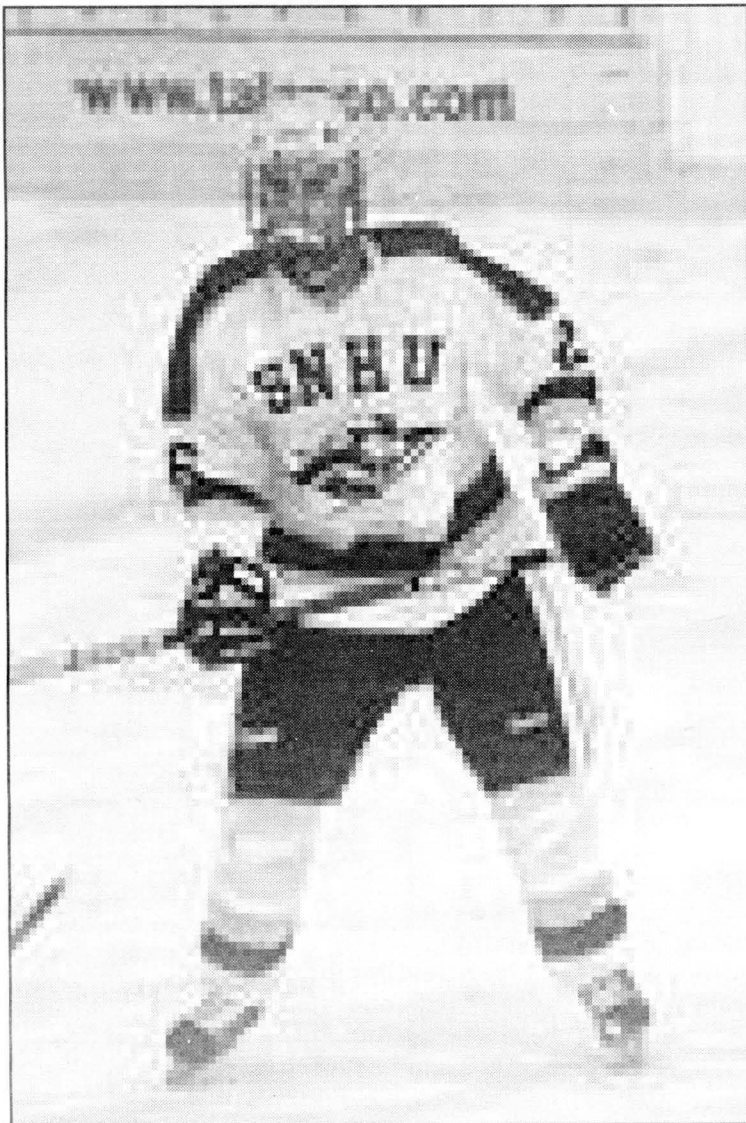
Been to a SNHU hockey game recently? If you have, and happened to glance at the roster, it would be surprising to see how many freshmen and sophomores are on the team, as opposed to many upper-classmen returners that SNHU is accustomed to.

With a team that lists 13 freshmen and 10 sophomores, many people seem to think that this is a rebuilding year for the Penmen. What has the team been up to, what are they looking for this season, and how do they feel the season has gone so far?

"This year we have had to rebuild. We ended up having 13 freshmen. When you have 13 new faces, it will always be considered a rebuilding year. We have had to work though a lot this year, it took awhile to find right combinations and who played well with each other," says junior Mike Flynn.

Starting off the season with high hopes and confident attitudes, the team faced some tough competition, but were still holding strong and playing hard. As the season progressed, the realization that they had a young team became evident and they have had to work hard through transitions, different coaching styles, and trying to work to see which players matched and best complemented the other players on that line.

"The coaching styles have been altered. We are trying to bring the program to where it



Courtesy of Sports Information Department

Sophomore Pat Doherty is one of the many freshmen and sophomore players on the Penmen hockey team.

will be unbeatable in Div. 2 and 3. We are getting more serious, doing more recruiting for serious players, and we have to make changes in the system to accommodate these new players-- seeing what works and what doesn't," says coach Rene Leclerc.

Rebuilding year or not, the Penmen hockey team may have had a rough season so

far: however, it's these freshmen and sophomores that will shape and build a stronger team for the upcoming years. The practice and the experience that they are getting now is allowing them to face certain situations and learn what works and what doesn't, certifying a tough, physical and winning season next year.

Wankers finish intramural season undefeated

By Adam Rauktis
Layout Editor

Congratulations to the Wankers who completed the 2002 intramural soccer season with an amazing 7-0 mark.

The Wankers finished the regular season 4-0 and continued their winning ways throughout the playoffs. Brendan Yerry led the team, and the league, with 14 goals,

an average of 2 goals a game. Yerry also compiled three assists on the season. Wanker teammate Ryan Ledoux was tied in second with nine goals and five assists.

In the championship game the Wankers faced off against Telefund C. Telefund had lost earlier in the year to the Wankers in a 5-2 effort. This game wasn't going to be the same. The Wankers came out to prove they were the best and posted a 6-0 score to take the title of 2002 Intramural Soccer Champions.

The Wanker team consisted of Shawn Burke, Matthew Yerry, Bryan Parker, Robert Birdsey, Mark Gallotto, Chris Henson, Ledoux, B. Yerry, Brent Marcelino and Paul Cardinal.

A special thanks does go out to the staff of the intramural league. Without these people the games would not have been so organized and well officiated. So thank you to Nat LeBlanc, Chris Proulx, Ryan Yacavoni, Scott Veith, John Massey and Jason Galant.

Men's hoop: Shots falling short

By Abby Kyriakoutsakos
Sports Editor

For the past several years the SNHU men's basketball team has consistently hit a mid-season slump. After going strong right up until the first few games following the winter break, shots stop dropping, guys get injured and sickness, as is true of the rest of the campus, plagues player after player.

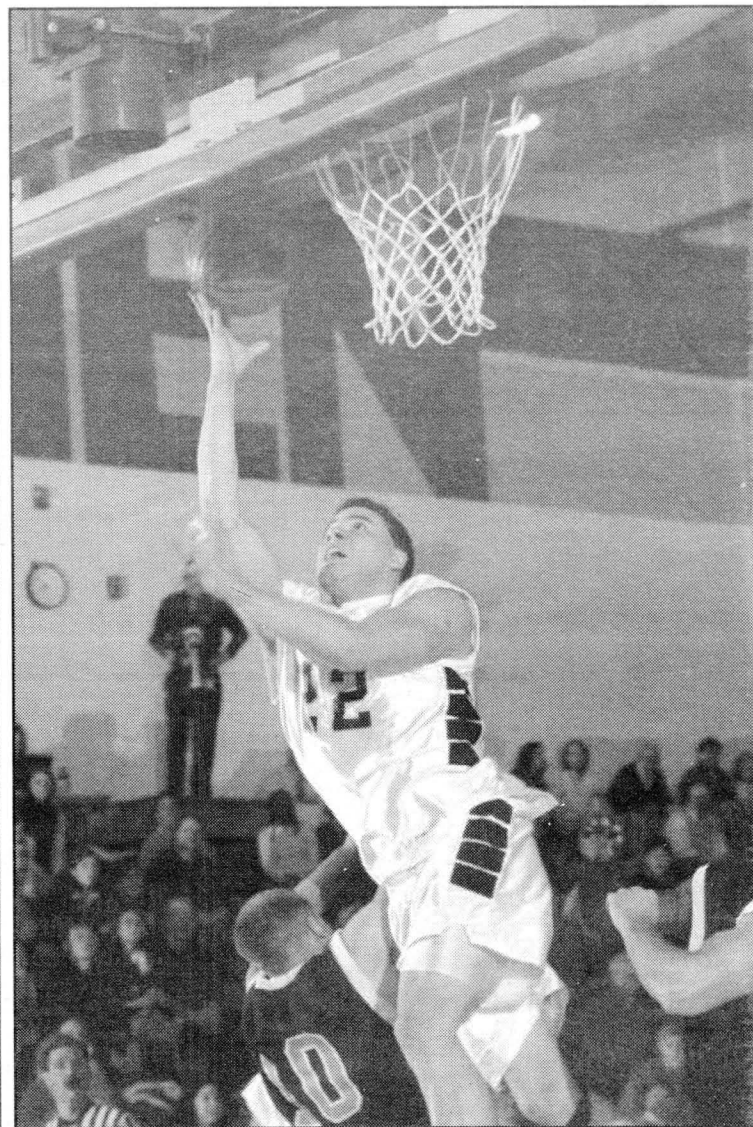
For a while it seemed as if this year would be no exception. Following a second-place tournament effort in December, the Penmen came back to win four straight, including intracity rival St. Anselm College and The College of Saint Rose who had handed the men their first loss of the season.

Just after the Penmen had fought for and won redemption, they collected two losses back-to-back. The next four games were won but without struggles, tremendous effort and a little bit of luck, like Soto Karapostolou's buzzer beater trey against Bryant College. It was not just that one of their top shooters,

Mark Yeaton, was suffering from a cold, later said to be bronchitis, nor was it center Namdi William's stress fracture that was the biggest obstacle to their game. Instead it was the healthy members of the team who were in trouble.

"We need to start playing as a team," said senior co-captain Brian Larrabee. "We need to get our offensive chemistry back." It was true that, while defensively the men were playing well despite the loss of Williams, due in large part to center Athanasios Souflias, the team's offense was suffering. For a while it seemed that none of the dependable shooters could toss anything that would put points on the board.

It seems as though the chemistry might be back in play now, given the Penmen's win over the UMass River Hawks, 'til then ranked third in the nation. The SNHU men's team will face UMass at home at the end of the regular season. In the meantime the Penmen will have several more chances to prove that they have what it takes to go all the way.



Courtesy of Sports Information Department

Junior Mark Yeaton trying to make two points.

I want you!

By Roy Wilkinson
Staff Writer

During the winter break, SNHU women's basketball finished with a 5-11 record. They won at home against the College of Saint Rose, Pace University, Teikyo Post University, and also had a huge win in the SNHU Fieldhouse against intrastate rival Franklin Pierce College on Jan. 29. They also won one game on the road in overtime by two, against Green Mountain College, a team they also played in the Ramada Inn Shootout earlier this past November and defeated handily by 20.

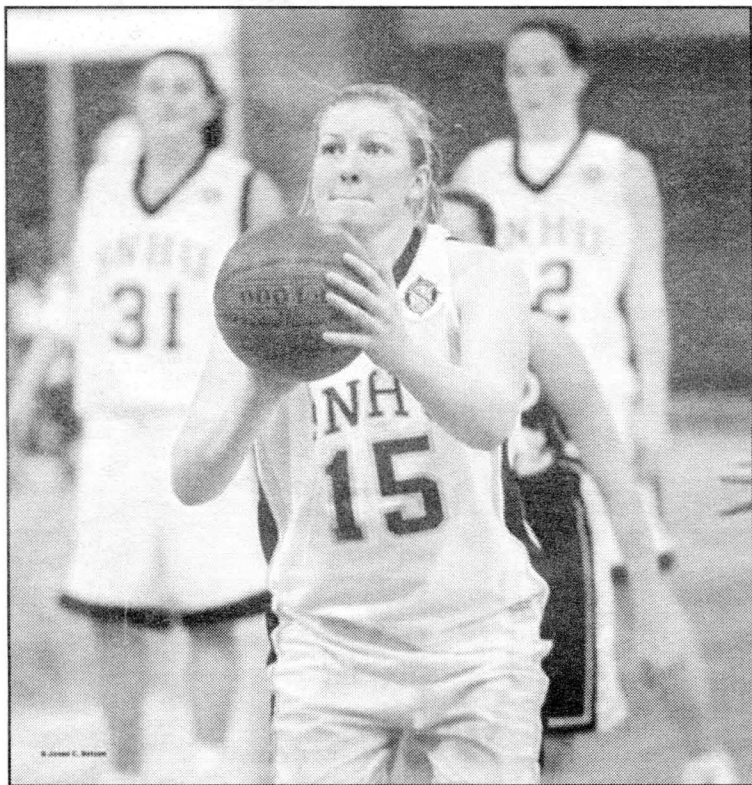
The game against Franklin Pierce College this past week avenged a loss on Dec. 21st against the Ravens at Franklin Pierce. In that game, the Ravens beat SNHU by 10. This time, the tables were turned and the Penmen squeaked out of the SNHU Fieldhouse with a 59-57 win as a long, half-court shot by the Ravens clanked off the front rim. Junior Vanessa Cedrone hit a jumper with two seconds left in the game to give the Penmen the win after the Ravens of Franklin Pierce College valiantly came back from a double-digit deficit to tie the game at 57 with a three pointer with 19 seconds remaining in the second half. Junior Sara Scott finished the night with a game-high 19 points and freshman Glhancy Bonhomme finished with 14 points and collected 12 rebounds, seven of them offensive. Cedrone finished with 13 points.

Now, all of you would have seen that exciting game if you came early. Recently, in a col-

umn called "Column as I See 'em," written by Joe Sullivan of The Union Leader on Jan. 7, Sullivan expressed his thoughts on women's basketball compared to the men's game and how the women's game is usually seen as "an afterthought" when the game is played before the men's. Sullivan noticed, "How many times have you heard fans inquire about a college hoops game by asking, 'When does the men's game start?'" I hear this same thing when I go to watch the women's game each time. Here's a thought, maybe the women's game can be just as interesting as the men's game."

At the University of Tennessee, the women's program has become more popular than the men's. Attendance for the women's game there is better than the men's in recent history. They don't usually play back-to-back games like most Division II schools do, but the fans know good basketball when they see it. The same atmosphere can occur at SNHU as well. Most of the games are not on Friday or Saturday night either. We either have many students being very studious or video gaming and sitcoms have overtaken watching great competition on the hardwood.

There are about three or four more games left in the women's home schedule. Here is the chance for the student body to rock the SNHU Fieldhouse. Come often, come early! Encourage your fellow students and friends on the basketball court. And, yes, the men's game will be following the women's game.



Courtesy of Sports Information Department

Senior Amy Stilphen taking a shot.

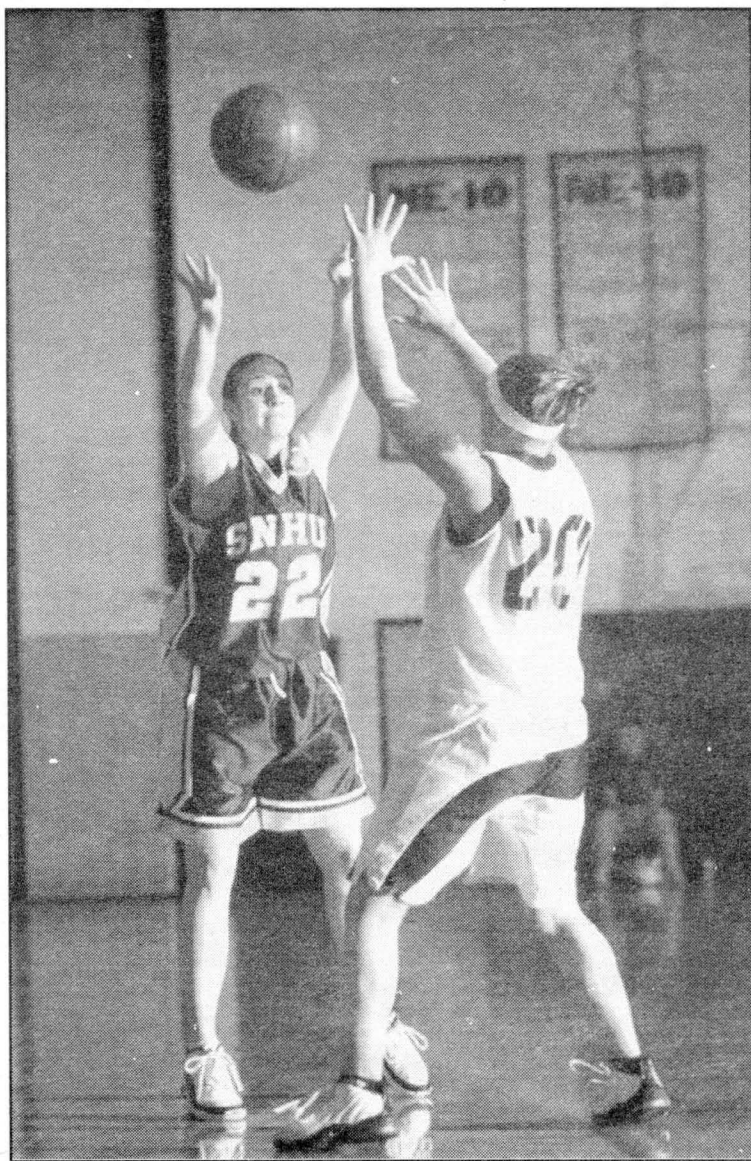
LAVILLA,
Continued from Page 20

home country of Spain such as El Olivar and Cajalon to hone her basketball skills. Spain, like most European countries, are devoted soccer nations and other sports that are popular in the United States get put on the back burner. The game of basketball is no different. Unlike here in the United States, the game in Spain is received and played much differently. "It's less popular in Spain. Women's is even less popular than the men's game because of money," said Lavilla. The way the game is played is also different than what we are accustomed to in America. "The game is faster in America. Also, there is more contact here and more defense," Lavilla stated.

The move from Spain to the United States was, no doubt, a tough one for Lavilla. She left a different country and culture behind and came to America, a place that is sometimes described as a melting pot of cultures to form one. "The beginning was hard because I couldn't speak English. I was lost. I was very quiet at the beginning," Lavilla commented on the transition. She credits some of her ability to get used to America to the community of international students that attend SNHU. She notes that they helped her make a good transition and that they understood what she was going through.

When students come to the campus at SNHU, they are always asked, why did you come here? The usual answer is a laugh at first because the campus is relatively small and New Hampshire is not seen as a big-time college state. After the comical laugh, simple and logical reasons as to why they came to SNHU are given. Lavilla was no different in her answer. After the brief laugh, she answered, "Coach [Masi] gave me an opportunity to play basketball. I am able to play basketball and get a degree at the same time."

After an impressive freshman season when Lavilla averaged nearly six points a game, led the team in assists, and finished second on the team in steals, her sophomore season lasted one practice. In the first practice of her sophomore season, Lavilla tore the ACL in her right knee. The injury required surgery and she was out for the season. "On the first day of practice, I was going to the basket and it happened. I wanted to believe that it wasn't serious and it was just normal pain. When I found out, I was really upset." Sitting on the sidelines was even tougher for Lavilla as the team continued on. "It



Courtesy of Sports Information Department

Attending school in New Hampshire was a big change for Junior Ana Lavilla.

sucked. It sucked because I came here to play basketball. It was hard to see the team play and not help," she said.

The rehabilitation was a long and time-consuming process. Lavilla worked four hours every day during her rehabilitation. "It was tough. You have to work really hard to regain motion. It took about six months," she said. Even after the rehab, the game has changed for her. Lavilla

"I want to make my team better and help everyone. Off the court, I am just a regular 22-year-old."

said that the injury has changed the way she plays the game. "It affects me when I go to the basket," she said. Instead of driving to the basket, she now uses jump-step moves in the paint to get her shots.

Lavilla's third year at SNHU can be described as surprising and wonderful. As of Feb. 2, she is averaging 6.8 points a game and leads the team in assists (86) and steals (47). Her average of 4.53 assists per game is 4th in the Northeast-10 and her average of 2.47 steals per game ranks 6th in the conference. Even more surprising, Lavilla leads all SNHU women in minutes, averaging 24.8 minutes a

game. The statistics indicate that Lavilla has fully recovered from the injury remarkably and that she is primed for another wonderful season next year.

Although her future is still a shroud of mystery to her, Lavilla still has a dream to accomplish. Her ultimate dream is to go back home to Spain and play professionally. "I would like to play professional basketball in Spain. The pay is not so well and it is tough to find a job but I would like to play," she said.

Ana Lavilla is very humble and grateful for all the people who have helped her through her long journey. "Thank you to Coach Masi for the chance to come here, thanks to Vinny [Zuccala], the head trainer, for helping in my rehab, and to my friends for making things easier for me," she said.

Look in the dictionary today at the word "perseverance": if you do not see Ana Lavilla's picture next to the description, start cutting and pasting or buy a new dictionary. Lavilla is just like any normal person. She is the first person who admits that. "I want to make my team better and help everyone. Off the court, I am just a regular 22-year-old," she said. Her road to America and her rehabilitation through knee surgery are quite remarkable and serves as a lesson to all. If you believe in something, no one or nothing will stop you if you work hard enough.

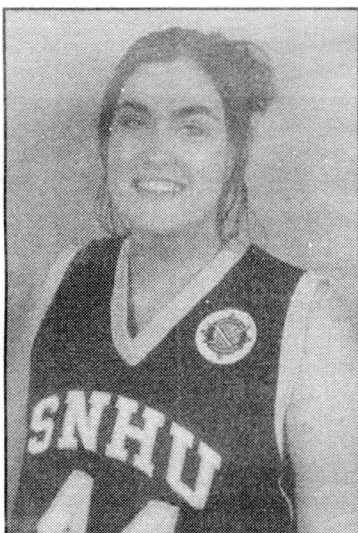
Observer All Stars

Sara Scott

By Brittany Porter
Staff Writer

Junior women's basketball player Sara Scott of Laconia, New Hampshire, is helping lead the Lady Penmen in their quest for success this season. In her third season at SNHU, Scott has shown the dedication needed to assume her role as a team captain for the Lady Penmen.

The Lady Penmen have had a rough start this season, but hopes are high and the team has one common goal: "to make the playoffs." As a captain Scott said that she is just trying to be a good leader for the entire team and keep everyone focused on their goals. As a proven leader, Scott said the team is working on their defense, "That is what we need to work on most in order to get us where we want to go." Her teammates spoke posi-



Sara Scott

tively of Scott's leadership, "She is an excellent captain."

Scott's solid play has been apparent throughout the entire season, and in their Jan. 14 showing, Scott's SNHU career-high scoring of 18 points and 11 rebounds led the Penmen to a victory over Pace University. On Jan. 20, she posted a team-high 14 points in a loss to American International College. In a loss to Bryant on Jan. 23, Scott came away a high-scorer with 16

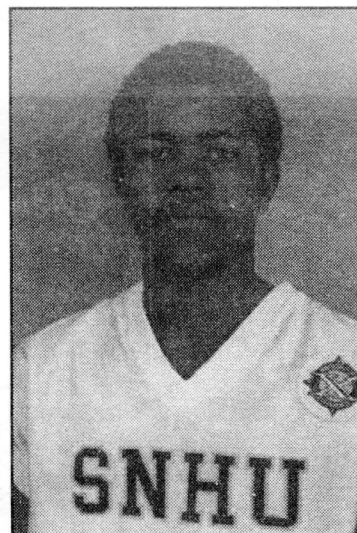
points. In the 89-41 win over Teikyo Post on Jan. 27, she posted a solid 10 points, continuing her double-digit streak.

Captain, leader, key-player and teammate, Sara Scott is helping the Lady Penmen in reaching the team goal of making the playoffs this season. Scott is a Communication major at SNHU.

Miguel Gonzalez

By Heather Anderson
Staff Writer

Freshmen guard Miguel Gonzalez of Jamaica-Queens, NY, is one of the four new additions to this year's men's basketball team. He has played in 16 of 18 games, missing one due to injury and the other due to personal reasons. Gonzalez averages 20 minutes per game and is ranked fourth on the team for



Miguel Gonzalez

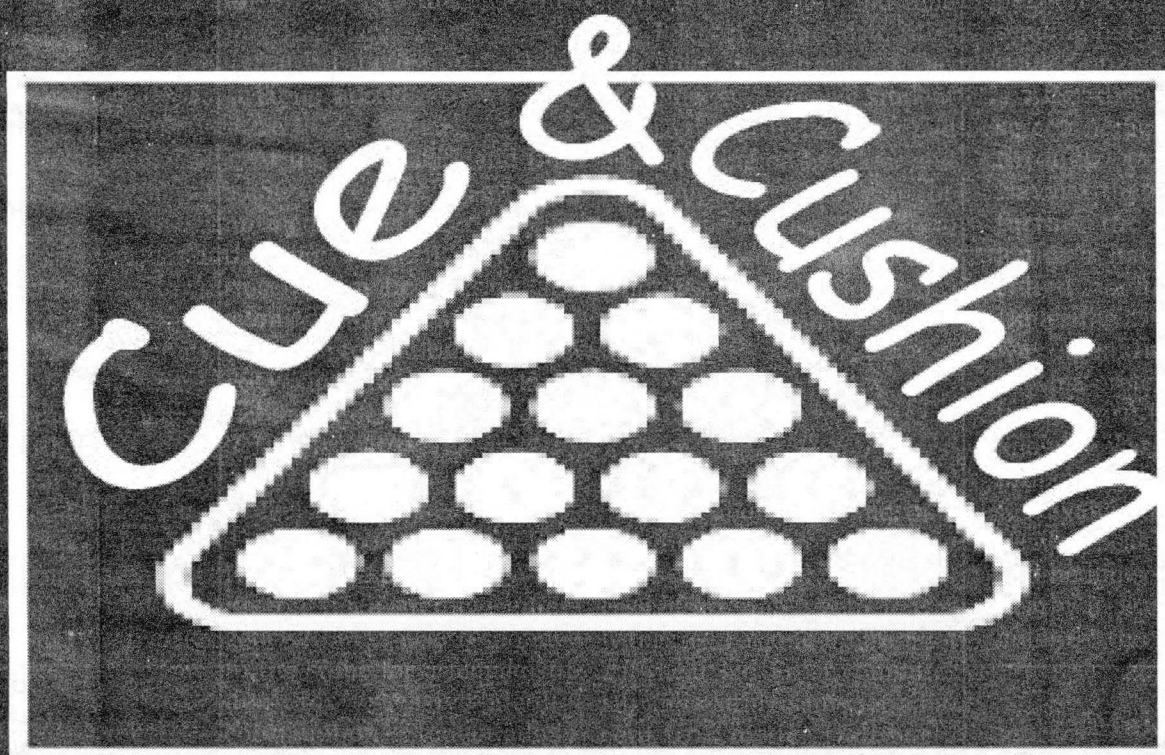
three-pointers.

Earlier this season Gonzalez scored his career high in a match up against Bentley scoring 16 points with 4 rebounds. He has also contributed 102 points to the Penmen this season.

Gonzalez was a four-year member of the Holy Cross High School team. He served as captain his senior year and led the team in scoring (22.6 ppg). His senior year he scored 20 points if not more

in eighteen games and scored 575 points in his high school career, the fifth best all-time at Holy Cross. Gonzalez was picked first-team selection for both the "New York Daily News" and "Newsday's" CHSAA Brooklyn-Queens all-star game.

Gonzalez is a liberal arts major at Southern New Hampshire University. The Penmen will lose four seniors this year; however, Gonzalez is expected to step up and contribute his skills for his remaining three years with the Penmen.



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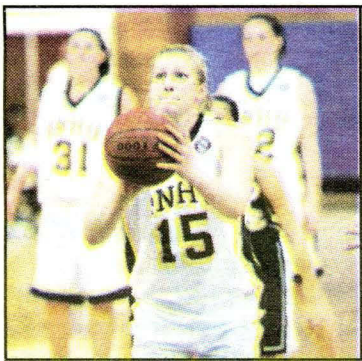
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Women's hoop, page 18

SPORTS



Men's hoop, page 17

Penmen hockey still sopeful

By Katelyn Duggan
Opinion Editor

The Penmen hockey team has been up and down in their performances so far; however, the team still remains hopeful and positive about the continuation of the season. In the seven games the team has played since returning from winter break, they have been victorious in two and battled it till the end but were unable to pull out victories in the others.

"It has definitely been a rough season, especially with having such high expectations. We haven't been getting a lot of breaks our way at all. We are a good team and I can confidently say we are one of the better teams in the conference. It just seems that nothing is going our way this year," says optimistic junior Mike Flynn.

In the game against Salve Regina, freshman Chris White recorded his first career hat trick for SNHU, while fellow rookie James Crank helped with four assists. The first period went goal for goal, with SNHU trailing 3-4 and after a goal-less second period, SNHU forced Salve into overtime when White banged in his third goal. However, Salve took the win in overtime.



Courtesy of Sports Information Department

The Penmen Hockey Team has been up and down in their performances this season.

The Penmen then took on Fitchburg State College, and though the team worked unbelievably hard, they were unable to pull out a victory against the Falcons.

SNHU then traveled to Plymouth State, and added a "W" to their record. They came from behind to take the victory with three power-play goals. White recorded two goals and an assist in the game while Crank helped the team with a goal and three assists, and senior Vin Forgione added a goal and two assists.

At 3-3 in the third, White scored the game-winning goal on a power play and led the Penmen to a victory.

SNHU had a disheartening game against UMass Dartmouth losing 4-3. However, the team rebounded and came back with a victory the next game where they faced off against Stonehill College. Stonehill grabbed a 1-0 lead 14 seconds into the first period, but SNHU came back strong to take a 2-1 lead after 40 minutes of play on goals by freshmen Brent Bousquet and

Crank. Doherty then banked in a goal 30 seconds after a Stonehill goal, 1:48 remaining in the game, to give the team the win.

The next two games were unfortunate losses for the team, losing to Curry College, 5-2, and Lebanon Valley College, 9-3. SNHU now plans to take on Assumption College on Feb. 11. Blow off studying and homework for a couple hours and head down to the rink to cheer on your Penmen hockey team.

SNHU's Houdini of the hardwood reigns from Spain

By Roy Wilkinson
Staff Writer

Perseverance: the ability to remain steadfast against all odds. This term is used many times by writers and announcers of the hardwood game to describe a team or individual effort in many instances. For Ana Lavilla, this word is one of the descriptions of her personality. After leaving her home in Zaragoza, Spain, for a new country and culture and after missing a full sophomore season at SNHU because of an ACL injury in her right knee, Lavilla has persevered through it all to have a successful junior campaign for the Penmen.

Lavilla started tickling the twine and passing the rock at the age of seven. Before her arrival at SNHU, Lavilla played for club teams in her

See LAVILLA,
Continued on Page 18

Upcoming Home Events

Men's Hockey vs. Assumption College
February 11, 7:30 p.m.

Women's Basketball vs. American International
February 15, 1:30 p.m.

Men's Basketball vs. American International
February 15, 3:30 p.m.

Men's Hockey vs. Assumption College
February 15, 3:30 p.m.



Courtesy of Sports Information Department

Ana Lavilla had to sit out her sophomore season due to an ACL injury.