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October 31: Halloween



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PRESIDENT LEBLANC REVEALS DESIGNS FOR SHAPIRO LIBRARY

Sarah Silvestriadis Co-Editor-in-Chief

On October 12, Southern New Hampshire University President Paul LeBlanc revealed the new designs for Shapiro Library Learning Commons, which will finish construction in early 2014. President LeBlanc showed an architect's design that views the new learning commons from North River Road, and from the Dining Center.

midst of constructing a brand dent LeBlanc said. "We just have

planning on the construction of a parking garage and providing more green space for students.

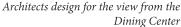
President LeBlanc told the Union Leader last semester that with the growing undergraduate population on campus, SNHU was due for a fifth dorm in the "cluster" of new dorms on the east side of campus.

"This is really a func-SNHU is also in the tion of more demand," Presi-

new dorm on the east side, and more and more students who come, and we keep growing."

> SNHU provides oncampus housing for over 2,000 students, according to last year's census, provided by Greg Mazzola, the Associate Vice President of Marketing and Communications. Students should expect a lot of positive changes from the main campus in the next few years!







Architects design for the view from across North River Road

'S CHARGED FOR PRINTING IN 2013

Sarah Silvestriadis Co-Editor-in-Chief

Enjoy free printing now because in 2013 the students at Southern New Hampshire University will be charged for printing all over campus. In January 2013, right after winter break, students will be charged 10 cents per page for black and white printing, 50 cents per page for color printing, and there

will be a discount for double sided printing. SNHU will start to provide color printing in all computer labs next semester as well. Each student will start out with \$50 on their student identification cards at the start of the semester, and then students will need Penmen Change to pay for their printing needs.

Each printer on campus has been installed with touch screens and card swipes. Students will choose the printer on the computer, then they will have to go over to the printer, swipe their card and choose how they want to print their documents. SNHU is also

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EDITORIALS

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LETTERS FROM THE EDITORS

Hello again!

I hope October has been good to all of you. I also hope you've taken my advice from last issue and are making this school year a fearless one. How else would you or I get fantastic stories to bring with you when you leave here?

What is a great time to develop some of these stories? What about Halloween at SNHU? My assignment for you, readers and peers, is to take this to your advantage. Dress up as something or someone you've always wanted to be. I don't care if it's a pumpkin or Cinderella or Lil' Wayne. Be someone else for just one night. Have the confidence to walk up to that guy you've been eyeing in math class, befriend someone you think is too cool for you, go somewhere you've never been. If it turns sour, that's all right. It was the sexy firefighter or the French maid who did it, not you. Right?

We've received so many compliments about the new version of your student newspaper and I couldn't be happier. Here at the Penmen Press, we're trying to make this paper relevant to your everyday lives as a college student. If there are any topics that you would like to see covered in future issues, please email us! We would love to hear from you!

Have a safe and happy Halloween! See you in November!

-MEGAN KIDDER

Hello readers! I wanted to take this opportunity to tell you all about my sister. I have four sisters, all of whom I am incredibly proud of. My little sister Catie joined the United States Marine Corps at 18 years old, and last week I got to see her graduate at Parris Island in South Carolina. There are no words to describe how proud a family feels when a loved one joins the military, I couldn't even tell you how many tissues were used over the course of two days when I got to see her.

After 3 months of incredibly hard work and training, Catie not only came out a better person, mature, respectful and smart but she kept her amazing personality, which is thoughtful and hilarious. She did the hardest thing I think any young person can do, and her hard work doesn't stop after basic training.

She has inspired me to keep working hard, in school, in the newspaper and in life. Hard work doesn't stop when you get out of class, work or practice; it's a way of life. Just by seeing her become a Marine motivates me to work the hardest that I possibly can while in college, and to bring you a newspaper that our readers enjoy and that our staff can be proud of. As they say in the Marine Corps: OORAH!



-SARAH SILVESTRIADIS

NEWS

CRISIS IN SYRIA: A VIEW FROM SNHU

continued from Issue 1

Travis MorinStaff Writer

Before President Bashar al-Assad began the violent crack-down on the protestors over a year a half ago, what did you think of him?

"Bashar became President following the death of his father Hafez al-Assad, the previous President. Unlike Hafez who had risen to the Presidency through the military, Bashar was more democratically minded. He wanted to improve the country, to make it more westernized and educated. Which he did, he started but it was a very slow process. The Syrians knew he was doing something but it wasn't enough. So when the Arab Spring started we thought to ourselves: we've been under this regime for 40-50 years let's start to go out and protest. We will go out to protest in the streets like the Egyptians, and Tunisians, and it will be over in a month or two But we didn't realize

that the Assad family has allies, like Russia and China. Syria is in a very strategic position. Its location makes it very difficult for anybody to put pressure on Bashar. Nobody can force him out. Countries like Russia, China, and Iran are supporting the regime to keep their business with Syria going. When the Syrians first started protesting, I thought it was going to work. I thought since Bashar is educated, he is a doctor who went to school in England, he may be more mature, he may go out with a plan to get things back on track. Instead he started killing people. Before he did this I liked him and I wanted him to stay in power. But when he started killing people I changed my mind. You can't kill your own people and expect the people to respect you. My house in Aleppo has been destroyed because of the fighting. Thankfully my dad is Turkish so my family moved back to Turkey. My dad's warehouse, a couple of his stores, my old elementary school were all destroyed."

Has Assad lost legitimacy in the eyes of the Syrian people?

"Yes. A long time ago. When the first person got killed, he lost it. Syria is in the Middle East, but it is very westernized, the people are well educated and very open minded. When the protests started to get violent we didn't think it was going to go that far because that's not the kind of people we are. But we were wrong. The fighting has made the people are very tired and it had pushed the country back 100 years."

What do you think Assad should do?

"He should get out of there. He needs to after all that he has done I don't think anyone will trust him. And I don't *just mean the Syrians, the* rest of the world too. The US doesn't think he is legitimate anymore after killing over 30,000 people so far. I have a relative of mine who is a soldier in Syrian army. The army asked him to shoot at the protestors. He said 'No I'm not going to' so the army shot my relative. When his family got his body back the army said he had been shot by the rebels."

Do you think Assad's forces are intentionally targeting civilians?

"Yeah they do that. They say it's the rebels, they call them those 'terrorists', but they are not terrorists. They are Syrians, they were part of the army and they defected. The Syrians are fighting back for their freedom, but not freedom like 'we are tied up and now we are free' but more like democracy, to be treated equally like everybody else. The army doesn't really fight the rebels hand-to-hand in the street, they use helicopter and plane airstrikes to hammer the cites."

Should America help?

"I don't know if the US should act alone. If there was more of an international group like France, the US, and England. So the US won't be the main player. If the combined power of the United Nations put forward a No Fly Zone to keep Assad's planes and helicopters out of the sky then the rebels would be able to fight the army in the streets. I don't know how far they (the rebels) can go. I don't even know if the US should provide them with weapons, because the rebels are very unorganized and immature. I like the US, and I don't want to see any harm come to this country but there is ignorance in the world, there is always ignorance. For instance, if the US wants to act alone and provide the rebels with weapons and if the rebels start killing

civilians, or if they keep the weapons for later once there is a new government and they misuse them the world will blame the US. In the long run, it's not good for the US to act alone. If everything came by the UN name everything would be better"

What do you want to see for Syria? What do you want to see for your country?

"Freedom of speech, to be equal. We don't want any more corruption, we want law that everyone must abide by whether you are the President, or the grocery store owner. We all need to have one law to respect and live our lives by. When that happens we will have a good country. I remember a couple years ago President Obama's cousin was arrested. He was the President's cousin, and he got arrested. That would never happen in Syria. Never. Assad is above the law and it shouldn't be like that. We all should be under the law. We all should abide by the law. This is how it should go. If this happens we are going to have a new country, that's what it takes. To have rules that we all are going to live by."



Flickr: dvanvliet

STUDENTS CHARGED FOR PRINTING IN 2013

continued from page 1

enabling students to print directly from their laptops and tablets.

The changes not only come to provide easier access for students to print with more options, like color printing, but to cut down on wasteful printing. Information Technology student Matthew Vincent said, "We not so much want to cut down on printing, but we want to manage and regulate the printing on campus. For example, we do not want a student printing out a 500

page textbook."

Will SNHU teachers use Blackboard more often to accept homework? A lot of teachers already use sites like Turnitin.com to accept papers, or Mymathlab. com to do homework online.

Erin Davies, a senior and a creative writing major, believes that charging students for printing is unnecessary, but professors accepting electronic homework would be great.

"I can see why [SNHU] is doing it, but I don't think there needs to be a change" she said. "There will inevitably be some issues, but I think things will run smoothly once people figure it out. I think electronic homework is good, but not laptops in class. People get too distracted."

Printing will remained uncharged to students for the remainder of the semester until the start of the Spring 2013 semester.

NEWS

SNHU ROCKS NATIONAL COMING OUT DAY

Ashley Bogle Staff Writer



October 11, 2012 is National Coming Out Day in the United States. It is a day when the LGBTQ+ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer/Questioning, Other) community comes together and celebrates their right to be "out" about their sexuality. The annual celebration began in 1988 and has become a day full of pride for many in the community.

pride for many in the community.

Generation Equality (GE),
Southern New Hampshire University's alliance club, ran a table in the Student Center this year to spread the word about the day. The club created a banner bearing the phrase, "I support you no matter who you are or who you love!" and members of the club asked passing students to sign in support of their non-heterosexual peers who are out, may be in the process of coming out, or who are not out at all. By the time the table was packed up at 3 PM, the entire banner was covered in signatures, which was a great feat for GE and all members of the LGBTQ+ community on campus. The banner will be displayed in the LGBTQ Resource Center located in the Office of Diversity Initiatives.

Later that night, C.A.P.E., along with GE, the Office of Diversity Initiatives, and Campus Programming and Leadership, sponsored a drag show in the Athletic Complex.

It was something that had never been brought to campus before, and students were thrilled!

Tom Fearon, a senior at SNHU, said, "It was nice to see SNHU put on something at the school that was a little different than the usual. I hope that this becomes a SNHU tradition and that they put the show on every year."

Student Stephanie Fournier added, "I thought [the show] was a lot of fun! It was everything I expected and more! I was surprised at how much they engaged with the students."

After the show was over, C.A.P.E.'s special events chair, Elisabeth Maslan, said she was glad the event was a success and that she hopes to bring the queens back again in the future.

ASKING FOR HELP: KELSEY CARROL'S STORY

Bethany Mancuso Staff Writer

On October 11 at Southern New Hampshire University, in Walker Auditorium, New Hampshire filmmaker Dan Habib showed his documentary, Who Cares About Kelsey? This film follows the life of former Somersworth High School student, Kelsey Carrol.

Throughout her life, Carrol has struggled with attention deficit-

hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), homelessness, and self-mutilation. Former classmates and teachers have described her as "rough around the edges." Despite these labels, Carrol allowed Dan Habib's cameras to follow her every move for two years with the hope of inspiring struggling students. On the verge of not graduating on time, Carrol began to buckle down and focus on her academics despite the behavioral and academic struggles she faced. "I do not want to be on welfare," Carrol voiced when asked why graduating was important to her. Coming from a family with no college graduates, it seemed as if Carrol was at a disadvantage, but that was not the case. After accepting help from administrators,

teachers, and the RENEW program, provided by Somersworth High School, Kelsey became focused, motivated, organized and on track to graduate.

RENEW is a program implemented into schools to provide a rigorous college preparatory education for PK-12 students. RENEW's mission invents, refines, and imagines practices and policies to successfully meet all of its students' needs and to establish schools as safe and exciting places of learning.

Kelsey Carrol allowed her life to be filmed, not to obtain fame, but rather to provide strength and courage to students who are suffering from similar disabilities and struggles. Her primary advice is to ask for help.

Carol advises, "We all need help. It all depends on how much you are willing to be helped." Even students at SNHU can relate to Kelsey's message. "The educational level does not matter, it is essential for students to reach out for help. Whether the help is coming from your peers or your teachers, I have found that asking for help is the best avenue for success," says SNHU student Samantha Bressi.

Kelsey now travels the country with director Dan Habib sharing her experience with students and administrators nationwide. To learn more about Kelsey's experience, check out whocaresaboutkelsey. com.



"Who Cares About Kelsey" press release scan; (Bethany Mancuso

OPINION

YOU KNOW THE DRILL

Emily Winters Opinion Editor

Rise and shine, babies! Time to go find your ID. And your purse. And your underwear, actually. Joy unbounded. Aside from the hookup conversation we had last week, we now get to talk about the other kinds of embarrassing moves you made the night before and I'm going to tell you how to redeem yourself. I could ramble on about all the stupid things that boys do when they're drunk (like jump out of windows or brand themselves on a dare) but this article would be better suited, I think, to teaching each other how to recover from our own foolishness.

I could write a dissertation about the shit that we do. Like:

Making the stupid decision to say, "I can totally out-drink you." to the 300 pounds of muscle that lives across the hall. Challenge accepted. Then comes selfie. Selfie. Selfie x 754. You're wearing a skirt that has wiggled its way past your waist, hips and boobs, and is now a standin scarf. (Don't lie, you've been that girl). And now you've woken up in your own bed (thank God) and can't remember a thing. Okay, let's not panic.

First, take a moment to appreciate the fact that you at least had the good sense to return

to your own bed. Second, take a shower, because you're covered in mud and there are probably animals living in your hair. You know, the hair you spent 3 hours on that ended up in a knot on top of your head: The universal signal for 'I'm drunk!' Anyway, next, study the 754 selfies that you took last night because they hold clues: You had your shirt on in picture 316 at Kearsarge but lost it by the time you made it to photo 317 at Sunapee. RESULT. Step 4: Look for injuries, because in your investigation of your selfies, you established that picture 549 is of you on a platform and in picture 550, you're on the floor. You fell. Off the platform. Note to self: don't wear a skirt/thong combo next time you drink 99 Apples. Also, grab some ice for your softball-sized ankle, and make up some excuse to tell your Coach when he asks what the hell happened. "Oh, I... was just walking and umm..." will not work.

That's all I've got for you, pretties. When in doubt, do some Sherlock Holmesing through your own evidence. Learn from your mistakes and prepare for next Friday.

WON'T BE THE LAST TIME

Eric Beebe Staff Writer

It happens to the best of us: You wake up after a night out and whether or not you remember it right away, you realize you made some dumb decisions last night that you have to clean up after. Sometimes it's the usual offenses like puking on your shower mat or breaking your knuckles on a wall. Other times the stories are more interesting. Someone bet you weren't man enough to brand yourself with a lighter. Challenge accepted. You lent your keys to a friend who managed to park your car in a tow-truck hot zone, and now you have to go pay to get it back. Whoops. We all have those worse-than-average nights to recover from, but some people take it better than others.

Some prefer to wallow in self-pity. Some might be proud of the story they have to tell their friends now. Plenty will fall between the two, but whatever your mindset may be when it happens, there's still the looming question, "What do I do about this?" Whether you hate yourself for being stupid or love the fact you were living in the moment, every problem needs a solution. Your gas tank may have to run a bit drier to pay for whatever you broke or puked on in your

friend's place. You may have to miss whatever you had planned the next day to go to the hospital for xrays. It's never fun, but the sooner you fix the problem, the better you'll be in the long run. Everyone makes mistakes, drunks and geniuses alike, but whichever you may be or think you are, the answer's typically the same: Get the solution out of the way now, because chances are, with your luck, you'll have a new mess to clean up next weekend.



OPINION

THE 2012 ELECTION AND COLLEGE STUDENTS

Ashley Bogle Staff Writer

Since this is the last issue of the paper before the 2012 Presidential Election, I decided it was important for me to voice why this election is extremely important.

There are many reasons why I will be voting for the Democratic Party in the upcoming election. I'm currently in a relationship with the most amazing girl in the world and wish to marry her someday.

control for medical reasons that do not include that no matter what happens there will always be an option for medical insurance if I ever lose the coverage I have now.

Although there are those three issues alone to keep me from voting for Mitt Romney, there is another pressing issue that I feel more SNHU students should be paying attention to.

Whether you know it or not, this upcoming election extremely crucial to many of you students here at SNHU.

Mitt ney has been quoted as saying that if students can't afford their col-

ents for money. I have a wouldn't be reading this contraception, and I like huge problem with this. story because I wouldn't

I currently use birth lege payments, they the federal Pell Grant should ask their par- that I've received, you



Coming from a single be attending parent home, my mom cannot afford to send me to college. That's where President Obama Without comes in.

SNHU. Mitt Romney wants to cut funding to the federal Pell Grant. Yes. You read that right. Cut funding to something that a majority of you reading this have received in order to be here. How many of you actually know what's going on in this election?

If there is any one reason why you should be voting on November 6, it's to keep yourself in college. Like stated before, Mitt Romney would cut funding to federal Pell Grants.

President Obama is on the record for saying that every young adult deserves the same chance at an education. That's the president I want leading our country. A president that cares about all American citizens.

WARNING

Stephen Ratte Staff Writer

ľď like dedicate this article the freshman class.

Currently I live off campus as a commuter student, but I did live on campus my first year at SNHU. There were many pros and cons of living in the dorms, as many of you

finding out, but winter my vehicle. It's cold out was my biggest problem. and that walk down the

Now, when moved here I thought that living on campus would be great because I would finally be able to escape from the grotesque duty of shoveling my driveway. After one winter on campus at SNHU, I was begging to be back at home shoveling.

When the snow finally hits, you're all going to be receiving emails about which lot to move your vehicle to. And you're going to be groaning, mainly you kids who have to park all the way down in the freshman lot.

Some of vou are going to think, "Pft,

hill isn't looking too appealing at the moment."

At least, that's what I said. It didn't really work out too well for me.

I used to drive a lowered pickup truck, which wasn't exactly ideal for the snow (or the pothole-ridden streets of Manchester). It was a terrible decision to have that truck on campus and I'm glad I sold it. Moving that thing around campus in the winter was less than enjoyable. Mainly because I was so lazy.

At first I did move freshmen are most likely I'm not going to move my truck around though,

as excruciating as it was, but then I just couldn't take it anymore. We got a lot of snow that winter and I just got tired of dealing with it. So I stopped hopping from parking lot to parking lot like I was told. And I started getting towed.

When I originally walked down to the freshman lot and saw that my truck was gone, I freaked out. When I later found it parked all the way on the other side of the campus with no ticket on it, I calmed down. I figured if I wasn't getting a ticket, then I didn't have to worry about moving my truck.

My philosophy became, "Let them tow me all over campus, see if I care."

When my mom called me up a month later and started screaming at me about the fact that I had racked up \$400 in tickets, I started caring.

Turns out when you get towed, SNHU tickets you something sick (\$50) and it gets mailed to your house. Obviously I was not aware of that when I made my previously mentioned philosophy.

So, as rebellious (or lackadaisical) as some of you kids might be feeling, remember this story and do yourselves a favor: Move your vehicle when public safety tells you to. Your bank account will thank you.

OPINION

YOUR HALLOWEEN TO-DO LIST

Megan Kidder Co-Editor-in-Chief **Emily Winters** *Opinion Editor*

masters of waking up one morning with the intention of getting ahead on our homework but returning to campus at midnight with five hundred new inside jokes. With Halloween upon us, what could bring better stories than scaring the Ba-Jesus out of yourself and your friends? Or being the one who turns heads with their costume at that party? We have taken it upon ourselves to provide you with all of the ideas for these kinds of festivities. Pick an interesting one and go with it. If one of our ideas turns out to be successful (or hilariously

We as resilient

college students are the



unsuccessful) be sure to

let us know!

Salem, MA

1. We live in New England.

Take advantage of the fact that campus is only an hour drive from one of the most historically rich creepy places in America. Not only are there hundreds of freaks to people watch, but unique things to buy. Not to mention, tours and museums up the ass. Hop in the car with your friends and go! Even if you don't have money to spend on tours, walking around is just as fun and scary.

2. Go to the movies. And see a horror film.

Drag that chicken friend who refuses to even watch The Grudge on cable and go see something scary at the movies. Seeing a scary movie on the big screen is much more entertaining than watching it on the couch in your apartment while simultaneously checking your Facebook. With some friends, you can be those annoying people who gasp and comment in a loud whisper at all of the frightening things going on. You'll also have someone to text at four o'clock in the morning because none of you can shut your light off and sleep for fear that there is a monster in your closet or a ghost trying to murder you. Our number



one suggestion would be Sinister, staring aged but still sexy Ethan Hawke and really disturbing footage found in his tainted attic. It was scary enough to make you watch through your fingers. And this is coming from horror movie addicts.

3. Group Costumes

It might be kind of cheesy but you know that since last November there have been three hundred costume ideas that make you involuntarily say to your friends, "We should



be (insert idea you think is really cool) for Halloween!" Being a group of slutty hospital personnel could be an option but we have some more inventive ideas for you and your friends.

The Eras of Britney Spears: Don't pretend like you don't know all of them. There was schoolgirl Britney, Red leather cat suit Britney, Python on stage Britney, Britney on Madonna Britney, Toxic video Britney, Bald Britney, and every other Britney in between.

Your Favorite Beverage: (Preferably alcoholic) Whether it's a six-pack of beer with the guys or a variety of hard stuff with the girls, just make sure it's original. You can add some spice to it...a bottle of Jose Cuervo wearing a sombrero? Sounds like an excellent conversation starter to us.

Jamaican Bobsled Team: Because everyone has seen Cool Runnings. And why not?

Power Rangers: Standard, but there are so many options. And so many opportunities to fight with your friends over who is going to be what color.

Olympians: Still fresh off this year's summer Olympics, who wouldn't want to see a Ryan Lochte, Nathan Adrian, or Michael Phelps, walking around campus?

Cruella Deville and her Dalmatians: Easy. Black and white polka dots everywhere. But who gets to be the head bitch in charge?



Celebrity Look-a-likes: Realistically, you probably don't look anything at all like any celebrities. Sorry ladies, we have seen no Ryan Goslings on campus. And guys, No Megan Foxes. But we can all throw on a wig and pretend right? Just remember the name tag.

4. Haunted Houses

Whether it's an attraction like Fright Fest or a tour, like The Lizzie Borden House, or just an Urban Legend you've heard about a creepy looking house back in your roommate's hometown, explore. Or just do a drive by, because when it comes down to it, most of us are pansies. Also, because a lot of these real life haunted houses are probably private property and we aren't allowed to condone such things. Even if you take some creepy pictures, you are bound to psych yourself out. You could even visit an old graveyard, just something to do to seek that terrifying feeling a thrill can elicit. Don't bring any creepy spirits back to campus with you though. And keep the Ouija Boards out of your plans.





ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

GALLIPOLI

SNHU Film Series Review

Sam Doe Copy Editor

On October 10, history
Professor John McCannon
hosted the second movie in
Southern New Hampshire
University's film series. Directed by Peter Weir, Gallipoli is a 1981 film that tells the
story of two young Australian
menwho enlist in the ANZAC
(Australian and
New Zealand Army
Corps) during World War I,

and become embroiled in the ill-fated Gallipoli Campaign.

Archy Hamilton (Mark Lee) and Frank Dunne (Mel Gibson) are two very different men brought together by their mutual love of, and prowess in, running. In his introduction to the film, McCannon stressed the nature of these two characters as symbolic of the divide between 19th century optimism and 20th century cynicism. Hamilton is what

McCannon terms a "modern knight," a perfect Victorian hero, while Dunne is jaded and only involved in the war against his better judgment.

This is not to say that Hamilton and Dunne are mere plot devices. Their characters are well developed, and the film focuses more on their friendship than on the war itself; battle is not joined until the end. It is this decision on the part of the filmmakers that gives the ending of the movie its real power. Gallipoli largely allows viewers to draw their own conclusions about whether Dunne's

or Hamilton's perspective is the more accurate one, but it is painfully unambiguous about the sheer, colossal waste of life in trench warfare.

Asked why he chose this particular film, McCannon said that Gallipoli is quite accurate as historical movies go. The climactic battle was real, and Gallipoli is "pretty much spot on" in capturing the tone of the time. However, the film sometimes implies that Australian heroism took place against a backdrop of British uselessness; it should be noted that the British fought

bravely and suffered profoundly at Gallipoli as well.

Well-acted, well-written, and full of starkly beautiful scenery, Gallipoli tells a great story and also speaks of the death of an ideal – the beginning of a questioning whether a "modern knight" like Archy Hamilton even can or should exist. Those who missed the showing earlier this month would be well rewarded in taking the time to track down this film on their own.

PITCH PERFECT Movie Review

Megan Kidder Co-Editor-in-Chief

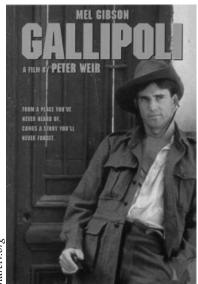
If Glee and Bring it On had a love child, it would be 2012's Pitch Perfect. With a recognizable cast including Anna Kendrick, Rebel Wilson, Brittany Snow, and Adam DeVine, this film is filled with sarcastic and quirky humor, complete with one-liners that will have the audience laughing.

College freshman and wannabe DJ, Beca (Anna Kendrick) joins the struggling all girls a cappella group on campus, The Barden Bellas. The team, who is still recovering from a bad loss at finals the previous year, brings on a group of misfits to turn things around and beat their all male a cappella group rivals, The Treblemakers.

The course of the film follows the Barden Bellas in their journey to a cappella success against The Treblemakers all while keeping up with the laughs. The musical numbers were no cheesy High School Musical mumbo but nicely incorporated popular

tunes overlaying each other, in all a cappella. The scenes included a "Riff Off" featuring songs like Madonna's "Like a Virgin," Pat Benatar's "Hit Me With Your Best Shot," Foreigner's "Feels Like the First Time," and "No Diggity," by Blackstreet, a seemingly strange combination, but it makes these renditions unique and fun to listen to even when the movie is over.

Music like this and the Bella's version of Bruno Mars "Just the Way You Are" and Nelly's "Just A Dream," make this movie more than just a slapstick comedy with a few musical numbers. The sweet power of hard work and friendship make this a lasting favorite and a definite recommendation to see in theatres.



retv.org



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

1. Hocus Pocus 1993

When Max, a loneteenage outsider, lights a black flame candle, he awakens the Sanderson sisters, three evil witches that were forced to sleep for 300 years to protect future generations from their ter-Made in 1993 the film has endured the test of time and is replayed every Halloween. It is a dark comedy that delivers the laughs and pulls at the heart strings. Vivid performances from Bette Midler, Sarah Jessica Parker, and Kathy Najimy make the movie memorable. The concept of evil witches stealing young children's lives isn't anything new, but adding a zombie, a talking immortal cat, and a virgin to the mix adds dimension.

Max must protect his sister, a beautiful girl, and all those whom the witches plan to harm, with a band of supernatural allies. This film is an undervalued classic.

2. Under Wraps 1997 / Monster House 2006

After the deaths of two neighborhood recluses Kubat and Nebbercracker, three friends explore their abandoned homes to find an Egyptian Mummy in the basement and the spirit of a dead woman possessing a house. In Under Wraps and Monster a house. House, the audience is thrown into the middle of a love story. Nebbercracker wants to protect the spirit of his dead wife. Harold the Mummy wants to be reunited with an

Egyptian queen who happens to be the love of his life. These dark hyper real comedy adventures offer high-octane action and real emotion that tell everlasting stories of love and sacrifice.

3. Recess Halloween Special 2001

The Terrifying Tales of Recess is a compilation of three weird adventures featuring the gang T.J., Spinelli, Vince, Mikey, Gretchen, and Gus. Chil dren of the Corn Chip is about Corn Chip Girl turning into a werewolf and the gang having to stop her. When Bikes Attack is about the gang's bikes coming to life and taking over the school. The last segment is Night of the Living Finsters

where Vince is dared to spend a night in a hole. While there, the gang visits him and they discover a tomb of Finsters. The special is an underrated classic.

4. Beetle Juice 1989

This classic Tim Burton film does not take place on Halloween but it has a similar feel. When a dead couple wants the new owners out of their house they decide to call on the help of a rowdy ghost by the name of Beetle Juice. Michael Keaton is outstanding as Beetle Juice and delivers hilarious and dark twisted lines that will make any viewer pleasantly hooked. This film is a knock out and strangely original.

TOP FOUR THROWBACK HALLOWEEN MOVIES AND SPECIALS

Ricky Riley Staff Writer

CLEOPATRA MATHIS

Visiting Poet

Jessica Silva Creative Editor



On Thursday, October 4, Southern New Hampshire University welcomed Cleopatra Mathis for a reading of some of her poetry. Mathis read excerpts from What to Tip the Boatman? and White Sea, as well as Book of Dog, her newest collection of poetry, to be released in January 2013.

Attendees in Walker Auditorium were mesmerized by Mathis' words. "The Ruin," a gut-wrenching poem about the aftermath of her daughter's best friend's suicide,

recalls "But when my daughter disappeared, / no beauty gave back a reason to live" in a time of pain. Mathis believes this collection is particularly relevant to high school and college students because the media is full of teen suicides

During the Q&A portion of the night, she shared something she had learned through her writing: "That's the beauty of being a young person, and also a curse–spontaneity." Mathis also answered questions about the challenges of

writing and some of the unique locations that have been the inspiration to her poems.

"As someone who wishes to write collections of poetry as well, hearing Mathis' views on writing was extremely valuable. I found her work striking and was honored to meet her," Colleen DeCourcy, junior-year Creative Writing student, said of the experience.

She has published six collections of poetry thus far: Aerial View of Louisiana, The Bottom Land, The Cen-

ter for Cold Weather, Guardian, What to Tip the Boatman?, and White Sea. Mathis is a Professor of English and the Director of the Creative Writing Program at Dartmouth College in Hanover, New Hampshire.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

'TIS THE SEASON Top 5 Scary Movies

Megan Kidder Co-Editor-in-Chief

The Halloween season isn't just about dressing up as sexy versions of everyday óccupations (i.e. firefighter, nurse, maid, and superhero. The list goes on.). It is also the time of the year when the weather is colder and darkness falls earlier, becoming the perfect time for a movie selection that is sure to have even college seniors sleeping with nightlights. Here's a list of five modern horror movies to check out:

4. The Strangers

Most stomach churning lines ever: "Why are you doing this to us?" "Because you were home."

No reason is always more frightening than a reason.



2. The Ring

Don't lie; whenever the TV is static the first instinct is to think a drowned revengeful little girl is going to crawl out of it.



1. Paranormal Activity

Crazy possessed houses' are scary, what's even scarier? Crazy possessed girlfriends.

5. The Hills Have Eyes (2006 Version)

Moral of the story? Never go on a family road trip though a desert government nuclear testing facility. Oops.



3. The Texas Chainsaw Massacre

A mask made out of human flesh? No thanks. No matter what version, Leatherface is still repulsive and terrifying.



HEALTH & WELLNESS

The haunting aspect of Halloween is the candy. "Trick or Treat!" is more like "guilt now or guilt later". When Halloween candy hits the shelves, everyone feels the temptation. Should one give into this temptation? According to Contributing Editor Lisa Drayer from Woman's Health Magazine, "It's true, you can cheat on your Abs Diet during Halloween - in moderation, of course - and not feel bad about it. In fact, according to some experts, indulging a bit during festive times can keep you

most from feeling deprived into these temptations, you lose weight easier." When

ultimately help there are still some choices that are healthgiving ier than others. Accord

DON'T LET CANDY **SCARE AWAY YOUR SWEET TOOTH**

Alicia Frazier Health & Wellness Editor



Magazine there is a lot of Halloween candy that is less than 100 calories. Some of these include: Twizzlers. Starburst, Dots, Candy Smarties, and M&M's. In Drayer's article, "The Best Candy To Eat That Won't Derail Your Diet", she answers the question, between Milky Way Miniatures, 3 Musketeers Miniatures, and Snickers Miniatures, which has the lowest amount of calories and fat? Drayer Said, "3 Musketeers Miniatures, at 24 calories and less than 1 gram of fat per piece. Milky Way Minis

ing to Woman's Health contain 38 calories and 1.6 g fat per piece. Snickers Minis rank highest, at 42.5 calories, and 2.25 grams of fat per piece."

> For everyone Corn, who will be staring down Halloween candy this weekend, enjoy the holiday and have a piece. Choose wisely and consider the number of calories in each candy. If one does this, there is no need for that guilty feeling to scare away your sweet tooth! Happy Halloween!

FLU SEASON PREPARATION: **KEEPING STUDENTS PROTECTED AGAINST INFLUENZA**

> Jeff Kaiser Staff Writer

versity, the attendance administered can be sick for a week.

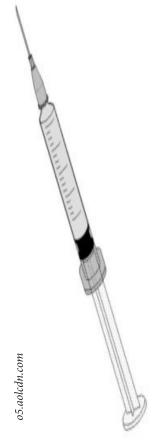
administration of an tor, said, "We suggest

Southern intradermal vaccine, avoiding Mondays as New Hampshire Uni- which is a flu shot they seem to be our with policy for most profes- a needle that is 90% sors is the same: Miss thinner than a stanmore than three days dard vaccine needle. October 16 between of class and students The intradermal shot 10 AM and 2 PM for will not get any credit is designed to hurt \$15. Students there for the course. When less for those who are received free soup one has the flu, one not fond of needles.

If students on it is probably in ev- the means of getting website For students open Monday through offers flu-shots for students can go to year CVS offers the ness Center Direc-

busiest day." Recently, the Wellness Center offered flu shots on with every shot too!

In terms of flu This having been said, campus do not have prevention, the CVS encourages eryone's best inter- to CVS, do not fret. people to cover their est to get a flu-shot. The wellness center is mouths with their elbows when sneezlooking to get a flu- Friday from 8 AM to ing, and thoroughly shot, CVS Pharmacy 4:30 PM. At any time washing hands. In addition, getting plenty \$20 to \$30 depend- receive a flu shot. Jet of sleep is imperative ing on supplies. This Goldberg, the Well- to maintaining a resilient immune system.



HEALTH & WELLNESS

CHASING A TOXIC ADDICTION: A STORY ABOUT BATTLING ALCOHOLISM

Kaycee Gnatowski Social Media Editor

A true addiction occurs when a person's thoughts, perception, and behavior are altered. So how does one know whether one is simply taking pleasure in something or whether one has an addiction? When someone has an addiction, such as alcoholism, it alters his brain chemistry and neurotransmitters. An online article about alcoholism, "How Alcoholism Works", from Howstuffworks.som says, "Neurotransmitters are chemical messengers that transmit the signals throughout the body that control thought processes, behavior and emotion." One SNHU student, who has suffered from alcoholism his whole life, was kind enough to be interviewed.

*Names have been changed for privacy reasons

Paul Kanten has been battling alcoholism since he was a young child. Paul was asked a series of questions to gain insight into his life, how he has dealt with alcoholism, and what words he can give to those who are battling the same problem. Many people are silently suffering from this toxic addiction and do not know where or who to go to for help and support. Hopefully, these words from Paul will let others know they are not alone and that there is always someone to turn to for help.

How long have you been battling alcoholism? Was there a specific event that made you realize you had an addiction problem?

Paul: "Although I had my first drink when I was about three years old (cried for some of my mom's wine until she caved in) and first cigarette at about four (stole one from my oldest brother and smoked it under my crib), I actually didn't realize I had a problem until my early 20's, when I took a break from drugs and alcohol and became very ill."

You mentioned starting to drink alcohol at three years old. Do you think your desire for alcohol was genetic or caused by being around it at such a young age?

Paul: "I lean towards the biopsycosocial model. My personal belief is that I was born with a genetic predisposition, then the environmental and psychological factors helped determine the outcome."

How has alcohol affected your social and family life?

Paul: "For most of my adolescent and adult life, I associated drinking and drug use (drugs to a lesser extent as an adult) with all social activities, surrounding myself with like-kind people. Later, (30's and 40's) there were long periods of drinking from morning until night just to feel normal, which eventually escalated resulting in personal meltdowns and rehab. *Interestingly, for the* most part I was able to maintain a career, as

well as a social and family life; but not one of much substance."

What treatments have you undergone to overcome alcoholism?

Paul: "I have been to three inpatient and one outpatient rehab. After the first one (which was 'suggested' by my family and business partner), I remained sober for about four years, basically a dry drunk since I followed no actual program. Three months later I was back in rehab; but this time it was my own decision, as I told my wife I was sick of the lifestyle. I was so serious about my recovery that I entered a 9 month outpatient program and regularly attended AA after completing inpatient."

Did you find that specific treatments work better than others?

Paul: "From personal experience and working with other suffering addicts, I feel the most success is achieved through inpatient treatment

followed with intensive outpatient and AA (or other self-help group)."

Are you still battling alcoholism today or are you alcohol free?
Paul: "I have been sober for three years, however, I feel I will always consider myself an alcoholic and dealing with the cravings."

What advice can you give to others that are suffering from alcoholism?

Paul: "Don't fear change, embrace it. So many people feel they have to sacrifice pleasure for sobriety, and that their lives will be altered forever. It is amazing how much job I was missing while in a drug and alcohol induced fog. And the changes in my life have been extraordinary. But it takes work!

SOCIAL MEDIA

LEAP INTO AFFORDABLE STUDY ABROAD

Sarah Silvestriadis *Co-Editor-in-Chief*

One of the many choices a student will make is what college or university to attend. Another option is to decide what country to study in. Leap into College Abroad Company (LCA) is the most affordable study abroad company available to college and university students. LCA is currently serving students in Italy, France, and Spain while they attend prestigious universities in Europe. LCA partners with Sorbonne University in Paris; Lorenzo de Medici in Florence, Italy; and the University of Barcelona in Spain, to name a few.

LCA firmly believes in the importance of making international connections at an affordable cost to students.

"Studying abroad is something more and more employers are looking for on a resume," said Raymond Bitton, co-founder of LCA. "In today's globalized world, it is more important than ever that students are exposed to other cultures and become citizens of the world."

When students get to their destinations, they are not there just for school; getting a taste of the culture is also important. LCA implements plenty of social activities for students, like crêpe workshops in Paris, a romantic Arno river boat cruise in Florence, wine tastings, and visits to the Picasso Museum in Barcelona. Being in Europe also makes it easy to visit the surrounding countries and famous cities like Brussels, Lisbon,

and Sicily.

The LCA staff consists of former travel veterans and students who believe that no matter each student's individual ability to afford a trip, everybody deserves to experience the world leap into international education. For more information visit www.studyLCA.

SGA: SUGGESTIONS CAN GO A LONG WAY

Corey Davenport Staff Writer

Most students have noticed problems that occur all across campus. The difficulty is that once students notice a problem they seldom do anything about it. This article will explain how students can attempt to solve these problems, not only for the benefit of themselves but for the good of all students.

The student government is an organization that was established to help students organize and maintain a voice around campus. Any time a student notices a problem that might affect students, they have a few options to solve the problem. One option is to email the Student Government Association (SGA). SGA also has a place to leave a com-

ment on their webpage, www.snhusga.org. The last way is to contact a student senator directly.

Once a suggestion has been made or a problem identified, the suggestion committee starts the process of solving it. This committee takes all suggestions submitted by students. They sort through the suggestions, throwing out the unrealistic ones and sending the feasible ones to the appropriate committees. If a suggestion cannot be assigned to a specific committee, a member of the suggestion committee will take the problem on personally. The process is long but eventually the problem is solved or the senator is given reasons as to why the problem can't

be solved and passes that information on to the student who suggested it.

The result might not always be exactly what the student had suggested but progress is progress. Emily Massa, committee chairwoman, was positive about the work they are doing. "Each suggestion is treated seriously and we try our best to make the changes students want." SGA is on campus to help the student body and without input from the students, SGA might not notice a problem. The students need to take positive action if they wish to see their ideas implemented on campus. As the new logo of SGA says, "Be a voice, not an echo."

NEW FILM SERIES: SHADOWS ON THE WALL

Rachael Hali Staff Writer

SNHU Free Film Series

Walker Auditorium, Robert Frost Hall, SNHU
Wednesdays 7pm

Oct. 30 Breathless
di. Jean-Luc Godard; hosted by David Swain

Oct. 10 Gallipoil
di. Poter Weir; hosted by John McCannon

Oct. 31 The Rocky Horror Picture Show
dit. Jim Sharman; hosted by Susan Gook

Nov. 14 The Lives of Others
dir. Florian Henckel von Donnersmarck; hosted by Ken Nivison

Nov. 28 High Noon
dir. Fred Zinnermann; host Deb Varat

Dec. 12 Gloria
dir. John Cassavetes; host Andrew Martino

Feb. 6 Dr. Strangelove
dir. Stanley Kuthrick; host David Swain

Feb. 20 Amadeus
dir. Milos Forman; host Susan Cook

Mar. 13 Glory
dir. Edward Zwick; host Ken Nivison

David Swain is at it again, but the theme of the movie series this year is "What would you want your best friend to see?" With Swain's Shakespeare film series last year being such a hit, he decided to ask the professors of The School of Arts and Sciences to share their favorite movies. Properly titled "Shadows on the Wall," his series is eclectic, making it a must see for all.

To start off the

yearlong viewing, Swain presented one of his favorites, Breathless. This is a black and white film made in 1960, with the location of Paris, France as its backdrop. The reason Swain wanted to show this piece was because it was influential in the formation of a new way of making movies, called The New Wave. This new genre of filmmaking involved a classic American gangster theme; lowbudget handheld cameras; and shooting at locations such as parks, side streets, or in friends' homes, making the imagery raw and natural.

Becoming a success and inspiring a new art in the motion picture world, Breathless is about a French gangster, played by Jean-Paul Belmondo, who falls in love with a young American, played by Jean Seberg. After Belmondo's character, Michel

SOCIAL MEDIA

SHADOWS ON The Wall

continued from page 10

Poiccard, kills a policeman, this car thief makes his way back to Paris to convince Seberg's character, Patricia Franchini, to run away with him to Italy.

After a day of convincing Patricia to flee with him, she finally says "Yes". Then night comes and all troubles start to

Toasted Subs

Signature Salads

brew. With the police hot on Michel's trail and Patricia having doubts about her love for him, the movie ends with a chase scene and a shooting in which one of the main characters loses their life.

This movie put the cool in cool, before cool became a cliché. Yet, the fun doesn't have to stop here. All this coming year there will be at least two movies shown each month. These movies are free and open to students and faculty, making for a great date night, or making a night out with some friends interesting and fun!

The next movie to be shown will be The Rocky Horror Picture Show, hosted by Susan Cook on Wednesday, October 31. For those who haven't seen this musical intrigue it's a must see. For those that have, come and "Let's do the time warp again!"

AN HOUR OF AMUSEMENT

David Scroxton Staff Writer

On Friday, October 12, Southern New Hampshire University welcomed the comedian Val Kappa to our campus to give the students a show. She is from Tsongas, MA, and is of Greek descent on her mother's side; in fact, her mother grew up in that country. She has appeared in the animated show Home Movies, on the Adult Swim section of Cartoon Network, as the voice of the character Clarice.

The comedy show started off with her talking about her young life and what her dad did. Her dad was a bird herder, who kept approximately two hundred birds in their basement at home. She also talked about how they would go to bird shows once a month that

were extremely tedious to do and lasted around nine hours. The next topic was how around two years ago, she got into running as a hobby and even ran the Chicago Marathon last year. When talking about how she did, all she said was "Well, I survived, so I guess that's good."

Asked what she thought of the show, SNHU student Christen Aliperta stated, "She's very entertaining, I really liked her material." Overall it was a funny show and an enjoyable experience. Val is a very humorous comedian who will hopefully become more well known and maybe do a couple other shows on campus in the future.



Like to keep up with the news? Try writing for the newspaper! We're always looking for new writers and contributors.

E-mail us at penmenpress@snhu.edu



For All SNHU

Students & Faculty

CREATIVE

"DECISIONS"

Rebecca Mitchell Staff Writer

I must choose between the two of you, But when I do, I will make myself blue To both of you, I still wish to be true But now I must choose my favorite shoe.

Right or left, it's impossible to choose Which one will become my favorite shoe Oh, this isn't the time for you to argue Which of you is the better of the two.

I think I have chosen my preferred shoe Hold on; settle down and I'll tell you And the winner of the best shoe goes to... Wait, what? I have to choose the best sock, too?!

"15 MINUTE BREAK"

Dahvin Greenfield Staff Writer

You turn to her to whisper like I can't hear you.

I didn't sit near you two to be ignored.

Don't you know that the air slingshots your secrets to me, adding something sour to the aura of the room? I don't mean to be narcissistic, but when you stare at me then turn to her, I can't help but wonder. My watch's thin tail ticks in between each snicker. The tail has passed the 12 at least twice. I never knew I was such a mouthful. I stare at my

the walkie breathes feedback and shuts off by itself.

walkie-talkie, in my lap, hoping for it to cough out a command or sigh my name; instead,

Where this ladder lead to, I did not know. I gripped the ladder's frame, cocked my head back and gazed. The frame-like the gums of a Great Whitehad broken, missing teeth. Faded font on the first step read: CAUTION. I felt your hands scale my backside like measuring tape, giving me a gentle shove. Cement barricaded us; the ladder was pinned to the wall like a poster or surreal graffiti art. The ladder moaned once I took my first few steps. Droplets of water fell from above, some streamed down the gums. Where this ladder lead to, I did not know. The more I stopped, the more you whined. The more I climbed, the more the steps screeched, the more the ladder loosened its teeth. I sensed that the ladder's mouth wanted to close. detach from the wall, and fall like a premature elevator. Your hands continued to push me. I wondered if you knew where this ladder would take us. With every push, I wanted to hook your neck with my heel, and choke you until I felt bad. The more I stopped, the more I could complain.

You'd then wrap your arms around my hips

(like this moment wasn't awkward

and sigh my name

Hours later we reached the middle of the ladder. The tooth began to slightly seesaw in its as I took a rest. With each pause, you pushed. My legs felt like sand bags. You used hugs as reinforcements. Your compliments were foreign to me. No, my hair does not look nice. The last thing I smell is good. I wanted to collapse onto a mattress, and leave you sprawled out on the floor like a rug. We climbed for a couple more hours; the dripping water continued, moaning from you and the ladder harmo-I stopped again and glanced down at my I spread my legs apart to straighten the and between my shoes read: CAUTION. The step at my eye-level read: CAUTION. Every single step was labeled the same as

enough).

THE LADDER

the warning signs, themselves, felt useless.

Where this ladder lead to, I did not know

The font faded the more I climbed;

Dahvin Greenfield Staff Writer

I've been on break for only five minutes, but I'd rather be out on the floor than watch you two tilt towards each other like a teepee and act like you are talking about something else. I wonder how many days I have to work until one of you feels the need to talk to me. My introduction and handshake seem to affect a lot of people. I'm happy to hear that you are content with the way you are, with the way you sit across the room from me, like the distance will make a difference.

CREATIVE

"ANNOUNCEMENTS I"

Erin DaviesContributing Writer

The scene opens to a couple sitting on the edge of a bed. The room around them is small, cluttered with papers and clothes. PETER is wearing a button down shirt, slacks, and boat shoes. His arm is around ADELAIDE who is in a sweatshirt and leggings and boots. Her head is against his shoulder

PETER: Please put the dress on. ADELAIDE: I can't. PETER: Does it matter if they see it? ADELAIDE: Well, no— PETER: Then please.

He stands and gets a dress that's hanging by the closet. He shakes the red dress at her.

PETER: Put it on. ADELAIDE: I—I just. PETER: Are you embarrassed? ADELAIDE: What? No! He takes her in his arms, tossing the dress on the mattress. He begins to walk her across the room, slowly, as if they were about to dance.

PETER: You're embarrassed. ADELAIDE: I'm not embarrassed. PETER: Then what is it?

She looks at his face before answering.

ADELAIDE: I've wanted this for a long time. I just don't know how they're going to react.

He dips her and pulls her up for a short kiss.

PETER: Please put the dress on. I want to see it.

She goes off stage after taking the dress off the bed. He looks to the mirror and puts on a tie. He nervously shakes out his shoulders. He taps his feet softly. She comes back on stage wearing the dress. She moves into the hug and he holds her tight.

PETER: You look amazing.

ADELAIDE: It's not too obvious? He kisses the side of her head.

PETER: Step back, let me see.

She steps back and puts her hands on her hips.

PETER: Don't take this the wrong way, but I can't tell.

ADELAIDE: You can't? It's all I can

PETER: You just look fat.

She jumps at him and he tackles her on to the bed. They laugh and roll around before he pins her underneath him.

ADELAIDE: Fat? Really?

PETER: [laughing] Never.

She hits him playfully on the arm. He moves down to her stomach and plants a kiss on the dress.

To be continued...





"HALLOWEEN"

Rebecca MitchellContributing Writer

They dart through the night
Cackling as they run
from place to place
Causing mischief wherever
they go.

Disguising themselves as miniature versions
Of iconic characters, hiding their true selves,
The imps give the people an ultimatum.

To avoid being tricked, they must give treats And so, with their sacks loaded down with candy,

The imps return home, their work done for the year.

"SYNCHRONICITY: PART II"

Megan Kidder Co-Editor in Chief

"I'll have a pumpkin spice latte with one sugar and skim milk," I told the barista in a black t-shirt.

I dug into the pocket of my grey trench coat that was tied at the waist. I pulled out my debit card. I didn't like carrying purses around. I wasn't into extra baggage in any aspect of my life.

"That'll be two thirty-five," the barista broke my thoughts.

"Thanks."

I moved down the bar admiring the way the warm lighting glinted off the dark marble countertop. I was enamored with this coffee shop. So enamored that I didn't happen to see the man standing near me waiting for his coffee too.

"Pumpkin spice latte?" A different barista placed two cups on the dip in the counter. I thought it strange that someone else had ordered the same coffee, but only for a millisecond

The man standing near me reached down at the same moment as me. He was wearing a navy canvas jacket, open so I could see the light grey zippered sweatshirt that peaked out from underneath and a white V-neck. The first part of him I noticed was his hands.

I had never thought about it before but hands can tell you a lot about a person. They were nice hands; they looked a little sweaty, but decent. His knuckles looked strong, his fingernails like he bit them when he was nervous. I followed them up his sleeve and to his face. Our eyes locked awkwardly and we both grabbed our coffee without second thought.

I took a small sip though I knew it would be scalding. As it touched my taste buds, my mouth began to water at the sickly sweetness that was definitely not my favorite dark one sugar and skim milk.

I brought the coffee cup with the lipstick stained lid away from my mouth when I heard a voice almost as sweet as the coffee say, "Excuse me, I think you have my coffee."