

the OBSERVER

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FEBRUARY IS:

BLACK HISTORY MONTH



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New Co-Ed Interest Based Housing at SNHU

Haley Webb Staff Writer

Southern New Hampshire University is now providing an additional opportunity for students to express their interests: 'Programmed Pods.'

Programmed Pods is an initiative that provides a new housing option for students. Through Programmed Pods, students are encouraged to live with other students of their choosing who have similar interests, in a co-ed environment. Programmed Pods will be located in both Windsor and Hampton Halls on the East Side of campus.

Some examples of similar interests or Programmed Pod themes include music, movies, sports, art, the outdoors, winter sports, and more.

In addition to simply sharing a common interest, the students who choose to live in the Programmed Pods are given a learning opportunity as well. When students create a Programmed Pod based on a certain interest, they are given the ability to plan events and activities based on that interest. To do this, the students are provided

with resources to help. They are given a budget to work with and are expected to plan at least one program a month.

Programs are designed to benefit the SNHU campus, ranging from activities that may include their floor of their residence hall to campus-wide events. These events demonstrate a certain Pod's interests and allow other students and members of the SNHU community to be exposed to different interests they may not have explored on their own.

Creator of Programmed DaVaughn Vincent-Bryan, who is also the Residence Director of the East Side Residence Halls, explained that the idea emerged as a combination of many different things. One source of inspiration behind the Programmed Pods was SNHU's existing Wellness Housing in Chocorua Hall. The students living in this housing option share a common interest, similar to the Programmed Pods, however, they are more limited in their interest. The great number of clubs and high level of involvement on the SNHU campus also contributed to the

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Sodexo logo and Dining Services Banner



Hampton Hall off of East Side Drive

Dining Services Accusations Cleared

Aimee Terevechia

Staff Writer

Recent "miscellaneous" charges at the café at Southern New Hampshire University have been causing a stir on campus. Many students have noticed the price discrepancies, but according to Dan Van Avery, General Manager of Dining Services, there is an explanation for the charges and inconsistent prices.

According to Van Avery, the "misc." charges are valid. He explained that when a student sees a "misc" charge pop up on the screen, it is nothing to be alarmed about. These charges account for the numerous possibilities available to students, from specialty items to new meals that Dining Services is trying out. As Van Avery explains, "If a student wants green beans on their hamburger, we use the 'miscellaneous' charge to account for the green beans."

Van Avery also addresses students' concerns pertaining to inconsistent pricing, saying, "I assure you, it is unintentional." To account for the discrepancies, he points to two causes: human error (cashier error) and customers failing to notify the cashier of their exact order. "Part of it is a training issue," said Van Avery, "but part of it is also the customer factor."

As he explains, if a customer buys a hamburger with green beans one day and the cashier can see the green beans, than the customer

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Letter From the Editor

Libby Parent

Editor in Chief

The spring semester is upon us, and unfortunately—or fortunately, I haven't decided yet—this is my last semester at SNHU. That means that the real world will come crashing down on me in less than four months.

Actually, believe it or not, I am getting things in order: I have successfully completed my GMAT with a much better score than I anticipated, I have completed my FAFSA, and I have begun the application process for grad school. Hopefully, this extra year or two of schooling will help me get a job doing something I love and making millions. Or at least enough paper to live on. So, California, Colorado, Baltimore, Boston, Philadelphia, or New York it is. Sadly enough, I will most likely not be moving back to Vermont, although it is the best state in the country.

Since this is my last semester, it is also my last lacrosse season as an NCAA athlete. And most likely, I will be inactive for the rest of my life. How awesome is that? No but seriously, the weather is warming up, the turf is completely clear, and we have our first game in less than a month. The Sports Section includes basketball coverage and a Spring Sports preview! Support the Penmen!

Moving on to this month's issue: packed with some good stuff. Throwback PS logs. Need I say more? On page 5, be sure to check out our Photo Editor, Suzanne Lentell's column regarding her experiences abroad in Australia! Also, notice the new Classified Advertising section on page 20. YOU have the opportunity to advertise anything from televisions and cars to yourself. Check it out!

Also, be sure to come to the pub on February 26 at 8:30pm for our website unveiling party! Trebek, Massachusetts based band will be performing acoustic sets and we will be giving away tickets to the spring concert, Gavin DeGraw. There will be other miscellaneous prizes we will be giving away!

Side note, when you are driving on the Interstate and choose to travel at 65 miles per hour or less, do not get in the left lane. It is just silly. Especially in Vermont when there are no cars. There is really just no need

And finally, if you have any questions, comments, or concerns regarding any content in the paper, be sure to contact me at observer@snhu.edu. I hope you enjoy the issue and I welcome any suggestions you may have. Have a good one. Be Safe. Rock on.

The Southern New Hampshire University Observer is a news publication produced by Southern New Hampshire University students and funded largely by the Student Government Association of the University. It is our responsibility to inform the SNHU community about events on and around campus. The Observer will print any material found to be factual and in good taste by the editorial staff of the paper. The views published do not neccessarily reflect the views of Southern New Hampshire University. The Observer is published monthly during the acedemic year and is printed by the Concord Monitor of Concord, NH. To contact the newspaper, please e-mail us at observer@snhu.edu.

Ask Aimee

A column by Aimee Terrevechia

Dear Aimee...

What do you do when you have a friend that has a drug problem but they just deny it? No matter how much you tell them their screwing up their life, they just keep telling you that you're wrong and to butt out. Especially when it's a friend that you really care about and know that they're smarter than the choices they're making...

-Concerned

Dear Concerned,

Having someone you care about make such damaging life decisions can be very difficult. In a situation like this, it is often necessary to organize an intervention. Contact your friend's family members and other close companions to get together and discuss the situation. Once you have all evaluated the circumstances, decide on a time in which you can all approach your friend. Doing this together will be both more effective and easier on all parties involved. Tell your friend how his/her actions are making a negative impact on his/her personal and professional life. Be clear and firm. Identify every cause and effect of the situation. Offer help and guidance. Inform him/her of resources available for individuals dealing with addiction. Be sure to identify the problem—do not tip-toe around the subject. Say, "You have a drug problem. I want to help."

I must also caution you, however, to not allow yourself to be dragged down by this person's addiction. If this intervention does not work, or the individual refuses your help, your relationship with him/her will be crippling to your own life. It is important to decide a point at which you must walk away—and to not only identify this moment for yourself, but also for your friend.

Best of luck, Aimee

Dear Aimee,

My boyfriend keeps asking me to stay over in Washington... but I don't think I'm ready and I don't want other people to find out. What should I do?

-Anonymous

Dear Anonymous,

Only you can know if you are ready or not to make that leap forward in your relationship. If you would be embarrassed if others found out that you were spending nights with your b.f., then I'm going to make the assumption that you're simply not ready. If you truly do not think you are prepared to take that step yet, you must tell your boyfriend. Surely, he will understand and agree to take it slow. If he doesn't back off, remind him firmly that "no" means "no."

Best wishes, Aimee

Are you confused, frustrated or concerned about a personal situation? E-mail AskAimee@gmail.com or drop off your questions at "the Observer" office in Stark Hall. Your identity will be kept anonymous unless otherwise requested.

Obama's Inauguration and First Days

Timothy Callahan Staff Writer

The inauguration of the 44th president of the United States, Barack Obama, finalized a successfully executed campaign and effectively segued into the new administration's first days.

According to CNN, some 1.5 million people were in attendance at the National Mall to witness the historic inauguration. The days and hours preceding the oath of office unfolded a spectacle without equal. A general sense of goodwill emerged from the massive crowds as the administration passed through in its whistle-stop trip to Washington, D.C. Hope sprang from onlookers as they enjoyed the performances of U2, Bruce Springsteen, Beyoncé, and the like.

However, the oath of office and subsequent presidential address were the culmination of many years of preparation and promises of hope. Barack Obama recited the oath of office on the same Bible that Abraham Lincoln took his first oath of office on. Chants of "Obama!" radiated through the relatively bleak Washington D.C. weather. The presidential address framed the times of hardship, which face the nation and offered no false promises of a swift recovery; its tone was serious, rather than overbearingly hope-

Obama's address foreshadowed the swift and

exacting action that is needed during these times of great adversity. For much of the remainder of the evening, Obama attended various galas, as he wound down before his first official day in

Upon assuming the president's office, Obama acted swiftly to address many of the lingering issues that currently plague the nation. Obama signed an executive order that would close the Guantánamo Bay prison within a year. Expectedly, dissenters of this action quickly issued statements questioning the president's decision. The president reassured those who were doubtful of this decision, asserting that the suspected terrorists would be brought, "to a swift and certain justice," reports the New York Times. This statement served to abate at least a few of the citizens' fears.

Amidst the current economic crisis, President Obama unveiled his \$838 billion economic stimulus bill, which is said to be able to save or create up to four million new jobs. Dissension has divided the Republican and Democratic parties in passing this bill, and the decidedly Democratic Senate was almost unable to close debate on the issue. Republicans claim that the pro-

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President Barack Obama emerging before the people

Gas Crisis in Europe

Sinziana Scoarta Staff Writer

In January, Europe was faced with one of the most serious gas crises in several years.

Gazprom, the Russian gas company with a monopoly in Eastern Europe decided to increase the prices of the gas transiting Europe through Ukraine. Naftogaz, the Ukrainian gas supplier challenged the decision of Gazprom, claiming that the increase in price was too large and Ukraine would not be able to pay such high tarrifs.

As a result, the gas crisis began with a decrease in gas volumes sent to Ukraine. Ukraine represents the main transit route towards Europe, possessing 80 percent of the transit gas. The impact was felt in countries neighboring Ukraine that import gas from Russia, such as Romania, Bulgaria, Croatia, Macedonia, Greece, Bosnia, Serbia and even Turkey. Other countries were collaterally affected but by a lesser degree, such as Italy, Slovakia, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Slovenia, and Poland. This is because "Russia supplies a quarter of Europe's gas" according to the British newspaper "The Guardian."

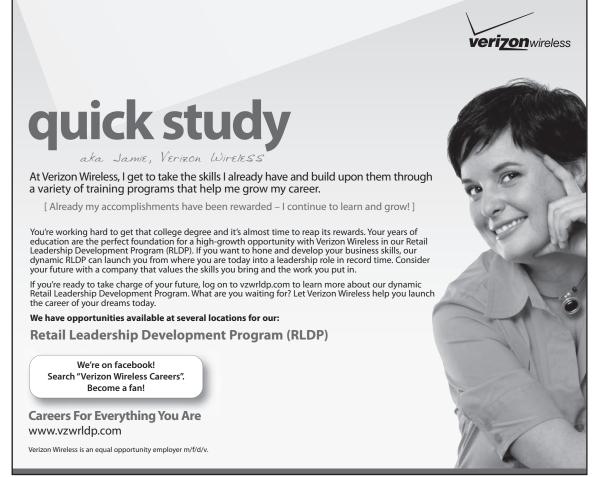
Following the reduction in supplies was the complete cut off, on January 7th, of gas sent

through the Ukrainian pipelines towards Europe, in the midst of a winter with temperatures below zero degrees Fahrenheit. While countries such as Romania managed not to interrupt the flow of gas to citizens by switching to other fossil fuels or nuclear energy to fuel its energyproducing plants, others, such as Bulgaria suffered the full effects of their over-dependence on the gas supplied by the Russian company.

While Russia was being blamed for the entire situation, they counter-claimed that Ukraine had been stealing gas before they fully shut off the pipelines.

The dispute over the price of gas has been a recurrent issue in the past years and it goes beyond the commercial grounds and into the politic area. Firstly, Ukraine detached itself from the USSR, then initiated the Orange Revolution and continued by adhering to become part of the European Union and NATO. All these actions were seen as a statement of independence in defiance of the country's joint past with Russia, one of the greatest powers in the world.

> The European Union inter-Please turn to page 06



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Co-Ed Housing

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Programmed Pods resulted as a hybrid of the two concepts. Some inspiration also came from Vincent-Bryan's days at the University of Vermont, where Resident Learning Communities similar to the Programmed Pods have been in existence for quite some time. Vincent-Bryan described the program as, "... not as rigid as other Living and Learning programs in which faculty and student live together in an educational environment, however, there is more commitment and structure than showing up to a club meeting periodically."

Vincent-Bryan sees the program as not only a chance for students to actively pursue their interests as a group, but also as a new leadership opportunity. He explained that some students may desire to develop their leadership skills, but simply are not given the right opportunity. Programmed Pods may provide exactly what these students are looking for.

Each Programmed Pod has a Program Director. Program Directors are students who essentially organize the programs and activities of each Pod. This student will manage the budget given for programs, organize housing, and is trusted to make sure that the students in the Programmed Pods reach the goals they had originally set for themselves.

The Program Directors are a part of the "tiered leadership" structure Vincent-Bryan created for the Programmed Pods. Also in this hierarchy is the Assistant Coordinator, another student, who overlooks all of the Programmed Pods. This student serves as the principle advisor to the students in all of the Programmed Pods.

If you have any interest in learning more about the Programmed Pods, contact DaVaughn Vincent-Bryan, Residence Director of East Side Resident Halls, at d.vincent-bryan@snhu.edu.

Dining Services

Continued from page 01

will be charged for them. However, if that same customer buys that same burger with green beans on it the next day, and they can't be seen and the customer neglects to tell the cashier, they might not be charged for them, accidentally. This, according to Van Avery, accounts to the pricing discrepancies from day to day on the same meal items.

Meal tax charges are not responsible in the least for the inconsistencies because no student is ever charged meal tax. Van Avery says that the total that flashes on the screen before you hand over your ID includes the price with tax, but the cashier waives the tax before swiping your card. This can cause the

screen to flash \$5.40 and then \$5.00 right before your payment is made—sometimes confusing and alarming students. Van Avery did say, however, that if a student is not paying with their Dining Dollars to be prepared to present their school ID—otherwise, the cashier may not know that the customer is in fact a SNHU student.

Dan Van Avery also added that if any student ever has a question about any charges to both ask for a receipt and to come and speak with him. "We're not trying to do anything hidden," said Van Avery. Dan Van Avery's office is located in the cafeteria.

Events Offered for SNHU Seniors to Celebrate

Ashley Manley
News Editor

The Senior Events Committee has already thrown one event designed to celebrate the Southern New Hampshire University's Graduation class of 2009 upcoming commencement ceremony. Their latest planned event is rapidly approaching.

On February 21st, 100 Days to Graduation, a semi-formal for seniors, will be held. The event is scheduled to be held at the Executive Court in Manchester with highlights being a DJ, free soda, cash bar, and dinner buffet. The event will provide an opportunity for seniors to celebrate together as graduation approaches.

The upcoming months will hold additional celebrations for seniors to attend, such as a luau themed Senior BBQ scheduled for May 3rd. There is also talk of another off campus event scheduled for April, but plans for that are still up in the air. Some ideas for



Graduation caps being thrown in celebration.

SNHU's Scholarship Opportunity

Sinziana Scoarta
Staff Writer

Every year students are welcomed encouraged to apply for the Named and Endowed Scholarships offered by Southern New Hampshire University. For the 2009-2010 academic year, the scholarship campaign will start on February 16, 2009. The information regarding the scholarships is available at www.snhu.edu/1453.asp under the heading: Named and Endowed Scholarships.

Students are able to apply only for the scholarships that have a link posted next to the name and description of the scholarship. The link will lead them directly to the application. The Named and Endowed Scholarship application deadline is March 22, 2009 and no applications will be accepted past that date.

All students that meet the criteria stated in the scholarship description are eligible to apply. According to Darleen Ratté, Senior

the event are a possible Red Sox or Celtics game. Senior Events Committee Co-Chair, Jessica Lambert stated, "we are still planning and nothing is set in stone for that yet."

The Senior Events Committee also planned the end of the year trip to Orlando, which is scheduled for May 10th-14th. According to Lambert, there will be "one dinner event at Epcot planned for the seniors" and that the trip includes "transportation, lodging, park and hopper passes." Information sessions about the event will be held on February 23rd and 25th.

According to Lambert, there will also be a Senior Service Fair on March 11th from 7:00-9:00 PM where seniors can "fill out senior surveys and get information about cap and gown, and graduation." For more information about senior events, locations of information sessions, and the location of the Senior Service Fair, contact senior-events@snhu.edu.

Assistant Director of the Office of Financial Aid, "we receive hundreds of applications each year."

The Named and Endowed Scholarships are non-renewable. Therefore, both first-time applicants and students that were awarded the scholarship in previous years have to apply under the same conditions. Ratté explained that "there is a new application every year and there is no guarantee that once you get it for one year, you can get it for the next."

Each application has a scholarship-specific essay requirement. Ratté emphasized the fact that "the essays should be geared towards the scholarship criteria." Only one application per stu-

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Updike at Rest, 76

Tim Callahan
Staff Writer

John Updike, writer of the "Rabbit" series and a seemingly vast amount of other works, passed away January 27th near his home in Beverly Farms, Massachusetts. He died at the age of 76, after a prolonged struggle with lung cancer.

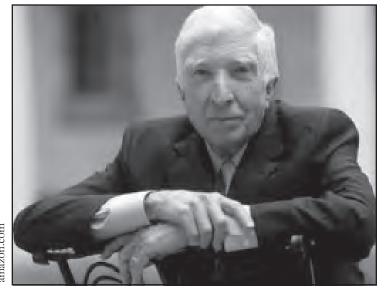
Ever fascinated with writing, Updike utilized nearly every medium to express himself and his prodigious talents: novels, short stories, literary criticism, journalism, poems, essays, and more. He became affiliated with The New Yorker in 1954, submitting 862 pieces for it throughout his life. Perhaps his most famous piece for The New Yorker, "Hub Fans Bid Kid Adieu" immortalizes the last game of Ted Williams. The unrivaled nature of the article forced Bob Ryan of The Boston Globe to deem it, "the greatest essay ever written about American sport."

In addition to his pieces for The New Yorker, Updike also produced over twenty-five novels in his life, leaving behind a staggering amount of written work. Among these novels, John Updike's "Rabbit" series was his most celebrated compilation of work. Covering the

span of four novels and one novella, this series followed the life of Harry Rabbit Angstrom, a former high school basketball star who became a car salesman struggling with his middleclass identity. Updike was awarded the Pulitzer Prize for two of the four novels: "Rabbit Is Rich" and "Rabbit at Rest."

Updike's major contribution to American literature was his deftly considered prose. No one could argue against the beauty of his ability to describe, which functioned as a painterly means to illuminate his subject matter. Some critics argue that his wondrous style belied a relatively shallow and sparse subject matter, but they could never diminish the lyrical nature of his prose.

His complete contribution to American literature has yet to be fully realized; "The Widows of Eastwick" was published earlier this year, and "My Father's Tears and Other Stories" is set to be released later this year. In John Updike, the world has lost a poet of prose, who was oft described as being, "America's last true man of letters." He left behind his second wife, Martha, and four children.



John Updike



Column Abroad: BULA!

A column by Suzanne Lentell

Bula! This is a Fijian greeting and I will never get sick of this word.

1-800-550-4900

It is 5:00 PM on Thursday, February 5th: It has taken six and a half hours to get to LAX, with a two hour lay-over and a nearly eleven hour flight to Fiji. We did not have a February 6th because we crossed the International Dateline. We arrived in Nadi, Fiji at 5:20 AM on Saturday the 7th. The flight attendants informed us that Fiji is the first country to greet the day.

I have already met so many great people. I feel as if I have been here for so long when in reality it has been three days. A few friends I made on my journey and I took a bus over to Danauru Marina where we boarded a boat for a half-hour ride to Beachcomber Island. This island was so beautiful, with mountainous views and with a beach like no other. At Beachcomber Island our five person group went snorkeling and enjoyed the views of the fish.

On the second day we were off to a Hindu temple where we were required to wear pants, have our shoulders covered, and were not allowed to wear shoes. It was very interesting to see the Hindu's walking around the temple. We were also served a meal of rice and curry and by custom, ate with our hands.

We later went on an eco-tour of a rainforest, mud pool, and a waterfall. The mud pool was exactly that, a pool of mud. I didn't like it much and thankfully didn't get too muddy since the only way to get clean was to dip into a pool that was over 110 degrees Fahrenheit!

www.birthright.org

We then packed up and headed for Suva, the Capital of Fiji. At the University of South Pacific (USP) we were greeted by a welcoming ceremony. At this ceremony the men had to enter first and then sit Indian style. The women then followed and sat behind the men with our legs underneath us and but slightly off to one side. We appointed our friend Leon chief of our group. This meant he had to sit in the middle and drink grog, also known as kava. Grog is a ground up root mixed with water that causes paralysis when too much is consumed. It is Fijian custom to have a small cup of grog for rituals.

I am living with five other girls at my homestay's house. My homestay is Tai. She has two children and has been to the United States before. Everyone is very friendly here and says "bula" everywhere we go. As I mentioned before, bula is a greeting. Everyone speaks English as well as the Fijian language.

I have tried Fijian food such as eka, a type of fish, and ro-ro, a native fruit that comes from a Taro leaf. Living at a homestay instead of a university allows me to explore the Fijian culture hands on in the home of a Fijian family.

I depart for Australia on the 17th. You will hear from me again from Sydney as I continue to explore and learn abroad.

Mothe cho! (See ya in Fijian! Pronounced mow-they cho)

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Obama's Inaguration

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posed bill is yet another example of unnecessary pork-barrel spending by government, while Democrats insist the urgency of passing it.

Obama held a presidential address on February 9th to drum up support for the bill. Whether or not the two houses of Congress can pass and agree on some form is yet to be seen, although Obama asserted that indecisiveness, "could turn a crisis into a catastrophe."

Finally, some of Obama's Cabinet appointments have proven troublesome, most notably Tom Daschle. President Obama intended for Daschle to be appointed Secretary of Health and Human Services, but

the candidate was swept up in a media firestorm of unpaid taxes. Records revealed that Daschle failed to pay \$128,000 in taxes, a fact that necessitated his withdrawal from the nomination. Obama was quick to apologize for his lapse in judgment, stating that wrongdoing would not be allowed, no matter how important the person.

The first few weeks of Obama's presidency have proven troublesome. Inheriting daunting challenges from the previous administration and dealing with the scrutiny that comes with the position, President Obama is still adjusting to the position, and hard times are on their way.

Gas Crisis

Continued from page 03

vened in the situation by sending 12 monitors on January 9th to conduct checks along the Russia-Ukraine pipeline. While Russia encouraged the EU monitor's intervention, Ukraine was not initially in accord with the solution but conceded eventually. After one week of disputes, Russia started pumping gas into the pipelines on the 13th of January. Nevertheless, the situation

was not resolved fully. While Russia did pump gas, Ukraine stated that the conditions imposed by Gazprom, of reducing the supplies to the Ukrainian customers and re-routing them were not to be easily accepted,, according to The Guardian.

At present, the gas supplies are being normally pumped through the pipelines.

SNHU Scholorships

Continued from page 04

dent is allowed per scholarship. All scholarship committees have a different review panel, which can include donators, faculty, as well as members of the Office of Financial Aid. The scholarship range is between \$500 and \$2,000 and all scholarships are awarded in the fall semester for the entire academic year.

Ratté offered that "the committees will look for neat-

ness and a well-written essay."

The committee's selections are due on April 21. Only students that are awarded the scholarship will be notified over the course of May and June. Students having additional questions regarding the scholarships and the process can contact the Financial Aid Office at finaid@snhu.edu.

State Street Addresses Financial Concerns

Tim Callahan

Staff Writer

State Street Corporation unveiled new tactics meant to ameliorate the current fiscal crisis it is currently mired in.

The financial services holding company saw its stocks plummet 59 percent after announcing that unrealized losses escalated to \$9.9 billion, reports Bloomberg News. Since last year, the value of its stock has dropped 66 percent. The corporation's inability to deal with substantial financial issues prompted sweeping change from top to bottom.

In response to its current financial problems, State Street Corp. has suggested that it will drastically cut incentive compensations for its employees and completely do away with them for its top five executives. Ron Logue, Chairman and CEO of State Street Corp., will forfeit about \$27 million in such compensations, and the corporation as a whole will save an estimated \$278 million. The cutting of

executive salaries will become commonplace, as President Barack Obama hopes to reduce the base salary of bankers who accept federal funding to \$500,000. State Street itself has received \$2 billion in government relief.

As another strategy to combat total collapse, State Street announced that it will reduce the dividend from 24

cents a share to one cent a share. According to Bloomberg, this plan could save an estimated \$675 million in and of itself. The initial market reaction to this news drove State Street's stock value up 14 percent to \$27.54 per share.

The corporation reports that it will be shifting its investments to more secure and conservative govern-

ment bonds. In doing so, State Street hopes to stabilize itself and prevent future crises.

With its newly employed strategies, State Street is asking itself and its shareholders to shoulder the costs. Given the economy's precarious state, the company is attempting all that it can to weather the storm, although there are no guarantees in the current market.



State Street Corp. Building

Fiji Flooding

Suzanne Lentell

Photo Editor

"This is the worst flooding situation in the recent history of Fiji," Meteorological Service Director Rajendra Prasad told The Associated Press. These floods are from storms that started on January 13th and are expecting to continue with three more days of storms and wind. There is a state of emergency and the area of Viti Levu and Vanua Levu were extremely affected, especially the tourist hub of Nadi and the capital Suva. At least ten residents have died from these floods, between six and nine thousand in emergency shelters and there

is a search for a missing boat of twenty-four people after it failed to reach port in Suva.

The several days of heavy rainfall and storms had continued for about another three days and washed away bridges, swamped homes and submerged roads on Viti Levu.

"The US and China have promised immediate assistance, as have Australia and New Zealand - despite the current diplomatic chill," stated BBC News. Although there is political unrest between Australia, New Zealand and Fiji, they still sent aid. Australia's national carrier, Qantas

Airways, had sent in a special flight to evacuate stranded tourists from Nadi to Sydney while China, Australia and New Zealand are sending thousands of dollars in aid.

The unrest was due to the Fiji military government since the December 2006 military coup. "Stay where you are, and take extra care. That's what we're telling everyone," said Patiliai Dobui, the head of Fiji's Disaster Management Office. Dobui said initial damage estimates totaled \$12 million, but that figure didn't include the large agriculture sector. The damage of the sugar cane crops is expected to average between ten to twelve million dollars as well.

The town is beginning to come back and although the rains have continued, although lighter, the reconstruction of the towns has begun.

New York Times Receives \$250 Million

The Gaza Conflict

Sinziana Scoarta
Staff Writer

Holly E. Bundy
Copy Editor

The New York Times Company struggled with raising needed funds to finance their business. They have recently accepted a \$250 million investment, representing a 6.4% investment from Carlos Slim Helú.

Carlos Slim Helú, the world's second richest man, and his family already hold over 9.1 million shares of New York Times Co. as of September. Carlos Slim Helú is a Mexican telecommunication tycoon that already held over six percent share of New York Times Co. stock. New York Times Co. stated that the new investment of \$250 million would be in the form of six-year notes that are convertible into common shares. The company plans to use the proceeds from the investment to help refinance one of two credit lines that are coming due in May. Forbes.com reported that the investment could lead to Carlos Slim Helú owning over a 16 percent stake

in New York Times Co.

New York Times Co. experienced a revenue drop of 20 percent during the month of November. The loss of revenues forced the company to take a portion of its Manhattan headquarters and create a sale-leaseback arrangement. In addition to their lost revenues, New York Times Co. has credit lines totaling over 1.1 billion in debt over the next few years. When New York Times Co. issued bond notes that 14.053 percent coupon it was apparent how much trouble they were having finding lenders. When asked if Times Co. had ever had to pay such a high interest rate to barrow money, Catherine Mathis, spokesperson for New York Times Co. stated to Newsweek, "I honestly don't know the answer. If you recall, in the early eighties, interest rates soared. This is an appropriate rate given the challenging market conditions."

The Israeli-Palestinian conflict has been a recurrent piece of news in the past years. The territorial issues over the Gaza Strip, West Bank, and the fight for power have characterized the area bordered by the Mediterranean Sea on the West and Egypt in the South.

The conflict resurfaced in 2008 at the end of the six-month ceasefire that was intermediated by Egypt in July. On December 19, 2008, "Hamas stepped up the firing of rackets and mortars" according to the New York Times. Israel retaliated one week later on December 27th by means of a massive ground and air intervention force. More than 1,000 people were killed, a majority in the Gaza Strip.

Hamas is the acronym for Islamic Resistance Movement, a militant Palestinian Islamic movement in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip whose main purpose is the creation of an independent Palestine. The Gaza Strip is under the authority of

Hamas since the 2007 elections, which declared the movement in charge of the territory.

Impressive damage was reported on the Palestinian side, in the Gaza Strip. Buildings such as the Parliament, the Ministry buildings, the cabinet buildings, the university and police station were destroyed by the Israeli army. The international response to the re-emergence and escalation of the conflict was extensive. The United Nations- Israeli diplomatic relations became tense as a school under the UN jurisdiction was destroyed and victims were claimed in the attack. Also, the UN building was damaged by the Israeli air raids.

Three weeks after the attacks started, Israel signed a unilateral ceasefire. In the hours following the declaration of ceasefire, Hamas attacked southern Israel with fire rackets. Nevertheless, they conceded in declaring a ceasefire after the aforementioned events. However, there is

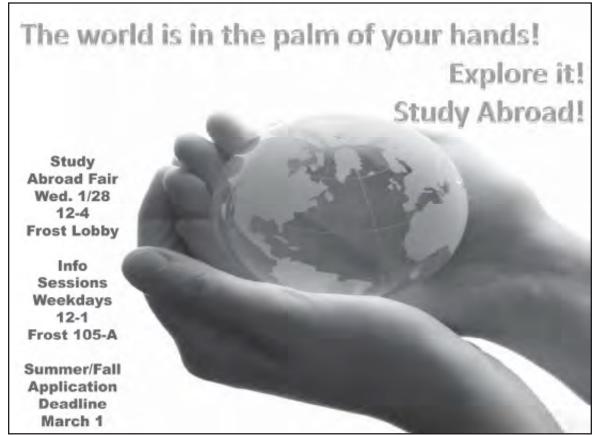
still an Israeli military presence in Gaza. The Israeli attacks are seen as retaliation to the previous Palestinian rocket –firing over Israel. It is also seen as an attempt of deterring Hamas from re-arming.

Although major Hamas objectives have been destroyed during the conflict, Hamas states that it can protect its goals. Palestinians have mixed feelings about the conflict as for some of it led to the complete destruction of their homes and left them on the streets.

Despite the extensive and continuous physical and psychological damage to the livelihoods of citizens on both sides, Sholmo Brom, researcher at the Institute for National Security Studies at Tel Aviv University stated, according to the New York Times, said "you see, both sides understand the value of calculated madness. This is one reason I don't see an early end to this ongoing war."



The New York Times Building



February 2009 7 the OBSERVER



Clubs & Organizations

Phi Omega Psi is Back

Ashley BurkeContributing Writer

Now that the New Year is in full swing, the sisters of Phi Omega Psi are working hard both inside and outside of the classroom. Most of their hard work has been geared towards community service at SNHU and the local community.

For Valentine's Day, the sisters spread cheer at SNHU with their "Muffin for your Muffin" fundraiser, where students were able to buy and send a muffin to their special someone for only a dollar. Off campus, the sisters warmed the hearts of everyone at Mt. Carmel with homemade Valentine's Day cards.

Since December, the sisters have been working together to raise money for cancer research for Relay for Life, which is sponsored by the American Cancer Society. Together, the sisters of Phi Omega Psi and their brother fraternity, Phi Delta Psi, will participate as "Team Phi Psi" on February 27 at the 18-hour walk – a celebration of life and hope.

The girls are also collecting tabs off of soda cans to help raise money for the Shriner's Children Hospital, and they are co-sponsoring the Jean Drive with the Wellness Center. The sisters will be collecting jeans in the student center from February 23 through the 27.

Other events to keep in mind for this spring are Fish Wish and the Corbi cookie dough fundraiser. The crowd pleaser, Fish Wish, will be making its annual return on Wednesday, April 8 at 8 PM in the pub. At that time, students can come and test their chances in winning a fish for their dorm room. The Corbi cookie dough fundraiser will include various baking kits from cookies to pizza, so if you are interested in purchasing any of the various kits, please contact a sister or email phiomegapsi@snhu.edu.

The girls are keeping themselves busy and having fun; the sisters of Phi Omega Psi love planning fun events and making a difference in the SNHU community. If anyone would like to get more information about Phi Omega Psi, please send an email to phiomegapsi@snhu.edu.

Jobs and Internships in a Tough Economy

Chance Clutter

Contributing Writer

Recent headlines in the media: Job Cuts Mount: The Bad News Hits Across the Economy (CNN – 2/3/09); The New Jobless (Fortune – 2/3/09); Macy's To Cut 7,000 Jobs (Boston Globe, 2/3/09); NH Jobless Rate Up To 4.6% (Union Leader – 1/20/09); and Be Prepared For More Cutbacks (Wall Street Journal – 1/26/09).

Naturally, as students, you are asking yourself, "What does this mean to ME?" Regardless of whether you are a graduate student or a freshman; this downturn in the economy will affect your future career aspirations. That does not mean companies have stopped hiring (they still are), but many companies have reduced their hiring numbers by half. And that means for every job, every internship, and every opportunity you find...your competition has likely doubled. This situation is not hopeless, but it does mean you need to work harder and begin making career plans even earlier. If you have not done so already, polishing up your resume and cover letter is a good starting point. This is the first (and possibly only) impression you will give to an employer when applying for a job. These documents must not only be error free but they also need to be engaging and relevant to each particular job you apply for. Generic resumes on

radio.snhu.edu

a Microsoft template just won't cut it with the current economic outlook.

Networking is another important feature to the job search process, and it is even more vital now. Once a job is advertised, you have to compete against every applicant who also responded to the announcement. However, if you can use an inside connection; you might find yourself interviewing for jobs that have yet to be posted! For those of you wondering how to increase your network, you can start by talking to family members, faculty, fellow students, and even SNHU Alums about possible openings at companies they know about. Also, you can join groups, volunteer, and attend events where employers are present to create new contacts. Even for freshmen and sophomores, the more connections you can make today, the more people you will know when the time comes to finally apply for an internship or a full-time position.

One great place to network, meet employers, and make a great impression is at career fairs. As SNHU students, you have the opportunity to participate in at least two separate events this spring. The first one is the NHCUC Job and Internship Fair being held at the Radisson Hotel in Manchester on February 18th which includes a networking event in the evening. Then, the Career Development Center will be hosting its 2nd Annual Career and Internship

Fair on March 12th in the gym. These are prime opportunities for students to network with employers from all industries whether you are looking for a job or internship immediately or in the future.

Unfortunately, some students will limit their future opportunities by not meeting with as many employers as possible because they falsely believe that a particular company only needs one thing (e.g. a hospital only needs nurses; not realizing their need for marketing, graphic design, IT, accounting, HR, etc.). Don't make that mistake! Tell the employer about your major and ask what types of opportunities that company may have for someone with your qualifications. Research the companies before attending, meet as many employers as you can, impress them with your industry knowledge, and make sure you FOL-LOW-UP! Ask for their business card, write down a short note on the back after meeting with them, and send them a thankyou. You want to keep that relationship alive. Even if they aren't hiring for what you want now; they might be in the future and you want them to keep you

So yes, landing that perfect job in this economy may be a little tougher these days; but by following these suggestions, you are maximizing your chances to obtain the job you really want. Remember, "It's your career... what have you done lately?"

Radio SNHU Spring Schedule of Shows

Monday:

9:30 AM- 10:30 AM- News Update by Jason Bays 9:00 PM- 11:00 PM- Radio SMU

Tuesday:

7:00 PM- 9:00 PM- Best of the Basement 10:00 PM- 12:00 AM- The Unexpected

Wednesday:

3:30 PM- 5:30 PM- Thanks for Playing 7:00 PM- 9:00 PM- Shockingly Unbiased Politics

Thursday:

10:00 AM- 11:00 AM- News Update by Jason Bays 5:30 PM- 6:30 PM- 2 Point Conversion

7:00 PM- 8:00 PM- Sports with Mike Capalbo 8:00 PM- 10:00 PM- That's What She Said-10:00 PM- 12:00 AM- SNHU, Sex, and Rock N' Roll

Friday:

12:00 PM- 1:00 PM- Mike and Mike in the Afternoon 2:00 PM- 4:00 PM- Smash mouth Sports

Saturday:

DJ Grail All Day!!!

Sunday:

1:00 PM- 2:00 PM- Level One

*All show times and DJ's are subject to change.

Opinion

Inaugural Feelings

Cautious Optimism

Ken Pothier

Contributing Writer

Aimee Terravechia

Staff Writer

January 20, 2009, was a day of history, inspiration and change. A door opened to hope for a return to a democracy of we the people. Two million made their way from across the nation and the world to be present as a grand transition of leaders took place. Millions more watched the events of that day unfold as the inauguration was broadcast to the world. Uncle Sam has taken a beating recently, yet millions spoke volumes in holding to hope during the current depression of feeling and economy. They have been waiting for a thoughtful, intellectually inquisitive, engaged leader with vision; a leader who tells it as he sees it, while listening to other ideas and points of view.

Through the meltdown of the banks, investment companies and insurance conglomerates, capitalism was shown to be a pyramid scheme of grand proportions. Those at the top leave with golden parachutes or stay for exorbitant bonuses. Those at the bottom, look for shelter, warmth, and the next meal. The so called safety net is falling apart. We the people must pick ourselves up and help each other. Barriers fell on inauguration day, those of separation and divide. The house of capitalism was shown to be a house of cards, with only the glue of our believing holding it together. We looked behind the curtain and found the emperor of choice had no clothes.

The revolution which gave this country freedom, and the ideas and ideals of the founding fathers, set up a foundation for the generations to work with and on. The recent past has provided a severe test to our democratic ideals. The foundation, though standing, is damaged. Work needs to be done to reinvent and reinforce it. The politics and leadership of the past eight years proved that Cowboy diplomacy does not work. True communication can only be found through communication and connection. We the people need to be observant, learn, speak up and act in taking part in the new revolution of ideas. A convergence of hope and connection occurred on 1-20-2009.

The interests of the country and the world depend on continuing what started with the events of that day. If you are not part of the solution then get out of the way. Change is coming and yes, we the people can! Pay attention, your future depends on it.

A new era has come to America. As President Obama was sworn into office on January 20, 2008, I could not help but be awed by the crowds gathered in D.C. Already he has made huge changes within this country. President Obama has moved to close down Gitmo and the CIA's secret prisons, has signed an Equal Pay Bill which promotes gender equality within the workplace, and has worked with economic advisors to create an economic recovery plan that he hopes to push through Congress in the coming weeks. With each decision he makes and bill he signs, the world watches intently. Many in America are "hopeful" for the future. Others are approaching matters with a

sense of "cautious optimism" (this term has been used widely within recent weeks by NPR, CNN and MSNBC). Others, still, are highly critical of the new president.

Despite the overwhelming enthusiasm for the new president, there are still several matters that concern me. The first is that "hope" has become (to some) a dirty word. Why should Americans not be hopeful of the future? Now, especially, Americans need hope. The economy is faltering—many individuals are without jobs, leaving families without income. There are two wars abroad—wars that many people don't support or understand. America is no longer the

Please turn to page 11



Cartoon of Obama Inaguration

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Opinion

Can We Just Discuss... Graduation Expenses?

Caitlin Murphy *Entertainment Editor*

So I have almost done it, graduated that is. Yes, I have spent four years here at Southern New Hampshire University and I can see the light at the end of tunnel. All my hard work has finally begun to pay off, unfortunately it does not pay off in dollar bills which is what I need even more than a degree right now!

This is because over the course of my four years here, I have spent thousands and thousands and some more thousands of dollars on tuition, among other things. So, what am I getting at...with all this money that we pay for tuition here, is it really

necessary to slap us with some more graduation expenses? In particular, petitioning to graduate which costs \$150, our class trip which is about \$400, and senior night which is \$20.

Let me begin with petitioning to graduate, the name alone makes me think that I need to get a bunch of signatures or something in order to get the H out of here. Apparently the money goes to cap and gown and the printing of our diplomas, which one might think would be covered by the approximately \$35,000 spent on tuition per person per year. Moving

onto the class trip, I understand that is what "we" voted for, but seriously, unless someone wants to lend me their money tree so I can grab a couple Benjamin's off of it; there is no way I will be attending. Finally, there is Senior Night, ah, the night of the seniors, surprise surprise that is going to cost us as well. Of course I have \$20 I could scrounge up, but that is not the point.

How about you throw a little change in the direction of the senior class, the dead broke senior class that is, and pick up the tab!?



Empty Wallet

Cautious Optimism

Continued from page 10

power and authority it once was. Americans have not only a financial deficit to worry about, but there also exists a deficit in pride of this nation. I understand the concerns for spreading "false hopes." It is absurd to think that the newly elected President Obama has the power to fix all of America's problems. But hope, in and of itself, can help to pull this country to new heights and glory—the likes of which our generation has never seen. In a sense, hope is one of the many concepts that this nation was built upon. From its birth as a country, citizens of the United States have always (and should will always) possess hope for a brighter and better future.

The second matter—and

perhaps the most important one—is that of support for our new president. Although many are enthusiastic for the coming four years, others remain unsatisfied with the result of the election. For those of you that did not vote for President Obama, I ask of you one thing: do not hope for his failure. I understand the need for criticism of the policy and decisions he has made and will come to make. I encourage everyone to watch closely and carefully the coming days, weeks and years. I urge all Americans to be highly critical of their new president—as they should be with any elected public official. But to openly hope for his failure as leader of this great country is also hoping for the

failure of the United States.

It is natural for Republicans and Democrats to disagree on key policy issues. It is healthy for political debate to occur over most matters in American government. To openly wish the failure of this country's elected leader is a different matter altogether. I ask my fellow Americans—and more specifically Americans of my generation—to proceed with a sense of cautious optimism. Yes, be highly critical of our new leader. Yes, ask questions and reveal truths whenever possible. But do not lose hope for this country. Do not wish the failure of our president—for doing so will surely lead to the failure of our country.



Arts & Entertainment

Around the World Celebrity Style

Laura Rotolo
Opinion Editor

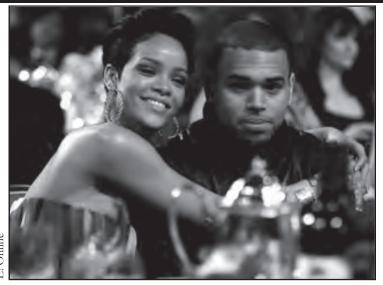
Chris Brown Accused of Beating Rihanna

E! Online

Exclusively, Rihanna has alleged to police that Chris Brown choked her while threatening to kill her. This all occurred after leaving Clive Davis' pre-Grammy party late Saturday, February 7th. Throughout the party, Brown and Rihanna were at each others throats, and shortly after midnight, things blew up. According to E! Online, "Brown pulled his silver Lamborghini to the side of a street in L.A.'s Hancock Park neighborhood. That's when, a source tells E!, Rihanna grabbed the car keys and tossed them out the window, sending Brown into a rage." Brown then proceeded to find his keys, come back to the car, put his hands around Rihanna's neck, and then began to say that "I'm going to kill you!" According to E! Online, Rhianna told police that she had lost consciousness, and when she awoke, Brown had fled. "According to the source, her right eye was blackened and badly swollen and she had hand prints on her arm." Brown was booked on suspicion of making criminal threats. He was released after posting a \$50,000 bail. Brown's lawyer, Mark Geragos, had not made any comments, neither has the spokeswoman for Rihanna, besides that "Rihanna is well. Thank you for your concern and support."



Usher and Tameka Raymond



Chris Brown and Rihanna

Usher Tries to Keep Family Under Wraps

E! Onlin

Ushers wife, Tameka Raymond, has undergone a serious medical emergency. Sources say that Raymond suffered from complications from a routine surgery. She was rushed to the hospital's intensive care unit last Friday, February 6, after going into cardiac and respiratory arrest during a liposuction procedure. Doctors placed Raymond in an induced coma for 24 hours to stabilize her. She is currently in recovery. "While Usher quickly, and relatively quietly, canceled his Grammy weekend appearances to be by his missus' side, G1 reports that he and his mother likely had company during their flight to Brazil. Dr. Gabriel E. Hunt Jr., a neurosurgeon from Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, is said to be down in São Paulo to lead Foster's care"

No More GIRLS GONE WILD!

E! Onlin

Joe Francis was MIA for a hearing, where prosecutors are asking a federal judge in L.A. to rescind the Girls Gone Wild bail. Fran-

cis, 35, was five hours late to a February 2nd court date in a tax-dodging case. Francis was taken into custody and spent the night in a clink. He was later put under house arrest after explaining his tardiness. He stated it was the result of miscommunication and a nasty case of the flu. According to E! Online, "Francis should be locked up until his March 21 trial because of a 'complete lack of respect' to the court and its ruling by issuing his own statement after his release." Francis has pleaded not guilty to two felony tax-evasion charges. Francis has yet to comment, but if convicted, he could face up to 10 years in prison.

Other News

Swayze Hopes to Kick-Start the Cancer Fight

Patrick Swayze is hoping to kick-start the cancer fight in Congress. With other cancer fighters, they are seeking for \$10 billion,

which would create more jobs for a worthy cause. Swayze states, "With Congress about to decide how much money to include for medical research as part of the economic stimulus package, the time has come to take my personal fight to a larger stage," Swayze wrote in an open letter published in Sunday's "Washington Post." "My message to our senators and representatives is simple: Vote for the maximum funding to let the National Institutes of Health fight cancer and other life-threatening illnesses. It's not only good for our nation's health; it's also good for our economic well-being."

Soprano's Pastore Settles Domestic Assault Charges

Vincent Pastore has settled a \$5.5 Million civil suit, which was filed against him by exfiancée Lisa Regina. According to E! Online, "Despite pleading guilty back in 2005 to attempted assault, Pastore has maintained his innocence and has since claimed he regretted not fighting the charge." The lawsuit was first filed by Regina in January 2006, where she claimed she suffered psychological harm as a result of the alleged incident.



Joe Francis

⊥ the OBSERVER 12 February 2009

New York Comic Con 2009

Dillon St. Jean Creative Editor

This year's New York Comic Convention held a great deal of surprises for the eager fans that stormed the Javits Center. Through the crowds of diehard fans looking to meet their favorite writers and artists, there were dozens of booths set up from many large companies such as Marvel Enterprises, DC Comics, Activision, Ubisoft, and Mattel, Inc. There were a number of panels that invited numerous creators in the comic book industry, such as Brian Michael Bendis, writer for Marvel Comics, and even Jerry Robinson, the creator of the character "The Joker."

There were a number of debuts at the convention made available to the fans. At the Oni Press booth, writer/artist Bryan Lee O'Malley debuted the fifth

book in his series "Scott Pilgrim," which will soon be made into a movie starring Michael Cera. There were also a number of announcements made, such as how the comic book "Youngblood" has been optioned to be made into a film directed by Brett Ratner. Previews were given for new comic book series' such as "Ultimate Avengers," "Green Lantern: Blackest Night," and "The Flash: Rebirth." There were even a number of video game demos revealed to the public. The game "Prototype" was debuted by Activision, "MadWorld" was shown by Sega, and Monolith revealed a sample of "F.E.A.R. 2: Project Origin."

The guests of the convention were plentiful, with a number of celebrities showing up for sign-

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- ⇒ Complete your renewal FAFSA (or original FAFSA for first time applicants) online at www.fafsa.ed.gov (SNHU's school code is **002580**
- Make sure the FAFSA is submitted by the March 15 priority date and also that your review your Student Aid Report for any errors and further instructions

Don't delay, you should file today!

If you have questions, contact the Office of Financial Aid at 603.645.9645 or email finaid@snhu.edu

Relay for Life Team is having a bake sale to raise money for American Cancer Society's Relay for Life February 16th-20th from 11:30-2:00 When Student Center

Radio SNHU's

ings and panels that detailed their upcoming projects. Seth Green and Matthew Senreich appeared for the panel on their show "Robot Chicken," and Joss Whedon appeared for the debut of his new show "Dollhouse." The fans were enthusiastic, with a countless number of them appearing in costume to display their fandom. There were people dressed as Stormtroopers, Supergirl, and even very well

done Batman and Hellboy costumes. Hundreds of fans stood in awe of the inventiveness of their designs, and many stopped to take pictures of their favorite characters wandering about.

Multiple signings took place, and the creators were more than willing to stop and talk with fans at their booths. Artist Alley, where fans go to have artwork commissioned or simply purchased from collected books, was

bustling with spectators making purchases. Visitors to the convention received a number of great deals from vendors of different stores, and clearly enjoyed themselves. From film debuts of movies such as Disney's "Up" to workshops available to aspiring comic book creators, there certainly was a broad scope of entertainment available for everyone.



Despereaux the hero more

A Critical Eye: Tale of Despereaux

Daniel Smith

Managing Editor

Grade: B

"The Tale of Despereaux" is the tale of a heroic mouse in a world that doesn't have soup. This may sound trivial, but the story started off following a rat that accidentally fell in the queen's soup and killed her. From then on, soup and rats were banished from the kingdom because the King was so upset about his beloved queen. The only problem with the banishment of soup and rats was that when the soup left, so did the rain and the sun.

This is where the heroic mouse steps in. Despereaux is not a normal mouse. He doesn't eat books, cower, or get afraid. He likes adventure and enjoys reading. This leads him into the kings library where he reads of the heroic journeys of the crusades knights of

10. Jason Mraz

past. He then uncovers and foils a plot to bring the princess down and saves her just in time. He also inadvertently gets the master chef to cook soup again which brings back the rain and the sun.

While complex in its story line, the movie had little new plot. It was the hero and the villain, a master rat. I would have liked to see the plot played out a bit more and some more interesting uses of his being a mouse. Overall, a good movie but not worth watching in the theaters. I would suggest waiting until it comes out on HBO and then snuggling up with your

sweetie pie and enjoying a nice hot cocoa. The Fray Top 5 Current Albums Top 10 Current Artists **Bruce Springsteen** Coldplay 1. The Fray: The Fray **Taylor Swift** 2. Fearless: Taylor Swift **Eminem Beyonce** 3. The Fame: Lady GaGa Nickelback 4. I am...Sasha Fierce: Beyonce Lady GaGa 5. 808's & Heartbreaks: Kanye West Jack Johnson



SNHU's **VITA Program**

Free Tax Help

Dates: 01/27/09-04/04/09

The VITA Program offered at SNHU has offered free tax services since 2002 to the elderly, disabled, and lowincome tax payers. The VITA program was established by the IRS in 1969 to assist those for whom professional services may be out of reach.

Vita Program Hours and Locations

Room 107

3:30 PM-6:00 PM

11:00 AM-1:30 PM

9:00 AM-11:00 AM

Webster Hall

Thursday

Friday

For more information about the VITA Program please visit:

http://acadweb.snhu.edu/

SNHU

Southern New Hampshire University

School of Business

2500 North River Road The Vita Program is housed at SNHU in Manchester

Manchester, NH 03106

Contact: Dennis C. Shea Phone: 603.668.2211 Ext: 2017 Email: d.shea@snhu.edu

Amber Waves







by Dave T. Phipps

SORRY KIDS BUT DUE TO THE WEATHER MISS RYAN COULD NOT MAKE IT IN.



Jerry Craft

AT MIDNIGHT &



1. Guatemala

- 2. China
- 3. Russia
- 4. Ethiopia
- 5. South
- Korea
- 6. Vietnam
- 7. Ukraine 8. Kazakhstan
- 9. India
- 10. Colombia

Source: U.S. State Department, 2008

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MAMA'S BOYZ

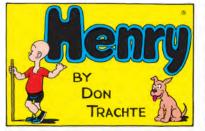
CANDYMAN.

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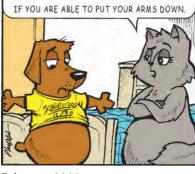








Just Like Cats & Dogs THAT OLD T-SHIRT DOESN'T FIT, BUT I'LL MAKE YOU A DEAL...YOU CAN WEAR IT TO THE CONCERT



Have you ever written a crossword? A word search? Want to draw a comic or cartoon and see it featured on this page? Go ahead, no one's stopping you.

Seriously... Please =) Send us an email: observer@snhu.edu.

Weekly **SUDOKU**

by Linda Thistle

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Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★★

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging * * * HOO BOY!

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Website Release Party

Caitlin Murphy

Entertainment Editor

The Observer is hosting a party for the release of its website Thursday February 26, 2009. The DeGraw? The Observer will be raffling off these event will take place from 8:30-11:00 P.M. in The Last Chapter Pub and feature acoustic music from the Massachusetts based band TREBEK. Radio SNHU will provide the Sound for the event.

Do you want to win free tickets see Gavin and other items at the website release party. For 21+, proper identification required. Come show up for your chance to win free stuff, hear some good music, and have a great time!

Franz Ferdinand: Tonight

Aimee Terravechia

Staff Writer

"Tonight," the new album by Franz Ferdinand, carries the same hypnotic and rhythmic beats as previous albums, but with a definite twist. Tracks like "Ulysses" and "What she came for" will help old Franz fans identify with the new sound. The almost punk-rock percussion combined with the trance-like backdrop is revitalized but familiar.

Other songs, however, stand in stark contrast to previous albums. "Katherine Kiss Me" is just such a track. By far one of the best of the new sound songs on the CD, "Katherine" is a cross between original Franz Ferdinand, Gary Jules' cover of "Mad World," and female vocalist Kimya Dawson.

Other notable tracks are "No You Girls" and "Twilight Omen." With a sound rooted in the 1980's, "Twilight Omen" is both retro and relevant, while "No You Girls" is classic Franz. A few mediocre tracks are spread out over the album, but overall,

this is a giant step forward for Franz Ferdinand. The retro/acoustic/folky/classic experiment that is "Tonight" has definitely paid off.





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UPCOMING CAPE EVENTS

Winter Week: "Cirque du SNHU"

Feb. 17-21

Tues. 2/17-Showoff Show 7:30pm. in the Pub

Wed. 2/18-Norman the Magic Experience

8:30pm. in the Pub If 21+ Proper ID Required

Thurs. 2/19-Carnival Photos

12-3pm. in the Pub

Thurs. 2/19 Comedian, Robbie Printz

8:30pm. in the Pub If 21+ Proper ID Required

Fri. 2/20-Stuff a Circus Animal

12-4pm in the Pub

Sat. 2/21-Indoor Skydiving (off-campus trip) Limited Spaces Available: Tickets on sale Feb. 6th at SNHU tickets and info booth

Tues. March 3-Mentalist/Magician,

Chris Bolter: 7pm. in the Pub

Wed. March 11-Speaker, Jim Keady:

7pm. Walker Auditorium

Thurs. March 19- Comedian, Myq Kaplan: 8:30pm. Pub

March 21-29-Spring Break Abroad in Italy

Sun. April 19-Gavin DeGraw:

Fieldhouse 8pm. Tickets on sale Now

April 20-25 Spring Week

"Best Week Ever"

Sat. April 25- 3rd Annual SNHU Stock

Opening Performer, Barefoot Truth Expect more attractions, novelties, and entertainment than last year!

BINGO: 7pm. Wednesdays in the Pub

CAPE Meetings: Mondays at 6pm. in the Pub-Bring your ideas!

Creative

A Man Named Island

Root Beer

Joshua Dick

Contributing Writer

Dillon St. Jean

Creative Editor

One day a man was at the beach. He swam into the ocean on his back, until he was far out enough that he could just allow himself to drift away. For days he just floated about in the cold water, allowing the waves to crash over him. Time passed and soon he could not even see the land from which he originated. He continued to drift until weeks had passed, yet nothing seemed to bother him at all. Not the cold, not the hunger, not even the loneliness of the sea.

After the first month, a large ship passed by him. A little girl called out to her mother that there was a man in the water, and the captain brought the ship to a halt. Amidst the cries of "man overboard" the little girl looked over the edge and yelled to him.

"Sir," she cried, "what are you doing out there?"

"I'm waiting," he replied. "What is your name?" "I am an island."

spoke for quite a while, as several men on the ship attempted to bring him aboard. He refused their attempts and requested to be left in the water. As he continued his discourse with the girl, a seagull began circling around the ship. The girl looked confused and spoke again to the

"My mother says seagulls would only come this far from land to die," she said.

"Child," the island replied, "You are mistaken. This gull is not far from land at all."

As the island spoke, the seagull descended and landed upon his chest. In its mouth was a single piece of seaweed, which is dropped on the man before taking flight once more. Just as it flew away, another came in its place, landed, and also dropped something on him; this time a small shell. This continued as the ship drifted away, the crew having given up

Please turn to page 13

The air smelled the way he liked it; cold with just the right amount of moisture. He strolled in between snow banks muraled with dirt. He caught a reflection of himself midstride in a storefront window. He was an eightysomething year old grouch with scraggly hair and an old coat that looked like it had been out of rags. His hands didn't shake, but never stood quite still in the pockets. He was heading to a convenience store to get some root beer. He hadn't had root beer in quite some time.

He made it to the store okay. He even got to the cooler and picked out a twenty ounce A&W. It was the coldest one they had.

He shuffled up to the counter and laid down some coins on the counter. The doorbell rang and a fourteen year old kid came in. He had a bandanna around his mouth and something poking in his pocket.

"Give me all your money!! Both a' ya'," the kid shouted.

The cashier opened the drawer and began frantically pulling out bills. "No respect," thought the old man. No respect

His right hand came flying out of his pocket in a crumpled old fist and the back of it connected hard with the jaw of the fourteen year old. The kid fell back and whimpered. Bang.

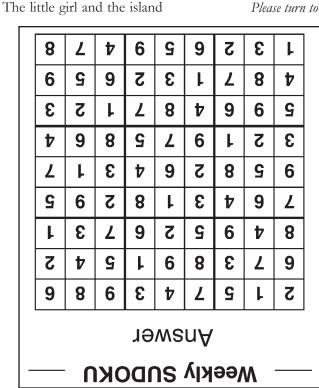
The old man lay bleeding out on the floor of the convenience store. The kid ran, not understanding the what or why of what he had really done. After the cashier called 911 he rushed over to the old man laying on the

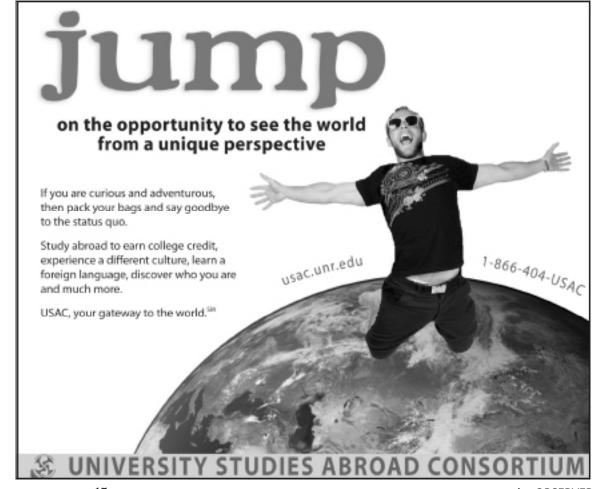
"You okay man? Shit man, please be okay."

"The root beer," the man said. "Just give me some root beer.

The cashier looked puzzled, but did what he was told. He even opened it for the old man. How thoughtful.

The old man was fading, but was not about to let someone water him like a damn horse. He shifted up and with his left grabbed the soda. He took one sip. It was the best root beer he had ever tasted.





Creative

The Diner

Ken Pothier
Contributing Writer

I egress to an overnight frost, perhaps the last of this season. A different road is taken this early morn under cloudy sky. The rise and fall of hills, twists and turns of a never straightforward road. I pass old farms and churches' spires. They mark time and my passing on the road to Mary Ann's Diner and Family Restaurant. It is done up fifties style. Choice of booths, tables for two and four squeeze in six in a pinch. The counter for single lonely souls lost in a paper, a cigarette, a dream. TV is on but no sound and here no one cares for that kind of news. The music here is fifties and sixties oldies played back to back in an endless flow from past memory to present thought,. I sit with the lonely souls at the counter with a local newspaper but it is hard to read with all the life and sound around me. I play name that tune, name that band, feel that memory, emotion with the music. The flow of music matches the life of the place and the quickstep of the waitresses; full-bodied waitresses in long poodle skirts, bobby socks, and soft shoes, friendly, carrying their loads with big smiles. Coffee and ice water brought to me with never-ending refills. Ol' style breakfast made to your liking. I order steak tips marinated in raspberry sauce with eggs over medium, home fries and raisin toast-\$7.50. Smiles, small talk and refills free and this diner's experience priceless.

A place where you are always welcome, a sanctuary of sorts. Local contractors make their plans for the day; count the week's profit and loss. Workers of all sorts fill their tanks with good food and fuel for the day's travails, still stiff from yesterdays work. They

shake it off here and get up to do it again in their own endless flow of work, recovery, work that makes this country run.

Couples meet greet hangout, form and break relationships in a life flow of the yin and yang, the profit and loss of love and affection. Families sit together and show the strain and gain of their growth over time.

Conversations of the day: weather, sports, family progress, accomplishment and setback, goals and dreams, gossip and truth all meld with the music of the place. Spring's arrival and blossoming, another week removed from winter, a new season and a fresh if cool and cloudy day.

No promises made, however, those who stop at Mary Ann's leave with a full stomach and a spirit filled with smell of coffee and good food, the sound of human contact and connection in varied form

A man sits at the counter alone; two bikers who have hardly touched their breakfast are leaving in a hurry. I move to the space provided and find out why they are moving on. The man in his thirties is a local and a regular. He is also manic-depressive, schizophrenic, bipolar, or all of the above. He immediately talks to me at breakneck speed in a flow of words that have meaning but make no real sense. In ten minutes he goes from being the reincarnation of Jim Morrison of the Doors to a Naval Academy graduate at the head of his class. He had a busy night at a secret NATO meeting with CIA, FBI, and national security types. The meeting ended early when the Russians did not show up. He tells me he is still in the military and I ask "In what way?" He says that he is in deep; too deep undercover. He moves from booth to booth asking for a cigarette as I move over one stool at the counter. I can listen better and finish my breakfast from this vantage point and the waitresses understand that I cannot solve this man's - or the nation's - problems today. I must finish and join the workers soon as schedule intrudes on the seamless flow of music and conversation. Connections made and lost hope for the lonely soul at the counter that tomorrow he will find communication, connection, and peace. Hope for the man with the paper that he will turn the page to someone's smile and a new start. All in sanctuary found at a fifties style diner, oldies playing as full-bodied women in long skirts serve up a new day.

Who is the Homeless Person?

Ken Pothier
Contributing Writer

The person is everyman, who everybody knows and everyone has inside

In every family, in every town, village and city,

Everywhere we go

The homeless person, the alcoholic, the druggie, the lost soul, the village idiot, the gambler,

The unemployed and underemployed, the abused and the abuser, the trauma and the tragedy

Your neighbor, your friend, your partner, your spouse

The immigrant and the refugee

The human being, the spirit, the soul, the body, the connection,

To the whole which we are a part of, and he is every man and woman

Everyone who can see, feel, and care for the nature of all

Hope, faith, love, charity

Connection, communication, caring, empathy, sympathy and warmth

Commitment and truth, the person is all of us, and is a broken spirit and a lost soul without us

Island

Continued from page 12

on saving the man, and the little girl waved goodbye to the island. More and more seagulls flew to the man adrift, with mouths full of sand, or shells, or seaweed. Time moved on as the size of the island increased. Day by day, the island would grow, and the seagulls soon found it to be their home. They placed seeds into the soil, from which sprouted trees. Crabs and starfish came upon the island, also knowing it as their habitat. It was not until many years later that people noticed a new island in the ocean, far, but not too far, from the coast of Venezuela.

Once a year, a young female captain sails to the island for the day to go exploring.



Profile

Athletic Profile: A New Face Hitting Up the Links!

Laura Rotolo

Opinion Editor

Nicholas P. Ricci is a freshman here at SNHU and one of the new members of the SNHU Golf team. A native of Andover, MA, Nick has been playing his beloved sport since he was 12 years old.

Q: I know a little about golf and the one thing I do know is that you must have a handicap, what is yours?

A: Well, my Handicap Index is a 6.3. (Definition of Golf Handicap: A golf handicap is a

numerical measure of an amateur golfer's playing ability. It can be used to calculate a net score from the number of strokes actually played, thus allowing players of different proficiency to play against each other on somewhat equal terms. GHIN.com)

Q: Out of all the sports to take up, why did you choose golf when you were 12?

A: I chose to play because golf is a sport you can play for the rest of your life! Q: Are there any other sports you enjoy to play or watch?

A: Yeah, I enjoy playing some basketball and lacrosse.

Q: I know golf is a very time consuming sport and weather is a huge impact on when you can play. How often do you get out on the course?

A: I play 18 to 36 holes a day during the summer. During the winter days, I hit up the indoor driving range about 3 to 5 days a week.



Nicholas Ricc

Q: Is your favorite professional golfer also your favorite all around athlete?

A: My favorite golfers are David Duval and my SNHU teammates, but my favorite all around athlete is Tiger Woods.

Q: All over the world there are some beautiful golf courses; tough but beautiful. What is your dream course to play?

A: My dream course would have to be Bay Hill Golf Club in Orlando, Florida.

Q: You have been playing for quite some time, what course has been the best course you have played on so far?

A: The best course I have played on so far is Canterbury Woods in Canterbury, NH.

It's not a long course but it is extremely challenging.

Q: What is your best achievement so far since you have been playing?

A: I have placed in the top 30 or better in three out of four Titleist Tour Tournaments.

Q: Okay enough about golf, what other hobbies do you enjoy?

A: Well, I enjoy playing the piano and I enjoy watching movies.

Q: Why did you attend SNHU?

A: I chose SNHU because of their business program and also the opportunity to play for the golf team.

English Faculty Award for Outstanding Literary Essay

This is an annual contest offering \$100 to a graduating senior from Southern New Hampshire University's Undergraduate Day School who submits the best essay on a literary subject.

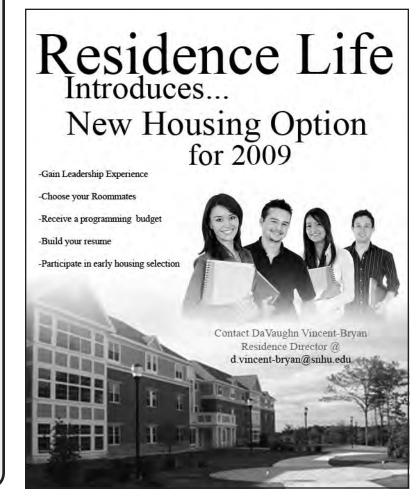
The essay must be based on literary analysis and must have been written for a SNHU literature class (LIT 200, 300, or 400 level) at some point during the student's time at the University.

Each person may submit only one essay for consideration. Your essay should be a clean copy (ie. without faculty or peer comments). The winner will be announced some time before graduation.

Length: at least 2,000 words Due Date: March 15, 2009

Submission Instructions: Submit one copy of your essay to Jill Judd in the SLA Office (Frost 103); emailed submissions will not be accepted. Include a cover page with your name, your SNHU ID#, your email, your phone number, and the name of the award. On the essay itself, include your ID# only, not your name or any other personal information.

If you have any further questions, please email Dr. Diana H. Polley at d.polley@snhu.edu.



Classifieds

New Section: Classifieds!

Ever wanted to sell something in the Observer? Ever wanted to know where to find a used cell phone? Well here is your chance. The Observer is starting a classified section. This section will be filled with classified from any student, faculty, or staff member who wishes to sell a product or a service.

Each classified cost \$5 and can be no longer that 50 words in length. Ads must be typed up with your full name and E-mail address and must include contact info as part of your 50 words. Ads can be slipped through the slot in the Observer's Door in Stark Hall with full payment. (No Checks Please)

Real Ads

Artley 17S clarinet with a TKL soft case looks and sounds brand new used less than 2 years no scratches or wear marks, \$100. Contact Caitlin at (978) 302-8183

CONN 22B Trumpet comes with a TKL soft case has some wear spots but in great condition, \$100. Contact Caitlin at (978) 302-8183

2 Futura 2000, Radial LTE P185/65R14 Tires \$50. Contact Caitlin at (978) 302-8183

TUTOR Graphic Designwill tutor in any graphic design class up to GRA 320. Classes include Com 230, Com 232, GRA 101, GRA 310, and GRA 320. I charge \$20/ hr and am available in class and out of class tutoring sessions. Contact me at smith.danielc1@gmail.com

\$20 GRE Study Materials for SALE. Materials include study book and Flash cards. Comprehensive DVD containing study guides and practice tests. From the 2008 version of the study guides. Helpful for first time test takers. Contact me at smith.danielc1@gmail.com

Babysitting. Will babysit for parents in the Manchester/ Hookestt Area. Willing to do Friday and Saturday nights. Please contact smith.danielc1@ gmail.com for more information.

Real Ads

Microsoft Office Professional - \$50 Fully Licensed Regularly \$120 **SAVE \$70** (978) 919-5103 bcincstore@gmail.com

Windows Vista 32 Bit - \$50 Fully Licensed OEM Regularly \$189.19 **Save \$139.19** (978) 919-5103 bcincstore@gmail.com

Windows Vista 64 Bit - \$50 Fully Licensed OEM Regularly \$199.19 **Save \$149.19** (978) 919-5103 bcincstore@gmail.com

Windows XP SP2 - \$25 Fully Licensed OEM Regularly \$54.99 **Save \$29.99** (978) 919-5103 bcincstore@gmail.com

Windows Server 2003- \$100 Fully Licensed OEM Regularly \$700 **Save \$600** (978) 919-5103 bcincstore@gmail.com

All Microsoft Products Fully Licensed Savings up to 90% Call or E-mail for price listings & accessories (978) 919-5103 bcincstore@gmail.com

Example Ads

For rent: 1997 Chevy Lumina. Maroon with pink interior. Perfect for low riding off roading. Taillights have been replaced and tires were recently popped on curb- need replacement. Lots of memories and good times are guaranteed with this vehicle. \$3,500 OBO. Contact Lupin at (897) 555-4321

The Life of Will Farrell. Written by no one famous or with any credibility whatsoever. Sources are minimal. Extremely entertaining take on Will Farrell and the life he leads. Most likely if you like Will Farrell, you will not like this book. Contact kill-will@fake.com for pricing.

Scrapbook compiled over 30 years of touring with The Grateful Dead. Unique memorabilia. One of a kind. Handmade. Few ash marks, quality condition. Made with Peace and Love. Payment is negotiable. Contact Sunflower at lovedead@fake.com.

1957 Chevy pick-up. 2,000 miles. Mint condition. Only driven on a paved driveway. Completely restored engine. \$1,000,000 OBO. (789) 555-4567

For Sale: 1978 Ford Pinto. Awful condition. Weird smell. Already blew up once. Nice blue color. Call Rob with an offer above \$10. (444) 555-4444

Example Ads

Scrapbook compiled over 30 years of touring with The Grateful Dead. Unique memorabilia. One of a kind. Handmade. Few ash marks, quality condition. Made with Peace and Love. Payment is negotiable. Contact Sunflower at lovedead@gmail.com.

Brand New Macbook for SALE. 120 GB hard disk, 4 GB RAM. Brand new out of the box. Applications include Adobe Design Suite and Microsoft Office. Will negotiate price for interested buyers. please contact Macman@fake.com

ROOMMATES NEEDED. Looking for two MALE roommates to help pay rent. Cable, Water, Electricity included. Appartment located off Hookett Road within 5 minute drive of SNHU campus and priced to move! please call (555) 555-6598

FOR SALE firewood for long winter pre-cut and dried firewood for stoves and outdoor fire pits. please contact fireman@fake.com

Homemade BBQ pit for SALE. can hold up to 300 hotdogs and 200 burgers at once. will feed an entire baseball league or dormitory. Ready for summer @ \$350 please contact John @ (457) 555-0211

Example Ads

Snow Tires for SALE. a set of 5 tires ready for winter!. Used for 3 months in the winter of 1987 but have seen no action since. Reliable firestone tires with 2 year manufacturers warrenty. Please call (603) 555-8792

FREE basett hound puppies. Mother got pregnant from a wandering stranger and we have no place for the babies. all ahve shots and vaccines. Free puppies to good homes. please contact puppylover@fake.com

FOR SALE chevy nova 1973. in rough shape, lost rear panels for trunk. no engine. rolling chasis with limted interior. Is a definite fixer- uper. Please contact carguy@fake.com

FREE computer parts. parts from DELL, APPLE, and Microsoft. all aprts are legal and working. please contact (476) 555-9087

DELL printer for SALE. works with Dell Inspiron 2476 bought new with computer. Never used. Comes with ink and paper. please contate inkdude@fake.com

Post your own classified in the Observer. Student rate \$5 for 50 words. Contact observer@ snhu.edu

Public Safety Logs

Throwback: Old Logs Back To 1997

Compiled by Chris Swett and Carter Meyers

April 6, 1997, 21:00

A student called Public Safety to report the theft of some items from her room. She had left campus on Thursday night and returned to find her door unlocked. A fellow resident informed her that Public Safety had keyed into her room on Friday morning to silence her alarm clock, which had been ringing for a few hours. Public Safety told the student a report would be filed and the Director would investigate the matter further.

October 2, 1997, 23:16

PSOs responded to a call from the Upper Suites for a student who had passed out and was unresponsive. The student had thrown up all over himself in addition to losing control of his bladder. It was learned that the student had consumed a good amount of alcohol along with Prozac. An ambulance was called in, and the subject was transported to a local hospital shortly thereafter.

September 17, 1998

On the above date and RA called in and said that he thought people behind Chocorua were smoking marijuana. Two PSOs responded. On arrival the RA pointed out three students sitting on the cement back step of Chocorua. The PSOs walked up to them and observed a full open bottle of beer between one of the subject's legs. When asked about it, the subject said it was full of rainwater. The PSO inspected the bottle's contents and determined that it was beer. The subject held up his bandaged finger and said the doctor told the subject to drink beer for the pain. The subject had bloodshot eyes and was not making much sense with his words. All three denied smoking marijuana. The subject was asked if he had any more beer in his room and the subject said "no," but said the PSOs could check. The PSOs followed the subject to his room, but just looked in from the doorway since the subject's roommate was in bed sleeping. The subject was told the incident was being documented. The subject was underage and had no I.D. on him.

January 19, 1999

On the above date a small red car slowed at the gate house and the driver and passenger threw snowballs at the truck. They would not stop for the PSO and said "Public Safety sucks" and a few other choice words. The truck had no damage done to it. Later on, a blue car stopped on North River Rd. by the main entrance. Three or four people got out of the car and threw eggs at the gatehouse. All but one missed. The car and its occupants took off headed south with no lights on.

March 9, 2001

On the above date the supervisor from Dining Services contacted the Public Safety Office to let the PSOs know of the attempted theft of the vending machine in front of the Information Booth. A cashier noticed to individuals attempting to take the vending machine out of the Student Center.

April 7, 2001

On the above date, a student came to the office. She stated she had just been assaulted and wanted to fill out a voluntary statement. The PSO asked if she had been hurt in any way and she replied no. The PSO asked if she wanted to press charges and she said no. The incident was the exchange of facial expressions and the other person didn't like it and hit the first person in the head. Both were separated. The person filing the report did not know the other individual's last name or where she lived. The student said she was going to stay in her room for the night because she didn't want to run into the other student.

September 12th 2008

Public Safety approached a female sitting outside Kearsarge at the approx time above. As PS was approaching the student, she began to vomit. When asked if she was a student at SNHU, she responded with "Yes". The female student claimed to have had four beers throughout the night. The female did not have her student ID on her, but informed PS that she lived in Washington Hall. Public Safety then escorted her to her residence, but was told she'd rather not go inside as she sobers up better outside. The female began to vomit again. Public Safety inquired as to how old the female was. She responded by telling PS she was born in 1988. When asked what her birthday was, she responded by saying she was born in 1987. After verifying that information to be false, the resident laid down outside Washington, became silent, and again began to vomit. Rockingham Ambulance was called and the student was taken to the hospital.

November 2nd 2008

On a routine round checking vehicles in lot 16, Public Safety encountered a parked vehicle with two males in the backseat and one male in the passenger seat. Finding this unusual as the car was currently running, Public Safety approached the vehicle. They noticed a male in the back light what seemed to be a soda can. As they got closer, they saw the male take the object and and put it below the seat. The male in the front passenger seat also took a ziploc bag from his lap and placed it below the seat. The males in the car then rolled down the windows where smoke then pured out of the vehicle. Public Safety asked for both objects in which the males promptly complied. After verify the males were in fact not students of the university, the parents were called. The car was towed and the parents came to pick up their 16 year old sons to bring them home.

November 8th 2008

At the above date and time, Public Safety noticed a vehicle attempting to get through a yellow fire gate behind the Upper Suites. The car was so adamant that it had wedged itself underneath the fire gate in an effort get through. As Public Safety approached the vehicle, it began to quickly reverse along the fire road in front of Kearsarge. The Public Safety mobile unit coming from the other way had managed to block the vehicle's escape route. As Public Safety began walking towards the vehicle, the operator attempted to run away before PS requested them to stop. Public Safety asked if the male was a student, in which he presented his student ID. The student was asked what he had hit with his car. He said he didn't hit anything. Public Safety asked what the damage on his vehicle was from and he responded telling them he did not realize there was any damage. After Public Safety told the student he had hit a fire gate, he responded with "Oh". HPD was then called to the scene where the student was arrested for driving while intoxicated.

November 9th 2008

At the above date and time, the RAs in the Lower Suites requested assistance from Public Safety for a suspected marijuana scent coming from a room. As Public Safety responded, they knocked on the door, but no one answered. They entered the room to find a towel behind the door, a glass water bong on the table, rolling papers, a blow bottle, a package of cigars, a small black scale, an empty plastic bag with marijuana residue, an exacto knife, a piece marijuana on the desk, an aluminum foil pipe and an additional plastic bag with marijuana inside. In the refrigerator they found two open beer cans in the door, eight full beer cans in the compartment and a bottle of Jagermeister. In the freezer they found a marijuana grinder and one last bag of marijuana. All items were confiscated and the residents were later questioned.

The Observer Presents:



In The Last Chapter Pub

Doors open at 8:00 PM

On February 26th

21+ with proper ID

Over \$150 in Prizes



The Observer is celebrating the release of its February edition of our newspaper. Also new this month is our Brand New Website! We are now publishing all of our papers online. So you will all be able to see every back issue we have along with current articles and

news updates.

So don't forget to stop by the PUb on February 26th from 8:30 to 10:30 for some fun and music!

Men's Basketball Making Big Moves

SNHU Women Have Enormous Presence in NE-10

Joe Vartanian
Staff Writer

Joe Vartanian
Staff Writer

The Men's Basketball team is climbing up the NE-10 ladder. They played nationally ranked Stonehill (#24) this past Saturday and won 67-48. Troy Bowen continued his phenomenal display of basketball with 18 points, Tory Stapleton had his 13th double-double with 10 points and 10 rebounds and Stephen Wood contributed with 10 points. Both teams traded leads for the first ten minutes, but

with the help of Gerald Carter and Stephen Woods the Penman went on an 8-0 run in the first half and never looked back. The Penman have had some intense finishes to their games, the previous game before Stonehill, they played Merrimack and won 77-73 where Stephen Woods had 21 points and 11 rebounds to help the Penman improve to a 12-10 record this season.



#15 Stephanie Houghton playing Against Merrimack

The Women's Basketball team is having a remarkable year this season. At a 14-8 record, they are only three games out of leading the division. This past Wednesday they held off Merrimack College 66-62 where Stephanie Houghton hit five 3-pointers and had a total of 17 points while Julia Houghtaling had 16 points and 9 rebounds. This past Saturday the women's team were able to upset nationally ranked Stonehill women's team (#11) 61-58 where Ashara Carrington had a double-double of 11 points and 11 rebounds and Alyssa Whitney recorded 10 points and 6 assists.



#10 Stephen Wood against Merrimack

Upcoming Home Sports Action

Compiled by: Nick Tasso

Wednesday February 18, 2009

Men's Ice Hockey vs. Stonehill at 7:30 PM at the Ice Den

Saturday February 21, 2009

Women's Basketball vs. Assumption at 1:30 PM in the Field House Men's Basketball vs. Assumption at 3:30 PM in the Field House

Monday February 23, 2009

Men's Ice Hockey vs. Suffolk at 7:30 PM at the Ice Den

Tuesday February 24, 2009

Women's Basketball vs. UMass Lowell at 5:30 PM in the Field House Men's Basketball vs. UMass Lowell at 7:30 PM in the Field House

Saturday March 7, 2009

Women's Lacrosse vs. Philadelphia at 1:00 PM on Larkin Field

Tuesday March 10, 2009

Women's Lacrosse vs. Bates at 5:00 PM on Larkin Field

Friday March 13, 2009

Women's Lacrosse vs. C.W. Post at 4:00 PM on Larkin Field

Saturday March 14, 2009

Men's Lacrosse vs. Molloy at 1:00 PM on Larkin Field

Sunday March 15, 2009

Women's Lacrosse vs. Molloy at 1:30 PM on Larkin Field

RAFFLE TICKETS!!!

YOUR CHANCE TO WIN:



Southwest Airline Tickets

NE Revolution Tickets

➤ NE Revolution Tickets Handmade Rose Quartz pendant

> CASH!!!!

➤ And more!

CONTACT ANY MEMBER OF THE WOMEN'S LACROSSE TEAM TO PURCHASE TICKETS

\$2 for one ticket, \$10 for a booklet of six

The drawing will take place at one of the first SNHU women's lacrosse home games of the Spring 2009 season *Note: you do not have to be present to win*



Daffodil Days to Benefit the American Cancer Society

It's that time of the year again! The Daffodil Committee members are currently taking orders through February 27, 2009. Order fresh daffodils, a Bear and A Bunch, or a number of potted bulbs for the first week of Spring! Or simply give a gift of hope

Contact the Student Affairs office in Exeter or visit our table in the Student Center

Monday, February 23 through Wednesday, February 25 between 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.

Daffodils will be delivered the week of March 16-19.

Students can pick up their orders at the Information Booth in the Student Center.

The bouquets are \$10.00 per bunch of 10, \$25.00 for the bear and a bunch of 10, \$15.00 for the bulbs or \$25.00 for a gift

Thank you in advance for your support.

Men's and Women's **Lacrosse Preview**

Nick Tasso

Sports Editor

Men's Lacrosse

The Men's Lacrosse team will start things out this year by playing Molloy and Pace at home on March 14 and March 21 respectively. Paul Calkins' team will look to rebound from a 5-7 record in 2008 where they lost their last five games. Senior captain Mike Bell put up 55 goals last season and going into his senior year, he will look to duplicate those numbers. Eric Gunst should continue his strong play at goal keeper as he took over mid season last year for Mickey Hover who ended his last season at SNHU with an 0-3 record. Gunst started nine games last year compiling a record of

Women's Lacrosse

After posting a 12-6 record and an appearance in the NE-10 Tournament Finals in 2008, the SNHU Women's Lacrosse team looks to come back strong this year. To help the squad, Julie Kraus and Libby Parent will lead the team for their senior year. Both were named to the ESPN The Magazine/College Sports Information Directors of America Women's At Large All District College Division First Team in 2008. Parent led the team last year with 76 points (48 goals and 28 assists). Carole Lee also put 52 into the net. Look for both players to return to their high level of play. Senior Katie Clark will return this year as the team's goalie. In eighteen games last year, she put up a .460 save percentage with a win loss record of 11-6.

Baseball and Softball squads gear up for regular season

Michael Ghika

Contributing Writer

Baseball

It is indeed getting dangerously close to that 2008. He hit .284 back in 2007. time of year on the diamond.

In just under two weeks, the baseball team will get the season underway with a trip down south. First, they will stop in Shepherdstown, West Virginia to square off against Shepherd University for three contests scheduled for February 27 and 28.

Two more games will follow on the first of March with two at Columbia Union at Takoma ready to contribute in between. Park, Maryland. Following that, the Penmen will go on the road for nine additional games before hosting American International in the home opener on her girls will travel down to Florida at the end of Sunday, March 22.

First year Coach Scott Loiseau has instilled an excellent conditioning program for his players, as the team looks to rebound from last years 7-32 record. The former Franklin Pierce star, hired back in June, will succeed former Penmen star Bruce Joyce, who served as the head baseball coach for the past 21 seasons.

On the field, the Penmen have three returning starters in all three outfield positions in Eric Pelletier, Chris O'Neil, and Scott Strong. Senior captain Bernstein also provide thump (.276, 8 homers, 22 Skyler Byrd returns behind the plate after hitting RBI) to a strong lineup.

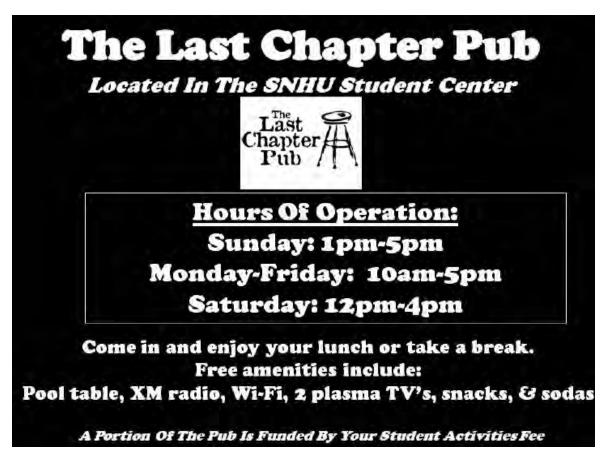
.252 with four homers and a team high 23 RBIs in

Sophomore Timothy Rines is back at shortstop following a .295 freshman year, while senior Jeff Giannino and junior Robert Wronski also figure to see plenty of innings in the infield. Senior captain Ryan Quinn looks to head the rotation while Steve Golbranson will likely get the ball late in games, as a plethora of talented arms are

Softball

As for Deb Robitaille's women's softball team, March for six doubleheaders with Northwood, Palm Beach Atlanta, St. Thomas, Barry, Lynn, and Nova Southeastern.

The team, coming off a respectable 17-22 season, opens up conference play at Franklin Pierce on March 29. Outfielder and 2008 All-NE 10 selection Karissa Bettencourt returns for her senior season after a .323 showing at the plate last year. Junior infielder Andrea Clausi (.330 with six homers last year) and senior outfielder Ashley



College Basketball Wrap Up

Zach Keating
Staff Writer

Connecticut (22-1) – UConn has been the dominant team through the month of January, and now sits atop the polls as #1. The Huskies have been rolling over Big East opponents, with their only loss coming to Georgetown. With stars like Jeff Adrian and Hasheem Thabeet who are both averaging a double-double in points and rebounds, these Huskies aren't going anywhere.

Oklahoma (23-1) – The Sooners have worked their way towards the top of the poll this month, as they are making fools out of their competition. Okay, they had one slip up against Arkansas on the road, but other than that they have looked flawless. With star forward Blake Griffin averaging 22 pts and 14 rebounds, the senior forward is looking to lead his Sooners into the madness that is March.

North Carolina (21-2) – UNC has had some slip-ups already this season, but they still look strong heading into the home stretch. The Tarheels lost to BC and Wake Forest in three games, but have handled their ACC schedule with relative ease. With Tyler Hansbrough, Ty Lawson, Wayne Ellington, Danny Green, Deon Thompson and Tyler Zeller all averaging double figures in points per game, North Carolina will be tough to stop come March.

Pittsburgh (21-2) – Pitt has been thriving in a tough Big East conference this year, as they sit in fourth place going into February. They have only lost 2 games to Louisville and Villanova, both of which they averaged only 60 points offensively. But, with players like Levance Fields (11 PPG) and Dejuan Blair (16 PPG, 13 RPG), the Panthers are posed for a long run into the NCAA tournament.

Louisville (18-4) – Louisville has looked strong while playing a stacked Big East schedule. Rick Pitino's squad is stocked with athletes that average over 12 PPG like Earl Clark, Terrence Williams and Samardo Samuels as well as a defense that has kept all opponents under 75. The Cardinals, although dropping four games to Western Kentucky, Minnesota, UNLV, and Connecticut, are gearing up for what should be a very exciting postseason in Kentucky.

Duke (20-3) – Duke has stumbled losing their last 2 away games. Coach K will look to turn the season around against a rough ACC schedule. Forward Kyle Singler (15.8 PPG, 8.2 RPG) will have to lead the charge into the big dance for the last month.

Wake Forest (18-3) – Wake Forest has lost 3 of their last 5, all to ACC opponents. With standout guard Jeff Teague averaging 21 points per game, the Demon Deacons will have to rebound for the tournament this spring.

Memphis (20-3) – Memphis has not had a tough schedule, and all 3 of their losses have come from ranked out of conference teams. But they sit at #8 heading into February with guard Tyreke Evans leading the way with 17 PPG.

Michigan State (19-4) – Michigan State has been proving itself this year in a surprisingly tough Big 10. Guard Kalin Lucas has been lighting up the scorers table, averaging 18 points per game.

Marquette (20-3) – Marquette has been surprising big teams all over the country, and are finally starting to get some respect nationally. But with stiff competition still left to play in the Big East, the Golden Eagles need their stars Jerel McNeal (20 PPG) and Wesley Matthews (19 PPG) to come up big for the last month.



Santanio Holmes brings in the winning TD pass

Super Bowl XLIII Recap

Mike Capalbo & Joe Vartanian Clubes & Orgs Editor & Staff Writer

The Pittsburgh Steelers made history in the 43rd Super Bowl by capturing their sixth NFL championship, making them the winningest franchise in football. The game turned out to be far from the lop-sided affair many expected, as the Arizona Cardinals nearly came out victorious, which would have capped one of the most unpredictable and incredible runs in sports history. Super Bowl XLIII was one of the most exciting battles in the history of the event.

Arizona Cardinals

Everything about the Arizona Cardinals and what they accomplished from the beginning of the playoffs was reminiscent of the 2007 champion New York Giants. They went from relative obscurity during the season to a transformed club in the playoffs that looked capable of anything. After knocking off the Falcons and Panthers, who many regarded as the favorite of the NFC, the Cardinals defied the critics and clinched their first Super Bowl appearance by defeating the hyped-up Eagles.

Just like the Giants of last season, still nobody gave them a chance against the mighty Steelers, but they came out firing, keeping up with them all throughout the contest. After early struggles, they jumped out to a late lead with just over two minutes left, thanks to Kurt Warner's third touchdown (377 yards, 1 interception), to Larry Fitzgerald, who ended up with 127 yards and two touchdowns. It was ever-so reminiscent of the Giants' late comeback where Plaxico Burress capped an upset victory with a

late TD. However, unlike last year, Ben Roethlisberger was able to put together a winning drive that ended with a game-winning TD pass to Santonio Holmes. It seemed as if the Cardinals had defied all odds and had the game won, but it slipped away in the end.

However, the loss does not take away from what Arizona accomplished this season, and their Super Bowl appearance will be the highlight of the club's history for quite some time. It also helped solidify Kurt Warner's hall-of-fame chances, who reminded us again this season how much of a legend he really is.

Pittsburgh Steelers

The Pittsburgh Steelers had a hard fought battle with the Arizona Cardinals on February 2nd. The game started out with Pittsburgh taking a 10-0 lead. Roethlisberger had a decent game throwing for 292 yards, a touchdown, and an interception. Willie Parker only ran for 58 yards, but wide receiver Santonio Holmes had a career game with 131 receiving yards and the game winning touchdown. Santonio Holmes was the game changer and was one of the main reasons why the Steelers won the Super Bowl. The defense showed up to play as they did all season long, as defensive player of the year James Harrison returned an interception 98 yards for a touchdown when the Cardinals were threatening in the redzone late in the first half. The Steelers definitely came together as a unit and pulled off a great Super Bowl win 27-24, as this game was an instant classic.

The MLB Hot Stove

Daniel Parsons

Contributing Writer

Manny Ramirez is yet again the talk of Major League Baseball, a situation he is not unfamiliar with. Earlier in November, Manny turned down a two year deal from the Los Angeles Dodgers and also a one year offer of 25 million dollars. If he had accepted this, he would have become the second highest paid player in MLB, only behind Alex Rodriquez on the New York Yankees. Manny, however, decided to turn down the deal in search of a contract for multiple years.

Another big name in the mix is Bobby Abreu who was expecting to get a big deal but because of the economy, he might have to settle for a one year deal. Abreu has recently been talking to the Chicago White Sox, who are trying to acquire him as their right fielder however they have to move Jermaine Dye first in order for this to be possible.

The Boston Red Sox most recent transactions have involved efforts to deepen their bench by signing veteran first baseman and outfielder Brad Wilkerson to a minor league deal. An interesting move by the Red Sox considering they already have Rocco Baldelli and Mark Kotsay on the bench to fill in the outfield. Wilkerson adds increasing amounts of insurance for the Red Sox bench.

Another big name still out there holding out for the contract he wants is Adam Dunn who has gone five straight seasons with forty plus homeruns.

Other big stories in the big leagues include Mark McGwire who recently was called out by his brother for using steroids, Barry Bonds being involved in scandals involving steroid use that could result in serious prison time for the all-time homerun leader in baseball history, and Joe Torre recently calling out his ex-team in "The Yankee Years"

Mark's brother, Jay McGwire has recently written a novel reporting that he in fact helped his brother inject steroids to increase muscle mass. Barry Bonds on the other hand is being indicted on charges of lying under oath about his steroid use, and although it is doubtful considering the charges are so old that the courts will find sufficient enough evidence to give Bonds prison time, that isn't stopping the courts from trying.

The future Hall Of Fame coach of the Los Angeles Dodgers Joe Torre's novel chronicles his days with the Yankees and it is reported that he has some harsh words for his fellow players. However only time will tell the truth on what is written in the book next month when it hits the shelves.

Revived: Women's Professional Soccer

Cary Rivett

Contributing Writer

St. Louis, MO: The inaugural 2009 Women's Professional Soccer (WPS) season kicks-off this spring as the league begins preseason training later this month. The WPS is currently the highest level of women's soccer played in the United States superseding both the WPSL and W-League, which will now be used as farm systems for WPS teams.

Professional soccer for women has been nonexistent for the several years as the first attempt at forming a league formally known as the WUSA folded after only three seasons. The WUSA was primarily established following the success of the United States Women's National team after they defeated the Chinese during the 1999 Women's World Cup. Not many have forgotten Brandi Chastain's penalty kick and infamous celebratory strip tease. Unfortunately, the hype and excitement surrounding the WUSA was no match for the extreme financial deficit, crumbling sponsorships, and low fan attendance rates.

Luckily, during September 2007, the WPS emerged due largely to the efforts of the Women's Soccer Initiative Inc.

which consists of seven teams from across North America. The states hosting WPS teams include the Bay Area, Boston, Chicago, Los Angeles, New Jersey/New York, Washington, D.C., and St. Louis. The league expects to expand to Atlanta, Philadelphia, and possibly Dallas in 2010 and hopes to add more franchises for future seasons.

Unlike the WUSA, the WPS has adopted different marketing and financial strategies to keep the league from dismantling. Each WPS franchise is individually owned and operated by a group of investors within each market. Additionally, NBA point guard, Steve Nash and former YAHOO! President Jeff Mallett are investors and partial owners of the WPS. The WPS also signed Puma as its official equipment supplier for three years worth nearly \$10 million.

With high expectations the WPS will succeed, many are anxiously awaiting the first match of the season. The game will feature the Los Angeles Sol verses the Washington Freedom at the Home Depot Center in Carson, CA on March 29, 2009 on Fox Soccer Channel beginning at 6:00 pm. ET.

Meet the Manchester Millrats

Joe Vartanian
Staff Writer

The Manchester Millrats are a member of Premiere Basketball League (PBL). The Millrats completed their first season last year collecting a record of 28-12. They made it to the final four where they had a close battle against the San Diego Wildcats, but lost 115-109.

The Millrats play on the SNHU campus in the Fieldhouse. This organization has an entertaining show where they select a random contestant from the crowd to have an opportunity to win a various amount of money in a shootout where you must complete a lay up, a free-throw and a 3 point shot. If you do this within 25 seconds you win the money.

The players also stay after the game for auto-

graph sessions. The Millrats include previous SNHU alum Sam Carey and PJ Young. Some Millrats players have had great success in the minors like point guard Al Stewart, whose credentials in the minor leagues are amazing. Some of the players have spent time in the pros like small forward Desmond Ferguson, who spent time with the Portland Trailblazers and has had great success in the minors.

Right now, the Millrats lead the division with a record of 8-3. For any other information please contact the Millrats at (888)-646-RATS or at millrats@gmail.com



#33 Sam Carey,#34, PJ Young,#10 Al Stewart,#5 Desmond Ferguson

⊥ the OBSERVER 26 February 2009

Farewell to Favre...

Nick Tasso Sports Editor

career was chronicled after his retirement announcement. After his return to the NFL as a New again retired.

After contemplating his it quits again. decision to retire last year, Favre in him and asked the Green Bay the starting job to Aaron Rodgers.

Favre was traded to New York.

The New York Jets started the started. season off well going 8-3 while beating the Tennessee Titans who the Hall of Fame in 2014.

About a year ago, Brett Favre's were undefeated at the time. But after losing four of their next five games, missing the playoffs, having his head coach fired, and York Jet for one year, Favre has being criticized by fellow team mates, Brett Favre decided to call

He leaves the game once decided he still had another year again going out on top with holding the record in most touchdown Packers ownership to take him passes, most career NFL passing back although they already gave yards, most career pass completions, most career attempts, most career NFL interceptions thrown, After heated discussions with and most career victories as a the Green Bay Packers ownership, starter. And don't forget his most noted one as consecutive games

Brett Favre will be eligible for

A-Rod Linked to Steroid Use

Nick Tasso Sports Editor

ball player can escape allegations confirmed these allegations. of steroid use if they put up big numbers since the late 1990's.

of 104 players who tested posiwhich Rodriguez hit .298 with 47 home runs on course to winning the American League MVP for the Texas Rangers.

The report states that the testing was done as a way to measure if and how much should Major League Baseball implement during his days with the Rangers. penalties for steroid abuse. Coupled with the BALCO case, MLB right way, Rodriguez' name will be implemented penalties the following season for steroid use.

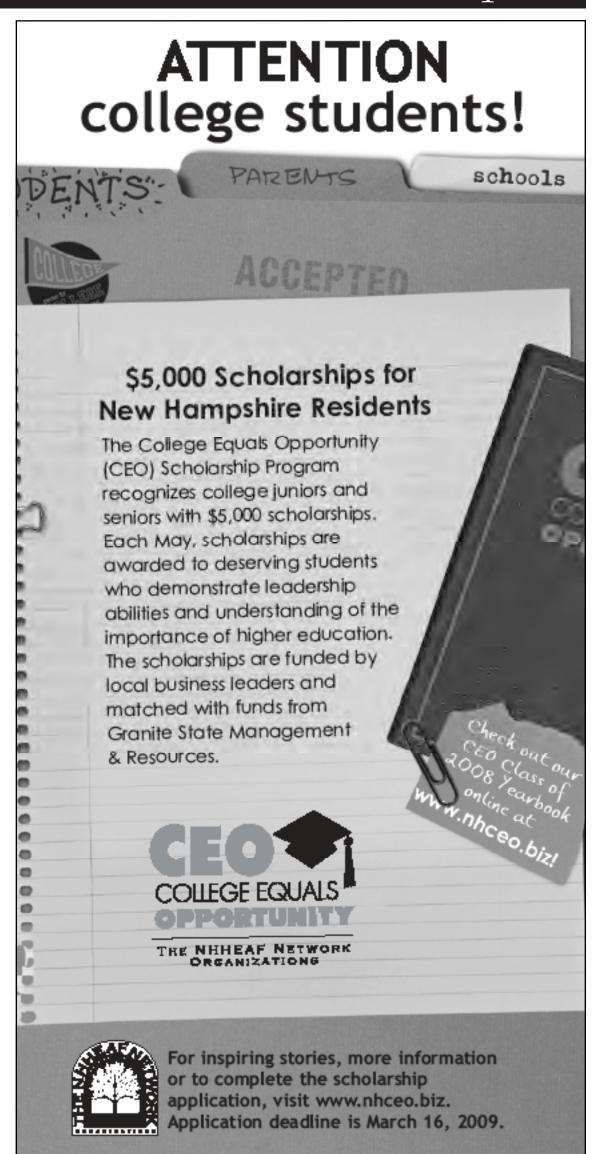
were supposed to be sealed era in baseball.

Just as it seems that no one (and originally planned to be in America is immune to this eco-destroyed), the Sports Illustrated nomic crisis, it seems like no base- journalists have four sources that

Rodriguez has been looked at as the next in line to take over On Saturday February 7, Barry Bonds all time home run Sports Illustrated.com reported record. In addition, up until now, that New York Yankees third there has been no hard evidence baseman Alex Rodriguez was one against him. When asked about the allegations he said, "You'll tive for steroids in 2003; a year in have to ask the union about that. I'm not saying anything."

On Monday February 9, Alex Rodriguez did a thirty-minute exclusive interview with respected baseball writer Peter Gammons. In that, he admitted to steroid use between the years of 2001-2003

Once looked at as doing it the dragged through the mud just like Barry Bonds and Mark McGwire Although these documents whenever people talk about this



Voices & Faces

Spotlight @ SNHU

Vincent Casciato
Contributing Writer



.::Patricia Lynott::.

Patricia Lynott, the Vice President for Academic Affairs, welcomes conversation and conveys the communication skills, friendliness, and professionalism that such a leader and administrator should provide to a body of faculty and students.

Dr. Lynott went to college later than most people do, at age 27, after working for a decade in Corporate America. She received her undergraduate and graduate degrees in Communication, and after teaching for a while she fell in love with higher education, where she later earned her PhD. She was Dean of Adult & Graduate Education at Elmhurst College in Illinois before moving to SNHU under the VPAA position.

From a broad point of view, Dr. Lynott's job deals with anything related to curriculum, student learning, development of faculty, disputes about grades, and more. She admits her job is very busy most of the time, but expresses a genuine enthusiastic love for being the leader of the university's academic system. "I can give faculty the opportunities they need," she explains, as her main objective is for effective learning to take place.

Two things Lynott values about SNHU are its innovational strides and diversity, and she is glad to be a part of such a school. Her advice to students is to love what they do in life. "[Students should] be savvy with how they use learning" and to apply it, that education is a priceless tool that should be cherished. "It will help navigate you in life."

What is the most scandalous thing you have ever done?



I fooled around in the back of my boyfriend's jeep, in the rain, in my school parking lot.

I lost my virginity upstairs in the cafeteria.

My buddy and I were in the middle of fooling around with a girl, when my buddy fell asleep.

On spring break in Mexico, I was asked to prove it and so I showed it all!!!!

Merrimack River.

I ran naked across the State House lawn while being video taped.

Alyssa Johnson David Carroll Ashley Lacroix
Brittney Whiteway Meg Zaleski Corey Hamblett Lindsay Fegan

Compiled by Laura Rotolo/ Photos by Laura Rotolo/ Layout by Daniel C. Smith / Background courtesy of Wordpress.com