



the OBSERVER

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March 17th 2009

Manchester, NH

"The man who smiles when things go wrong has thought of someone to blame it on."
- Robert Bloch

MARCH IS:
RED CROSS MONTH



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[http://it.snhu.edu/
observer/index.html](http://it.snhu.edu/observer/index.html)

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SNHU Offers Bare Bones Education with Bare Bones Cost

Aimee Terravechia
Staff Writer

Last fall, Southern New Hampshire University began its revolutionary Advantage Program at both the Salem and Nashua campuses. The program allows students to begin on a Bachelor's degree program or complete an Associate's degree with costs only \$10,000, according to SNHU's website. The program costs sixty-percent less than SNHU's traditional Manchester campus tuition, while offering the same classes, even taught by some of the same professors.

While the core education remains the same, there are noticeable differences between the estimated \$25,000 on-campus experience students have by attending the Manchester campus, and the \$10,000 no-frills experience they have at Salem or Nashua. One of the major differences between the

Advantage Program campuses and the Manchester campus are all of the amenities, activities, and buildings that SNHU Manchester has. While on the Manchester campus students can work out at the gym, eat at the café, and live in the dorms. Nashua and Salem, however, offer only the classrooms and tools necessary to pursue the desired education. According to an article in the Boston Globe, business major Matthew Gambardella who attends the Salem location commented, saying, "It's not the mainstream college experience, but it helps keep your sights focused on your work."

The special amenities at the Manchester campus do add to the college "atmosphere," as well as provide added opportunities to students. As reported in the Boston Globe, Paul LeBlanc,

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SNHU's Salem Center

Relay for Life

Ashley Manley
News Editor

Southern New Hampshire University hosted their second annual Relay for Life on February 27th and 28th at the New Hampshire Dome in Milford, New Hampshire. This year's event brought together 27 teams and 359 registered participants from SNHU and one team from New England College.

The preparations for the event began six months prior, back in September 2008. An open committee, in which everyone interested in the cause was welcomed to join, was in charge of all of the arrangements for Relay. Tiffany Lyon acted as Chairperson and oversaw the development of the event from start to finish. The entire event was funded by clubs and organizations from SNHU. Mike Rizzi, Online Fundraising Chair commented, "I think that the committee was dedicated to the

event, it was a random group of people that came together and they all believed in the mission and wanted to do something and they pulled it off flawlessly...it was a huge success."

Relay for Life, a 15-hour event, was composed of various highlights organized to heighten awareness of cancer, to raise money for cancer research, and to keep Relayers entertained while walking for the cause. The start of the event was kicked off by the Opening Ceremony which featured 11 cancer survivors, many caregivers, and persons affected by cancer.

SNHU alum, Anne Marie Morse, a caregiver, spoke at the Opening Ceremony. Morse spoke of the battle she faced in passing Michelle's Law, a law inspired by her daughter Michelle, who lost her life to

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Enterprise Yearbook

Three Survivors from the 2009 Relay For Life

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Letter From the Editor

Libby Parent
Editor in Chief

Wow! It is already March and is it possible that we won't experience anymore snow storms for a few months? Of course I just jinxed everything by saying that. Thanks to the turf field, my final lacrosse season was able to begin on time! As much fun as preseason in the small gym is...almost. Honestly, ask any spring sport athlete about it; they will all say the same thing.

Anyway, this is my second to last issue with "the Observer." Without getting too emotional, too early, I will postpone all sapiness until April. Instead, I will talk about how AWESOME our website is! I am so psyched to announce that all Observer issues dating back to 2000 are available online. Thanks to hard work on the part of many staff members, the site looks great. Take a look and let me know what you think: it.snhu.edu/observer/index.html. We would love to hear your feedback and will entertain any suggestions you may have.

This issue we have lots of the usual and some of the new. Tim Callahan discusses Obama's recent decisions, while Aimee Terravechia delves into Obama's Budget decisions regarding education. Advice from the Career Development Center can be found regarding internship/job fairs and mock interviews. And of course, be sure to check out SNHU sports coverage and the feature MLB preview (go Yankees!) for 2009.

Enjoy the March issue. Enjoy Spring Break. And please give us your feedback; we really do want to know what you think! 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 necessarily reflect the views of Southern New Hampshire University. The Observer is published monthly during the academic year and is printed by the Concord Monitor of Concord, NH. To contact the newspaper, please e-mail us at observer@snhu.edu.

Public Safety Logs

Compiled by Nick Tasso
Sports Editor

12-7-08 1:20 AM

There were reports that there was some activity near the woods involving four people. When Public Safety arrived, they flashed their flashlights at the suspects who were startled and immediately ran into the woods. One of the students in the woods scaled the fence towards the interstate. When the other students finally surfaced, Public Safety advised them not to run into the woods in areas that smelled like marijuana. The fourth person who jumped the fence is still missing.

1-24-09 3:42 PM

Public Safety responded to a possible fight in the small gym. When they arrived, they advised everyone to go back to their cars. After doing so, Public Safety was threatened with expletives by the individuals. Upon leaving, all individuals were stopped at the gate until one of them told an officer that they would "run them over." They were eventually able to leave, all the while swearing at the Public Safety officers.

2-11-09 9:30 AM

Public Safety officers responded to a report of the smell of marijuana. When they arrived, they did not smell or view any marijuana. They did however hear the sound of a dog barking loudly and uncontrollably. They pursued the noise and found out that the dog belonged to a sister of a student who decided to stop by with her dog.

1-31-09 2:05 AM

While a car was being loaded on a flat bed being ready to be towed, the owner came out of nowhere to try and interrupt the execution of the tow. He was clearly intoxicated by his slurred speech and glossy eyes. He was also unable to maintain his balance. The individual tried to get in between the car and the flat bed as his car was being pulled up. He demanded several times for them to release his car but was denied profusely by Public Safety. He then expressed his dislike for the SNHU policy and his apparent dislike for Americans period. He wouldn't leave the lot and continued to use profanity at Public Safety officers.

1-28-09 2:23 AM

Public Safety responded to a call of a fight. The fight was between two girls, which started out verbally and ended up being a physical altercation including "wrestling" moves and hair pulling. One of the students involved denied any responsibility to her actions. The two girls were separated and told to stay in their respective rooms for the rest of the night.

Presidential Update

Tim Callahan
Staff Writer

President Barack Obama remained busy this past month and has focused his attention to the new budget and various ideological differences with the previous administration.

The current projected deficit for the 2009 fiscal year is \$1.75 billion. With this in mind, President Obama proposed a budget that would begin to cut unnecessary spending by the government, so the yearly deficit would be about a third of what it is now by 2013. Limiting tax deductions for the wealthiest Americans, cutting government subsidies to large agricultural companies, and reducing spending on social welfare programs are a few of the possibilities that Obama outlined to decrease the deficit. Obama handed over the budget to the likes of Representative Henry Waxman and Senator Max Baucus; it is their duty to iron out some of the details of the budget to make it more acceptable for Congress.

Addressing the issue of health care,

Obama plans to keep the promises he made on the campaign trail and attempt to overhaul the healthcare system. He is aware that any sort of bill that could drastically change the system would not be completely in keeping with the plan he proposed, but he announced that he is willing to make concessions in order to make health care affordable for everyone.

Such a plan is extremely ambitious, since any plan to change the health care system has been vehemently shot down in years past. Furthermore, private health care companies will take substantial losses if a public care service is made available. Many argue against the creation of such a public care service, pointing at the current economic decline as a deterrent. Those who are ideologically opposed to a public care service site such a program as being socialistic and not in keeping with the country's capitalistic ways.

President Obama chose to take a harder stance on the war in Afghanistan, and he is willing to adopt more radical military tactics. The president acknowledged that we are not winning the war in Afghanistan, and he explored the possibility of reaching out to moderate groups of Taliban. Similar to a strategy used in Iraq, this outreach to moderate Taliban outfits would take advantage of alienation and disjunction between the terrorist cells. The strategy could be potentially dangerous, but if implemented correctly, it could be extremely beneficial for the efforts in Afghanistan.

Although Obama will not discontinue the use of signing statements, he vowed not to use them as freely as the previous administration. Signing statements are, for the most part, declarations made by the president about specific items in a bill that he deems to be unconstitutional. As such, a signing statement functions as a line-item veto by the president, which does not have to be referred back to Congress; this particular action undermines the separation of powers in government, since it oversteps the bounds of the

presidency. According to the New York Times, the Bush presidency issued nearly 1,200 signing statements, which is more than twice the amount previously used by all of the other presidencies combined. Obama addressed this issue and plans to use signing statements only when particular elements of a bill are clearly unconstitutional.

In another ideological shift, the Obama administration has removed some of the strict limitations on stem cell research. Obama declared that the administration will "make scientific decisions based on facts, not ideology," at a press conference. By signing an executive order, Obama put an end to the ideology held by the Bush administration that embryonic stem cell research is inherently wrong and should not and would not be pursued. The executive order potentially paved the way for Congress to also loosen the laws governing stem cell research.

Much remains to be done in this current crisis, and Obama will have to continue to deal with a decidedly partisan Congress to get anything done.



Barack Obama discussing stem cell research

Boston.com

Unemployment Rate Rises to a 35 Year High

Holly E. Bundy
Copy Editor

The U.S. Labor Department showed that unemployment rose drastically to 8.1% during the month of February, a 35 year high. The rate increased from 7.6% in January as employers reacted to the struggling economy and cut over 650,000 jobs during the month.

Gad Levanon, senior economist at the Conference Board stated, "Over the past year, the Employment Trends Index has declined faster than at any other time in its 35-year history, with the most severe decreases taking place since the fall," according to Forbes.com.

Since the recession started in December 2007, over 4.4 million jobs have been lost. Over half of the jobs lost have happened during the last three months. The total amount of people currently unemployed now stands at 12.5 million people, according to FoxBusiness.com.

During February, people considered "involuntary part-time," rose 3.1% which is an increase of 787,000. The total workers currently working part-time jobs when they need full-time jobs now totals over 8.6 million.

As the total unemployment rate rose over 14.8%, John Silvia, chief U.S. economist with Wachovia, stated to FoxBusiness.com that, "It does reflect the broad stress on the American worker at the moment." Silvia also stated that "We're seeing just not an economic cycle occurring, but a fundamental structural change in our nation's labor markets...We have too many restaurants, too many retail shops, too many financial service firms and too much manufacturing."

Bloomberg stated that their monthly

survey indicated that many economists predict that the jobless rate will reach 9.4% this year and remain elevated in 2011. Michael Feroli, an economist at JPMorgan Chase & Co. in New York stated to Bloomberg.com that, "Even if things become less apocalyptic it doesn't mean the unemployment rate will come down...It'll be a long-term restraint on growth. Even when the economy gets back to normal, what's normal is going to be defined down."

Relay For Life

Continued from page 01

colon cancer at the age of 22. Morse battled with insurance companies that wouldn't cover Michelle if she reduced or stopped her courses at college while undergoing treatment. With the passing of Michelle's Law, full-time college students can take up to 12 months medical leave if they are covered under a parent's health insurance plan.

Other speakers commented during the Opening Ceremony, which then led to the opening lap, the Survivor Lap. Survivors, caregivers, and those affected by cancer were invited to join in walking in the Survivor Lap. A bagpiper led them through as they were accompanied by encouraging and admiring applause from the crowd.

Numerous activities and theme laps kept Relay-ers entertained while walking for the cause. Activities, sponsored by various clubs and organizations, consisted of a moon bounce, frozen t-shirt contest, obstacle course inflatable, create a street sign, musical performer Beau Bristow, the movie Eagle Eye, plus many more. Theme laps added some excitement to walking laps. There were 10 themed laps, such as Gender Bender, SNHU Pride, and Crazy Hats and Sunglasses. A Relay "jail" was also set up as an activity and fundraising opportunity for two hours at the event. Relayers could donate money to put a fellow Relayer in "jail." That fundraising activity raised \$237 alone.

The Luminaria Ceremony brought a significant number of Relayers on the track to honor those currently battling cancer, those who have lost their life to cancer, and in honor of the continuous commit-

ment towards fighting cancer and finding a cure. Meg Dower, Survivorship Co-Chair remarked, "...the Luminaria Ceremony gets people. It's an emotional, touching point." Relayers had the opportunity to submit pictures of loved ones who are currently \ fighting, have survived, or who have lost their battle with cancer. These pictures were displayed in a slideshow presentation during the Luminaria Ceremony. Relayers were also invited to come to the open microphone to say "why they relay." The dome lights were dimmed for the Luminaria Lap and Luminaria bags with messages from loved ones were lit up and placed around the track for Relayers to honor.

At the conclusion of the event, awards were given and Relayers left exhausted from the night's activities. Rizzi concluded that "the event went really well." According to Brigit M. Ryan, Community Executive, Development for the American Cancer Society, \$39,000 and counting was raised for the American Cancer Society through SNHU's Relay for Life. This surpassed the goal of \$35,000. Mission and Advocacy Co-Chair, Justin Woodward, remarked, "Relay for Life proved what SNHU student community can do, it was the students that raised \$39,000, not the committee."

When asked what improvements could be made for the next Relay, Woodward noted that more staff and faculty involvement will be welcomed as well as a more intensive promotion of Relay as a "SNHU event." Woodward calls for more visual university support.

Bare Bones Education

Continued from page 01

President of Southern New Hampshire University, commented that "Families come to campus and they want to see a food court, a fitness center with a climbing wall, and brand-new dorms. So we build everything, each one nicer than the other, to remain competitive." LeBlanc also added, "I'm not sure that improves education. It just drives the price up. Not everybody needs it, and frankly, not everybody can afford it."

In addition to the classrooms and professors, students utilizing this new Advantage program can also access many amenities at the Manchester campus for a small nominal fee. Despite the availability of these resources, according to the Richard Schlesinger of CBS, no student has yet taken advantage of them. According to the CBS report, Salem student Kaileen Crane said that these extra-curricular amenities would only serve as distraction, saying, "I'm not interested in any of that... it would absolutely be a huge distraction."

The program, which started with approximately forty students last fall, is expected to grow

over the coming years. It has recently been featured in both the Boston Globe and CBS news. Other colleges and universities around the country are also considering following suit. According to the Boston Globe, Daniel Webster College of Nashua is planning on offering an \$11,000 tuition break to students willing to commute instead of living on-campus. Also considering low-cost and bare bones higher-education alternatives is the public university system of Pennsylvania.

Southern New Hampshire University is leading the way with this low-cost alternative. The Advantage program offers many of the same education benefits that traditional higher education does at a fraction of the cost. The credits can also be easily transferred to SNHU's main campus, allowing students to continue in pursuit of a Bachelor's degree. Linda Richelson, SNHU's the center director for SNHU's Salem location, could not be reached for comment on the program or its offerings.

Obama's Budget: Plans for Education

Aimee Terravechia
Staff Writer

President Obama's proposed budget plan was released to the general public earlier this month. The budget opened with a message from Obama and an explanation of the current economic situation before outlining specific goals within each department.

Within the Department of Education section, President Obama's budget plan sets forth very specific goals. These goals include rewarding teachers and principals that are performing above standard, funding education research, and developing ways to increase productivity of "low-producing" elementary schools. President Obama also focuses a large portion of the proposed budget on higher education spending as well. Specifically, Obama plans on expanding funding for Pell Grants, modernizing the Perkins Loan program, and creating a college completion incentive fund.

The Obama administration plans to extend Pell Grants to a maximum \$5,500 award for the 2010-2011 school year, while also revisiting how the Pell Grants are indexed. According to the report, "the Administration will index Pell grants to the Consumer Price Index plus 1 percent in order to address inflation." This means that the Pell Grant will be much more likely to increase in years to come than it has in the past.

Also, the Obama administration is reevaluating student loan programs and making what the administration views as necessary adjustments. According to the report, "right now, the subsidies in the Government-guaranteed student loan program are set by the Congress through the political process. That program has not only needlessly cost tax-

payers billions of dollars, but has also subjected students to uncertainty because of turmoil in the financial markets." The Obama budget plan seeks to end this process in hopes of stabilizing student loans. According to the budget plan, the new system would save approximately \$4 billion a year that would then be reinvested in student aid.

President Obama's budget also outlines goals to reshape the Perkins Loan program. The plan criticizes the current program as being both, "inefficient and inequitable."

The final goal outlined in President Obama's budget plan is to provide incentives towards college completion. The program is designed to spur colleges and state programs to not only enroll more low-income students, but also to help these students complete a degree program. According to the plan, "the Budget includes a new five-year, \$2.5 billion Access and Completion Incentive Fund to support innovative State efforts." The plan will also include methods by which to evaluate specific programs in order to determine which work best.

President Obama also promises within the Department of Education section of the budget to, "simplify the student aid application process," in order to allow more access to government funding for education.

On all fronts, the Obama administration's proposed budget aims to increase education spending. The plan, according to the budget, is designed to, "expand opportunities for students to go to college and graduate by expanding student aid, shifting resources from banks and middlemen towards

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Photo Exhibit for Injured Soldiers Program

Tim Callahan
Staff Writer

The Soldiers Undertaking Disabled Scuba (SUDS) organization will be holding a photography exhibit hosted by Massabesic Audubon Center from March 29th to April 24th.

The SUDS organization gives injured soldiers the opportunity to partake in and learn how to scuba dive. According to Nate Dean, the Administrative Director of Suds, about 90 percent of all soldiers that participate in the program are amputees, and some are double amputees. For these soldiers, the program is part of their physical therapy so that they can recover not only physically, but mentally as well. "It gives them so much confidence to say 'look what I can do,'" explained Dean.

SUDS is a non-profit organiza-

tion. There is no cost to the soldiers who participate, although expenses can total about \$1800 per person. All of the program's funding comes from donations, and about 100 soldiers have gone through the program since its inception in 2007. Typically, the program does about four trips a year, and the soldiers just recently got back from St. John's and the Virgin Islands.

To raise funds for the program, SUDS has organized a photo exhibit at the Massabesic Audubon center in Concord, N.H. The exhibit will run from March 29th to April 24th, and it will showcase the work of three photographers: Laurie Daily, Dennis Dean, and Kevin Morris. All of the photographers have their own area of expertise,

Sudsdiving.org



Diving for physical therapy

with one of them in particular focusing on the dives for the SUDS organization. Sales of the photography will go directly to SUDS to fund future trips, and viewers can make donations to the organization via envelopes that will be made available at the event and through the organization's website.

In addition to the photography exhibit, there will also be an open-house on April 4th that will include the photographers and staff members

of SUDS. This event will also include an auction to further fund SUDS. One of the objects up for auction is a cup from the Titanic, which was excavated by John Chatterton, a professional diver and co-host of the show "Deep Sea Detectives." All proceeds of the exhibit and open-house go toward funding the SUDS program.

The Massabesic Audubon Center is located at 84 Silk Farm Road Concord, N.H. For more information about SUDS, visit www.sudsdiving.org or contact the organization at sudsdiving@gmail.com.

SNHU Offers Rape Aggression Defense Classes

Haley Webb
Staff Writer

As part of their continued effort to keep the SNHU community safe, Public Safety is now offering female students the opportunity to increase their ability to stay safe and defend themselves through Rape Aggression Defense (RAD) courses.

These courses, instructed by Public Safety Officers Cathy Curran and Scott Baer, are a part of the national Rape Aggression Defense System, which is utilized at many college and university campuses. Classes are also offered to the public in some locations.

The RAD system is intended to teach women realistic techniques to allow them to protect themselves if necessary. It is a great opportunity for

the women on the SNHU campus to always have a feeling of security if they are ever confronted by an aggressor at any time; as instructor Cathy Curran explained, continuing to say "even if you can't imagine being in that situation."

The program consists of four sessions, each three hours long. The sessions are spread out over a period of four weeks. As early as the second session, the participants begin learning and practicing different defensive and offensive techniques.

The final session commences with a simulated attack made by an instructor in full gear. Class participants, one

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Picture courtesy of Cathy Curran



Participants in RAD Program

RAD

Continued from page 05

by one, go through the aggressor simulation. The simulation allows participants to react as they would if they were really being attacked. Liana DiIorio, a participant in the last RAD course at SNHU, explained that through the simulation “you realized how much you learned over the four weeks...it really put you to the test.”

Instructor Cathy Curran noted that practice is an essential aspect of the course, allowing the techniques to become more instinctive through muscle memory. The techniques can be used by women of any stature or level of fitness. Curran explained that the techniques of the RAD program are intended to teach women to do, “anything they can to get out of a bad situation.” The motto of the program is “I will survive.”

The courses are offered every other month and are free to female members of the SNHU community. A benefit of the RAD system is that, once the course is completed, any subsequent refresher course is free, regardless of the location. This offer, along with the free manual, is added incentive for participants to continue practicing and progressing in their self-defense training.

For more information about the RAD courses or to sign up contact publicsafety@snhu.edu or Cathy Curran or Scott Baer in the Public Safety Office.

Obama

Continued from page 04

students, creating new incentives for colleges to focus on student completion, and expanding access to low-cost Federal student loans.”

The proposed increase in education spending comes in addition to the \$81.1 billion dollars provided by the Recovery Act signed into legislation in mid-February. The Recovery Act's funding towards education includes \$53.6 billion for State Stabilization Grants.

Hooksett Hair Salon Goes Green

Ashley Manley
News Editor

A hair salon designed around the concept of “addressing environmental concerns” opened residence close to the campus of Southern New Hampshire University. Salon Thairapy, co-owned by Chris Sheldon and Julie Johnson, opened its doors on November 18th, 2008. With 27 years experience between the two owners, Salon Thairapy pairs together both industry experience and support for a healthy environment.

Salon Thairapy is an “AVEDA concept salon,” meaning its products are exclusively made by AVEDA. When asked for the reasoning behind this partnership, Sheldon replied that AVEDA, “has a 30 year record of giving back to the world society, as well as making high quality products using natural ingredients, using recycled materials, and ... hair color that is 97-99% naturally derived.”

Partnering with AVEDA allowed Sheldon and Johnson to cater to a niche market made up of consumers who were looking to get their hair done without leaving a major, negative impact on the environment. Going to an environmentally friendly salon is almost like an added bonus, even if it is not a specific concern of the customers. “[The clients] were going to get their hair done anyway,” said Sheldon, [so why not help out the environment at the same time.]”

Sheldon and Johnson described the various aspects of their salon that positively impact the environment. Aside from partnering with AVEDA, they recycle everything they can, including the aluminum foil

used during color treatments. Additionally, all of the chemicals and various products they use throughout their salon are organic.

Salon Thairapy has also implemented a “Human Hair Recycling program,” which entails mailing all of the salon’s hair clippings to an organization in California. This organization then recycles the hair clippings and forms them into mats that are used to clean up ocean oil spills.

Sheldon finds the benefits of going green a healthier choice for both clients and stylists in addition to the environment as a whole. While focusing on

Ashley Manley



Chris Sheldon and Julie Johnson, co-owners of Salon Thairapy

their going green concept, both women are also committed to providing an environment that makes clients, “feel welcome, important, and better when [they] leave.”

Salon Thairapy is located off of exit 9N in the Bull Run Plaza. For an appointment or more information, contact Salon Thairapy at 603.641.9600 or salonthairapy@verizon.net.

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We are listed under student links!

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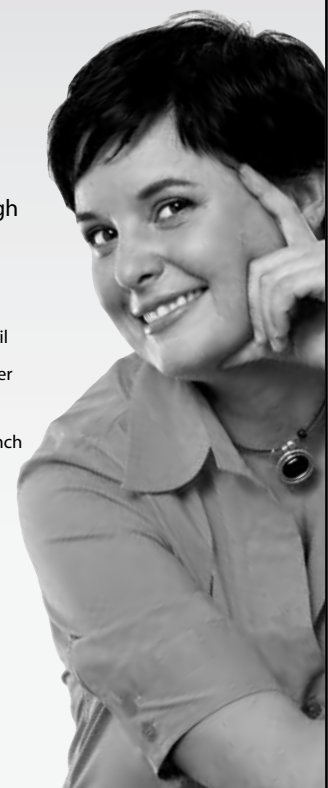
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Clubs & Organizations

Job Fair Tips and Strategies

Chance Clutter
Contributing Writer

SNHU students have had great opportunities to meet and network with hundreds of employers this semester through job fairs and on-campus information sessions. For many students, job fairs and networking events can be very intimidating. You are dressed in clothes you are not used to wearing, unsure about what to say to employers, confused about the job possibilities, and even for some, petrified of trying to meet new people. But not to worry! The Career Development Center has put together a list of tips to help you navigate these job fairs (like the one in SNHU's Athletic Complex on April 9th where WMUR is putting on the first-ever state-wide job fair) to make your career search a little easier.

1. Know which employers will be at the fair - Check out the directory (you can find ours on the Career Development Center's website). Even if there aren't many employers that interest you, attend anyway! This can be a great networking opportunity. Over seven out of ten jobs come through your contacts; so the more people you know, the more people that can potentially help you find the job you want. You can also use this opportunity to learn about specific industries and careers, determine skills necessary for different jobs, and learn about current hiring trends. Remember, any employer may be hiring your major regardless of their industry.

2. Research employers that interest you - Employers want to know you are interested in them. Research their websites, read press releases (that are often attached to websites), and search the newspaper or professional magazines for information about the company. Prepare a few questions to ask the recruiter that indicate your knowledge of and interest in their company. Print out positions that you are interested in or have applied for.

3. Polish your resume - Be sure your resume reflects your knowledge, skills, and interests. If you need help; use the CDC's Job Search Manual or Optimal Resume for guidance and examples. The Career Development Center staff is also an excellent resource for critiquing your current resume. Additionally, plan to bring multiple copies of your resume to the fair (printed on resume paper).

4. Prepare to 'sell' yourself - You only have about 30 seconds to make an impression with a recruiter, so you need to be able to quickly introduce yourself and let them know your interests and qualifications. Use a friend, family member, or a representative of the Career Center to practice introducing yourself and answering questions like: "tell me about yourself", "why are you interested in my company?", "what kind of position are you looking for?", "what questions do you have for me?"

5. Dress and act for success - The moment you enter the fair, recruiters will be watching you. You can't go wrong with a conservative business suit - freshly cleaned and well-groomed, nothing trendy. No flashy jewelry and any facial piercing may be seen as a negative, so be aware.

6. Be confident and proactive - Take the initiative to introduce yourself and tell the recruiter why you are interested in their

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Busy Busy Betas

Katy Manchester
Contributing Writer

This year the sisters of Phi Delta Beta have been kept on their toes! The Beta's have been consistently working hard to benefit the sorority and the communities around them. From homemade meals for local fire fighters to dancing the night away at Club in the Pub, the Betas have made quite a year for themselves and plan to continue their efforts into 2010.

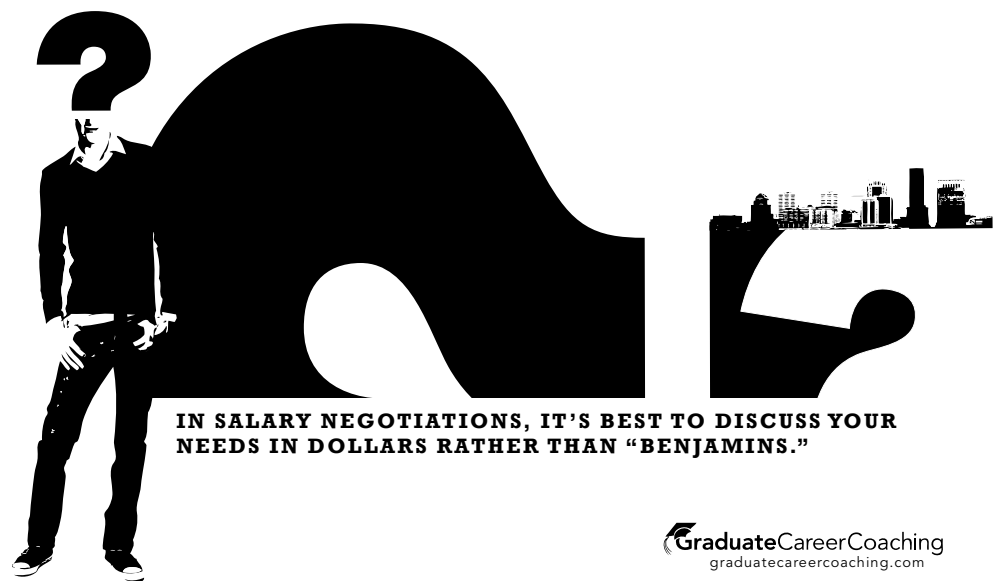
In order to keep the unique bond of sisterhood alive, the Betas have hosted several sister events that keep them connected in their active daily lives. In addition to several movie nights, dinner dates, BBQ's and a luau, they have gone on trips together to Coldstone Creamery and Dick's last resort in Boston. To keep in touch over the summer months, the Betas will also be going on weekend trips to Nantucket, Lake Winnepesaukee, and camping in the White Mountains.

Along with doing things as a sisterhood, Phi Delta Beta also works hard to contribute to SNHU and the community around them. This year, they have hosted two of their annual Club in the Pub events, complete with glow sticks, DJ's, and even a break dancing group in the fall. They have also

participated in the Fall Festival with Kappa Chi and Phi Omega Psi, a Super Bowl party, and their annual event for children, Winter Wonderland (complete with a visit from Santa)! To help prepare for Spring Break the sisters will also be co-sponsoring a Safe Spring Break with the Wellness Center for students to come relax, get some essentials for their Spring Break trips, and to learn how to stay safe on their vacations!

The community around SNHU is also important to the sisters! They strive for original philanthropy projects in order to give back to the community that they live in. Through their partnership with the Red Cross, making dinners for local fire fighters, raising about \$1,500 for the Relay for Life, and participating in a breast cancer walk, the Betas are dedicated in showing their thanks and support to the heroes within their community. They also support the youth in the area by participating in after school programs, CHaD events including a Baseball Dinner, the Battle of the Badges hockey game, and the Young Athletes Program. They are also planning visits to local nursing homes, dates to clean their adopted highway,

Please turn to page 10



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Job Fair

Continued from page 07

company – remember to smile! If time allows, consider approaching the employers you are less interested in first. This gives you the opportunity to use your prepared introduction with a real recruiter and work out any last minute nervousness before you talk with the employers you are most interested in.

7. Be attentive and ask questions – Once you've introduced yourself and told the employer your interests, listen to what they have to say. Then, tell them what skills and qualifications you have that will help meet their needs. Now is the time to ask the questions you prepared prior to the fair. Not only will you get answers, it will also show the recruiter that you have done your research.

8. Gather business cards – In between employer stops, make notes on each business card to remind you of who the person is, what you talked about, something of interest to use in your thank you note. If you don't do this, all of your conversations will blend together and you will have trouble remembering the important parts! Before you end the conversation, ask what will happen next or how you should follow up with the employer.

9. Follow-up – Be sure to send any further information the recruiter requested right away. Use the business cards you collected and your notes to write a hand-written, personal note to the recruiter thanking them for their time. Reiterate your strengths and let them know you will follow up with a phone call (unless they have asked you not to). This is crucial! If you do not follow-up with the recruiters, it is likely that you will get lost in the shuffle. Do something most other applicants fail to do...be professional by following up and demonstrating your interest in them!

10. Remember – It's your career...what have you done lately?

Career Development Center : Exeter 59

March 2009

The Observer
has a website!

We are listed
under student
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Attention Graduating Seniors!

Jessica Lambert
Contributing Writer

As we come closer to graduation, the Senior Events Committee wants to take this opportunity to share with you the upcoming events that have been planned for all of those eligible to graduate in May.

Our first event is coming up on April 7th from 6-9 p.m. in the Pub. This event is going to be a "through the decades" event. We will be serving 1950's style food, as well as playing a 90's themed game show. All seniors are welcome to attend, dressed to represent their favorite decade. The Pub will be transformed into the different decades. We will be awarding over \$500 in cash and prizes, so come dressed in your favorite decade's attire! Cash Bar,

21+ proper ID required. There is no entrance fee!

The Senior Events Committee is also planning a Senior Luau on May 3rd from 4-6 p.m. We will be serving nontraditional BBQ foods, such as shish kabobs and fruit salad. The Pub is going to be transformed into a tropical paradise, as the seniors join together one last time before finals begin! There is no entrance fee, but there will be a cash bar. 21+, proper ID required. So come join us for a night of food, music, and fun in celebration of all we have accomplished!

Our final event will take place from May 10-May 14th. The senior class will be taking a trip to Orlando, Florida during

the week between prior to graduation. Any senior who has not yet paid their trip in full or has not signed their travel contract must contact Heather Lorenz or Gavin Telfer as soon as possible to do so. This is going to be an exciting event for all taking part in the event, and we look forward to sharing this experience with all of those who will be joining us.

We wish all graduating students the best of luck during the remainder of the school year! If any graduating seniors have any questions about any of our events, please contact either Jessica Lambert or Katherine Manchester.

Thank you and Good luck!

The Observer Website Launch Party

Sinziana Scoarta
Staff Writer

On February 26, 2009, in the Last Chapter Pub, "the Observer" officially launched its new website, <http://it.snhu.edu/observer/index.html>. "The Observer" website represents the newspaper's effort to accommodate the needs of students to immediate information in a preferred online medium while trying to bring more people to voice their opinion within its pages. The features that can be found when accessing the website are the current newspaper articles that are a click-away under the Top Stories heading, the Observer Archive dating back to 2000, general information about the news-

Please turn to page 13



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ATTENTION CLASS OF 2009!

Ashley Lacroix
Contributing Writer

As the co-chair of the Senior Class Gift Committee, I encourage you to take advantage of the opportunity to give back, acknowledge all that has been offered to you, and begin your lifetime involvement as a Southern New Hampshire University alumnus/a by giving back to SNHU!

The graduating class of 2009 voted for a scholarship to be given to a 2010 graduate. The gift will be given from one graduating class to the next.

With Graduation just two months away, it is time to start thinking about your own personal contributions. In honor of our graduating year, we are asking that each senior donate \$ 20.09 to the Senior Class Gift. In addition to your own donations, President LeBlanc will be matching each contribution dollar for dollar.

Each senior who offers their generosity to the Senior Class Gift will be thanked with an invitation to the 2009 Senior Cocktail. The Event will be held on May 2, 2009 in the Hospitality Ballroom.

The 2009 Senior Cocktail will feature a DJ, appetizers, as well as complimentary beer and wine. In addition, all donations made before April 3rd will give donors a chance to win a range of prizes including Monarchs, Fisher Cats, and Gavin DeGraw tickets and a grand prize that is to be announced.

Donations can be made by visiting the Senior Class Gift site on www.snhu.edu and clicking "Donate Online." For more information please email seniorgift@snhu.edu. Donate today to add your name to the guest list for the 2009 Senior Cocktail!

Busy Busy Betas

Continued from page 07
donating meals to the soup kitchen, and much more!

One of Phi Delta Beta's greatest accomplishments throughout the year is their increased effort to improve alumni relations. With their new website, www.PhiDeltaBeta.org, up and running and a Facebook group that has reached out to over 100 alumni, they now can share pictures, ideas, and stories from the year their Sorority was founded, as well as future events to come. A re-vamped Alumni newsletter and the planning of an Alumni Event in April top off a great year for communicating with their Alumni sisters!

The sisters of Phi Delta Beta are also planning an all you can eat pancake breakfast at Applebee's on April 4th, 2009. Those who wish to attend can purchase tickets for \$5 by emailing phideltabeta@snhu.edu. Tickets will get you an all you can eat pancake breakfast complete with sides and drinks! By focusing on the things that mean the most to the girls of Phi Delta Beta, they have been able to work together to improve their bond with each other, their contributions to SNHU and their community, and their overall leadership skills, making it a very successful year for the sorority.

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Students Gain Valuable Insight from CDC Events

Chance Clutter
Contributing Writer

In the last month, the Career Development Center brought in twelve employers to help students prepare for upcoming job fairs and graduation. Nearly 40 students came in during Resume-O-Rama to have their resumes reviewed by employers and to gain valuable insight into how employers review applicants. Whether it was the student's first resume or someone with years of job searching experience, everyone walked away with a better understanding of what they have done right and where they could improve. Many students commented on how easy it was to come in and get quick, practical tips, which is especially helpful in this more competitive job market.

The employers later talked about some of the common mistakes they saw during the day. One issue was the overall formatting of the resume. Using the Microsoft template was a big turn-off to all the employers since most have seen the same 'style' of resume thousands of times. They also wanted students to realize how important it was to be consistent with their spacing and just take some time to make sure it was easy to read. Another common mistake was the lack of relevance the resume had towards the career students were applying for. One employer stated that students should emphasize what skills students can bring to the new job as opposed to just basic duties they performed at their old job. For instance, if a student is applying for a financial company but has

only worked summers doing landscaping; they should emphasize any customer service, marketing, account management that they have performed. They can even discuss transferable skills such as working on a team, attention to detail, problem-solving, and demonstrated leadership if applicable. All jobs have value, but it is up to the resume writer to find a way to make their experiences RELEVANT to the employer.

The additional twenty students that signed up for the mock interviews with employers also received very beneficial feedback on their performance and gained insight into how to best present themselves for a real interview. When one of the students, Andrea Johnson (Business Administration senior), was asked about the value of doing a mock interview stated, "This is awesome. Your parents or friends can tell you what to say, but this is a professional critique. Doing a mock interview has given me a positive advantage when I go in for my next interview."

Employers talked about the biggest mistakes during student's interviews as well. One mistake

was not having examples ready when asked a question. Answers should not be "one word" like "I am great with customers." Answers need to be followed up with a specific example so the employer can get a sense of when and how a student has used that skill on the job or in school. More and more employers are also using behavioral interviewing techniques which ask questions like, "Tell me about a time you dealt with an angry customer and what was the result," which means students need to think of their examples prior to their actual interview to be able to generate an effective response.

The other big mistake students made was not doing enough research on the companies or practicing for the interview ahead of time. Employers will expect an applicant to have been on the company's website, to have done some research on the company, and to have thought about some possible interview questions (e.g. "What are your weaknesses?", "why do you want to work for X company?", or "why should I hire you over the 10 other people that interviewed today?"). For those of you who missed either of these opportunities; you can always sign up for an individual appointment with one of the career counselors for a one-on-one meeting for these and/or other job searching issues. Remember, it's your career...what have you done lately?



CDC Event

SNHU CDC

Relay for Life: Team Phi Delta Beta

Katy Manchester
Contributing Writer

Phi Delta Beta's raised about \$1,500 as a team during their second year participating in Relay for Life. The group also became more involved in the night's festivities by sponsoring the Relay for Life Jail. For three hours Petey the Penman, Max the Monarch, and Fungo the Fishercat arrested Relay participants including staff, faculty, and participants, which raised an additional \$230.

For this year's Relay, three members of Phi Delta Beta were on the Relay for Life committee. Katy Manchester and Meg Dower, co-chairs of the Survivorship Committee, celebrated the Cancer Survivors in our local community. With a total of nine survivors, the 350+ participants saw first hand the reason they were participating in the Relay for Life. Katy Manchester spoke in the opening ceremonies about

how cancer has affected her and about the loss of her mother last May.

Maryssa Debritto co-chaired Advocacy with Justin Woodard, a fellow student at SNHU. Maryssa and Justin promoted awareness, prevention, and what people can do to promote cancer research. Teams made posters on different types of cancers with information which were voted on by the survivors.



Relay Team: Phi Delta Beta

Katy Manchester

Observer Website Launch Party

Continued from page 10

paper under the About heading, as well as staff members' contact information. The development of the website was a long-term commitment that is finally reaping the rewards and pushes towards an extensive campus readership.

The launching event was accompanied by the acoustic performance of the band Trebek, composed of Mike, vocals, and Jesse, guitar. The band provided a 2-hour show that included original Trebek songs as well as covers from a wide range of genres, managing to connect to the diverse range of music tastes. Trebek lived up to their eclectic potential in the acoustic variant combining rock, funk and R&B rhythms. RadioSNHU supported the event by running the sound for the Trebek band.

The event had a consistent turnout where the editors and the readers mingled and enjoyed the

coffee-house type performance of the band from Fitchburg, Massachusetts. All the guests enjoyed a catered meal offered by "the Observer" alongside the beverages of the Last Chapter Pub.

The participants did not leave empty-handed from the party, as four Gavin DeGraw tickets were raffled alongside two records, one of which was the Beatles' well-known Abbey Road and a digital record player that records to your computer via USB and converts the music to an MP3 format.

"The Observer" is available at newsstands around campus and online once a month and is looking forward to voicing the student's opinions on a variety of topics. For any inquiries, please contact the newspaper at observer@snhu.edu or come to one of the club's meetings Wednesdays, at 3:30 p.m. in Robert Frost, room 301.

Paul Keenan Speaks at SNHU

Sean McCormack

Contributing Writer

On February 18, 2009, the SNHU Justice Studies Association held their second guest speaker of the year in Robert Frost Room 110. Police Chief Paul Keenan of the Quincy (MA) Police Department made a presentation to the association about his experiences at SNHU and how it led him to his present occupation. Chief Keenan graduated from Southern New Hampshire University in 1986 where he received his bachelor's degree. Presently, Chief Keenan is a 25-year veteran who quickly climbed the police ranks.

During his speech, Chief Keenan spoke about how receiving a higher education has helped the law enforcement field evolve. With the increasing numbers of officers receiving a college education, it has given them a better understanding of

what their community needs and it has opened their eyes in reference to their roles within the community. Previously, officers were viewed as uneducated people in authoritative positions that would commonly abuse their powers. Higher education has helped police evolve into a profession, not just a job as it was previously viewed. By gaining a college education, Chief Keenan was able to gain a better understanding of ethical and moral behavior. By becoming more informed with problems in the profession, police officers are able to adapt better.

Chief Keenan highlighted the differences between policing in Massachusetts and New Hampshire. In the Massachusetts system, candidates need to take a civil service exam that also ranks them based on veteran status and residency.

International Student Gala 2009

Eemaan Rameez

Contributing Writer

International Students Association is proud to present the Annual International Students Gala on April 17, 2009 (Friday 5.30 pm – 9.00 pm) at the Small Gym. Come enjoy an evening with the rest of the world and quench your cultural curiosities. We will pamper you with refreshing mocktails and a buffet of delicious international cuisine followed by diverse cultural performances, and photo opportunities with ambassadors from over 30 different nations all dressed elaborately in their respective national costumes. It is definitely an event to behold, and we encourage everyone, especially domestic students, to attend and explore the world at our doorstep. Tickets are now available at www.snhutickets.com and COPIESPLUS at Student Center. Please feel free to contact us if you have any inquiries at isa@snhu.edu.

Eemaan Rameez



International Student Gala 2009

Arts & Entertainment

THE REBIRTH:

Bobby Valentino's Sub Par Effort

Joe Vartanian
Staff Writer



Album Cover

Bobby Valentino, former Disturbing Tha Peace artist fell out of the loop for sometime and really did not have any hits since his sophomore CD in 2007. With a new record label and a new sound, Bobby Valentino has returned to the public, but with only one hit. The only single to really make an impact is “Beep Beep” and “Beep Beep” remix featuring Ludacris, Lil Kim, and Lil Wayne.

Now I was a huge fan of Bobby Valentino's first CD back

in 2005, but like many other artists, he caught the curse of not really having that same impact with his follow up CD's. Aside for “Beep Beep”, “Stay With Me” and “Butterfly Tattoo”, I personally would not invest in the album. Unless you're a fan of him or you are trying to set the mood, don't waste your time. I give the CD a C-



Hugh Jackman hosts the Academy Awards

Top 10 Current Artists

1. U2
2. Coldplay
3. Neko Case
4. Taylor Swift
5. Lady Gaga
6. Nickleback
7. Jack Johnson
8. Beyonce
9. The Fray
10. T.I.

Top 5 Current Albums

1. No Line on the Horizon
U2
2. Middle Cyclone
Neko Case
3. The Frame
Lady Gaga
4. Fearless
Taylor Swift
5. The Fray
The Fray

*Based on plays in Rhapsody

A Night of Victory

Caitlin Murphy
Arts & Entertainment Editor

Hosted by Hugh Jackman, the 81st annual Academy Awards ceremony had a decidedly uplifting tone to it, including its winners.

Glitz and glamour were plentiful, as Jackman and various other acts attempted to entertain the weary viewers, battered by the current economy. Draped in a crystal curtain, the stage was simultaneously grandiose and intimate, so that the ceremony could be a means of escape while incorporating the stars in

the crowd.

At the beginning of the ceremony, Jackman performed a song-and-dance routine that highlighted and poked fun at many of the films being honored. Moreover, the number also made light of the current economic crisis through the use of seemingly homemade props. Throughout the night, more musical and comedic pieces were performed to prevent the night from dragging on, and the academy was sure to include its fair

share of big names as presenters to keep viewers interested.

As far as the actual awards are concerned, the film “Slumdog Millionaire” was the biggest winner with a total of eight Oscars, including best picture, best director, best adapted screenplay, best cinematography, and best original score. Based in Vikas Swarup's novel “Q&A,” the film captured the hearts of both the Academy and audiences, so that there was no doubt about its dominance throughout the night.

In best actor category, Sean Penn won for his portrayal of Harvey Milk in the aptly titled movie “Milk.” Perhaps one of the most strongly contested categories of the night, the best

Please turn to page 22

Photo by Ashley Fandrich



Illustration by Dominic Rugoletti



Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



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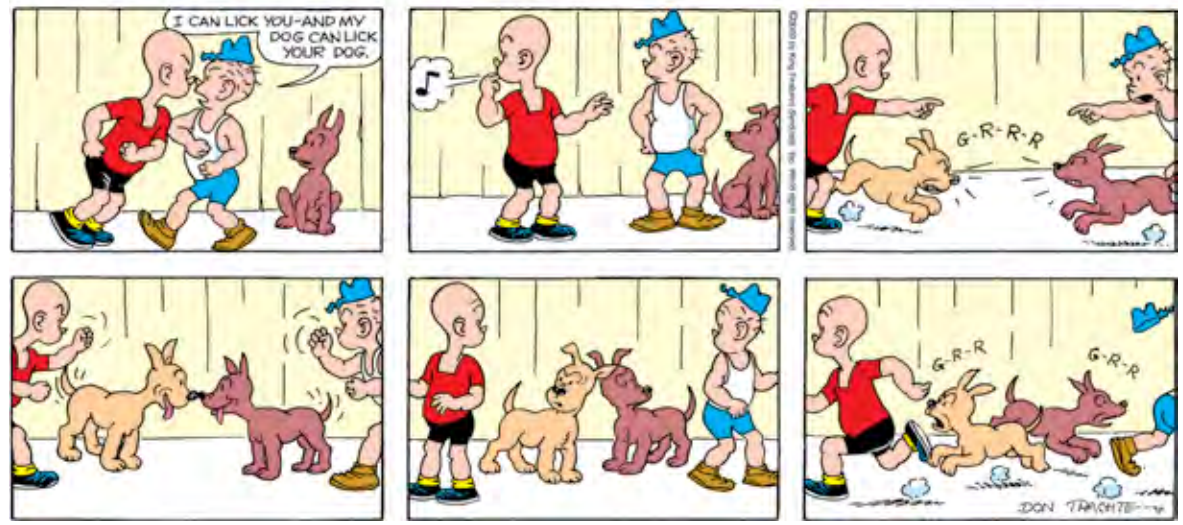
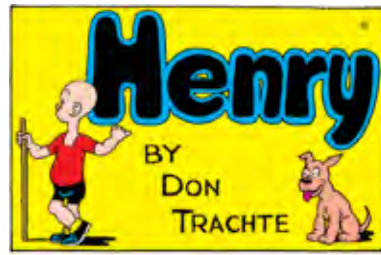
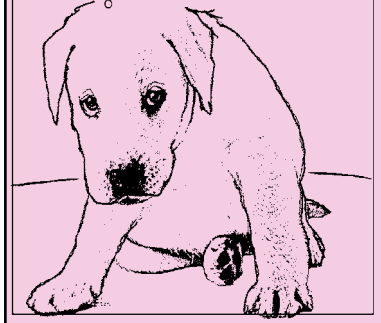
JERRY CRAFT



top ten

HIGHEST VET BILLS

1. Labrador
2. Bichon Frise
3. Chow Chow
4. Dachshund
5. Doberman
6. Irish Setter
7. Golden Retriever
8. Bassett Hound
9. Cocker Spaniel
10. Standard Poodles



Just Like Cats & Dogs by Dave T. Phipps



Have you ever written a crossword?
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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

3				4	1	9		
		4	7				1	
	2			3				6
5				6				8
		6			8		7	
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4		2	6			5		
	8				2			9
		5		9			8	

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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UPCOMING CAPE EVENTS

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

April 19 Gavin DeGraw 8:00pm-Fieldhouse
Tickets on sale: www.snhutickets.com
or at the info booth
\$15 for SNHU students

April 20-25 Spring Week, "Best Week Ever"

April 24 Fisher Cat's Game
game, transportation, fireworks, & dinner
\$5 per student

April 25 SNHU Stock-12:00 noon-6:00pm.
Outside East Side Apartment Complex
(rain location: fieldhouse)
5 bands, inflatable rock wall, pedestal jousting,
dunk tank, henna tattoo,
AND MUCH MORE TO COME!

Weekly Meetings-Mondays @ 6pm. -Pub

Weekly BINGO-Wednesdays @ 7pm. -Pub

U2, No Line On The Horizon

Ken Pothier

Staff Writer

U2—Bono, Adam Clayton, Edge, and Larry Mullin Jr.—released a new CD in multiple formats on March 2, 2009. The image of the album, "No Line On The Horizon," is one of hope and optimism in a time of chaos, (interview on Good Morning America, 3/6/09). U2 has always been a band of the people, both on and off the stage. Thirty years of twists and turns on the road took them to the Good Morning America Show (ABC) broadcasting at Fordham University last Friday.

These singer/songwriter/musicians for the world, dedicated a song to college students; that is where U2 got their start as 17/18 year olds, and it is where generational change begins. The song, "I'll Go Crazy If I Don't Go Crazy Tonight," could be a college party anthem, however, the lyrics "Every generation gets a chance to change the world / Pity the nation that will not listen to your boys and girls / 'Cos the sweetest melody is the

one we haven't heard," seduces us in with the beat to change the world as well as enjoy youth in going crazy. Later in the song there is a call of, "shouting to the darkness, squeeze out sparks of light."

U2 still has plenty to play and say. Bono said in an interview with Kate Snow that they have many songs written and hope that they will remain a line on the horizon with no end in sight. "When we came out with our first record, "Boy," we couldn't get played on commercial radio," he recalled. "And it was the colleges that kept that record alive, and we would go to every college and do interviews (Bassist Adam Clayton, MTV interview, 3/6/09)." Furthermore, Bono mentioned "that the recording is designed as an album and works as a beginning to an end." People can listen any way they want, however, the nuance which can be heard and felt in lyrics and music would be missed in just sampling the CD.

Robin Roberts from GMA told the band that in turbulent times their music helps us to get thru difficult times. Bono expounded on the music saying, "the music is honest rock and roll in a mixture of blues as well as the gospel highness." The recording was done in N.Y. City, Dublin, London, and Morocco. The Morocco work was the spiritual heart of the album with the songs "Magnificent," "Unknown Caller," and "White as Snow" done there in a place known for tolerance.

U2 is back and you too can go into the sound. Paraphrased from some of the lyrics, "I am gonna' shout it... the future needs a big kiss...get on your boots...laughter is eternity if joy is real...let me in the sound...flowin' down...wanna' drown... let me in the sound." The reviewer went in, felt it, and it felt like blues, gospel based honest rock and roll. Roll with U2!

Blink 182 Is Back!

Caitlin Murphy

Arts & Entertainment Editor

After months of rumors surrounding the reunion of Blink 182, the band confirmed its reunion at the Grammy Awards. "We used to play music together, and we decided to play music together once again," said drummer Travis Barker who appeared on stage wearing an arm sling after his near fatal plane crash

this past September.

The band broke up in late 2004 after tension between the band members reached a breaking point. Five years later, the trio has managed to refresh their friendships and start working together again. Good for them, but even better for Blink fans around the world who have been

waiting half a decade for this.

The band plans to head back into the studio to record a new album. They have also announced a 2009 tour; the dates of that tour are yet to be announced. So keep your eyes peeled for summer tour dates in a city near you, because Blink is Back!



Blink is Back!

Showbizcafe.com



A scene from Paul Blart: Mall Cop

A Critical Eye: Paul Blart: Mall Cop

Daniel Smith
Managing Editor

Grade: B –

Kevin James is a name we hear often in the comedy world. Whether he is directing a movie or working on a television show, he has always been true to his roots of comedy. In his latest trial he produced, wrote, and starred in the movie "Paul Blart, Mall Cop." This movie was based on an overweight, hypoglycemic mall security guard named Paul Blart. He is a wannabe police officer and has not been lucky in the avenue of women. His only accomplishment is that he has been a mall cop for ten years and has a daughter with an illegal immigrant who married him for a green card.

This movie had the comedic set-up of a born-to-be classic, however the content did not deliver. James delivered a mediocre performance and left me

wondering why I spent the extra 6 bucks on that drink. In one of my earlier columns, I mentioned that a great movie makes you forget your surroundings and fall completely into the hands of the movie. This movie did not do that. During the entire movie, all I could think about was the ridiculous laugh of the man sitting behind me, and how to get his son to shut up!

Now this is not to say that "Paul Blart: Mall Cop" was a bad movie. It has some great points like an exceptional cast topped off by the lovely Miss Jayma Mays. The movie also provided some good laughs throughout. I gave the movie a B- due to its lack of follow through and inability to fulfill my expectations. I would suggest to watch it on HBO, but do NOT spend 7 dollars on a ticket for this movie.

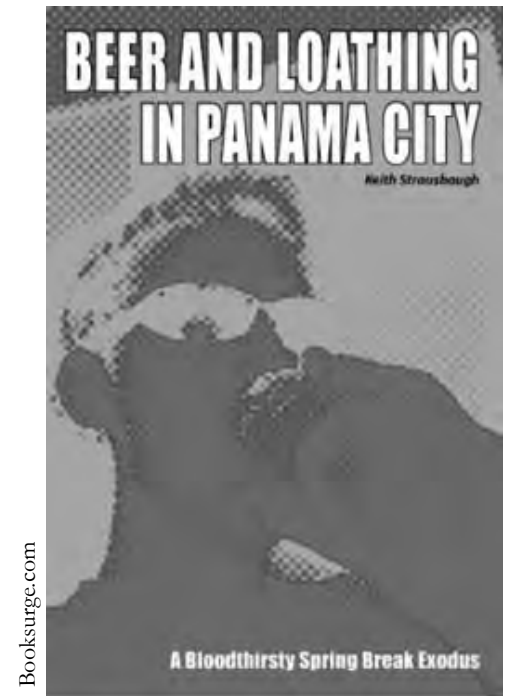
Review of "Beer and Loathing in Panama City"

Haley Webb
Staff Writer

The novella "Beer and Loathing in Panama City" is author Keith Strausbaugh's glorified diary of an out of control spring break road trip. Broken into eight smaller segments, each dedicated to describing another day of debauchery, "Beer and Loathing" is a relatively easy read. The story begins from the absolute beginning of the trip, starting with Strausbaugh's "provision shopping" done in anticipation of the trip. This excursion only includes the purchase of "basically a keg in case increments, lovely, 192 beers." This certainly serves as foreshadow for the ridiculous events that are to follow.

Many of the events described in "Beer and Loathing" are reminiscent of the lifestyles one could find on MTV Spring Break specials, or, if you are lucky, possibly on a spring break trip of your own. Each day begins and ends the same way: with excess amounts of drinking. This could be the reason for Strausbaugh's very laid back and casual style of writing, which is described on the back-cover summary as "half stream-of-consciousness and half drunken rant." In describing all of the craziness that takes place throughout the trip, he definitely does not seem to leave any details out, sometimes leaving the reader with far more information than they may have hoped for, but amusing nonetheless.

While some of Strausbaugh's rants can be a bit lengthy, they are always well written and entertain-



Book Cover

ing. He somehow manages to make the trip sound not only outrageous, but (and this is slightly horrifying) also relatable. Simple things, such as having the hotel reservations going wrong and just the idea of a spring break road trip with friends, make the story applicable to almost anyone in college. Having these more common events combined with the scandalous ones, such as a metal rod being thrown from a hotel balcony javelin-style, make "Beer and Loathing" a believable and entertaining read. That, in addition to its short length (only 83 pages) makes it easy to recommend. Overall, the novella rates at a B+.

Gavin DeGraw Comes to SNHU

Caitlin Murphy
Arts & Entertainment Editor

Gavin DeGraw is coming to Southern New Hampshire University Sunday April 19th. This New York native has been making music since the age of eight when he began to play the piano. His first major album, "Chariot," dropped in 2003, followed by his second self entitled album in 2008. Combined, the two CD's have produced an incredible amount singles including "I Don't Want to be," "Follow Through," and more recently, "In Love with a Girl."



Gavin DeGraw

This concert is sure to be a good one; doors open at 7 P.M. and the show starts at 8 P.M. Tickets are already on sale and can be purchased at <http://www.snhutickets.com/> or the Student Info Booth located in the Student Center. The cost is \$15 for students, \$20 for staff and alumni, and \$25 for the public (limit 6 tickets per person). Keep a look out for opening acts to come and be sure to get your tickets while they are still available.

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9	4	7	2	5	1	3	8	6
1	3	5	7	8	6	2	9	4
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5	7	3	8	1	9	6	4	2
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6	5	4	9	3	8	1	2	7
3	1	8	6	2	7	4	5	9
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Creative

Hector's Favorite Creation

Dillon St. Jean
Creative Editor

He spent twelve hours working on the Achilles tendon of the right leg.

Months had passed since Hector had begun work on his armor. A great deal of time had passed since he had first written the preliminary blueprints to how he would set up the pistons in the ankles. Once his battle suit was finished, he would finally be something noteworthy. So much work had gone into the creation of the device that it became easy for him to lose sight of things.

Hector's son Blaine was going to be in the spelling bee of his third grade class. It would have been easy enough to attend, but one of the engines dropped out and crashed against the garage floor. Hector also managed to Miss Blaine's soccer game, his first Boy Scout meeting, and even the parent-teacher conferences. There was work that needed to be done on the suit's custom air gun-styled howitzer, and precious time to waste. He was confident that once he first took his gear out into the world, his son would see that it was all worth it. The roar of the engine and the grind of the steel against any and all public property would make up for his behavior.

While welding some of the joints late one night, Hector's wife Madeleine came into the garage to speak with Hector. She told him about how much Blaine wished he would see his father more. Before walking out, she reminded him that

Blaine would be participating in his class talent show that Friday. Hector's excuse was that he needed to install the radio on the inside of the chest plate. Before he could finish explaining how it attached and how efficient it would be, Madeleine slammed the door behind her.

With three days before the talent show, Hector hooked in the radio and fully installed it with minimal difficulty. With two days remaining, he attached the bulletproof glass to the headpiece and hung up the torso for when it could be fully attached to the waist. With one day remaining, Hector sorted through a shoebox full of screws, bolts, and washers before finding a picture of himself holding Blaine as a baby. He placed the photo in a small steel frame and installed the frame on the inside of his suit. After that he flicked off the garage lights for the first time in quite a while and went to bed.

The next day Hector managed to get himself dressed in clothing not stained in oil, drink his morning coffee without frantically writing down ideas for the machine, and step out into the daylight to breathe in the fresh air open space will bring. At four in the afternoon, Hector sat patiently in a cramped auditorium to watch his son surprise everyone by creating an ice sculpture of a penguin on stage. The use of a chainsaw lead to the boy receiving a week of suspension. Hector could not have been more proud at that moment.

Twenty Seven Year Old Dreams

Ken Pothier
Contributing Writer

The fish were not coming near our boat yesterday. Perhaps the intensity of my dreams was keeping them away. I used an open-ended roll of film and could have taken as many pictures as I wished. I did with my mind's eye. Such a reality is felt out on the open sea. My dreams were out there, I could feel them pulling me on as I gathered strength for the storm.

I dreamed of hitting the road to island and mountain sanctuaries of spirit. Today I am on the road from Martha's Vineyard Island to Jackson, NH in the White Mountains. Dreams tempered and shaped by uncomfortable reality that I am rapidly moving toward even greater change. A soul searching vacation thinking about loose ends and trying to make amends to old friends. Lost in a sorting out of self in; feeling, thought, and running the roads realizing that you just can't have it all. You just don't need it all. (Credit this line to Bob Seeger)

My traveling companions on the boat from the island were special people, a juggler and a fool. What eyes on the world. Felt good to meet them, share the view together for a short while. Foggy this morning yet we found light spots of life and laughed. We talked of serious things without being serious about them. The fool is a mirror of life reacting to what he sees and feels helping others to laugh at themselves and stop being so dramatic. Fools and jugglers are masters at getting others to lighten up. Take it easy and lighten up on your load. It's not that bad if you take it slow, do your best and don't forget to laugh. Move on in the face of change and uncertainty. I move on down the road to gather my backpack and head for the mountains.

What time is it anyway? What you make of it! Jackson, NH, afternoon, it is time for getting my head together. My home customized Chevy Van is my room on wheels and feels so fine. The side door open acts as my window. The ride was smooth and timeless, on an open day under high open sky. The only constants being; listening to the music, taking it all in, and learning to put it all together.

Knowing only that what has gone before my eyes this vacation has been beautiful. The realm of possibilities is immense and I became lost in the grandeur of an island dream. The road was open so I took it to the mountains to give ocean and island dreams room to expand. I have got to play my hand. Live free or you do begin to die. Shadow Captain and dark star are moving on, and shining thru the fog to see beyond immediate reality. Blend of past, present, and future as the road and life go on. Balance is hard to maintain as situation shifts and sways in the wind. I am holding on yet giving enough to maintain the balance. The summer wind today is clean and free flowing. I can see the love that will be.

Mountain daydream given room to expand brings me back to the island fair in West Tisbury. Such a wonderful parade of people and almost everyone makes an appearance. The island women are so natural and strong in their beauty. The island is reflected in them. They are so fine in country dress and bare feet. My dreams soar and time opens and my picture of the world becomes so close to perfect for a short part of the year. The fair is a celebration before the work of the harvest. It is a celebration of warm energy that has been built up thru the summer months. I was surly lost in the warmth. I could not open up to the possibilities the way wished, not in the few days of vacation.

Getting there gave me a time for reflection, a time open to looking at what has come to pass trying to shed light on what is ahead. It is a time to look at the whole of your existence in hopes of enhancing your reality. The broader your vision is the wider the possibilities presented. Reflect and be glad for the way ahead. Dreams are never left behind. We are always moving toward them. We must do what we can, learn lessons and do some more. The pieces turn up as you go. Shifting and sorting, piecing it all together takes time.

Take it easy, take your time, have patience! The best is ahead but it will only be the best if we work towards making it that way every day. The road goes on, pieces of dreams to be found and mountain daydreams to give them room to expand.

Opinion

Death of Newspapers

Aimee Terravechia
Staff Writer

Newspapers are on the decline these days. From the business end of things, several are failing, or near failing, or have been saved from failure by paper-loving entrepreneurs. From the practical end of things, papers are cumbersome and inefficient in quickly delivering the most important, most up-to-date, most interesting information. In this technologically driven age, newspapers are dying while other media sources begin to flourish.

At least, that is what everyone has been saying lately. I, however, beg to differ. Books did not die when the internet and e-books entered onto the scene. I doubt that they ever will die. Records are still considered the most genuine form of recorded music, despite the age of iPods. In fact, they are now collected and relished like never before. As technological advances may

seem to threaten this information medium, those of us who still cling to this relic of the past must not fear. This is not the "Death of Newspapers" as some have come to call it. Instead, it is a new era for this tried and true form of news gathering.

Newspapers are not dying. Their role, like everything else in American society, is a constantly changing one—adapting to the needs of the people. News stories can be captured by television cameras, written and broadcasted to millions via cable TV and the World Wide Web. Sound bites contain the same data that once filled pages upon pages. From the invention of the printing press to the development of the internet, information reaches more people than could ever have been imagined. The role of the newspaper, therefore, is no longer to just simply inform. It,

like so many other living artifacts of a tangible past are conductors of time and knowledge—linking together past and present.

Yes, newspapers report the news and inform the public, but that is no longer their sole purpose. They, like records and books, have become a more genuine medium through which people can communicate. They are imprinted with the authenticity of a trade, which has survived for hundreds of years. Their part in this world is an important one. Newspapers cannot and will not be forgotten. Nothing can beat the distinct feel of that sandy paper or the smart style of a folded newspaper under your arm. They are links to our past, and gateways to knowledge. In my opinion, there will be no "Death of Newspapers," for their purpose is more clear and alive than ever.

Can We Just Discuss... Chris Brown and Rihanna?

Caitlin Murphy
Arts & Entertainment Editor

Ok, so who saw this one coming, because I sure didn't. This is the last couple that I would have imagined to be caught in a domestic. I mean, come on, Rihanna is only the biggest female in music right now and Chris Brown definitely one of the biggest males. Since the ordeal, all of Chris Brown's sponsors have dropped him.

Now we will never get to see that Double Mint Gum commercial again (actually I'm not really upset about that).

Within weeks after the fight between the Chris and Rihanna, which left Rihanna with cuts and bruises all over her face, the couple has reunited. Way to go Rihanna, you are setting a fantastic example for young women all

over the world...it's okay if your man beats you up, as long as he always apologizes. I mean really, it's one thing to get mad and have a fight; it's another thing to kick the snot out of your girlfriend. Apparently, Rihanna has a lot less self-esteem than I thought she did and Chris Brown is just a jerk.

Ask Aimee

Aimee Terravechia
Staff Writer

Dear Aimee,
I really like this girl but I can't seem to get up the courage to ask her out. What should I do?

- Anonymous

Dear Anonymous,

The important thing is to be honest with this young lady. If you truly do like her then you need to let her know. You never know—she may feel the same way about you. If she's interested, then great! If not, move on. These are the best years of your life! Make the most of them, and don't waste time swooning over a girl that's not interested. The best thing to do is to let her know how you feel—otherwise you'll end up dancing around the subject and feeling awkward and uncomfortable.

Best of luck,
Aimee

Are you confused, frustrated or concerned about a personal situation? Are you eager to learn the secrets to life's great mysteries? Look no further! Send all your queries to Ask Aimee and your questions, along with an answer, will be published in the monthly issue of the OBSERVER.

E-mail AskAimee@gmail.com or drop off your questions at the Ask Aimee mailbox.

Your identity will be kept anonymous unless otherwise requested.



Aimee Terravechia

Aimee Terravechia



TMZ

Rihanna after her fight with Chris Brown

Sports

SNHU Women's Lacrosse Wrap Up

Nick Tasso
Sports Editor

The Women's Lacrosse team got things started off right this year by beating Philadelphia 18-5. SNHU exploded for 12 goals in the second half while only leading by three at halftime. Libby Parent, Carole Lee, Jennifer Parro, and Maura Murphy all collected three goals while Katie Clark got the win in net. Parro and Julie Kraus added with four assists each.

In their second game of the year, the Penmen were stunned to see themselves on the short end of a 15-13 loss to Bates. The ladies kept it close the entire game but weren't able to overcome a two goal deficit at the half; Bates put up eight goals while SNHU fought back with six. However, SNHU and Bates each scored seven goals in the second half giving Bates the victory. Lee once again led SNHU with four goals of her own. Emily Mongeau and Sherry Darrell were able to add two goals each.

The squad should look to rebound well from this, but they have a tough battle ahead.



SNHU Athletics

Jenn Parro

Men's B-Ball Falls After Strong NE-10 Showing

Mike Ghika
Staff Writer

It looked as if head coach Stan Spirou, in his 24th season with the university, would be able to work his magic and perhaps lead his Penmen to the NCAA Division II Tournament. After all, the four-time conference Coach of the Year had gotten there 14 times before. However, the Penmen's exciting Northeast-10 Tournament run came to an end in the semi-finals following a 61-55 loss at Le Moyne on March 5. Le Moyne ended up falling to Assumption on March 7 in the NE-10 championship game.

The Penmen loss ended a six-game winning streak, as they finished the year at 18-12 after last season's 12-16 final mark. They had also won 10 of 12 before falling to Le Moyne in the semis.

In the loss, big man Tory Stapleton led the way with 14 points and seven rebounds for SNHU, while Duquesne transfer Stephen Wood had 11 points while grabbing 15 boards. Le Moyne held the Penmen to under 32 percent shooting for the contest.

But prior to the shortcoming, SNHU carried over their end-of-the-season momentum into the conference tournament, defeating St. Rose 62-57 at home in the opening round. Cory Vejraska set career highs with 20 points and 11 boards to lead the way for the Penmen. Senior Troy Bowen scored 11 points while Stapleton and Wood totaled nine apiece.

The win earned the locals a match-up with the River Hawks of UMass Lowell in the quarterfinal round. The No. 2 seed River Hawks were favorites at home up against the No. 7 seed Penmen. But SNHU, at the time just a week removed from beating UMass Lowell at the Fieldhouse, went into enemy territory and got out with a 66-60 win to knock off the higher seed and advance to the semis.

Please turn to page 22



SNHU Athletics

Stephen Wood

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Sports

A Night of Victory

Continued from page 14

actor category also showcased worthy performances by Frank Langella, Mickey Rourke, Richard Jenkins, and Brad Pitt. Rourke was a particular favorite for the award, considering his breathtaking role in "The Wrestler" and his triumphant return to Hollywood.

Kate Winslet won the best actress Oscar for her role in "The Reader." Previously nominated for five other Oscars, Winslet was finally able to take home a statue of her own. In another strong field, the rest of the nominees for best actress were Anne Hathaway, Meryl Streep, Melissa Leo, and Angelina Jolie.

One of the least surprising Oscar nods of the night went posthumously to Heath Ledger for his best supporting actor portrayal of the Joker in "The Dark Knight." Ledger's family accepted the award on his behalf, producing one of the most touching moments of the entire night. Though the other nominees' performances were notable, there was no denying the disturbing image of the Joker that Ledger imprinted upon viewers' minds.

Finally, Penelope Cruz took home best supporting actress honors for her role in "Vicky Cristina Barcelona." Cruz took time to highlight the need for the Academy to step outside of its national borders and embrace more international films, saying, "We are all mixed together, and it has to be reflected in the cinema." In doing so, she called attention to a growing theme of acceptance in Hollywood, as denoted by the winners of the night. Nominations for "Slumdog Millionaire" embraced a different culture, nominations for "Milk" embraced gay-rights, nominations for "The Dark Knight" embraced the comic book genre, and nominations for "Wall-E" embraced animated film as a legitimate medium. Overall, the entire night was a refreshing and necessary break from the common occurrences and beliefs present in current day-to-day happenings.

Mens Basketball

Continued from page 21

Freshman point guard Marcus Matthews poured in 21 points to lead all scorers, while Wood recorded another double-double with 10 points and 14 rebounds. The win advanced the Penmen to their first semi-final game since 2005.

Unfortunately, the experts decided there wasn't enough room for SNHU to receive a bid in the NCAA Tournament (a conference title would have earned them an automatic bid), but there is still plenty of room for optimism looking ahead to the 2009-2010 season.

Bowen will graduate this spring, and his departure will undoubtedly mark a key loss for Spirou after the Nashua native started all 30 games this season. He led the team in three pointers made (60) and free throw shooting (83 percent) while finishing second to Stapleton in points per game (12.3).

However, Stapleton will return as a junior next winter, after averaging 13.3 points and 5.9 rebounds per game this season despite averaging less than 25 minutes a contest. To boot, Wood will return as a senior after averaging 10.8 points and 8.3 boards per game.

Meanwhile, Matthews emerged as a reliable option at the point as the freshman started 29 games and steadily became more consistent as a table-setter. Fellow freshman Lucas Croteau saw a huge increase in minutes late in the season, and looking ahead, his reputation as a deadly outside shooter will certainly help with the absence of Bowen.



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Upcoming Home Sports Action

Compiled by: Nick Tasso

Saturday March 21st

Men's Lacrosse against Pace at 1:00 PM on Larkin Field

Women's Tennis against St. Rose at 1:00 PM on the tennis courts

Sunday March 22nd

Men's Baseball against American International at 12:00 PM on the baseball field

Tuesday March 24th

Men's Baseball against Franklin Pierce at 3:30 PM on the baseball field

Wednesday March 25th

Men's Baseball against Assumption at 3:30 PM on the baseball field

Friday March 27th

Women's Lacrosse against Dowling at 5:00 PM on Larkin Field

Saturday March 28th

Men's Tennis against Assumption 1:00 PM on tennis courts

Sunday March 29th

Men's Baseball against Merrimack at 1:00 PM on the baseball field

Women's Tennis against St. Anselm at 1:00 PM on the tennis courts

Monday March 30th

Women's Lacrosse against Stonehill at 4:00 PM on Larkin Field

Tuesday March 31st

Men's Baseball against St. Anselm at 3:30 PM on the baseball field

Wednesday April 1st

Men's Baseball against Assumption at 3:30 on the baseball field

Women's Lacrosse against Merrimack at 4:00 PM at Larkin Field

Thursday April 2nd

Women's Softball against New Haven at 3:00 PM on the softball field

Thursday April 2nd Continued

Men's Tennis against Bentley at 4:00 PM on the tennis courts

Women's Softball against New Haven at 5:00 PM on the softball field

Saturday April 4th

Men's Baseball against Bentley at 12:00 PM on the baseball field

Men's Tennis against American International at 1:00 PM on the tennis courts

Men's Baseball against Bentley at 3:00 PM on the baseball field

Sunday April 5th

Women's Tennis against New Haven at 1:00 PM on the tennis courts

Tuesday April 7th

Men's Baseball against Pace at 3:30 on the baseball field

Women's Tennis against Merrimack at 4:00 PM on the tennis courts

Wednesday April 8th

Women's Softball against St. Anselm at 3:00 PM on the softball field

Men's Tennis against St. Michael's at 4:00 PM on the tennis courts

Women's Softball against St. Anselm at 5:00 PM on the softball field

Friday April 10th

Women's Softball against American International at 3:00 PM on the softball field

Women's Softball against American International at 5:00 PM on the softball field

Saturday April 11th

Women's Softball against C.W. Post at 12:00 PM on the softball field

Women's Lacrosse against New Haven at 1:00 PM on Larkin Field

Women's Softball against C. W. Post at 2:00 PM on the softball field

SNHU Women's Tennis

Sinziana Scoarta
Staff Writer

The women's tennis team started practice in January at the YMCA center in Goffstown getting ready for the spring season. The two months of preparation lead to a 7-2 victory on March 6th, against Pace University, marking a successful opening of the season.

The singles wins were marked by Amber Chandronnait, Catalina Echeverry, Lauren Nigrelli, Alison Warring and Christine Cole. The doubles wins were the hard work of the Chandronnait-Echeverry and Nigrelli-Waring duos.

Chandronnait's meet with the singles NE 10 player of the year, Pace senior Natalija Subotic, concluded with a stellar victory by the SNHU athlete. According to Coach Gregory Coache, Meghan Welch was unable to play due to health issues but she will be returning for the following games. Christie Cole, a freshman, replaced Welch.

As listed on Southern New Hampshire University's Athletics Page the results are as follows:

Singles:

- 1) Amber Chandronnait (SNH) def. Natalia Subotic (PAC) 6-1, 4-6, 6-2
- 2) Catalina Echeverry (SNH) def. Joana-Theresa Augustine (PAC) 6-3, 6-1
- 3) Lauren Nigrelli (SNH) def. Kaylee Andersen (PAC) 1-6, 6-4, 6-3
- 4) Alison Waring (SNH) def. Carla Gross (PAC) 6-1, 6-2
- 5) Rebecca Aaron-Albanese (PAC) def. Courteney Blais (SNH) 6-0, 6-2
- 6) Christie Cole (SNH) def. Kira Dembeck (PAC) 6-3, retired

Doubles:

- 1) Chandronnait/Echeverry (SNH) def. Subotic/Augustine (PAC) 8-4
- 2) Nigrelli/Waring (SNH) def. Andersen/Gross (PAC) 8-5
- 3) Dembeck/Aaron-Albanese (PAC) def. Cole/Blais (SNH) 8-5

The team also took advantage from a weekend at Martha's Vineyard where the doubles played with the island teams.

The team is currently ranked 4th in the ITA East Region.

On March 20th they will be travelling to Stonehill College for a 3:00 match.

Granite Bowl 2009 Opens Registration

Press Release
Dan Remmes

MANCHESTER, NH – Southern New Hampshire University's Sport Management Department is taking registrations for its third annual Granite Bowl Flag Football Tournament. Participants can register at granitebowlfootball.com or visit SNHU's Student Center from March 16-20 and March 30-April 3 to fill out an application.

The student-run tournament will be held at SNHU's Manchester campus and The Derryfield School on Saturday, April 18, and Sunday, April 19 from 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Saturday's events will include a Youth Day for

ages 9 to 18 and an Adult Day on Sunday for attendees over 18. Participants can also enjoy live music, games, prizes, food and sponsor tents at the Granite Bowl Fan Zone.

The Granite Bowl is a nonprofit event managed by students in the event management and marketing class and has partnered with the Jimmy Fund and the Tuffy Phelps Scholarship Fund, all proceeds go to these charities and to fund next years event.

Visit www.granitebowlfootball.com or contact the Sport Management Department at 603.668.2211 for additional information.

Men's Tennis

Sinziana Scoarta
Staff Writer

The Men's Tennis Team started the spring season with a 8-1 victory against Pace University.

They are presently listed as 3-2 in the Northeast 10 standing.

The wins for the singles were brought by David Spaggiari, Luis Ramirez, Michael Ricciardi, Jeff Bunker and Colin Stone. The doubles teamwork resulted in a win marked by Spaggiari-Ramirez, Ricciardi-Stone and Bunker-Stone.

As listed on Southern New Hampshire University's Athletics Page the results are as follows:

Singles

- 1) David Spaggiari (SNH) def. Garret Boyd (PAC) 8-0
- 2) Luis Ramirez (SNH) def. Daniel Klein (PAC) 6-1, 6-1
- 3) Michael Ricciardi (SNH) def. Jose Caceres (PAC) 6-0, 6-0
- 4) Andrew Hagen (PAC) def. John Niland (SNH) 2-6, 7-6 (7-5), 10-8
- 5) Jeff Bunker (SNH) def. Dan Ranke (PAC) 6-0, 6-1
- 6) Colin Stone (SNH) def. Chris Gaur (PAC) 6-0, 6-1

Doubles

- 1) Spaggiari/Ramirez (SNH) def. Boyd/Klein (PAC) 8-4
- 2) Ricciardi/Sam Gould (SNH) def. Caceres/Ranke (PAC) 8-1
- 3) Bunker/Stone (SNH) def. Hagen/Gaur (PAC) 8-0

Their next match will be a NE-10 with Assumption on March 28th at 1:00 pm.

Projected #1 Seeds for March Madness

Zach Keating
Staff Writer

1.) North Carolina (27-3) – UNC is the #1 team in the country before the ACC tournament, capturing 35 first place votes. Carolina has been playing their best basketball going into Championship Week. Ty Lawson, Tyler Hansbrough and Denny Green celebrated senior day in Chapel Hill, N.C. by beating Tobacco road rival Duke to finish their regular season with only 3 losses. They are looking to be favorites in the ACC tournament, and the Tarheels should be a lock for a #1 seed in the NCAA tournament.

2.) Pittsburgh (28-3) – Pittsburgh received 33 first place votes in the last week of the regular season and wound up in second place behind UNC. Pitt has had a great season so far, and capped off their regular season by beating UConn for the second time this season. Sam Young and DeJuan Blair are a lethal combination, and Blair is averaging a double-double for the season (15.6 PPG, 12.4 RPG). The Panthers are bound to make a run in the Big East tournament and are a lock for a #1 seed in the NCAA tournament.

3.) Memphis (28-3) – Memphis, although playing in Conference USA, will edge their way into a top seed after only losing 3 games all season. John Calipari's team has been playing great basketball lately, winning their last 22 straight. Freshman Tyreke Evans has been lights out this year, averaging almost 17 points per game. The Tigers went to the NCAA Finals last year, and lost a heartbreaker to Kansas in overtime. This is a team with something to prove, and they will be a force in this tournament.

4.) Louisville (25-5) – Despite losing 5 games this season, Louisville only lost 2 Big East conference games and have the #1 seed for that tournament as well as the NCAA tournament. The Cardinals have been playing great lately, especially G Earl Clark and F Terrence Williams who have both been averaging over 13 points and 8 rebounds per game. Rick Pitino's team is my pick to win the Big East tournament, and will definitely pull a #1 seed come Selection Sunday.

American League Preview

Compiled by: Mike Capalbo

Clubs & Orgs Editor

East

Yankees: Without a doubt the winners of the offseason, the Yankees traded out their old, unproductive, expensive goods of the past few years for brand-new, top of the line toys to decorate their breathtaking new stadium with. In hard economic times, the Yanks spent \$423 million on just three players, but pitchers C.C. Sabathia, A.J. Burnett and first basemen Mark Teixeira could very well do the trick in making the playoffs a tradition again in the Bronx. They may get off to a slow start again as usual, especially with Alex Rodriguez missing April due to his recent hip surgery, but if the revamped rotation stays healthy, this division is theirs to lose once again.

-Division Finish: 1st

-Offensive Force: Alex Rodriguez/
Mark Teixeira

-Staff Ace: CC Sabathia

Red Sox: While the Red Sox did not shake things up this offseason like their rivals, they were able to lock up key pieces of their championship group and add some low-risk, potentially high-reward talent like John Smoltz, Brad Penny and Rocco Baldelli. They also improved their bullpen significantly with the acquisitions of Takashi Saito and Ramon Ramirez to assist All-Star closer Jonathan Papelbon. Every year the Red Sox' success depends on Josh Beckett and if he can stay healthy and be anything close to his 2007 season. If any of their gambles pay off, they are capable of winning not just the division but the American League.

-Division Finish: 2nd (Wildcard)

-Offensive Force: Jason Bay

-Staff Ace: Josh Beckett

Rays: The last-to-first Cinderella story, the Rays accomplished last season was among the most incredible in sports history. It was all due to the culmination of years of top draft picks and an emphasis on defense and young pitching. While it is now impossible to write this team off after reaching the World Series, it is hard to predict them to repeat such a special season as 2008. However, the addition of Pat Burrell's power to their dangerous lineup will make them a force, and David Price could have a breakout campaign, so they could easily be #1 in the East again.

-Division Finish: 3rd

-Offensive Force: Evan Longoria/B.J. Upton

-Staff Ace: Scott Kazmir

Orioles: After selling off most of their talent before last season, the Orioles now seem to have a new group of talent in place and are in a position to improve in the next few seasons. They finally have some decent young arms in the rotation like Jeremy Guthrie and added quality starters in Rich Hill and Mark Hendrickson. Their real strength is their

offense though, where Nick Markakis, Aubrey Huff, and Brian Roberts give them a combination of speed and power good enough to get out of the basement.

-Division Finish: 4th

-Offensive Force: Nick Markakis

-Staff Ace: Jeremy Guthrie

Blue Jays: After being the next best team in the tough AL East for so many seasons, the Jays indicated with their dormant offseason that they are starting over. They were dealt a tough blow last season losing two of their best starters Shawn Marcum and Dustin McGowan to major injuries (each will miss most of 2009) and then lost their ace A.J. Burnett in free agency to the division rival Yankees. They now have an empty rotation after ace Roy Halladay and will likely look to build for the future; including the possibility of trading Halladay.

-Division Finish: 5th

-Offensive Force: Alex Rios

-Staff Ace: Roy Halladay



CC Sabathia

Central

Twins: As every other team in the Central goes up and down every season, the quiet and over-looked Twins stay at the top of the division each year despite how little they spend. They had one of the most uneventful offseason of any team and are almost identical to the end of last season, but in a division where consistency wins with so many questions elsewhere, the Twins have to be the safest bet to win the Central, even if it is boring.

-Division Finish: 1st

-Offensive Force: Justin Morneau

-Staff Ace: Francisco Liriano

White Sox: After winning the division in 2008 only to lose to the Rays in the ALDS, the White Sox unloaded a large portion of their club, including Javier Vazquez, Joe Crede, and Orlando

Cabrera. The loss of Vazquez leaves their rotation thin, but young stars Gavin Floyd and John Danks broke out last season and look like they will lead this staff for years to come. The White Sox will still be a quality team in '09 but considering the nature of this division and their subtractions this offseason they probably will not duplicate last year's 89-74 record.

-Division Finish: 2nd

-Offensive Force: Carlos Quentin

-Staff Ace: Mark Buehrle

Royals: The Royals made a splash this offseason acquiring big pieces to improve their young club. Power bats like Mike Jacobs and Coco Crisp will help their offense support a young staff with high potential, led by Zack Greinke coming off a breakout campaign, and closer Joakim Soria, who established himself among the game's elite closers. The Royals have what it takes to repeat what they did in 2003, finishing in third place at 83-79. If some of their prospects like Luke Hochevar and Alex Gordon breakout in 2009 they could easily win this shaky division.

-Division Finish: 3rd

-Offensive Force: Jose Guillen

-Staff Ace: Zack Greinke

Tigers: This time last season the Tigers were in the Yankees' position; clear winners of the offseason and primed for a breakout campaign. Unfortunately, their jaw-dropping lineup of All-Stars could not make up for a lackluster pitching staff, and a decline from young ace Justin Verlander. Picked by most to reach the World Series, the Tigers were one of the biggest disappointments in baseball history, finishing dead last in the division. They added some pitching in Edwin Jackson and Brandon Lyon so they may improve a bit, but it may not be enough.

-Division Finish: 4th

-Offensive Force: Miguel Cabrera

-Staff Ace: Justin Verlander

Indians: The Indians seemed to suffer a season-long hangover from their three-game collapse against Boston in the 2007 ALCS. They went from being the leader of the Central and among the elite in the AL to .500 club in one season, and to make matters worse, they traded their longtime ace C.C. Sabathia at the deadline last season. The positive note from their decline last season was the resurgence of Cliff Lee, who captured the AL Cy Young award last season. The Indians should be better than last season, and they are only ranked last because it is hard to put any of these teams here.

-Division Finish: 5th

-Offensive Force: Grady Sizemore

-Staff Ace: Cliff Lee

~ See American League, Pg. 25

American League _____ Cont. From Pg 24



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Justin Morneau

West

Angels: The perennial western division champs looked their strongest last season, touting the best regular season record in baseball and the only team with 100 wins. It seemed to be the Angels' year, but once again they found hard luck in the first round of the playoffs against Boston. The disappointing letdown was followed by major departures, including Mark Teixeira and K-Rod, fresh off his record 62 save season. They have done their best to replace the losses (Brian Fuentes), but the offense is not what it was. Still, the West is theirs to lose.

-Division Finish: 1st

-Offensive Force: Vladimir Guerrero

-Staff Ace: John Lackey

Athletics: The A's had a fire-sale of talent the past season and a half, shipping off practically every piece of talent. It left them barren and lacking identity, but this offseason they finally spent, and landed the highly-acclaimed slugger Matt Holliday, as well as signing short-stop Orlando Cabrera. They have also attempted to recreate that old frat-house culture in Oakland by bringing back Jason Giambi. Their pitching is thin but with the right attitude they can do well in this weaker division.

-Division Finish: 2nd

-Offensive Force: Matt Holliday

-Staff Ace: Justin Duchscherer

Rangers: The Rangers are no longer a team of big name sluggers, but are retooled for the future and led by two of the game's best young offensive players in Ian Kinsler and Josh Hamilton. Their already adequate offense will be even better when highly-touted prospects Elvis Andrus and Nelson Cruz breakout, so the Rangers should be .500 or better from this season on, despite their always suspect pitching staff, led by Kevin Millwood and Vicente Padilla. They could easily finish second.

-Division Finish: 3rd

-Offensive Force: Ian Kinsler

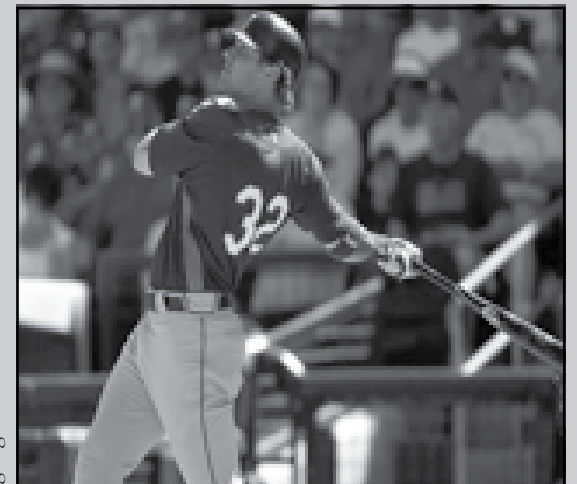
-Staff Ace: Kevin Millwood

Mariners: Much like the Tigers, the Mariners disappointed mightily last season after stocking up with the likes of Erik Bedard. The team took a major step backwards and were among the worst teams in baseball, losing 101 games. If anything else they boosted their morals by bringing back Ken Griffey Jr., but it will not help the team much. There are positive signs in the rotation though with Brandon Morrow converting to a starter and Bedard apparently healthy. It is impossible for them to do worst than last year so they can only be better in 2009.

-Division Finish: 4th

-Offensive Force: Ichiro Suzuki

-Staff Ace: Felix Hernandez



google.com

Josh Hamilton

National League Preview

East

Mets: The Mets are the sexy pick going into this season to win the East because of their off season acquisitions of Francisco Rodriguez and J.J. Putz. Shoring up one of the worst bullpens in the 2008 season, New York is set to take on the Philadelphia Phillies once again. Their offense might digress a little bit this season but I feel they have enough in the starting rotation and the back end to overtake the world champs.

Division Finish-1st

Offensive Force-David Wright

Staff Ace-Johan Santana

Phillies: The world champions return this year with pretty much the same team as last year except replacing Pat Burrell with Raul Ibanez. Cole Hamels will remain at the forefront of their rotation and Brad Lidge looks to continue his dominance in the ninth inning. Chase Utley's availability for the start of the season is still in doubt as he is recovering from off season hip surgery but should be able to return to full strength when he returns.

Division Finish-2th (Wild Card)

Offensive Force-Ryan Howard

Staff Ace-Cole Hamels

Braves: While they lost pitchers John Smoltz to free agency and Tim Hudson until at least mid season due to an injury, the Braves revamped their rotation by trading for Javier Vazquez and signed both Derek Lowe and Japanese star Kenshin Kawakami. Another big offseason move was the signing of Garret Anderson; however he is currently out indefinitely with an injury.

Division Finish-3rd

Offensive Force-Chipper Jones

Staff Ace-Derek Lowe

Marlins: It seems like it's the same story every year: They are a good team but need to spend on some players to be looked at as one of the top teams in the NL East. Their offense will be there thanks to Hanley Ramirez and Dan Uggla. Their pitching led by Ricky Nolasco and Josh Johnson are good but are young. Starter Anibel Sanchez threw a no hitter back in 2006 but hasn't really been the same since. Their bullpen got better with the addition of Scott Proctor and Vladmir Nunez but in all honesty, I don't see this team gelling together to sit atop the division.

Division Finish-4th

Offensive Force-Hanley Ramirez

Staff Ace-Ricky Nolasco

Nationals: There is a lot to say about this team but none of it is good news. After an FBI investigation of their General Manager Jim Bowden, he resigned stating that he had become a distraction. Before departing this offseason, he went out and traded for Scott Olsen and Josh Willingham. Olsen might help the extremely weak rotation but the rest of the team is in disarray. After signing Adam Dunn to a two year deal, it seems they have a mediocre logjam at first base and outfield.

Division Finish-5th

Offensive Force-Adam Dunn

Staff Ace-John Lannan

Central

Cubs: After owning the best regular season record in the National League, the Chicago Cubs promptly flopped to the Dodgers in three games in the National League Division Series. But this year could be different for the Cubs as they will have a full season of Rich

~ See **National League**, Pg. 26

Sports

National League _____ Cont. From Pg. 25

Harden (barring an injury) and added Milton Bradley to play right field. As long as Bradley can control his inevitable outbursts to two or three, he should be a productive player in that stacked lineup that already included Alfonso Soriano, Aramis Ramirez, and Derrek Lee before Bradley inked with Chicago.

Division Finish-1st
Offensive Force-Aramis Ramirez
Staff Ace-Carlos Zambrano

Brewers: Against all my reasoning, I think the Brewers will finish second in the Central mainly because of their competition is just as weak as them. After losing their top two pitchers, they will rely heavily on 23 year old Yovani Gallardo. The Brew Crew also have one of the best 3-4 hitters in the game with Ryan Braun and Prince Fielder.

Division Finish-2nd
Offensive Force-Prince Fielder
Staff Ace-Yovani Gallardo

Astros: The 'Stros brought back injury prone



Cole Hamels

Mike Hampton to fill out their rotation. He only started in 13 games last season but it was a big improvement since he hadn't pitched in an Major League game since 2005. The rest of the staff besides stud Roy Oswalt is shaky as they will look at Brandon Backe and Russ Ortiz to pitch important games. Their offense maybe the only thing that saves the Astros from embarrassment in the 2009 season. Yet that depends on if Miguel Tejada serving time due to lying to congressional investigators about steroids.

Division Finish-3rd
Offensive Force-Carlos Lee
Staff Ace-Roy Oswalt

Cardinals: Still without a definite closer, the Cardinals seemingly will have in season auditions for the closer role, a move that didn't fare well for the 2003 Boston Red Sox. In addition to having a huge question mark in the late innings, the rotation is shaky too after Adam Wainwright. Albert Pujols got some help last season with the emergence of Ryan Ludwick and Rick Ankiel. If the Cards want to compete, they will need repeat performances from all of these players.

Division Finish-4th
Offensive Force-Albert Pujols
Staff Ace-Adam Wainwright

Reds: On paper, this team doesn't look to bad but the games aren't played on paper. Hoping to get another solid year out of Edinson Volquez who posted a 3.21 in his first full year. Coupled with a potential return to form of Aaron Harang and Bronson Arroyo, this team might have something going for them. With Ken Griffey Jr. and Adam Dunn both gone from mid season trades, the Reds will look to Jay Bruce and Joey Votto to lead the way for their offense.

Division Finish-5th
Offensive Force-Jay Bruce
Staff Ace-Edinson Volquez

Pirates: There hasn't been much to say about the Pirates for the past decade. It just hasn't been that good of an organization. In the offseason, Paul Maholm signed a contract extension to stay with the Pirates. He has been their only reliable starter. Ian Snell and Tom Gorzelanny will look to rebound from awful years. Most of their position players are young who still need time to polish their game. In a few years this team could be something but right now their talent just isn't up to par.

Division Finish-6th
Offensive Force-Nate McClouth
Staff Ace-Paul Maholm

West

Giants: I cringe even looking at Bengie Molina as their best hitter but it's probably the reality. I know I will be regretting this pick in September but I just can't shy away from that rotation. 2008 Cy Young winner Tim Lincecum leads the way as Matt Cain will most likely be their number two starter. Cain had a really good year last year but was overlooked due to Lincecum and the fact that he didn't get many wins to show for his good performance. Former Cy Young winners Randy Johnson and Barry Zito also add into the mix while 26 year old lefty Jonathan Sanchez will most likely be their fifth starter.

Division Finish-1st
Offensive Force-Bengie Molina
Staff Ace-Tim Lincecum

Diamondbacks: Adam Dunn and Orlando Hudson both left this past offseason and the D'Backs didn't do much to replace their offensive production. They will rely heavily on Justin Upton who showed moments of brilliance last year but wasn't able to sustain it for very long; injuries didn't help either. The rotation looks to be solid as they have added Jon Garland to a rotation that already has Brandon Webb and Dan Haren. Their bullpen is up in the air once again.

Division Finish-2nd
Offensive Force-Stephen Drew
Staff Ace-Brandon Webb

Dodgers: After the four month plus soap opera known as Manny Ramirez finally resigned with the Dodg-

ers, they look to try and make another run at the division. Unfortunately like the Brewers, their pitching just isn't adequate enough. Losing Derek Lowe hurt them immensely even though not signing him to the contract he was looking for was a good idea. The only bright spot in the rotation is Chad Billingsley. Ramirez will carry the offense once again but the pitching seems like a tough hill to climb.

Division Finish-3rd
Offensive Force-Manny Ramirez
Staff Ace-Chad Billingsley

Rockies: With Jeff Francis out seemingly for the entire 2009 season, Ubaldo Jimenez and Aaron Cook will be looked at to maintain stability in the Rox rotation. Behind those two, they have an interesting mix



Manny Ramirez

of starters to take the hill. They lost their closer to free agency but look to use Huston Street and have Manny Corpas as back up once again. Although they did trade away their best hitter, they still have a pretty good offense. Soon to be 24-year-old Ian Stewart if given enough at bats should have a break out year to help the Rockies offense.

Division Finish-4th
Offensive Force-Todd Helton
Staff Ace-Ubaldo Jimenez

Padres: Although they have Jake Peavy and Chris Young, their offense might be the worst in the game. They also didn't resign their long time closer Trevor Hoffman which will hinder the pen in the late innings. In addition, they may be sellers near the trade deadline to clear up some salary. Right now, that is all that they are concerned about as the spent their entire off season busy trying to trade away Peavy.

Division Finish-5th
Offensive Force-Adrian Gonzalez
Staff Ace-Jake Peavy



Tim Lincecum

The Recent Chronicles of A-Rod

Mike Ghika
Staff Writer

New York Yankees' third baseman Alex Rodriguez had been previously tied to performance-enhancing drugs. Former MVP Jose Canseco, who has written two books about his own personal steroid use as well as the doping of others, said in his second book, "Vindicated," that A-Rod had sought, purchased, and used banned substances.

Then, in early February, information arose about a 2003 MLB survey test in which 104 players tested positive for steroids. The names of those players were supposed to never be revealed, but an unknown source leaked that A-Rod was one of those 104 players. The remaining 103 players, at least at this point, still have their good name and integrity intact.

A-Rod, however, does not.

The revelation of the three-time MVP's exposure into the world of performance-enhancing drugs was then met with a public admission and apology from A-Rod in an ESPN interview with Hall-of-Fame journalist Peter Gammons. A-Rod said he was stupid and naive in using steroids from 2001-2003 in his time with the Texas Rangers, but also noted that he stopped using once he was dealt to New York prior to the 2004 season.

A-Rod describes how he felt pressure to live up to the hype after signing a 10-year, \$252 million contract with Texas before the 2001 season. Now, he is currently signed to a new 10 year, \$275 million deal with New York. The deal also calls for massive dollar incentives should he one day break Barry Bonds' home run record.

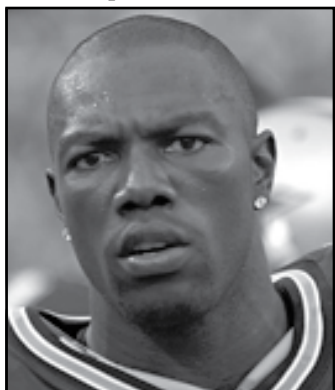
And so, all eyes were on A-Rod once he arrived at spring training with the Yankees. He underwent an excruciatingly

brutal press conference in the wake of the allegations and admission. He then went on to homer in his first exhibition game of the spring.

Then news broke that A-Rod had a torn labrum and a cyst in his right hip. It was first reported that he would try to play through the injury and wait until after the season for surgery. However, doctors have since told the Yankees organization to get A-Rod temporarily surgically repaired now, with more surgery likely to take place after the season. At this point, sources say A-Rod will miss 6-9 weeks following surgery, but as Red Sox fans saw with Mike Lowell's hip recovery, it isn't out of the question that A-Rod will miss all of May as well.

Perhaps Yankees' officials are actually breathing a sigh of relief in the wake of A-Rod's injury. The negative publicity of the steroids admission has now been supplanted by the star's health, and the Yankees can focus on trying to win with the newly-signed Mark Teixeira, C.C. Sabathia, and A.J. Burnett until his return.

As for A-Rod, the only prior doubt the public had of him was concerning his ability to perform in the clutch. But now, his judgment is in question. Now, his Hall-of-Fame future is in question. And most importantly, his health is in question.



Yahoo.com

Terrell Owens Now A Buffalo Bill

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UNIVERSITY STUDIES ABROAD CONSORTIUM

Opinion: NFL News & Free Agent Wire

Joe Vartanian
Staff Writer

A lot has happened since Ben Roethlisberger and the Pittsburgh Steelers clinched the Superbowl title back in February. Let's start off with the biggest move in the NFL thus far, Mr. Showtime himself, Terrell Owens. Now after hearing his release from Dallas, one would think that being a big time player he would go to a big time, like the NYG. After the loss of Burrell, T.O. would seem to fit the mold there, but he decided to go with the Buffalo Bills. Now the Bills needed a big move, because they started off hot last year and then completely fell apart. A student from the sports management program at SNHU could run that team better than Dick Jaurron. I still don't know if this was a smart move by Owens. T.O. is going to a team with a quarterback who has not even played a full season yet, and with the types of antics he throws and the fragileness of the Bills team already, one wrong move could send this team down to the bottom. If Owens can keep his composure, I think the AFC East will be one of the most competitive divisions this year with the dominant Patriots and contenders of the Jets and Dolphins.

Another big re-signing was Ray Lewis returning back to the Ravens. Being a football fan I think it would be weird to see him play anywhere else but Baltimore, I am glad he stayed. Kurt Warner also decided to resign with the Cardinals for two more years, so that means 1st round pick and four year pro, Matt Leinart will be riding the bench some

more. Another huge acquisition was the Kansas City Chiefs acquiring former quarterback of the New England Patriots Matt Cassel. Speaking of the Patriots they have made many moves acquiring cornerback Shaun Springs formerly of the Redskins and Fred Taylor a running back from the Jaguars. Also right now in the rumor mill is Julius Peppers, who is a pro bowl defensive player, he is looking for his contract to get bought out from Carolina and he would like to come and play for the Patriots.

Other big moves are Laverneus Coles formerly of the Jets playing now for the Bengals. T.J. Houshmanzadah formerly of the Bengals is now playing for Seattle. One of the biggest defensive acquisitions so far is Brian Dawkins formerly of the Eagles is now playing for the Denver Broncos. Another big defensive acquisition is Albert Haynesworth who use to play for the Titans will be suiting up as a Redskin in 2009.

There are still many free agent acquisitions that were huge for teams but there are too many to name, and there is still free agents out there looking for a home. Football season won't be starting up for about 6 more months, so there will be plenty of more information coming in about trades, free agents and other NFL news. So stay tuned.

Voices & Faces

Spotlight @ SNHU

Daniel Smith
Managing Editor



...Elizabeth Goff...

Elizabeth Goff is the Graduate Assistant for Campus Programming and Leadership (CPL) here at Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU). She is a first year graduate student in the Masters program for Organizational Leadership.

Her job as a graduate assistant is a unique one at SNHU. Goff has the opportunity to work as a professional in the area of student affairs while being a full time graduate student. She is able to work closely with the Director of CPL while maintaining a good relationship with the clubs and organizations at SNHU.

Goff's job entails many things, including co-advising the Inter-Greek Council, developing and executing the Club Recognition Process, being one of the main liaisons for Clubs and Organizations, and working on special projects. Her current project is helping to plan and organize the Leadership Banquet. Other projects have included Relay for Life and Diversity Month.

Goff has a Bachelors Degree in Business Administration with a concentration in Organizational Leadership and three minors in Sociology, Accounting, and History. Native to the state of Vermont, Goff has not always stayed in New England; she did a couple of undergraduate years at the University of Hawaii at Hilo. Along with her 4.0 GPA, Goff has aspirations for the future including a career in student affairs along side CPL and eventually attaining a PH.D.

Outside of her duties in CPL, Goff enjoys kayaking, watching TV, hiking, eating out with friends and taking care of her pets. She now has a dog, bearded dragon, gerbil, chinchilla, and 25 Fish.

Goff says that her favorite thing about SNHU is the students, and that she "comes to work to serve the students." To facilitate this, Goff houses the leadership library in her office, chaperones on and off campus events/trips, and assists in Club Training. Her least favorite thing is the parking on campus in the winter.

The big projects for the rest of this semester are the Leadership Banquet that will take place on April 28th and is open to all members of Clubs and Organizations and the formation of the Club Recognition Committee, which is designed to give students a bigger voice in the recognition of clubs. There will be free diner and an awards presentation followed by a desert reception in the PUB DJ'd by Radio SNHU.

What is your favorite YouTube Video?

William DiIeso- Senior
Shawn Kemp's top 10 Dunks



Megan Smith- Sophomore
David Goes to the Dentist

Lamont Stapleton- Sophomore
Mad TV Can I have Your Number



Meghan Haddad- Junior
Mitty Moo, Jacking and Debra

Kelsey Simpson-Sophomore
Fat Kid in Roller Coaster

a.k.a JANICE



Katie Matthews- Senior
*Nanner puss,
Commercial for Dennys' Grand Slam*

Amanda Dzioba- Senior
M&M Commercial,

Are you licking yourself?



Courtney Newman- Senior
Scarlett takes a tumble