Bernanke to Replace Greenspan as Fed Chairman

Justin Poogam
Art Editor

A few days ago, President George W. Bush nominated Ben S. Bernanke to succeed Alan Greenspan as the next chairman of the Federal Reserve. This choice, widely fo- revered among both academics and practitioners, helped the markets climb on Monday, an early signal that Wall Street approves of Greenspan's re-placement.

Unlike most Fed chairmen of the past (Green span first among them), Bernanke's academic creden- tials are very impressive. He received a bachelor's degree in economics from Harvard and a Ph.D. from M.I.T. He was a professor at Princeton and chaired its Economics De- partment, publishing numer- ous academic articles, text- books, and books catered to the general public.

He has experience in monetary policy, serving on the Federal Reserve's Board of Governors for nearly three years. Recently, he was ap- pointed chairman of Mr. Bush's Council of Economic Advisors.

Eighteen years ago, Alan Greenspan was selected to re- place Paul Volcker as the Fed chairman. His strength was not academic; rather it was experience, having held senior positions in the policy sec- tions of both the Ford and Reagan administrations. Over the next two decades, Greenspan developed a repu- tation as an inflation-fighting sage with a gut instinct for when the economy had reached a peak. He helped transform the Federal Reserve from a closed, secretive system to a more transparent one. Many argue that investor confi- dence in Mr. Greenspan's mystical powers has distorted the markets and induced in- vestors to accept lower premi- ums (relative to risk), even as inflation concerns continue to be expressed.

Last month, at the an- nual symposium of the Fed- eral Reserve Bank of Kansas City, central bankers and economists paid tribute to Mr. Greenspan's illustrious career, going so far as to say that the "Maestro" has a legitimate claim to being the best cen- tral banker of all time. Dur- ing his eighteen years, the U.S. economy suffered only two mild recessions and grew at an unprecedented yet sustainable rate.

While Mr. Greenspan's record is not flawless – crit- ics point to his refusal to deal with the current housing market bubble (though that has changed of late) – every- one agrees that he was (and still is) a great central banker. Mr. Bernanke has big shoes to fill.

Ironically, Bernanke's academic credentials andstanding with his political affiliations are what worry investors the most. Mr. Bush could have opted for a more independent, policy-driven central banker. Donald Rumsfeld and Mark Feldstein were possible re- placements. But supporters of Bernanke point to his straightforward, no non-sense approach, which will be quite different from Greenspan's notorious, and oftentimes incomprehensible, circumlocutory statements about monetary policy. If con- trolled by the Senate, which should not be a problem given his credentials, Mr. Bernanke will officially usurp Mr. Greenspan's throne on Janu- ary 31st of next year.

Above, Ben Raick '68, Kristen Henson '08, and Alex Stein '06 in "Whose Wives are They Any- way?"

Babson Alumni Technology Council: ELiTE Awards – Entrepreneurship & Leadership in Technology Excellence Awards

Prescott Poogam
Staff Writer

The silent buzz of thinking minds filled the rooms at Tuesday's Babson Alumni Tech- nology Council Industry Panels. Perhaps these busy minds were anticipating the arrival of Jeff Taylor, Founder and transmitting CEO of Monster.com and the winner of the first-ever BATC Entrepreneur- ship Award, or maybe they were just waiting to use the unique environment applied to topics like Sarbanes-Oxley, venture funding and security applications that prevent identity theft and improve authentication in busi- nesses.

The ELITE Awards (Entre- preneurship & Leadership in Technology Excellence) were placed as the final event after the panels came to a close. Before attendees were re-routed to their file-maging and salmon dinners, they embarked on a journey of networking where several con- nections were both made and re- kindled. Drinks were served and laughs were shared as alums mingled about the area.

As people were seated, Gary Beach (Publisher of CIO Maga- zine) gave advice to everyone about the current state of the economy. "The old mantra for CIO's used to be 'do more with less,' but it has recently evolved to 'do more, more, more.'" He went on to discuss hiring prob- lems in the U.S. for IT and spoke of how only 65,000 H1B visas were up for grabs last year in the United States.

He commented that the bridge to the 21st century has only been half-finished and quoted a promi- nent industry figure by saying that "right now we are content being the bricklayers, but we want to become the architects." Looking toward the future, Beach speculated that "mobility is the most misunderstood technology" and will dramatically change the future of business. He also stated that companies will soon come to realize their potential for Grid Computing using their existing computing infrastructure. For new technology to be adopted in a company though, Beach sug- gested that every CIO have a "VIP of 5 minutes" that can explain new technology to anyone in five min- utes or less.

The first award, in leader- ship, was given to Charles S. Brinster, the SVP of Fidelity's Center for Applied Technology. He gave a short speech about inno- vation at Fidelity that covered three main points. First, the so- lutions are hiding in plain sight. Second, make sure you understand the essence of the problem. (He cited the U.S. Space Program example where they de- cided to spend $3 billion on a pen that would write in space whereas the Russians bought a pencil.)

Third, innovation can be found anywhere; it's not just a technology phenomenon. He showed a funny video from Jenga.com and then followed up with three main points about inno- vation in the Enterprise. First only what you invent, make it on a small beta, and don't be deterred by fear of failure. Also, don't expect failure to be without conse- quences. Brinster then closed with a comment that Fidelity's newest innovation was coming up with a system to deliver a per- sonalized podcast to its customers that would include only informa- tion about their own portfolio.

Jeff Taylor accepted the sec- ond award, in entrepreneurship, on a more casual level. His speech, typical of his style, was very energetic and said less about Monster.com than Glenn Gaudet (founder of the BATC), who intro- duced him to the crown. Taylor emphasized culture, which is ex-
Just Plane Compelling

Dante Love
Staff Writer

Good morning ladies and gentlemen, this is your captain speaking. Due to some unforeseen turbulence in the airline industry, I ask that you remain seated at all times and keep your pocket-books in the full, upright position. Do try to remain calm as our revised course takes us through morally restricted airspace – a place where air thinks, and the lines between news and entertainment blur. Please disregard all exits, because ours is an impassable path – that which peaks interests in truth, does so in fiction also. With that said, enjoy your flight and please direct your attention to the front of the cabin for our in-flight movie... On September 14th Delta Air Lines and Northwest – the second and fourth largest airlines respectively – filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy with the intent of drastically cutting workers' jobs, wages, and pensions, and dramatically reducing the size of their existing fleet.

With service to 178 domestic cities in 46 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands, as well as 58 international cities in 35 countries, the news shook more than the 52,000 men and women on Delta's payroll – it startled the world. According to Wikipedia, Delta Air Lines, including Delta mainline, domestic and international service, Song, Delta Shuttle, Delta Connection, Delta SkyTeam, and Worldwide Partners – operates 7,867 flights every day to over 502 cities in 88 countries. In 2004 alone, Delta was the preferred means of travel for 87 million people worldwide!

With a client list climbing into the tens of millions, word of Delta's bankruptcy has hit the front of consumer interest, and, in a consumer driven society, that's a big deal. Now high-flying $84.4 million – that's how much Jodie Foster's timely Flight Plan grossed the weekend following its September 23rd release. Add to that the $511,147,186 Wes Craven's Red Eye has grossed to date according to box office sources, and it becomes evident that entertainment continues to grow at such an exorbitant rate – 7.3% to an alarming $1.3 trillion by the close of the decade – because it has become a media specifically tailored to appeal to consumer interests. The result? A surge of airline industry motion pictures surrounding Delta's announced bankruptcy.

But this type of tongues and cheek production style has left a bad taste in a few too many mouths. The Association of Flight Attendants - CWA (AFA), along with the Association of Professional Flight Attendants (APFA) and Delta Air Lines flight attendants represented by the Transport Workers Union (TWU) called for all members to boycott Flight Plan, which portrays a flight attendant and Federal air marshal as terrorists. It also goes so far as to depict flight attendants as "cruel, helpless and unscrupulous." According to Patricia Friend, AFA International President, "This depiction of flight attendants is an outrage, flight attendants continue to be the first line of defense on an aircraft and put their lives on the line day after day for the safety of passenagers. This unfair characterization of flight attendants underlines the image we project as first responders. We will tell Hollywood that this disrespect to our profession is not going to fly for us.

And what does Orlando's controller mouse have to say about all of this? A Dimas spokesman said that in making Flight Plan "there was absolutely no intention on the part of the studio or filmmakers to create anything but a great action thriller and we are confident the public will be able to discern the difference between fiction and the incredible job real life flight attendants do on a daily basis. But is this necessarily so? A look closer to home might shed some much needed light: I am concerned that the entertainment industry at times uses current events to increase public hysteria around various happenings' comments Bahson College's own Tonia Blackwell, Director of Diversity Services. "Seeing the trailer for Red Eye and Flight Plan don't make me trust the airline industry any more as a consumer; if anything I trust it less." "Toni voices a common sentiment, entertainment, though fantasy actually projects an image - be it good or bad - that has a very real impact. While entertainment and news remain inextricably intertwined and the real blues on the silky derma of the silver screen, entertainment provides an escape according to a press conference held by Walt Disney on the Monday following Flight Plans' release they too, being shareholders, felt the very-real sting of Delta's bankruptcy. Their investment? A whopping $88 million - now that's entertaining!"

The winner of iPod enjoys his time at the slot machine during the Family Weekend Casino Night.

Adopted from "Second Interviews & Negotiating Offers" workshop facilitated by Cathy Merlo, Senior Recruiter at Fidelity Investments (October 2004).
Pakistan Earthquake Relief Fund

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CAB—Back to Back Weekends of FUN!

Last Saturday night, playing cards, poker chips, and the sound of slot machines galore filled Trim for Babson's annual Casino Night. Nearly -800 people passed through the dining hall turned casino to enjoy games, food, drink, and music. Organized and run by the members of the Campus Activities Board, the event was viewed as a great success. As the event has become an annual expectation for family weekend, students and their families found a common ground where everyone could have fun. Many prizes were awarded at the end of the night ranging from DVDs, to a TV, and even an iPod Nano.

In the week ahead, the CAB E-Board presents Babson Knights, this year's fall weekend. Beginning this Wednesday, October 26 through Saturday, October 29, the weekend will be kicked off with Mel Brook's comedy hit, "Robin Hood: Men in Tights," which can be viewed in Reynolds Campus Center. Thursday will feature a classic Pub Night decorated like your favorite medieval castle. The weekend will include the meat of the Fall Weekend fun. On Friday, join us at a medieval market in Reynolds where you can joust like a gladiator, make wax hand models or candles, participate in a pie eating contest, or simply make your own candied apple. After a long day at the market, head up to the upper fields for some entertainment where the Greek Council will be sponsoring the 4th annual Ultimate Frisbee and Powder-puff football games. Headlining the close of the work-week is a must see, Brian Brushwood: magician freak extraordinaire. Brian, who has appeared on such shows as the Tonight Show with Jay Leno, will be passing skewers through his body and eating fire. Don't be alarmed though, not everything he does is this extreme—he will also perform some good old, regular magic, too. To top off the week, CAB would like to invite you to Midsummer Knight's Dream, a costume dance party in PepsiCo Pavilion—cash prizes will be awarded to the three best costumes.

Please direct any questions or comments regarding the weekend or any CAB related thoughts to Joshua Neman, Public Relations Chair for the Campus Activities Board, via email: jneman1@babson.edu. Have a Ye Olde fun weekend!

Wednesday
Miracle Knights—Robin Hood: Men in Tights
6:30pm-10:30pm Reynolds Campus Center
Presented by the Class of 2008 Steering Committee

Thursday
Roger's Tavern Pub Night
10:00pm-12:00am Roger's Pub

Friday
Medieval Fair in Reynolds Square
1:00pm-5:00pm Reynolds Campus Center
Powder-puff & Frisbee - 4th Annual Tournament
4:30pm-7:30pm On the Astroturf
(Rain Location: PepsiCo Pavilion)
Sponsored by the Greek Council
"Bizarre Magic" with Brian Brushwood
8:00pm-9:30pm In Sorenson Theater

Saturday
Mid-Summer Knight's Dream
PepsiCo Party
10:00pm-2:00am PepsiCo Pavilion

To request disability-related accommodations, please contact Jennie M. Erdie, Office of Campus Life, jerdie@babson.edu
B.I.M.A. Speaker Discusses Portfolio Optimization Strategies

Alex Tureczak Staff Writer

Don’t put all your eggs in one basket. How many times have we heard this proverb? In the case of portfolio managers, the fact still holds true day in and day out.

Once again this past Thursday, as part of the Babson Investment Management Association’s speaker series, featured guest Stephen Gaudette of Northfield Information Services treated listeners with a presentation about portfolio optimization software, data, and modeling.

Gaudette, who received his MBA from Northeastern University and works as a sales and marketing rep for Northfield, spoke about his experiences working for the leading provider of optimization software.

Gaudette summarized, “Our software creates models that define the risk in each of our clients’ portfolio. These models focus on factors including: equities, fixed income, global risk, macroeconomics, such as interest rates and oil prices, and fundamentals: dividend yields, P/E models, etc. We can then optimize the portfolios based upon how much risk the client is willing to expose themselves to.”

Along with the optimization software, Northfield uses performance attribution factors to see how a portfolio manager past performance was a result of past factors.

“This lets us see how much value the manager has personally added to the portfolio and what portion of the portfolio’s value was the result of, for example, a bull market.” Gaudette added, “It also helps to predict future performance of that manager.”

Another aspect of the Northfield software is the allocation research tool kit. Typically marketing department teams make the most use of this tool since they can compare their fund’s performance to the performance of another fund or index and display the information to potential investors.

This tool also allows users to create what-if scenarios to see performance. Gaudette said, “We can ask ourselves how adding 100 shares of IBM would affect the performance of the portfolio. Does it affect it positively or negatively?”

With all the technology and software available to investment professionals, Gaudette made an interesting observation about portfolio management. He said the use of an artificial intelligence system is replacing these traditional, outdated techniques.

“For most of our clients, are you younger portfolio managers who are computer savvy? We typically do not have older portfolio managers using our software because they do not understand it. In most cases they require younger assistants who understand and help decipher all the technology that powers our product.”

Even with the need for younger employees, Gaudette admits job availability in the industry is tough. “On average we hire only 1 or 2 people a year. At Northfield we do not seek undergraduate students or other potential hires looking for entry level positions. We look for people with investment experience and on occasion hire an intern whom we feel can develop into a full-time position.”

Ask as much as it is to get into the industry, the working experience is unlike any other. “The happiest moments of my career have come from working for Northfield” said Gaudette.

Make Networking Easier with Plaxo

Prescott Paulin Staff Writer

Ask any successful business person about the essentials for success and you’ll most likely find that networking is one of their top five. However, when you grow your own network of contacts, it becomes quite time consuming to make sure you have the most recent contact information for everyone you know. Plaxo (www.plaxo.com) is a free tool for Microsoft Outlook that was specifically designed to manage this problem.

When you first install Plaxo you’ll be asked to send an update request to all of your existing contacts. The software will automatically scan your personal address book for people to contact and will then send a message to the ones you approve that contains all the information you currently have about them.

Finally, it will ask it to see if you want to make contact information that will automatically update your address book if they are new to the Plaxo service. Then both parties will be updated automatically. Not only will it inform your contacts of your newest contact information via this method, but Plaxo also includes the option to add business-card-like signatures to your email.

There are other free services that have tried to imitate Plaxo’s services, but many are sites that put clauses in their service agreements that allow them to use the information from all of your personal contacts and sell it to marketing companies. Plaxo also offers several other useful features such as the ability to access all of your contacts and tasks online via their websites and on your cell phone for a fee. They also sell access to an address book optimizer to remove duplicate contacts, which is useful for people that synchronize their Outlook information with a PDA or smartphone.

In all, Plaxo is a great service for busy networkers, especially considering that it costs absolutely nothing.

Wal-Mart’s Wage Fight

William Pearce Business and Technology Editor

Recently, Wal-Mart’s CEO Leon Scott has been urging Congress to increase the minimum wage. This comes as a shock to many, as Wal-Mart as a company has been well known to keeping their employee wages low. Surprisingly, the company’s average full time associate hourly wage is $9.68, which is substantially higher than the Federal minimum wage of $5.15.

Scott was quoted as saying, “As long as minimum wage has not been raised in nearly a decade that he felt it was out of date with the times. Also, that his company and its employees see customers struggling to make it by pay-check to pay-check. Scott pointed to the recent increase in gas and oil prices to show how their finances are being hurt by the economic pressure of the time.”

While Scott’s idea may seem out of left field and against Wal-Mart’s interests, as a company they stand to gain something from the minimum wage getting raised. First of all, it will put more pressure on their competitors. Also, it will increase the income of their customers. If suddenly their target market goes from making $5.15 and hour to $8.75, Wal-Mart stands to potentially make a lot more.

This all coming at the same time as Wal-Mart is creating a new health care plan. This new health care plan is targeted to making it more affordable to employees to have lower premiums. A big part of their plan is that it offers three visits to a doctor and three generic prescriptions before they have to pay the deductible on the plan. Also, the plan has easy provisions for sending children to the policy for as low as an extra fifty cents a day. The plan is being criticized as just being simply a reconditioning of the older plan.

While some of these changes may seem like small or weak steps, they certainly are a step in the right direction.

Money for College

The Army is currently offering sizeable bonuses of up to $20,000. In addition to the cash bonuses, you may qualify for up to $70,000 for college through the Montgomery GI Bill and Army College Fund. Or you could pay back up to $65,000 of qualifying student loans through the Army’s Loan Repayment Program. To find out more, call (781) 251-0122.

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The New Global Hedgehog

David Rotenberg
Contributing Writer

Walking to class this morning, I unexpectedly came face-to-face with what can only be described as the greatest insult to landscape design in my short life. Coming up the steps in front of Horon Library on my way to Lolosci, I felt almost assaulted by numerous large and joggle spines sticking up from the ground at odd angles. On top of these monstrous spines were barely visible flags of various shapes and sizes, which made it nearly impossible to identify between the high glance coming from the said pales.

While we were all shocked and many were universally allowed that Babesen is not that up to date on design in any field (I believe he is so above Reynolds signs), and architecture has never occurred to muster much to those at the top, this new eyesore takes these views to new heights. We all know that the objective of whatever you want to call that thing now stationed in front of Horon is to make the campus more global. The major problem with it is that it utterly falls beyond all doubt at that objective. Instead of showing the global spirit now being cultivated at Babesen, it shows that we can't effectively create on campus images to realistically convey this spirit or the internal goals of the school as a whole.

The problem could simply be scale, or the utter lack thereof, for this new installation. Maybe if you shrink all the pales to half a third the size that they currently are now, you might get somewhere quickly. The flags would then be appropriately sized, the spines would look less menacing, and the whole thing could come together smoothly. In the end, it feels like an absolute foreign object that blew-up from underneath the earth standing in front of Horon (our delightful correctional facility-seque library complex, but that's another story).

What is it lacking, as far as the campus architecturally and visually, is a soul. If the intent was to bring a more cosmopolitan look to our beloved library, why not utilize colors, glass, or other modern features to bring a renewed spirit to the space. As much as those at the top choose to keep design as conservative as possible, visual blights will continue to proliferate on campus until someone really puts some depicting into their work. If the planning theme at this point in the design is "innovation", let that start from the physical buildings and stop at the campus before trying to move into the lofty spaces of Knight or glittery lecture halls. My plea is to the administration for the future of designing.

Fire Unsafety

Herbie Weisburgh
Opinions Editor

What exactly are the fire alarms for at this school? They go off more because of malfunctions that they have never been instructed on. Several weeks ago, one went off in a room I was in. I can attest to the fact that nothing was actually on fire. The reason for the false alarm was that, according to 19, a fire alarm went off in my building in a room when no one was even there.

Last night, Wednesday, October 26, 2005, those who came to "Robin Hood, Men in Tights" (good selection as C&B) were forced to cut their viewing short when there was yet another malfunction, this time in Reynolds. People were outside for half an hour before I came back to write this article. What is the point of having fire safety that does not work?

Between Canfield B and C, there is a "fire door" that is supposed to serve as an escape route in case of a fire. It runs from right next to the main door in B to the lounge in C. Not only is it placed where it would not be convenient in the event of a fire, it is always locked. In case of an emergency, no one would be able to use the door anyway. There is also no fire safety approved on or near the door that I can find.

There have been reports from Freshmen and KAs that Public Safety officers have broken the rules in the handbook by searching people's rooms, pats that are NOT in plain view, for alcohol and other things. Items have been moved around when they came back. Hoo-khos have been confiscated. Students have gotten alcohol violations.

The officers, to my knowledge, have not been reprimanded, however. I do not know how the police forces that the new officers came from, but that is not allowed at Babesen, whether or not the administration chooses to do anything about it.

What's worse, with all of these things, no one takes fire safety seriously anymore. When a fire alarm goes off, the fire department takes its time to get here, Public Safety inspects rooms (with, what I can only assume is more of a concern for getting students in trouble than for protecting them), and students accordingly are more concerned with not getting in trouble than making sure they and all their friends vacate the building quickly.

I feel less safe at Babesen due to its so called fire safety precautions. This is a major problem, and it needs to be dealt with. I hope it does not take a real fire to learn that safety is important. I would much rather be safe than sorry. I hope that sentiment is echoed throughout the student body and the faculty.

Fire alarms and fire drills are supposed to be just that, alarms that signify the chance of a fire, and an exercise to test how well the school can react to it. I couldn't find an excuse to search rooms on a moment's notice or an inconvenience that students get to almost worse than when they are done with something else. A fire door should be useful in case of an emergency. There should be a way to be locked for such use, or should not exist to begin with and other safety precautions should be put in its place. Fire detectors should be finely tuned machines, not malfunctioning, unworkable pieces of... artwork that frequently go off for no reason.

Point of Inflection: Death Toll in Iraq Reaches 2,000

Herbie Weisburgh
Opinions Editor

The death toll for troops in Iraq reached an astonishing 2,000 on Tuesday. Congress held a moment of silence to commiserate the troops. Looking back, I am forced to ask why they had to die. The Bush administration's mistake of not having a plan when we went in has now caused around a thousand lives. There would have been casualties, but the increased effectiveness of the territo- ries there is disturbing.

During the first sixteen months, one thousand died. Now, just fourteen months later, another thousand have tragically lost their lives. The United States could have been out of Iraq by now or at least have the situation under control enough that the terrorists would not be as devastating as they are. There are still parts of the country, two and a half years after the start of the war, where the terrorists have more control than the government. A costly mistake.

How many parents are without children and children without parents because of Iraq? How many have fallen victim to Abu Musab al-Zarqawi's campaign to force the United States to abandon its campaigns in Iraq?

It would be an embarrassment for the United States to abandon its campaigns in Iraq. It would be an embarrassment to retire, and would abandon the brave soldiers and Iraqis who have given so many lives to fight for the same, but at the same time, doesn't the administration try to show its "innovative" and "cutting edge" message from your classrooms and show it on our campus. Cost-cutting and building in the name of efficiency will only lead to a greater lack of soul throughout the halls of this supposedly great institution. If we want to think of ourselves as a second-class business school, then we should continue to look like a second-class business school. If we want to think of ourselves as leading the world in innovative entrepreneurial thinking, then we ought to look like a school that is constantly pushing the boundaries.
School Sponsored Anti-Semitism

Herbie Weisburgh
Opinions Editor

On Tuesday, October 25, 2000, the History and Society students were required to see a speaker that was anti-Semitic. She justified the rationale behind suicide bombers and talked about her individual experiences trying to get through checkpoints. It was the equivalent of having a white person come up on stage and start talking about how slavery was justified because while in Africa, he was treated like a slave trader. Killing people through suicide bombing is wrong. Period. A school sponsored speaker saying otherwise is wrong and dangerous.

Something needs to be done to educate the population of the school. The fact that a professor in the History department could ever say that someone visiting Palestine is an absolute disgrace to the faculty and academic prestige of this institution. Maybe she has not taken a course in the history of the Middle East, but Palestine was a mandate under Great Britain that was dissolved in 1948, to make the country that is now known as Israel. If a professor could make such a blatant and prejudicial mistake, imagine what kinds of things are being said by students.

Israeli and Jewish are not the same thing. There are plenty of non-Jews in Israel, and in the army. Druze, for example, are a group of people who broke off from mainstream Islam. The Druzes are mostly found in Northern Israel, near Lebanon and are an active part of the country's military forces. Abu Gosh is an Arab village outside Jerusalem. It was critical in several battles, helping Israel remain a country through 1948 and 1967. There are also Arab Muslims and Arab Christians. Of course there are more Jews in Israel than anyone else, but the two are hardly synonymous, or mutually exclusive.

During my time in Israel, I experienced many of the same things that the speaker talked about. Going through checkpoints is annoying, a hassle, and sometimes feels unnecessary. I had items that did not make sense taken away from me, like bottles and the like, but I realized that if the discomfort of many saves the lives of a few, it is worth it.

I did not go to see the speaker because it was not promoted to the whole Baham community, but I have gotten some understanding of what was discussed by talking to students and a professor who actually supported the speaker. To that end, I do not have any problem with the majority of the message of the speaker. I am only insulted by the part of the lecture I have discussed above.

I hope that in the coming H&S classes, the speaker’s comments are clarified as coming from a prejudiced perspective. The Palestinians are not necessarily wrong, neither are the Israelis, but the fundamentalists on both sides do not help. Bringing a pro-Palestinian speaker to campus is not a bad idea.

It is definitely a perspective that gets underplayed on campus, but I felt that it was necessary to stress that she is not an expert. She is a performance artist. Her job is to evoke a reaction, not to give students an accurate view on everything that is happening in Israel, Gaza, and the West Bank. Some of the things she said are her experiences, through her own eyes. Others are fact. Others are opinions. Still others were just mis-representations that should be taken with a grain of salt.

Alternate Reality or My Future?

Manjiri Rastogi
Lifestyles Editor

As I was watching one of my favorite sitcoms, Friends, I stumbled upon the double saga “The One That Could Have Been.” This is the pair of episodes which plays with an alternate reality for my six favorite fictional characters. Each character wonders what their fate could have been like if they had made a different decision earlier in their lives. In these two episodes, Rachel is married to Barry, Ross’ wife Carol has not yet realized she is a lesbian, Chandler takes up writing and quits his data entry job, Joey is a huge star on Days of Our Lives, Monica is still fat and Phoebe pursues a job as a stock broker.

This is by far one of the funniest episodes for the simple reason that everything is taken to the other extreme. Unfortunately for me, I realized the importance of every decision we make or neglect for that matter: each will behave the way for our futures. As I watched this episode I found myself wondering what my alternate reality would be like, or better yet what my future may actually hold. I reflected on my recent activities this semester. I live in Bryant. Upon hearing that I live “so far away” many people wonder how I manage to make it to Trim Dining Hall or why I live there. In reality, it is not that far away and I really enjoy my super-large dorm room, 30 student to bathroom ratio as well as the 2 full eat in kitchens on my floor. Any way, the truth is although Bryant is not very far it’s about 8 minutes to Trim according to my cell phone call timer, recently I have been looking forward to 6:00 pm so that I could drive over and park my car in Hollister lot because it’s way too cold out. I realize it seems really pathetic that I have to drive from one end to the other of our tiny campus for dinner, but I really can’t stand the cold, so I feel like I am justified.

Aside from driving to Trim, going to class, work, group meetings and trying to catch up on sleep, I really could not remember much else for the month of October. How sad is that? Well, that’s not entirely true actually. I have eaten out for several friends’ birthdays and of course the usual dining out that we do most weekends. Although I always try my hardest to stay away from ordering my two favorite delivery options – Lemon Thai and Dominos – the truth is I can’t escape it. Matter of fact, my curly pad thai with tofu is sitting beside me, almost haunting me as I write this article.

Every day I think about going to the gym but before I know it, 6 am the cloister and I am hungry again dreaming about dining Dominos. Bottom line: if I continue living my life this way...basically ordering plenty of absolutely tasty but definitely fattening foods at all kinds of random hours of the night - I can guarantee that no one will recognize me at our five-year reunion. Although it has not yet started catching up with me greatly,

I will slowly start looking more and more like a big blimp.

You would think that I would do something about it since I am aware of the problem and honestly, I am pretty upset with the way this past month has gone by. Sometimes I wish television was like real life and that I could have Monica Gellar as a friend who would motivate me to take care of myself while I am young. Unfortunately for me, no such luck. Ultimately my fate lies in my hands and hopefully, I will do something about it before it’s too late but no guarantees.

The first must see movie of the year?
The Do's and Don'ts of Formal Dining

Manjari Rastogi
Lifestyles Editor

Have you ever wondered how to act in a social setting with your employers and other colleagues? Perhaps you have been invited to a corporate social gathering as a prospective employee. Below is a list of tips that you should keep in mind to help you keep your cool in such a situation. In addition, I would like to thank Auditi Hussain, Cindy Lo and Ankit Jalan for contributing tips and aiding me in compiling this list and writing this article.

Tip #1
When picking up your nametag, be sure to place it on the right-hand side of your chest as opposed to the left. The reason for this is because when you go to shake someone's hand with your right hand, their attention automatically goes to your right shoulder. By placing your nametag there, you are working towards guaranteeing that they will remember your name.

Tip #2
If you decide to pick up a drink, make sure you do so with your left hand; this makes it easier for you to shake with your right hand. Switching hands causes unnecessary confusion and looks unprofessional.

Tip #3
We all know that the dreaded suit (and tie) can get uncomfortable. But before rushing to take your blazer-jacket off, make sure that your host has already done so. If you take off your blazer before the host, you seem too comfortable and disrespectful; avoid this by following your host's lead.

Tip #4
In a more intimate setting, make sure to only have a seat once everyone has arrived. In addition, be sure to wait until the host or senior-most executive (in terms of hierarchical structure within the organization) is sitting down.

Tip #5
Drinks (wine glasses, water glasses, etc.) always belong on the right-hand side while solids such as breads belong on the left.

Tip #6
Once seated, never reach across the table for anything. Instead, ask the servers to pass you what you need. Going along with this, do not try to reach across to introduce yourself to someone who arrived late.

Tip #7
Prior to serving yourself, be sure to offer to everyone around you first. For example, if the bread basket is closest to you, pick it up and present it to the others.

Tip #8
In regards to soup, be sure to dip the spoon away from you as opposed to towards yourself.

Tip #9
When invited to someone's home, do not arrive fifteen minutes early or late. The phrase "the early bird catches the worm" does not hold true in this situation. Instead, arrive on time. Plan for traffic and other unexpected factors in advance and if you arrive early, drive around the block until it is time to ring the doorbell. Punctuality is well received and gives a good impression.

Tip #10
If you eat something which requires seeds to be spit out, then be sure to remove them the same way they went into your mouth. For example, if you used a fork, use that same fork to take it out.
ARTS

THURSDAY, OCT. 27TH, 2005

The Art Institute of Chicago; Leaving the right Impression

Justin Peagram
Arts Editor

This past weekend, I had the chance to visit the "Windy City." Three weeks ago, when I booked my flight and hotel, I had no idea Chicago was going to be overshadowed by the enthusiastic White Sox fans. The purpose of my trip was completely different from those of most people who flew in that weekend, yet I soon became engrossed in the energetic atmosphere that Chicago has to offer. During the morning, having a couple of hours to spare, I decided to visit the Art Institute of Chicago. A pleasant side-effect of going to one of the World Series games was that the museum was pretty empty (not that I am making any ascriptions to that thing called "a baseball game"
fan). This was my first time at the Art Institute, and it did not disappoint.

The Art Institute is a massive museum (along with a school) comparable in size and breadth to the Metropolitan Fine Arts in Boston. During those few spare hours, I had a chance to visit both the permanent collections as well as one of the temporary exhibitions.

The second floor of the Institute is devoted entirely, to European paintings and sculptures, ranging from the fourteenth to the twelfth century. The Renaissance period is modestly represented, with a noticeable absence of any High Renaissance artists. However, this section of the museum is peppered with a few magnificent paintings, including the Crucifixion of Christ by Zaburans and a Madonna by Rembrandt (similar to the one in Boston). The Baroque period has many pieces on display, with paintings from Rembrandt and Rubens, though they are lesser known pieces. Important works showcased include Turner and Constable from England and David and Ingres from France.

Though the earlier European art is well represented and an integral part of the Institute, the museum's penchant for modernity becomes obvious as one enters the first Impressionist gallery.

Review of Alexander Hamilton: A Life by Willard Sterne Randall

Justin Peagram
Arts Editor

Biographies can usually be quite dry reads. The author can either make it interesting or academic. The exception is this book, which sells more copies, but its deceptive (and often times inaccurate) title does not mislead the casual reader. The book covers the historical details quite nicely (and correctly), yet it remains untouched on bookshelves or in the hands of a select few scholars.

Willard Sterne Randall's biography of Alexander Hamilton, entitled Alexander Hamilton: A Life, is a refreshingly hybrid that combines scholarly research with exciting prose. Many Hamilton biographies have been written, including a recent one by Ron Chernow (2004), but this book, in the author's opinion, does not come close to Randall's account, especially in terms of writing style.

Randall's book looks on many faces during his short life (1757-1804): the first U.S. secretary of the treasury and founder of the American banking system, a prominent lawyer and coauthor of The Federalist Papers, an aide-de-camp (and later a colonel) to General Washington during the American Revolution, and a charming womanizer whose arrogance led to his death in a duel with Aaron Burr. Considering Hamilton was the illegitimate son of a less than noble family residing on the Caribbean islands, these achievements are nothing short of miraculous.

Randall uses the most recent scholarship to provide insight into Hamilton's lesser known (and often times more interesting) endeavors. The author does not shy away from the more controversial aspects of Hamilton's life, including his illegitimate children, his secretive military duties and his scandalous private life. When missing documentation, Randall offers alternative theories as to how things may have happened, but he makes sure the reader is aware that these are merely conjectures.

Alexander Hamilton, though not as well known as some of the other founding fathers, is an essential historical figure to learn about. His Providential and resourceful mind and his prodigious and savvy should serve as inspiration for young business minds here at Babson.

Willard Sterne Randall's interpretation is one of the best renditions and accounts of Hamilton biographies I have come across. It's a definite must-read for the Thanksgiving break.

The Doom of Action Movies

Anantshree Chaturvedi
Staff Writer

This Friday I was simply lazing around the house with nothing to do. Tired and alone at the end of a very challenging and difficult week, I felt like doing nothing at all, but for the first time in months, I was at the same time. So I came to the decision to do one of my favorite things, go out and watch a movie.

Thus I called some people, checked the movie times online, and the only show available after eleven was a new action/science-fiction flick called Doom. At first glance, it looked interesting, reminding me of the good old days where I had time to sit in front of the television and play video games with nothing in my mind except killing monsters.

Nevertheless, this film was a big disappointment as it tried to merge two very different forms of entertainment: video games and action cinema. The very essence of cinema is different from computer gaming as the former has evolved through history and become an art form. One of the reasons the audience to collectively attach themselves to the characters; it lets the director create a masterpiece by manipulating every little detail of a shot. Computer games, on the other hand, have fast paced stories and mostly point-of-view action; they are meant as interactions typically geared towards a small number of people, albeit the internet is rapidly changing that.

Doom fails because it cannot simply plug in one form of entertainment into another and expect positive results. One cannot show action from the point-of-view of the protagonist for a whole twenty minutes and expect the audience to be engaged. The reason why computer games are booming is because the players feel in control. Personal skills play a large role and so does the game is fun and entertaining.

The same concept cannot be applied to cinema, that's what makes it different from games.

Therefore Doom was a bad first attempt at a concept which will be no doubt attempted again in the future. However, maybe then the director will understand how to aesthetically converge a computer game into a movie without making the movie monotonous and dull.

Last year's Arts Editor Eoin Daly (currently at LSE) takes this picture of London's famous Tower Bridge.
Pakistan Devastated by Earthquake

Rebecca Soon
Advertising Director

Please do not become jaded to the numbers of people impacted by disasters of nature this past year. I beg of you not to get lost in the sheer magnitude of the pain and suffering that is occurring in our world. Sometimes when I study human rights discourses, I struggle to grasp the scope of people in our world directly affected with slavery, massive death, displacement, and much more on an every day basis. I have to fight myself not to give in to the globalization of death.

Instead, I ask you today, to think about the people that have been affected by the earthquake that hit Pakistan on October 8th. They are not simply the faces on TV, or the pictures in the paper, rather many of those affected may be sitting next to you in class, or standing in front of you in the line at Reynolds. Many of those that have lost family, friends, and loved ones are here with us at Babson.

So please take a look at these numbers again and remember that these are real people with real lives and real stories to tell. More than 80,000 people have died and over half of those are children. 3 Million people have been displaced from their homes with no food, shelter, or place to protect themselves from the aftershocks. The earthquake hit a 7.6-7.8 on the Richter scale, with experts saying that this is as massive of a natural event as the tsunami of 2004.

Since the earthquake, over 100 aftershock quakes have occurred ranging from 5.2-6.3 on the Richter scale leading to more death and devastation. Many organizations have been able to set up shelters and hospitals, but there are simply not enough resources to feed, shelter, and treat those in need. As the Himalayan Winter begins to set in, many more are expected to die with far less than adequate food and shelter. This isn’t like people being homeless on an island in paradise, its families being homeless in the dead of winter.

Please don’t shut your eyes, turn away your head, and block out the images. Those affected by this massive tragedy need every one of us to keep this situation in the front of our minds as something that is going on while we are sitting in class, partying at the pub, and sleeping in our heated rooms. I’m not asking you to feel guilty; I’m asking you to keep those that have lost everything in your minds, your hearts, and your prayers.

Fais Riaz is carried by his father to safer ground in Gari Habibullah, Pakistan. Half of those that have been killed by the earthquake lived in a refugee camp, that had been destroyed by a rains and donated to it a relief fund, donate it to save a life.

I believe we would all give it to her. Well just because the people of Pakistan cannot run up to you today, does not mean they are not in the same situation. Please find it in your hearts to dig into your wall pocket for a few dollars and donate it to a relief fund, donate it to save a life.

Not Taking “No” For an Answer

Amelia Adams
Staff Writer

Many people say that the United States of America is a free country. I would not completely agree with that statement. I do, however believe that citizens of this country are more fortunate than a lot of citizens in other countries. As a citizen of such a country, it pains me when I learn that in other countries the government orders mass killings and raping upon its citizens because they are deemed dishonorable.

As a citizen of humanity I feel an even deeper pain when people witness such a violation of human rights and have no reaction. The average person, well maybe many people know (not to generalize), upon being educated on the topic, feel they need to do something. Well as a college student, I am challenging all whose eyes go across this page to take a STAND.

Students Taking Action: Darfur (STAND) is a student initiative with a network of colleges, universities and high schools who are dedicated to educating the public of the ongoing crisis, raising funds to provide relief for victims and taking political action to mobilize a solution to stop genocide in Darfur, Sudan. These are not students with super powers; they stress over exams, are members of clubs, party on weekends, and participate in sports just like many of us.

I was fortunate to conduct an interview with Weldon Kennedy, a senior at Brandeis University and an active member of STAND. He is originally from Albuquerque, New Mexico, and recently spent the last year studying abroad in Senegal and Vietnam. He is envious of those who became involved in this movement on their own, for it took the encouragement of a friend to get him participating.

His involvement began with researching websites for a student at Georgetown. Like me, he felt obliged to do something. Although there have been challenges, most people do not feel any personal connection with people in Darfur. A lot of Babson students do not know what life is like in poor communities, nor have they even visited poor communities at that. Yet, he is confident STAND can overcome cynicism and make a difference. They are not taking no for an answer.

I challenge you all to take a stand and do something. There are many levels of involvement and any help makes a difference believe it or not. In weeks to come I will be having a "Dear Congressman" initiative. Our representatives think American citizens do not care about Darfur because we have not voiced concerns and need for action. Also, another member of STAND will come to speak to the Babson community. Like Welden, I believe many will become involved since they learn of this crisis.

Please join in defending Darfur people’s natural rights and take a STAND.

For more information on the genocide currently occurring in Darfur, Sudan, please read the October 6th issue of the Babson Free Press.

Website: http://www.stdnow.org/
Contact: amal1@babson.edu

Residents, later rescued, are seen trapped in a collapsed house.

Donate to a Relief Fund!

- Here at Babson, enclose donation in a sealed envelope entitled “Donation” and address it to Mariam Haqqie, Box 752. If you are donating via check, please write it out to Babson College with a note referring to “President of Pakistan’s Relief Fund.”
- Federation of Red Crescent & Red Cross
  http://www.ifrc.org/
- UNICEF http://www.unicef.org
- Islamic Relief http://www.irw.org/asiaquake/
- Mercy Corps http://www.mercycorps.org/
- OXFAM http://www.oxfam.org.uk/index.htm
Semester at Sea – Mauritis

Vanessa Borrill
Contributing Writer

We arrived in Mauritis on September 9, 2005 at 0800 hours. We were diverted to Mauritius because of the un-stableness and terrorist act currently occurring in Kenya. I was disappointed missing my 5 day safari to Tanzania, but Mauritius was a nice relaxing break that many of us needed. Who knew traveling the world would be this exhausting! The French island is only about 25 miles and about 3 miles wide and surprisingly predominantly Hindu.

The first day we arrived, Careen, John, Phil, (all 3 Babson students) Ali and I went to the southern part of the island to go zip lining. When we arrived at the place we put on harnesses and drove to the first zip line, which was approx. 200 feet long crossing over a cliff and river. We were clipped onto the cable and flew.

The view was absolutely amazing. We then crossed the river again to get back on the other side. Our next line was a tandem line, where I was in front and John was on a swing in back. We continued up the mountain and visited a natural spring pool and a 30 foot waterfall. It was so hot so we jumped in; little did we know how cold it actually would be.

We were fooled by the shallow water we stepped into to get in which had been warmed up by the sun. Swimming to the water fall we climbed up and jumped from about a 15 foot rock. It was incredible the way nature has created such a magnificent environment and it is even more incredible that Nass has actually signed up for these nature things and enjoyed them! I have even hiked...I know, I am impressed myself too!

After towing off we went to the longest and highest zip line that was about 200 feet high over another river. It was actually two parts. We zipped a little and landed in a tree and then zipped down the longer one. It was so freeing being out on the cable alone and having a view of the entire southern part of the island and just flying.

Driving back to the camp we ate an Indian lunch of tortillas, chicken curry and red beans. Not really my kind of food, but I survived, I have to learn because I will be having a week of the same food in about 6 days! Oh boy!

Following lunch we took the tractor up the mountains and saw another waterfall from afar as well as the hundreds of deer that live on the reserve. They were everywhere, where and just stopped and stared at us. Then to our surprise they dropped us off and said "ok now you are going to hike down" we were not too thrilled, but we made the best of it. Getting down the mountains was grueling and after an hour later we went back to the boat.

We quickly packed our bags up the hill and headed off to the West Coast to say at Le Peral Hotel. It was an inexpensive hotel that about 30 SAS kids decided to stay at. The experience was about being there with everyone, not about the accommodations. Well that is what we tried to tell ourselves, anyway. Until we all decided that the little bugs were just a little too rugged for us and moved down the beach to the Sugar Beach Resort.

There we got an amazing room and had a more comfortable day. I bought a frog t-shirt for more buachancy, of course, but the boys were too embarrassed and would not let me wear it, but I still kicked some booty even if I was the only girl and standing on my tip toe for the entire time, I held my own on defense! Then we all went snorkeling on the coral reef that surrounds the entire island. That night all 7 of us enjoyed a buffet dinner and performance, which I was given a whole leg of lamb on the bone, literally, I felt like a cave woman.

The next day, on to the boat, we passed by sugar cane fields that are their number one export in the country, where they make sugar, rum and molasses. They harvest the sugar cane fields about once a year because that is how long it takes to grow. We were lucky enough to see it on our drive. They were burning the fields and all the sugar cane which apparently makes the sugar easier to access. After the fire burns all of the canes they cut it down and bring it to the manufacturing plant.

Rushing back to drop our bags off at the boat we took the water taxi to the town where we were hoping to look in some shops because Mauritius is so well known for their textiles. Unfortunately, things closed at 5pm. So we spent our last few hours in this gorgeous country at an internet cafe and headed back to the boat on the water taxi. Bringing an end to my nice relaxing weekend in Mauritius, it is now time to prep myself for the culture shock they say we are going to get from India.

Zebrus in the salvage areas of Africa.

Balinese Dancer.
Tough, Rainy Day for Women's Soccer

By David Barner  Sports Editor

After weeks upon weeks of rain, the Babson Women's soccer team managed to squeeze in a game on Saturday versus Mount Holyoke. The day started with heavy, relentless rain, and the field was soaked with what had been a week's worth of precipitation. The game started off with Babson leading Mount Holyoke 1-0 at the end of the first half. However, early in the second half, Mount Holyoke was able to score on a penalty kick, evening the game at 1-1. Despite the score being level, Babson continued to press forward, dominating possession in the closing minutes of the game. In the 86th minute, Babson's face-off specialist was able to win the ball, leading to a breakaway from the Babson goalkeeper. The Babson midfielder chipped the ball over the goalkeeper, putting the ball into the back of the net. This goal, scored in the 86th minute, sealed the victory for Babson, who went on to win the game 2-1.

The seniors of the Babson Women's Rugby team pose for a picture. This year, winning all 5 matches in NECWAC play, they scored 9-2 with only moments left in the game. Another heartbreaker for the young undergraduates, who now will taste the bitter feeling they were trying to erase for a few other, long months, since Indoor Season begins.

As Olin College of Engineering dominated in numbers this season in Coed Ultimate, it was a Babson women's team who took the championship. Haterade Light, with captain Dave Meyers, was able to place another stunning blow to the frisbee-errs of Olin College. Winning their semi-final game 13-3 and pulling away in the second half of the championship 17-7, this team simply out played their opponents all season long; outsourcing their opposition a combined total of 62 to 29, including a 1-0 forfeit win. Steve and his crew simply dominated this season.

Another MBA team was able to make it to the finals this year in 3rd Basketball. However, they ran into the perfect season of The Dynasty, and simply were not as fortunate as the Basketballers in soccer. The Dynasty capped their perfect season last night beating the MBA Assassins 25-11. Obviously Alvare Lantignu, Chris Bradley, and the rest of the Dynasty crew can play a little bit of offense and some good defense. Letting their opponent's average only a little more than 10 points per game, they were able to keep defense win the championship.

Winter Intramural sign-ups will begin right after winter break. This year, the hottest sport on campus will return as we look to bring some intense DODGEBALL back again this coming winter. Fellow that will annual powerhouse 5-6 Basketball, Co-ed Volleyball, and always a favourite Indoor Soccer and our winter line-up is jammed packed with something for everyone. Look for sign-ups immediately following winter break. Thank you all the Athletics for a Great Fall Season!