Costume Controversy

Rebecca Soon
Co-Editor in Chief

Discussions have been sprouting out on social media about a costume that a student dressed as the Black Panther Party for Self-Defense, a group that fought against police brutality and racial discrimination. The costume was criticized for not accurately representing the group's history and significance.

Others claim that dressing up as a superhero can be a way to express one's identity and cultural heritage.

View from Hollister 112

Donni Hanna
Dean of Undergraduate

Lately, I've been thinking "differently." I don't necessarily mean that I've changed the way I think (although I am constantly challenging my assumptions about things, I look at things from different perspectives), but I've been spending a lot of time talking about differences. Most of these thoughts and conversations are about differences between and among people.

Last Thursday, I spent the entire day with John Hume, 1958 Nobel Peace Prize winner, listening to him talk to hundreds of people on campus about solving conflict between groups that have been separated by their differences for centuries. Sometimes differences are hard to observe and even harder to process. For example, I've visited Northern Ireland many times and the reality of what's going on is not always apparent to visitors. The divisions are there and they are deeply entrenched, but if you look below the surface, you can see how at almost any moment. How did Hume overcome formidable odds to bring an end to the violence and lay the foundation for peace and unity? His answer is simple yet powerful. As he told his audience, "Principle number one is to respect differences." He further explained that differences are not challenges but opportunities.

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Happy Birthday Brandon! Celebrate with us on the hot seat!

STUDENTS SPEAK OUT!!!
For more information on student reactions and opinions to recent controversies, turn to page 5&6 of the Opinion section.

Babson's Elite Business strategy team finished runner up at last weekend's international business challenge in Austin, Texas. The team competed in a four-day business case competition against 20 of the world's leading business schools. This was Babson’s best finish ever. Photo c/o Ryan Davies for the Free Press.

Look what the Greeks did on Halloween

Seth Hedstrom
Contributing Writer

Over 1,500 canned foods and $800 were collected during Greek Council's Third Annual Trick or Charity canned food drive on October 30th. Members of all seven Greek Organizations Sigma Phi Epsilon, Kappa Kappa Gamma, Chi Omega, Alpha Epsilon Pi, Theta Chi, Sigma Kappa, and Tau Kappa Epsilon took time from their busy schedules to spend their afternoon spread around the neighborhoods surrounding Wellesley collecting donations. All food donations will be delivered to the Greater Boston Food Bank and cash donations will go toward the WCAFP.

Track or Charity is just one of the many philanthropic events organized by members of the Greek Community. From Theta Chi's Crush-A-Thon to the Fashion show hosted by Kappa Kappa Gamma, Greeks are very involved in giving back to the community through events that also promote unity and enthusiasm in their own chapters.

Babson College Greek Council's goal is to promote Greek life on campus and the Greek Community through social and philanthropic efforts. Membership is composed of representatives from all seven Greek Organizations.

community. Instead, I am more concerned that this event and probably many other similar acts like it that we never hear about have the ability to create a climate of distrust and disrespect that will inhibit our growth and development. I'd like to believe that a negative and destructive climate does not currently exist on our campus, and that we as a community can work together to strengthen our commitment to respecting each other and our many differences. Now, my belief needs to be confirmed by the way in which we work together to foster a positive and productive dialogue addressing the differences highlighted by this event, as well as other differences that are visible or that lie below the surface. As a member of this community, we all accept the responsibilities defined by the community. There is no ambiguity in terms of our expectations about the treatment of others. The very first page of the Undergraduate Handbook states, "The College abhors any malicious, racial, religious, sexist, homophobic or ethnic slurs, or any actions that are demeaning to any group or individual." I don't think we can make this expectation of how we treat differences any clearer. The expectation needs to be translated into actions, and now we have an opportunity to see how we do that as a community.

Where do we go from here? I assure you that the faculty and administration are concerned about the incident and the environment in which it occurred.
Fanaa for you from AMAN

On behalf of the Black Student Union, Katrina Fludd expressed her gratitude, saying that this week’s event marked a significant milestone in the college’s history.

The weeks of preparation and hard work finally paid off. AMAN hosted a terrific show last Friday. With hundreds of college students, staff, and faculty in attendance, the college witnessed a lively and engaging performance.

The show was named ‘Fanaa’, a word from the language Urdu, spoken primarily in Pakistan, and a language highly similar to Hindi, India’s national language. Urdu basically means ‘intoxication’ and ‘extinction’, but in a spiritual sense. The word carries religious connotations, and is said to also mean the actual ‘extinction’ of self, so that an inner ascension becomes one with God, and is free of all that contaminates the mind. The show was also similar to words such as ‘mirans’ and ‘moksha’, which are terms used in Hinduism.

True to its name, ‘Fanaa’ ensured that the audience was engaged throughout the show. The audience actively participated in the event, with approximate 90 minutes of this exciting experience and enjoyed themselves with the musical and dramatic entertainment!

On the whole, one can be sure that the show was a great success. The organizers and performers gave tremendous support to the MCs and performers, and were instrumental in ensuring an electric atmosphere throughout the show. Indeed, much of the energy and vibrancy that the performers in the show brought about was a result of the unprecedented support provided by the viewers. Some of the parents of the performers were also present, as it has to be given the parents a glimpse of how their children can perform. The support of the audience while at Babson by engaging in extra-curricular activities.

At the conclusion of the show, all the spectators were welcomed to take photographs and more in the South Asian culture, and kudos to AMAN for organizing and hosting an event that is excellently assisted in raising awareness for the South Asian culture here at Babson.

Those who missed ‘Fanaa’ have one last chance to witness the event this Friday. On the first hand; AMAN is hosting a dinner at the restaurant/lounge Mantara on Saturday. The dinner will begin at 8:30pm, and it will cost just $20 for the dinner, as well as the after-party. If you like good South-Asian food, I only have three words for you – ‘Don’t miss it!’

Come and support student activism on campus, and support the human rights movement for "No More Tears, Sister."

Wednesday, November 6
7:00pm-9:00pm
Olin Auditorium

"No More Tears, Sister"
Sarah Seth, Contributing Writer

As part of the literature course Interdisciplinary Approach to Human Rights, Professor Elizabeth Goldberg offers students a choice of taking a final exam or engaging in an active project. Scott Breitenbrough and I have chosen the latter and decided to screen “No More Tears Sisters” the film directed by Holme Kldowski. This moving film covers the life of Rajani Thiranagama, a human rights activist who was murdered during the height of the Sri Lankan civil war. Holme Kldowski’s film is a silent voice in condemning the human rights violations committed by the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), a guerrilla group seeking self-determination for the ethnic Tamil minority since the early 1970s.

We chose to screen this film in particular because it greatly parallels the context of our Human Rights course. The film illustrates the resistance movement against the Sri Lankan government, the social justice and human rights movement, the armed struggle and the role of gender in the resistance movement. Our class encompassed these issues with a primary focus on the ‘Dirty War’ in Argentina and the Rwandan genocide. The silencing of dissent and opposition as well as the continued violations in Argentina and Rwanda reflect the situation presented in Kldowski’s film “No More Tears Sisters.”

Sri Lanka’s ethnic conflict is a part of a result of British colonialism. Under British occupation, the Tamil minority was affected through economic and political advantages while the Sinhalese community was marginalized. Once Sri Lanka was granted independence, tension between the Sinhalese and Tamil escalated, creating paramilitary groups on both sides. As a result of the political and social climate, Rajani Thiranagama, an ethnic Tamil, aligned with left-wing nationalists in the early 1970s. She was later murdered by the group in 1989 for documenting and exposing the LTTE’s inhuman treatment of Tamil civilians, including violations. Holme Kldowski’s film is a silent voice in condemning the human rights violations committed by the LTTE. The film, distributed through economic and political advantages while the Sinhalese community was marginalized. Once Sri Lanka was granted independence, tension between the Sinhalese and Tamil escalated, creating paramilitary groups on both sides. As a result of the political and social climate, Rajani Thiranagama, an ethnic Tamil, aligned with left-wing nationalists in the early 1970s. She was later murdered by the group in 1989 for documenting and exposing the LTTE’s inhuman treatment of Tamil civilians, including violations. Holme Kldowski’s film is a silent voice in condemning the human rights violations committed by the LTTE.

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INTERNATIONAL

Thursday, October 06, 2006

International Education Week Presented by Global Program Services

The William F. Glavin Center for Global Management

Exciting Upcoming Events

Free Chocolate Tasting!
Needham Wellness Room
Tuesday, 2nd Floor 6:00-8:00 PM
Learn about and taste chocolate from around the world...with
the entrepreneur's guild...and
socially responsible Kcalert
Association.
Coordinated by: Global Society, Blank Center, and Glavin
Center for Global Management

World Fund Education in Latin America
Olin Auditorium
November 6th 5:00-7:00 PM
Luisa Zelbo, Founder & CEO of Worldfund, will discuss about
the current
Worldfund projects that seek to raise awareness about the educa-

tional crisis in Latin America. Worldfund projects seek to transform lives
and reduce poverty by supporting high quality education
for impoverished children.
Coordinated by: Babson Students: Roberta Vasconcelos & Irene
Asturias

Play: God's Country
By Steven Dietz
Sorbonne Theater
November 9th-11th
An adaptation play, pre-

sented by TheatrWorks @ Babson that examines the full range
of racial hatred and follows the true story of a white suprema-
cist neo-Nazi group known as The Order that operated in the Pacific
Northwest in the 1980's.
Coordinated by: Sorbonne Theater

Education Abroad Information Session
Tomasso 209
2:00-3:00 PM
Trinity, Cambridge, Oxford. A

must do! If you are interested in
education abroad at these insti-
tutions. Learn the basics of the
application process and get in-
fon on these programs of
choice.
Coordinated by: Global Program Services

Multicultural Fair
Knight Auditorium
4:00 - 7:00 pm
Celebrate Babson's diversity!

Come and learn about the vari-

ous cultures that make
Babson unique. Enjoy food,
crafts, displays and cultural ac-
tivities from around the globe.
Coordinated by: Office of Cam-
pus Life and Global Program Ser-

vices

Passport Signing Contest
Residence Halls
Coordinated by: Office of the Undergraduate Dean

Food from Around the World

Trimm Dining Hall and Peabody's

Enjoy food from around the

world in Trimm Dining Hall
and Peabody's at Olin.
Coordinated by: Sodexo,
Panini's and Global Program
Services

Campus-Wide Photo Contest

Reynolds/Olin

Stop by Reynolds or Olin to see photos of international des-

ignations submitted by Babson faculty, staff and students. Cast
your vote for your favorite photo before

judging ends on Thursday, November 16th. Coordinated by:

Global Program Services

Ten Thousand Villages/International Market Festival

Ten Thousand Villages provides fair, trade to Third World artisans by market-

ing their handicrafts and telling their stories in North America. This alternative trade organi-

zation offers beautiful, quality hand-crafted merchandise from talen-
ted artisans from Africa, Asia and Latin America. Withdistribu-
tion, that they have been paid fairly and treated with dignity.

Products (jewelry, textiles, musi-
cal instruments, home décor, ba-

kets) will be on sale at the
multicultural fair, GPS open-
house and all week in Reynolds.
Coordinated by: Global Program Services

Nobel Peace Prize winning authors

Horn Library
A library display on Nobel Peace

winning authors, Muhammad
Yunus and Orban Pamuk will be

up all week at Horn Library.
Coordinated by: Horn Library

Residence Hall Display of Cultures

Residence Halls
Coordinated by: Office of Campus

Life

CLASSIFIED

Top 10 Spring Break

*Call STS for the best deals to this year's
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CFA Exam: A Necessity for Prospective Investment Professionals

By Alex Turcza
Business & Technology Editor

Think your FME or SAT exams were tough? Try taking a six-hour Chartered Financial Analysts examination and see if you’re still complaining.

This was the topic discussed by Warren Johnson, former president of the Boston Security Analysts Society, this past Thursday at the weekly Bahamian Investment Management Association speaker series. Johnson, an executive-in-residence in the finance division spoke to B.J.M.A. about the benefits of taking the CFA exam and becoming a CFA member.

"The first thing potential clients look at when evaluating an investment firm is how many CFA’s does that firm have." Steven Feinstein, professor of finance added, "This is the single credential for investment professionals. It shows employers you are serious about the industry."

The exams are based on survey responses from company executives, CFA members, and expert panels that have indicated what knowledge and skills they feel investment professionals need.

There are three levels of examinations one must pass in order to achieve CFA designation. On all three exams candidates must be knowledgeable in investment tools, asset valuation, portfolio management, ethics and professional conduct in the investment industry. Each exam runs a total of six hours and costs, on average, a little more than $1,000 to take.

While the fee for taking the exam is steep, the benefits for such a credential are definitely worth it.

Johnson explained, "The money is a big reason so many candidates take the exams. On average, a charter holder makes 21% more ($244,000) than non-chartered members ($200,000) working in the same field."

Johnson warns though, "This exam is tough; there are no shortcuts and takes roughly 200-300 hours of preparation. Even then there is no guarantee of success."

He went on to explain the pitfalls many test takers fall into, "More candidates have trouble with the quantitative analysis and accounting portions of the test than any other areas. They tend to be shocked at the amount of material covered in each."

Feinstein agreed, "Most of the Bahamians students whom have taken the test and failed were due to a lack of preparation in accounting."

The numbers don't lie. Of the total number of candidates who took the Level 1 exam in 2005, only 38% passed. Similarily, the Level 2 exam had a 50% pass rate and 55% for Level 3.

Just to test your knowledge, here are a couple of sample questions from the Level 1 and 5 exams.

Level 1: According to the Standard’s & Practice Handbook, which of the following activities is least likely to breach a member’s duty to a client? A. Failing to vote proxies B. Using soft dollar arrangements to pay firm management expenses C. Failing to establish the investment objective of the client D. Disclosing confidential client information of the CFA Institute Professional Conduct Program

Level 3: If the volatility of Abaco’s stock price decreases, what is most likely to happen to the values of the related call and put?

A. Both the call and the put will decrease in value.
B. Both the call and the put will increase in value.
C. The value of the call will increase while the value of the put will decrease.
D. The value of the call will decrease while the value of the put will increase.

Businessweek’s Top 25 Entrepreneurs Under 25

Congratulations
Matt Lauzon and Jason Reuben - Pargon Lake & Joel Hollond - Footage Firm

www.pargonlake.com www.footagefirm.com

OFFICER CANDIDATE SCHOOL
After you earn your bachelor’s degree, you may qualify to become an Army Officer. During Officer Candidate School, you will learn valuable management and leadership techniques. You may qualify for $37,224 for college through the Montgomery GI Bill. Or pay back up to 65,000 of qualifying student loans through the Army’s Loan Repayment Program. To find out more, contact 1-800-USA-ARMY.
A stroll down the corridor connecting Reynolds and Hollister will entail an entirely different experience starting November 7th. Previously merely a shortcut between the two buildings, the space will soon feel a lot more cozy thanks to the upcoming installment “No Place Like Home.” Centered on recent interior installation, the installation features an interesting ensemble of wallpaper patterns, vinyl skirts, and curtains, and fabric dollhouse furniture displaced from their “original” functions and given an entirely new purpose by featured artist Samantha Fields. Invited by artist-in-residence Danielle Kecmar due to her amazing capacity to work in “awkward spaces,” Fields will use Tomasso’s Main Hall in addition to a portion of space between Reynolds and Hollister to exhibit her work.

When asked what about her incentive to sculpt and produce art, Fields genuinely answered, “I ask myself that all the time,” but when questioned about her motivation for this particular installation, she easily responded that her inspiration stems out of her own experience with family: family dynamics, family relationships, how we interact with each other; her initial “examination of dysfunction” resulting in “celebrating” its existence. This notion is prevalent in all her pieces: the holes in the vinyl siding, the wallpaper patterns allowing light and vision to permeate through, the curtains projecting a false sense of privacy—all suggest the discrepancy between the outside world and “domestic” sphere; the “difference” between what happens “inside and outside the home.” By using areas normally considered “institutional” and applying a sense of “domesticity,” she “plays with the walls of the house,” depicting the nearly forbidden intersection of private and public life.

This merging of separate worlds is also essential to the creation of her “site specific work.” Fields relies heavily on family and friends to lend a helping hand—the creation is a group effort. This sense of community is portrayed through Fields’ material as well. Interested in the “history behind the pieces” within her work, all her materials are either found or previously used. She also looks for objects with which all humans have a prior relationship. The piece in Tomasso features dollhouse chairs and tables, due to their connection with dinner—which is universally associated with home or family. “Everyone knows” and can relate to “dinner—is presence or absence,” her desire to thoroughly relate to and engage the viewer is actively portrayed.

The artist’s original vision is very much different than that perceived by the viewer. Very aware of this, Fields knows that each individual spectator will receive an equally individual meaning from her installation and sculpture. However, she subtly hopes that her work reminds the viewers of “their own home, family and relationships.”

A sample of the wallpaper patterns that we can expect to see in the installation

Halloween: Just who is this holiday for?

Dhruva Kapadia
Lifestyles Editor

Halloween used to be a holiday in which young children went door to door with small bags or buckets for candy, but today it is celebrated by people from random strangers in their neighborhoods. Well, to an extent, this custom still exists today, however, there is much more to Halloween than there used to be in the past. This unique holiday now seems to give more and more teenagers an excuse to be themselves and many choose to dress in a more sexual manner.

This holiday comes only once a year, so supporters of this new custom believe that everyone should be allowed to enjoy Halloween any way that they choose. Children can get many different types of candy and chocolates as their “tricks” while other, elder people come up with new and unique ways to enjoy this inimitable holiday of Halloween. This history of Halloween dates back two thousand years ago to an ancient Celtic festival. The Celts inhabited the area that is now Ireland and the United Kingdom. November 1st was the New Year for the Celts and this day symbolized the conclusion of a usually joyous and productive summer and the beginning of a drab, dreary, and cold winter. This year of time was often associated with human death. Hence, people connect such things as ghosts, ghouls, jack-o-lanterns, witches, black cats, and other superstitions with this holiday.

The night before their New Year, the Celts celebrated a festival known as Samhain. According to this, a day was when the separation or periphery between the worlds of the living and dead disappeared. On this day, according to the ancient Celts, soundtrack. Oh, I’m sorry, I wasn’t aware that everyone in Europe had a British accent as well. Her daughter speaks in French, and yet Marie responds in English. Utilizing English is understood as it is targeted at English-speaking audiences, but at least it make them seem as if they’re trying to speak French. Is it that hard to be consistent and use a French accent? If you’re going to use limited dialetics, it should be in French, otherwise what is the point of trying to combine the sound as if that is the music the crowd is in a hall before switching quickly back to chamber music.

Worst of all, she omits the scene which could actually allow for some substance to the film. The climactic death of the royal family and Marie’s suffering in prison would have been the perfect opportunity for the display of her transition from girl to woman. It might have even resulted in some compassion for Marie, but Coppola was only being generous. Versailles.

Speaking of the palace, the only enjoyable part of the film is the costumes and elegant sets, but this is in a time before anything else. She even misses opportunities here by using closely focused camera shots, rather than exploring the beauty of the interior. They have a party in the Hall of Mirrors, but Coppola focuses on the camera and the beauty is lost as you find yourself slavishly forced to watch static characters flint with one another.

Overall, this movie is aimed at thirteen-year-old girls that care about nothing but pretty things and hip things and hip music and even hip hip hop in the most painful way possible. But even they will be bored by this film. Coppola is trying too hard to be edgy, but she ends up just being irrelevant.

Maria Antoniette is rated PG-13 and is playing in both the AMC Pikes 14 and the AMC Chestnut Hill.

they way people dress up in today’s society. The difference? No one would go to a Halloween party or club wearing a buffalo head would they? The reasons for the dramatic change on this holiday is difficult to say since there are can be many reasons. Babson graduate from the class of 2006, Salt Horn, has a similar view on this: “As a kid, it would probably be the coolest thing in the world because I received a lot of candy. For me, it was after one year, I got less into it since I go older. Eventually, it came back in after a couple years. Today, it’s somewhat hard to be more sexually provocative since socially technical society accepts this type of over all thing.”

The truth is that everyone from young kids all the way to grown teens and “20 somethings” can express themselves in a way that their reason may be, and the factor of simply having fun is one of the most important reasons why holidays truly exist.
Blackface at Babson

friends’ wrote about the racist implications of the pictures. Com- ments included: “Blackface is not funny, it is truly a racist...” and “You are asking for a BEATING...sweet.”

The student who wore blackface was not Mya’s only trouble. She had been accused of making racist comments in class. After participating in a blackface performance, she dropped out of class and did not return.

The Black Student Union brought this issue to the attention of administration. After he was contact by an administrator, the student said a letter a letter to the Black Student Union caging igno- rance. He said his intent was to apologize for Halloween, much like anyone dresses up as any other person. I was wearing blackface, he said, because of the context— the night of the event. (Note: the student was photo- graphed in blackface wearing a Babson shirt that is free from all Paul Pierce jerseys) Therefore, my intent was in no way to cre- ate a derogatory costume in any way.

After reading his letter, I was relieved. My only concern for the student— for me— really didn’t know that dressing in blackface was offensive; maybe he just didn’t care about the context. There are, after all, good people who are not racist but do racist things unaware of it. That’s always a possibility...

As a first-year student myself, I can’t post my Facebook profile and look at something other information he published. In “My Friends’ Notes” section, he has this information about how he met another sophomore stu- dent of racism.

It is because these views have been internalized, that the movement beyond the emancipation of slaves, as a result of the civil rights movements of the 1960s. It is because these views, that are detri- mental not only to those who are demeaned by them but to the per- sons who hold these myopic insights, have boomed and continued. Babson College’s mission states: “Babson College affirms its commit- ment to strive for a fair, humane, and respectful environment for all students and employees. It is the policy of the College to maintain a work and learning environment that values and expects respectful behavior and communication. Every member of the College has the right to live, learn, work, and otherwise participate in an en- vironment free of all forms of harassment by any other member of the community. Each individual has, within the law, the right of expression and advocacy. The College upholds freedom of inquiry, speech, and opinion, and it will defend the right of anyone to speak or write the truth, even if the right of free expression must be exercised responsibly without de- priving others of their right to enjoy this and all other opportunities provided by the College. Each mem- ber of the College community has the right to play a part in the preservation of personal freedom.”

The College abhors any malicious, racial, religious, sexist, homophobic, or ethnic slur, and any actions that are demanding to any group or indi- vidual.

Babson College prohibits discrimi- nation on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, sexual orientation, sex, gender identity, or disability, and takes all reasonable steps to ensure that all employees and students are treated with respect and dignity.

Babson College requires that all students and employees understand and adhere to the policies and procedures outlined in the College’s Code of Conduct, which is available online. The College reserves the right to take any action necessary to ensure compliance with these policies and procedures.

The College abhors any malicious, racial, religious, sexist, homophobic, or ethnic slur, and any actions that are demanding to any group or individual.

I am a student at Babson College, and I have been involved in various organizations on campus. I have been aware that there have been instances of racism on campus, such as blackface performances. I believe that it is important to address these issues and work towards creating a more inclusive and respectful environment.

Time to Embrace the Ideas of MLK

By Ralph S. Florence

As a member of a non-profit organization, I am committed to promoting the values of equality, justice, and human rights. I believe that the ideas of Martin Luther King Jr. are still relevant today, and that it is important to embrace them in all aspects of our lives.

I support the idea of having a "day of service" on the campus, as proposed by the executive council. This would be an opportunity for students to come together and work towards a common goal, which is to make a positive impact on our community and the world.

I also support the idea of having a "day of reflection" on the campus. This would be a time for students to think about the issues that are important to them, and to consider how they can make a difference in the world.

In conclusion, I believe that the ideas of Martin Luther King Jr. are still relevant today, and that it is important to embrace them in all aspects of our lives. I support the proposal of having a "day of service" and a "day of reflection" on the campus, and I encourage all students to get involved.

Ben Stewart-Kramer
Contributing Writer

Let me first say that as an openly gay male student, I place myself in one of the most marginalized groups on campus. On this campus, I know exactly what it feels like to be the vic- tim of tasteless jokes and cruel, descending remarks. With that said, however, as part of my community, I also need to take responsibility for my behavior. If I am a good friend of the student being harassed by these allegations, then it is my responsi- bility to report to the administration that he has not only been harassed, but that he is being harassed because of his sexual orientation.

As a student and an employee, I can honestly say that I have never known this student to be a racist. In fact, he is always a great example of how to build a diverse and inclusive community. As friends we rarely see eye to eye on anything, but I know that this student was not intention- ing to make any sort of derogatory statement pertaining to the black community. I would like to take this opportunity to let him know that I support him and his right to freedom of expression.

We all have a responsibility to work towards creating a more inclusive and respectful environment on campus. Let us all work towards creating a future where everyone is treated with dignity, respect, and equality.

Opinions

A Community Speaks Out

Thursday, November 2, 2006

The Babson Free Press

Blackface at Babson

friends’ wrote about the racist implications of the pictures. Comments included: “You are truly a racist...” and “You are asking for a BEATING...sweet.”

The student who wore blackface was not Mya’s only trouble. She had been accused of making racist comments in class. After participating in a blackface performance, she dropped out of class and did not return.

The Black Student Union brought this issue to the attention of administration. After he was contact by an administrator, the student said a letter to the Black Student Union caging ignorance. He said his intent was to apologize for Halloween, much like anyone dresses up as any other person. I was wearing blackface, he said, because of the context—the night of the event. (Note: the student was photographed in blackface wearing a Babson shirt that is free from all Paul Pierce jerseys) Therefore, my intent was in no way to create a derogatory costume in any way.

After reading his letter, I was relieved. My only concern for the student— for me— really didn’t know that dressing in blackface was offensive; maybe he just didn’t care about the context. There are, after all, good people who are not racist but do racist things unaware of it. That’s always a possibility...

As a first-year student myself, I can’t post my Facebook profile and look at something other information he published. In “My Friends’ Notes” section, he has this information about how he met another sophomore student of race.

It is because these views have been internalized, that the movement beyond the emancipation of slaves, as a result of the civil rights movements of the 1960s. It is because these views, that are detrimental not only to those who are demeaned by them but to the persons who hold these myopic insights, have boomed and continued. Babson College’s mission states: “Babson College affirms its commitment to strive for a fair, humane, and respectful environment for all students and employees. It is the policy of the College to maintain a work and learning environment that values and expects respectful behavior and communication. Every member of the College has the right to live, learn, work, and otherwise participate in an environment free of all forms of harassment by any other member of the community. Each individual has, within the law, the right of expression and advocacy. The College upholds freedom of inquiry, speech, and opinion, and it will defend the right of anyone to speak or write the truth, even if the right of free expression must be exercised responsibly without depriving others of their right to enjoy this and all other opportunities provided by the College. Each member of the College community has the right to play a part in the preservation of personal freedom.”

The College abhors any malicious, racial, religious, sexist, homophobic, or ethnic slur, and any actions that are demanding to any group or individual.

Babson College prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, sexual orientation, sex, gender identity, or disability, and takes all reasonable steps to ensure that all employees and students are treated with respect and dignity.

Babson College requires that all students and employees understand and adhere to the policies and procedures outlined in the College’s Code of Conduct, which is available online. The College reserves the right to take any action necessary to ensure compliance with these policies and procedures.

The College abhors any malicious, racial, religious, sexist, homophobic, or ethnic slur, and any actions that are demanding to any group or individual.

I am a student at Babson College, and I have been involved in various organizations on campus. I have been aware that there have been instances of racism on campus, such as blackface performances. I believe that it is important to address these issues and work towards creating a more inclusive and respectful environment.

Time to Embrace the Ideas of MLK

By Ralph S. Florence

As a member of a non-profit organization, I am committed to promoting the values of equality, justice, and human rights. I believe that the ideas of Martin Luther King Jr. are still relevant today, and that it is important to embrace them in all aspects of our lives.

I support the idea of having a "day of service" on the campus, as proposed by the executive council. This would be an opportunity for students to come together and work towards a common goal, which is to make a positive impact on our community and the world.

I also support the idea of having a "day of reflection" on the campus. This would be a time for students to think about the issues that are important to them, and to consider how they can make a difference in the world.

In conclusion, I believe that the ideas of Martin Luther King Jr. are still relevant today, and that it is important to embrace them in all aspects of our lives. I support the proposal of having a "day of service" and a "day of reflection" on the campus, and I encourage all students to get involved.

Ben Stewart-Kramer
Contributing Writer

Let me first say that as an openly gay male student, I place myself in one of the most marginalized groups on campus. On this campus, I know exactly what it feels like to be the victim of tasteless jokes and cruel, descending remarks. With that said, however, as part of my community, I also need to take responsibility for my behavior. If I am a good friend of the student being harassed by these allegations, then it is my responsibility to report to the administration that he has not only been harassed, but that he is being harassed because of his sexual orientation.

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The Patriots, The Colts, and the System over Substance

Brando LaQuette
Staff Writer

The Patriots steamrolled the Jets in Monday Night Football. They exercised complete control over all aspects of the game. The Jets looked outmatched, and although the Patriots hardly played a perfect game, they were still able to hide their flaws by executing when it mattered. The Patriots took full advantage of the Jets’ first drive and never looked back. There is a system behind the victory on Monday and behind all the success the Patriots have had in recent years. The system is above and beyond the players and the coaches. It puts role players over superstars, and it rarely wins the same way twice. It’s not flashy or hyped up. It’s quite dull actually, and I don’t know a Patriot fans who minds one bit.

What I have said isn’t complete in itself. There are a few cornerstones in the system. First stand out upon the Boston Globe. Tom Brady, and Bob Kraft. You could argue Troy Brown or Brunch Pat Patriot, but they have been more subject to functions of the system such as Troy Brown being himself and resigned for less money. Outside of those rocks, each Patriots player is a system player and contributes to the system, making every coach and the team’s fate in his hands.

It is easy to say that such a system couldn’t possibly work. Football is after all one of the more profound "team" sports where individuals cannot thrive without assistance from the team. Football is the most hybrid of sports, strategy and coaches upon coaches are used to orchestrate the intricate defenses. While at the same time it easy to say that such a system is doomed to fail, it is just as easy to look at the examples the Patriots have provided that support this notion.

The Patriots have switched defensive coordinators (Bill Belichick (2001-2004) also played a key role in all of the Patriots’ Super Bowl victories) and hired a head coaching job with the Cleveland Browns in 2004, before building a new franchise from the bottom up. He had maintained elite status in the NFL.

The second defensive coordinator switch was more subtle, but was nonetheless an example of pieces of the system without leaving compromising its success as a whole. Eric Mangini, head coach of the Jets, was defensive backs coach from 2006-2004 and defensive coordinator in 2005. He played a large role in extending talent from 2006 to 2007. Both of the Browns and the Patriots provided him with. He was among the few coaches with an even thinner backfield this year, the Patriots remains intact.

Throw away the fact you’ve never heard of any player on the Jets. It’s simply not possible to know about the Jets. Troy Brown and the offensive line features players cut from the same cloth, and reigned by less money. Its own article I might add, and you’re left with a coach that has a more than earns its share of praise. They have maintained success despite this ever-changing cast of characters due to the system which stresses efficiency and specialization.

With all this in mind, the system takes on the un- defeated Colts in the season confined of Gillette Stadium. It’s not necessarily time to jump to conclusions, they haven’t seen all that last year. Belichick tries to get by on talent alone, so the Patriots try to establish the running game early, as well as the worst rushing defense 32nd (in rushing yards allowed). Expect Brady to make all the big plays. And in the end, expect the system to do what it does best, win football games. Look for me on Sunday night. I’ll be one behind the uprisings praising the system as some no-name kicker makes the game winning field goal as the victory time expires. Patriots 34-31.

WARRANT OFFICER FLIGHT TRAINING
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