Extending the Helping Hand Year Round

Fiona Wu
Contributing Writer

You might have seen them handing out plastic bags for you to fill out with loose change for tsunami relief or soliciting money for the Tiger Fund in the Spring, freezing outside Trim to raise awareness for the Jimmy Fund in the Winter, or you might have just stopped by one time at one of their parties to relax and unwind, but year 2006 was a landmark year for philanthropic events for the men of Theta Chi Fraternity. Besides providing a social outlet on the Babson campus, giving back to society is also one of the many staples that the gentlemen of Theta Chi are obliged to achieve. The reason being is that secured in their Creed, in which every new member has to learn and each current member has to re-cite, is the phrase "extending the helping hand to all who seek it" and they certainly this past year and will continue to do so.

Right when the year started, tragedy struck. The tsunami that devastated most of Southeast Asia directly affected one of Theta Chi’s alumni brothers who lived in Sri Lanka. An e-mailed forwarded to the chapter illustrating a direr situation in which most of his home town were left in shambles. Food, clothing, and shelter were scarce and the helping hand was needed more than ever. As the chapter received the e-mail, two brothers coincidently were off to the Theta Chi national conference in Indianapolis. Utilizing their network of over 150 chapters nationwide, they let their fellow brothers aware of the fund and that they are starting to raise money for tsunami relief. A newsletter was sent out to all the chapters’ wide telling them that the Babson chapter was accepting donations to help one of their fellow alumni brothers affected by this tragedy. Within weeks, checks, and letters of encouragement came in from chapters around the country, some all the way from Washington State. “It’s nice to know that you’re part of this brotherhood, it’s not only confined to Babson. It’s a national organization in which literally hundreds of brothers from across the country would have your back whenever you need it,” said brother Walker Sea.

That didn’t seem to be enough for the brothers of Theta Chi. More could have been done. Therefore, from the beginning of Spring Semester, they were searching for ideas to spearhead a tsunami relief effort at Babson. “Clothing drives and bake sales seemed clichéd or overused, we wanted to come up with something different” said Treasurer Richard Allred. Lost for ideas, brothers asked Lisa Thomas from the Glavin Center for help. She recommended a rather unique method in which her child in elementary school used to raise money; each of them carried a small jar around and whenever they came across loose change, they would fill up the jar with it. Jars were hard to come by, and seemed cumbersome and inconvenient for college students. Other method in collecting change was explored. The easiest and most cost efficient way that the brothers figured out was to use simple plastic bags. That was how Theta Chi’s “bags of Hope” fund raiser was born. Thanks to the Office of Campus Life, plastic bags and stickers were provided free of charge. Then each brother was given a bundle of 5-10 plastic bags to hand out to their friends. Theta Chi also was able to get other businesses journals, she is now ready for a new opportunity to put her commitment and enthusiasm to work. When asked about her interest in advancing her career, Greene said, “I would say that I was not consciously working towards the goal of being Provost. I thought, still and think, being the Dean of the Undergraduate School at Babson was already an incredibly hard job. However, I did occasionally worry if I would like to someday try the next step.”

The opportunity just came sooner than I thought it might.”

Greene has exhibited her enthusiasm towards education and Babson students during her time as Dean of the Undergraduate School. The Babson community is very apparent in Greene’s talents and wishes her the best of luck in her new position as Provost.

from the people they gave them to. To their surprise, some of the bags weren’t filled with merely loose change, but with dollars bills, and in one instance, a check for 50 dollars. In the end, once all that change was counted, Theta Chi was able to raise over 1200 dollars for tsunami relief.

In the Fall semester, Theta Chi went about tradition and set

The Theta Chi Fraternity endeavors the chilly of winter for their annual Jimmy Fund charity event.
up camp outside Trim for their annual Couch-a-thon to raise money and awareness for the Jimmy Fund, a Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. For over 10 years, armed with only a tarp over their heads, the brothers braved the elements, mostly in below freezing temperatures, in one of the coldest months in the year for 50 hours straight. In some instances, brothers have to wake up in the middle of the night to brush snow off their faces from their faces. It was no different this year. The Jimmy Fund were notified and provided their support with promotional flyers and stickers and sponsored cans from all over the Wellesley area with donations to make those 50 hours more bearable. Pad Thai meals were donated by Lemon Thai, Tian Fu provided lo mein, and Sodekho supplied hot chocolate.

Some brothers, like Alvaro Lantigua, spent 40 hours outside, soliciting anyone who walked by for any sort of donation. Ask how he managed to stay warm and avoid frostbite, Alvaro responded, “You just have to layer up. I had 5 layers on one night, not to mention gloves, scarfs, hats, 2 pairs of socks, 3 blankets, and if it was lucky, my share of the portable heater. Whatever, v’s a great brotherhood bonding event, all of us out there, literally chilling.” The Jimmy Fund was chosen because, according to Kenneth Ma, the fraternity philanthropy chairperson. “The men of Theta Chi Fraternity believe in our fraternity’s motto of ‘extend-

ing the helping hand to all who seek it’ and realize that there are persons, including some of our loved ones, whose lives have been impacted by an awful disease. A childhood might be cut short, a family becomes broken hearted, or a son is left without a parent. But we can extend our helping hand to those who seek it and possibly make someone’s life a little brighter. Therefore, we are proud to donate our time and efforts to raise money and awareness of the daily battle that is fought by children and adults alike against this terrible disease.”

Altogether, over $1,800 were raised for cancer research and over $3,000 were raised in total for philanthropic causes over the past two semesters. In addition to raising money to charitable organizations, Theta Chi has also dedicated numerous hours in community service. Over the past year, brothers have volunteered their time in soup kitchens, charity golf events, tennis academies, and helping freshman move in. In total, over 500 community service hours were completed in the Spring and 800 in the Fall, with each brother, on average, completing 28 hours a semester. For their effort, Theta Chi was recognized for the Babson College Greek Community Service Award of the end of the 04-05 school year and aiming to retain that reward for the 05-06 school year. The men of Theta Chi Fraternity showed in the past year that they did not only serve as a social outlet at Babson but continue to emphasize the motto in their Creed in extending the helping hand.

Viral Kapadia
Editor-in-Chief Emeritus

Former Chairman of the Federal Reserve Bank, Alan Greenspan who served the country for nineteen years before retiring has taken up a new job as an economic advisor to the United Kingdom’s Chancellor Gordon Brown. Gordon Brown is also part of the Labour Party in the House of Commons in the British Parliament, and thus as leader of the opposition party he is the Chancellor. The current Prime Minister of the U.K. is Tony Blair of the Labour Party.

The news of Greenspan working with Brown will come as a surprise to many, and might well be received by many. Brown gave Greenspan much praise for his part in working towards securing the American economy through many storms over his nineteen years as Chairman.

The engagement between Chancellor Brown and former Chairman Greenspan is one in which Greenspan will be making occasional visits to London to meet with the Chancellor and advise him on global economic change. In addition, Brown will also meet with Greenspan on his visits to the United States.

Greenspan will not be paid for his work with Gordon Brown. Gordon Brown is expected to be the next Prime Minister of the United Kingdom. As Tony Blair is not expected to stand as prime minister during the next general election, Alan Greenspan has been credited by ABC News for unemployment reaching a 24-year low in 1998, inflation at an 11-year low and consumer confidence was the highest it had been in 30 years.

Greenspan has also been recognized by many organizations and sources have reported that the NRF President Tracy Mullin stated, "The sales growth that America's retailers currently enjoy can be directly attributed to the solid economic foundation afforded through Chairman Greenspan's leadership and policies.

President Bush has also widely recognized Greenspan and called him a "legend" for his service to the country last week. The President and the First Lady hosted a dinner for Greenspan last week at the White House.

The new Chairman for the Federal Reserve is Ben Bernanke and he has big shoes to fill. Bernanke brings in a wealth of knowledge into his new position. Bernanke was a Fed Governor and has also published work in economics. Prior to his new appointment Bernanke served as the Chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers. Bernanke is the fourteenth Chairman of the Federal Reserve.

Photo Courtesy of Jeff Beckworth for The Babson Free Press
Kerry Rubin, one of the WLP's Author Series speakers.
Spotlight on Academic Services: Strategies for Success

"Life is not a 'big bang' theory or a string of incredible successes—else following another. Life is always a series of ups and downs, triumphs and failures. You may be successful if your triumphs simply outnumber your failures. But, in order to be successful, you must experience those failures and you must learn from them." — Erroll B. Davis, Jr., Chairman, President and CEO, Alliant Energy Corp., Madison WI

By now your classes are well underway... The reading assignments may be piling up and the various deliverables listed on your syllabi beckon to you. Perhaps you are wondering how you will successfully get it all done. Have no fear... Strategies for Success is here!

The Office of Academic Services has coordinated a series of workshops available to all undergraduate students, which are designed to help sharpen and further develop academic skills. The program, Strategies for Success focuses on topics such as time management, organization, setting academic and personal goals, utilizing campus resources, demystifying the writing process and approaching and utilizing faculty as resources.

The sessions take place on Monday evenings from 6:00-7:15 pm, now until March 19th in Reynolds 341. All students are encouraged to attend.

Next week’s session focuses on the topic of Goal Setting featuring Associate Dean, Brent Damrow. Please join us! If you are interested in learning more about this program, please contact Foundation Program Administrator, Maghan Parisi at mparisi@babson.edu or at x2247.

“During his senior year of high school, Douglas Barry wrote the book, "Wisdom for a Young CEO" (2004) which consists of responses and letters from over 100 CEO’s from top corporations. They each responded to his question of: What does it take to become a CEO?”

Sushi

Haruyuki Kohase
Staff Writer

If you look at Humphries Plaza, you will notice, amongst others, a white flag with a red circle in the middle. The country’s name of the flag is shown in the middle of the list that is put up on the library’s front door. Yes, the land of rising sun, the land where samurai once existed and their spirits rest in peace.

Japan is an interesting country. Japanese yearn for getting BMW and Mercedes, but they do not yearn to be friend with the people who come from these car producers. Japan can produce a thin guy who can eat 35.5 hot dogs. The life expectancy is one of the highest in the world. I spent 13 years of my life there. What I am proud most of is what Japan is best known for: Sushi.

The origin is actually from the mountainous area of South East Asia. It is said that someone needed to preserve fish for longer time. They thought about dipping fish in rice so the fermenting process maintains the freshness of the fish. Through China, sushi was introduced to Japan around 1200 years ago. Before that, the fish is eaten and rice was thrown away. Japanese loved rice, so they thought about eating rice and fish together. This is the start of sushi and what made this cuisine unique to Japan.

The variety of fish started to grow wider. Nowadays, you can eat from popular ones like tuna, salmon to more rare and expensive ones like blowfish and abalone. In some places, one sushi can cost up to 1500 yen (about 12.5 dollars) and in other places, one sushi will cost about 100 yen (85 cents).

Many American people seem to think that we eat sushi with chopsticks. In Japan, you will see people eating sushi with their hands. There is a certain way to eat sushi. Before introducing you the way, let me tell you the names related to sushi. In Japanese, the fish or whatever goes on top of rice is called "neta" and the rice is called "shari." The soy sauce is called "murasaki" and the slices of ginger that sits next to wasabi is called "gari." Both first step is to take the sushi with your hand. You need to tilt the sushi at 90 degrees and dip only "neta" into soy sauce. You need to hold as to "neta" and rice in order to do that successfully. Eat it in a way that "neta" touches your tongue first. With this, you can be expert in sushi.

When you next eat sushi from Reynolds or Cilin cafe, try this way and you may like sushi even more! Enjoy.

Win $2000.00! 
Showcase your entrepreneurial talent!

Student Business Initiative Award

If you are a full-time undergraduate student who is the owner/founder of a business (not an FME), you are qualified for the Student Business Initiative Award (SBIA), sponsored by the Babson College Alumni Association. The SBIA is considered by many to be the most prestigious honor awarded at Babson: Being named the best business at the best business school!

Submit a two-page summary of your business and include a brief profit and loss statement to Elizabeth Meister (emeister@babson.edu) in Alumni Hall by Friday, February 17 and you will be among the businesses considered for the award. The winner will be announced at the Founder’s Day event on Tuesday, April 4, 2006.

All submissions are evaluated on the following:

Originality - New, creative, inventive, fresh and unusual.

Initiative - The ability to begin and follow through with a plan or task; enterprise.

Success - The achievement of something attempted, financially.

Persistence - Holding firm and steadfastly to a purpose or undertaken despite obstacles.

Learning - Gaining knowledge, comprehension or mastery through experience.

Showcase your entrepreneurial talent today! College Marketing will participate in this competition to provide feedback and media exposure for businesses. Business counseling will also be offered by BARN, the Babson Alumni Resource Network.

Applications and information sheets can be picked up at Alumni Hall or the Information Desk at Reynolds Campus Center. For more information contact Elizabeth Meister at emeister@babson.edu.
Thursday
FEBRUARY 2ND

SeX.
MurdEr.
MyStery.

Welcome to
the party.

Robert
Downey Jr.

Val
Kilmer

kiss
kiss
bang
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8pm Sorenson
**BUSINESS & TECHNOLOGY**

**THE BARSON FREE PRESS**

**BIMA Hosts Steven Cutler**

Alex Turunen  
Business & Technology Editor

The Baboron Investment Management Association (BIMA) kicked off its weekly speaker series for the season with a presentation from Steven Cutler, President of Eveson Investment Management Company and the man responsible for the Cutler Investment Center in Horn library. Cutler, a Baboron MBA alum, took the fall house to an informative session about the need to invest in equity stocks and the difficulties faced when trying to find the real winners.

Cutler’s presentation began with a plethora of stock charts and financial figures including a brief history of stock market analysis and an explanation of the recent stock market crash. Throughout the 30 year period, Eveson was able to achieve a steady return on the S&P 500, and the effect of the current crisis has had on basic consumer staples throughout the past 30 years. Cutler was then able to show how these market crashes have increased the attractiveness of stocks for those who are nervous for a bottle of water, tuition at Baboron, and a ticket to a Red Sox/Yankees game throughout the past 30 years.

Cutler went on to discuss the difficulties of managing companies when they become too successful. Home Depot and Wal-Mart were two examples of companies unable to sustain the accelerated growth rates they experienced when they were still at the start of their earnings.

**Breeze, Nextel, New Name, Same Poor Experience**

Christopher Cichelli

Sometimes, companies can get by riding the success of a great product. Customer service attached to those products is not critical. Customers are happy and are unlikely to rely on. Does anyone actually know how to contact Microsoft to get help with Windows? Sometimes, though, the lack of a strong reputation of a good customer service experience can be the deciding factor in a company’s success. And as Sprint has learned, it may just be the missing key to maintaining the success of the company.

I have been a Nestle business customer with my family business for the past 30 years. I can say that I and my husband have had a fair deal of contact with our various customer service representatives. One issue that has had a significant impact on our bottom line is the issue of negotiating discounts or bonus minuses on our plans or repairs and replacements of phones. Nestle’s strategy was to target and serve mostly business customers, and that is one thing they know how to do well.

Soon however, a new opportunity presented itself to us as a long-time Nextel customer when Sprint and Nextel merged. I had become frustrated with years of dropped calls. I also used to use Nextel’s most popular product, the Direct-Connect walkie-talkie service. I had been lusting for a broadband wireless service since I had the old Palm’s 3 years ago and, with the recent launch of Sprint’s national wireless high-speed Evolution Data Optimized (EVDO) internet connection that finally seemed possible. Being offered at a price one-third that of Verizon’s similar service (315 versus 450) and the lack of early termination activation fees on our contracts, I knew the corporate merger meant it may be time to leave the nestles of Nextel.

After doing a little research on the net I learned that CDMA networks, which in the United States only Verizon and Sprint use, are known for having better call quality and coverage. Before the merger, Sprint and Nextel were separate companies, a fact that had significant implications on the technology used.

The Sprint PPC-5700 pocket PC phone, with Microsoft Windows on your palm, is quite possible the most capable phone ever sold. For the practitioner thus we offer it to the nextel of a new era.
Changes in Curriculum

David Rotenberg
Staff Writer

Entering my final semester at Babson, and looking back at all the courses and work that I have completed in my previous years here, I have come to the conclusion that much can be changed for the better. When I try to think of what I have really learned here at Babson, I can only really get back to one in, say, Harvard or Wharton or Yale, it seems that we spend far too much time learning application.

I find myself trying to look up some complex or foundational piece of writing from pioneers in their respective fields (John Nash Jr. in Game Theory, Benjamin Graham in Finance, Peter Drucker in Management), I realize that once I do discuss or read these fundamental writings during a course.

While at some core courses, undergrads are discussing why Adam Smith changed the way the world looked at Economics, we are not properly understanding what industry report and analysis paper for one more management class.

While I would not agree that the things learned in class are not practical for our business careers, there is another side of the coin that is going on. Students and other authors have gained from a historical perspective. Too much of my course work and lectures have simply led to one more discussion about a Harvard case or some other "real world" example.

In the end, I wish that a certain amount of this historical and theoretical teaching could enter into our expansive business curriculum.

Yes, many professors or students might argue that such material is far too complex and not only_grade work, why not provide Babson Undergrads with a leg up on theoretical teaching and improve the standing of the business school. If a normal graduate student needs 2 years, and we are business undergrads for 4 long years, why shouldn't our experience be something akin to getting an early MBA?

Of course, what I am arguing for would naturally make our class work harder and require far more reading load a great deal. There is a point that must say that the class work is fine and need not be changed, but it does not make the problem of understanding the teaching in the midst of DME or Liberal Arts requirements.

What I am mainly fighting for is changes in the way economics classes and other pre requisites are built. Thinking back to my AOE class and my Economics classes in IME, I can honestly not remember much past the non-stop class discussions on some other business situations. Those are the points in the curriculum when professors should be pushing us to understand the theory. It can be economical system evolved and some history behind past business manias. Instead, we only learned memory the supply and demand charts without ever getting information about where they came from or why we are memorizing them.

Such changes could fit well in MFE, since that course has now been weakened further for the benefit of IME that follows. Perhaps making us memorize and discuss theoretically economics then, professors would be free to move right into much more advanced class work once we finished the IME courses.

In the end, by making class work harder and toning down the applications a little, Babson could become as competitive and well respected as Princeton or Harvard. Dumbing down coursework throughout the underground curriculum has not improved the standing of the school or make our alumni proud; yet, pushing us as undergraduates to understand how the business world became what it is today will give us a much deeper appreciation for the careers and fields we enter after our four years. Perhaps then Babson can truly pride itself on being the absolute top of Business Schools in the world.

Hamas Led Palestine: Terrorism no Longer Clandestine

Herbie Weilbaugh
Opinions Editor

The state of affairs in Israel and the West Bank has Sharon incapacitated and the international community looking for a way out. At the same time, the Middle East, the people proved that they may not be the only involved with the destruction of Israel and dominance of the Palestinians, an alliance that can never be proven that they are not ready to accept any form of reasonable compromise.

Until recently, a party called Hamas maintained that a single political organization, controlled the government. In the last elections, the party, which has come under scrutiny from within and without, Hamas won the most seats in the legislature. Abbas, the leader of Fatah, still serves as the figurehead of the government, although Hamas will now control the system. Fatah officials under the leadership of President Abbas have much of the international aid given to the Palestinians. Abbas proved more effective in quelling terrorism, but corruption is still a major problem.

The recent statements of Condoleezza Rice prove to me once again that she is not qualified for her position as Secretary of State. She has become just another politician who is more concerned with the history and feelings of the region. She is a pencil-pusher, obviously inexperienced in military fundamentalism or how to combat it. Without the pressure of the international community, she believes that there can be any degree of conflict resolution on the part of the Palestinians.

They cannot control the radicalism of their own state. If the internal pressure remains greater than the external pressure, what do you expect to happen? Hamas will probably end up recognizing Israel, but that would not stop them from joying it or ever the opportunity presents itself.

Let face it, Fatah may be a terrorist organization, and a corrupt one at that, but at least their bureaucracy and two-faced leaders could recognize what was in their own interest to maintain the facade of peace. Hamas has announced its War on Terror, the Palestinian territories were basically left alone, even though they are a hotbed of terrorist organizations. There are no non-terrorist governing organizations.

In fact, the international community praises the terrorists. Arafat, a common thug and terrorist mastermind won the Nobel Peace Prize. This mockery of international objectives showed the Palestinians and the rest of the fundamentalist world that terrorism is tolerated. Not only that, it is commended. I have heard some people claim that there is no way that the international community or the United States could ever accept a terrorist organization like Hamas, but they already have. Hamas is not the first terrorist group to control a country in the Middle East, if you consider the Palestinian territories a country.

The situation in the Middle East is one that the current administration, like its predecessor, has found to be critical to the United States and the world. Israel, as our only real ally in the region, serves a unique purpose in international relations. When America announced its War on Terror, the Palestinian territories were basically left alone, even though they are a hotbed of terrorist organizations. There are no non-terrorist governing organizations.

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Opinions

Page 3

State of the Union

Herbie Welschburg

Thursday, Feb. 2nd, 2006

On Tuesday, January 31, 2006, President Bush gave his State of the Union. I found the whole speech to be a very interesting contradiction. Many of the things Bush said were blatantly wrong. Others were direct contradictions with earlier statements and actions of the administration. One might even call Bush a hypocrite who deliberately tried to incite an artificial truce.

I found it ironic that Bush should start his speech by asking for the union, or at least the lessening of tension, between the two major parties. This call was warranted one of the few bipartisan standing ovations that Bush was to receive. The weird thing about Bush asking for the support of the Democrats is that he is the cause of the growing antagonism, the highest approval ratings of any president after September 11, support that would be squandered by a series of lies, incompetence, and corruption.

After that, it got awkward. Bush called the death of Coretta Scott King "a sad union." He said that "more than half the people in the world live in democracies," while at the same time saying that Iran is not a democracy. The result is a non-representative government. At this point, his speech writers were in disarray. They were hoping.

Those who are not aware, not only does Iran have a representative democracy, Bush made a speech asking the moderates in the country to protest the Sweep. The nation needs an election, and that has never been true. In fact, al Qaeda only became active there after he attacked. When he claimed to be fighting in "Iraq, we will not be in the conflict," he started to chuckle. This is the first time I have heard "and we are winning" and "I am confident in our strategy," I am not sure whether he was trying to tell the Americans that it is still in Iraq. Years after the country was supposed to be at relative peace, he made an interesting choice, deciding to blame it on the military itself, "these policies, whether to remove troops from Iraq" will be made by military leaders, not politicians. I thought he found this statement for odd for two reasons. One, Bush has always covered for his military orders. But the Commander in Chief, the head of the military, is saying it is the fault of military leaders is not removing his own culpability. In classic Bush fashion, no admittance of anything close to wrongdoing can be left alone. The words "Second guessing is not a strategy served to warn any of those mistakes might prophesize." Unfortunately, his scare tactics are no longer working. The latest poll of sixty days, the president's approval ratings reached a low of 36%.

Despite his opening remarks, Bush did little to unite Republicans and Demo-
crats in his speech. In fact, some of his comments and actions could be viewed as in direct opposition to them. Acting on the news he is listening to phone calls of people in the U.S. abroad, he winked at the Democrats who did not stand or applause. He then announced his plan to make the tax cuts permanent, an action which will only further the budget crisis. He said under his plan he would "cut the deficit in half by 2009." The government deficit has increased by more under Bush than any other president in history. Faced with all of Bush's jabs, when he started a sentence with "Congress did great things," he may be on his way to saving social security, the Democrats stood up and cheered.

Bush continued on shaky ground by highlighting some of the sectors he has most criticized for.

First, he tried to skirt the issue of outsourcing, claiming that the American worker is the most effective means of production, a sentiment that goes directly against prior statements.

Controlling the borders would get more direct attention. The national need for orderly and secure borders.

When many Republicans have cried about illegal borders, the ever present workers as one of the reasons for the high productivity and efficiency of labor in the Southwestern, Bush is obviously trying to gain the support of working class Americans.

His final topics were practically comical. He announced the successful plans to lower the cost and make it easier for the elderly to get much-needed prescription medications and the poor to get medical insurance. The quality of uninsured has gone up by 29%. Publicly the administrations have said Bush in the entire State of the Union address was when he said of people in Iran "they are concerned with unethical conduct of public officials." That takes guts when the budget Bush was given to combat the bird flu went to the company of the Secretary of Defense. The energy policy was written by oil lobbyist. Halliburton's and Cheney's old company, has gotten a huge amount of money from the contract, the results.

I feel that we will be hearing about the aftermath of the Bush presidency, conspiracy theories, and corruption for years to come.

Basically, the State of the Union was a joke in a pathetically continued of a pathetic presidency. He had nothing to be good about to ask about, so he gave half-truths, lies, and propaganda. I do not think there was anything substantial in his speech and beside the fact that he was actually coherent for ones in his life, I was yet again embarrassed to have him as our president. I feel that he looked presidential. He looked like a child overwhelmed by responsibility and asking for the acceptance of others. Their eyes were watering the entire time, and the fact that he wore a blue instead of a red tie made him appear less aggressive and threatening. Bush did not appear to be doing for the applause of the strong president who can prove his people against the threat of terror (at least not yet). Bush was actually trying to focus on some other issues as well. Unfortunately, there are no other issues that favor him, so he made up some up.

Canada: Conservative Conversion or Electoral Mishap

Justin Peagram
Art Editor

Though Canadian news readers may not have heard of any Canadian U.S. newspaper—excluding, of course, the national newspaper—Canada has seen the loss of a major Canadian newspaper, the latest Celine Dion sightings—last week was an exception. After toppling the federal government last year and forcing a January election, Stephen Harper and the Conservatives defeated Paul Martin and the Liberals, and will, alas, form the next government, albeit a minority government.

The news came to no surprise for staunch Liberals like myself. Martin and the gits (a colloquial nickname for the Liberals) had been trailing Harper in the polls, and the latter’s victory was nearly assured; the only question remaining was whether it would be a majority or minority government. Though I am not a fan of minority governments, I am thankful that the Tories did not win an outright mandate to run the government.

The loss for the Liberals was not its southern neighbor. What sets the two nations apart is much more than a fundamental difference in how think. The typical differences usually highlighted by colleagues are superficial at best: an exhuberant demonstration of overconfidence and a tendency to finish sentences with “eh” are perfect examples of such oversimplification.

While this may be true (though anyone who knows a competent Canadian knows it is not), differences between Canada and the U.S. are more profound. Universal healthcare, a larger distribution of wealth and a progressive attitude toward many social issues make up a significant part of this complex dichotomy.

Stephen Harper and his conservative party, perhaps even many Americans who are now very excited about the prospects of an America without a significant political landscape that has shifted substantially. Canadians did not go to the polls on January 23. They voted for a balanced budget, anti-homophobia, gay marriage or privatizing health care (except in the West of course), rather they voted Harper in favor of several years of Liberal stagnation and corruption.

When a party is in charge for too long, it becomes arrogant and is more susceptible to fraud. The Sponsorship scandal—a government founded anti-secessionist organization that offered large kickbacks to certain Liberals—and other misuse of power plagued Paul Martin as he attempted to steer his party and the country during precarious times. Ironically, Martin was exonerated from all charges and spent a grand deal of effort to ward off future corruption. Martin is a great man and an honest politician who, before becoming leader of his party, balanced eight consecutive budgets as Canada’s finance minister. He will be sadly missed.

I would like to reiterate that the result of the 2006 election was not indicative of changing Canadian values. I strongly believe that the minority government will not last long, especially considering Harper’s economic platform is vacuous and was designed to win an election and never to be implemented (such irrational policies include cutting the GST). For the time being, this Liberal is without a leader, but that time may be ending soon. A Liberal by the name of Michael Ignatieff won his Toronto riding and will be batting in the House of Commons this upcoming year. He is Canada’s rising political star: an eloquent, persuasive academic who, before getting involved in Canadian politics, was the Dean of the Kennedy School of Public Policy at Harvard University. He is already being called a Trudeau, and is a magnificent Prime Minister who governed Canada from 1968 to 1979. Stephen Harper should not get too comfortable as his departure is imminent. Once he is gone, Canada will go back to the nation it truly is.
Agora a site specific sculpture by Line Brunsøe

January 27-May 18th, 2005
Ground floor lobby, Olin Hall
Opening Reception: February 7th 5-7pm
Artist’s Talk: February 1st 4:30pm

Agora, a site specific sculpture by Line Brunsøe uses nylon rope as the material to draw in the visitor's attention to the historical and cultural context of the site. The sculpture invites the viewer to consider the interactions between art, history, and the present-day urban environment.

Benjamin Franklin: A Tercentenary

Justin Peagrom
Arts Editor

This year marks the three hundredth anniversary of perhaps the most celebrated American, Benjamin Franklin. Museums all around the United States and the world are assembling their best pieces to help bring forth this tercentenary. This past weekend, I had the privilege of visiting one of the official exhibitions at the National Constitution Center in Philadelphia.

The exhibition, entitled Benjamin Franklin: In Search of a Better World, is chronologically divided into six parts beginning with Franklin's impetuous, puritan upbringing in Boston and ending with his late years where he devoted most of his time to writing his autobiography, which is, to date, the most widely circulated autobiography ever written even though Franklin never actually finished it.

Benjamin Franklin, like most young men of his age and stature, took up the trade early on in his life. Owing to his love of books, he became a printer. Upon arriving in Philadelphia, Franklin quickly became a very successful printer known for his work ethic and anxious nature. In fact, he became so successful that he was able to retire at the age of forty two to pursue a life of leisure and intellectual stimulation.

Franklin, always a proponent of useful knowledge, experimented with the latest discovery of his day; electricity. He performed the famous kite and key experiment where he extracted sparks from the clouds - an experiment that served as the foundation for today's lightning rods atop tall buildings.

His inventions also include the harmonica (or glass harmonica), the cataphore, the Franklin stove and bifocal glasses. His pragmatism led him to found the American Philosophical Society (still in existence today): a forum where the world's brightest minds could congregate and discuss their ideas for the betterment of society.

Franklin is perhaps best known as a skilled diplomat who secured French participation in the Revolutionary War and helped negotiate the Second Treaty of Paris (1783) when the war ended, a feat that was deemed impossible at the time.

He is also the only man to have signed three founding documents: the Declaration of Independence, The United States Constitution and The Treaty of Paris.

Exhibitions like the one at the National Constitution Center are not only historically significant, they are also aesthetically pleasing as Franklin was a wealthy and cultured man of many worldly possessions. For those who cannot make it to Philadelphia or Paris to view the official tercentenary exhibitions (www.benfranklin300.org), I suggest you visit the Massachusetts Historical Society, which is currently displaying a collection of Franklin's journalistic writings.

Also, The Completed Autobiography, compiled and edited by John Darby, was recently released. It is the original biography supplemented by other writings from Franklin that the latter no doubt intended to include in his grandiose biography. I cannotavourably it and must say that it is definitely well worth it, especially considering it is not everyday that someone turns three hundred.

Rang De Basanti: Bollywood evolving

Anantshree Chaturvedi
Staff Writer

In almost every creative field there comes a time when one piece of work affects the entire existence of that art. Bollywood has been a very segmented and closed market catering to the Indian consumers and providing the Indian market with different styles and types of films. In India and within the Indian community worldwide, Bollywood has a prestigious and well respected status.

In fact, one can even say that it is something that the Indians are proud of, especially as foreign film cinemais houses closed down in the face of the overwhelming dominance of Hollywood. Bollywood has managed to stay aloft due to the large market it caters to.

However, even with great homeland success, Bollywood could never reach the large number of international audiences and was never acclaimed as a preeminent force in world cinema. This is partly because the films were not good at expressing clear messages or thematic congruence, due in large part to the poor directing. And yet the artists, writers and the whole creative team never clarified the message as an important aspect of filmmaking.

All this is beginning to change and one film that really challenges the status quo and reaches out to international audiences in true Bollywood style is "Rang De Basanti". One could not see this film and call it a Hybrid (i.e a film crossed between two cultures). Rather this film is clearly an Indian film with Indian ideals and an Indian plot line.

This film expresses issues that are unique to the Indian culture such as the epic struggle for India's independence and the current generation gap that is growing between the youth and the elders as well as the extreme ideological differences amongst the youth.

For anyone looking to understand the Indian socio-political landscape of today, this film is a must see as it merges together two different types of audiences and different styles of film making, both of which are antagonistic to one another, and yet combine very successfully, albeit in an unconventional manner.

Along with serious issues the film explores, you get to see one of the heart throbs of Bollywood, Aamir Khan, who is acclaimed as one of the most talented and committed actors in Bollywood today. He has been involved in several big films, one of which was actually nominated for an Academy Award. Other than Aamir, the other main actors in the film are fresh new faces for whom this film was a breakthrough (with the exception of Madhavan, an established South Indian actor).

This film brings out some very important problems faced by today's developing nations. More aptly, it addresses the imbalance of an ever prospering, modern India that has not cultivated for their ration past.

These modern people must learn to exist in a society where many people are isolationists and refuse to adapt to modern times. This film is a must for all movie buffs and especially one who wants to see the new culture of modern India.

Above: an example of Brunsøe's ability to create in "inconceivable" space.
LIFESTYLES

B&G - Letter to the Editor

Becky Soon
Advertising Director

During times like this I sometimes wish I could just his- bertize: stock my fridge with pizza pockets and easy mac, lie in bed under my warm blankets, and watch classic movies and Law & Order: TV all day. But as we all know, we go to a school whose professors take our endurance, and as much as we'd like to, we simply can't pass classes by reading the textbook alone. So every morning I open my eyes and see that I was in Hawaii as I put on three layers of clothes, gloves, and boots, and I trudge through the snow and cuddle to class.

As I quickly walk from McCullough to Mallory, wishing my 8:00am was an 8:15am — I can't help but realize those smiling men in blue have probably schooled my pathway for hours. In fact, if it showed the night before, they probably called in the middle of the night from their own families and warm beds for that one extra minute of time to make sure that we can get to class without a slid.

Living the Simple Life

Manjari Rastogi
Lifestyle Editor

I eat in the small, crowded Charlie’s Steak and Stew port, in Bombay, India over break waiting for my 4:15 am flight back to the United States. My senses were alert, noticing the frustrated actions of a mother with her crying child, and the ex- husted ones of a portly business- man, drenched in sweat, shared their emotion to me. I felt oddly re- laxes, as if time was suspended and nothing mattered. The scene in front of me was all the same, with the natural high, just remaining about the past four weeks I had spent in this wonderful country. I remembered all the time I had been fortunate enough to spend on the rooftops, whether I was flying kites in the brisk evening breeze or gazing up at the stars with my cousins. I remem- bered struggling with the sport of cricket as my immediate and ex- tended family desperately tried explaining the rules to me. I remembered the envy I felt watching them all indulge in the joys of competitive cricket while I could not even think to touch one for fear of falling extremely ill. Similarly, I also remembered wishing I could try all of the di- vine ice cream flavors present ranging from Mango to Kesar Pista to Tutti Fruity and so many more.

As I sifted through my memories I realized that I had done these things a million times before, but this time it was differ- ent. This wasn't just another vaca- tion — this was life. Every ac- tion, every breath, every moment somehow counted more this time, as if a veil had been lifted from my eyes and I was seeing my homeland for the first time. I wanted to hold on to this new feel- ing, one of realization.

I think it's important that we all take a minute each day to truly appreciate how our lives are lived in the midst of women and Facilities. You don't have to throw a party with everyone and a but a simple smile or nod of "hello" and "thanks" goes a long way in when your feet are ach- ing in the cold and your fingers are going numb.

It doesn't matter that our tuition pays for the service, or that it's their job. It matters what you do, what you show be the homies, and run- ning to our first class, B&G crew members are the ones cleaning up our beer cans, keeping those snow- ers clean, and making sure the snow is cleared so we can make it to class.

So this is my personal little note of thanks, to all of the people of Facilities that make my life easier in ways that I don't even realize. Jim, for going out of his way to always help me, Troy, for making sure McCullough smells as little like beer and barn as possible, Georgia, who always brighten my day with your smiles and stories of your island home, and the hundreds of others I didn't mention for all you do. Thank you.

Photograph courtesy of Ashley Jain for The Babson Free Press

Sarah Healey
Contributing Writer

According to About.com.com, the Top 16 New Year’s Resolutions are as follows.
1. Spend More Time with Family & Friends
2. Fit in Fitness
3. Tame The Bulge
4. Quit Smoking
5. Enjoy Life More
6. Quit Drinking
7. Get Out of Debt
8. Learn Something New
9. Help Others
10. Get Organized

Translational: We are lonely, fat, fast, smell, bored, alcoholic, shopoholic, dumb, selfish, and messy, but we are also optimistic.

This was some of my reso- lutions:
1. Stop being fat
2. Get a boyfriend
3. Stop smoking
4. Get a Career
5. Take my car in for a checkup

Okay, so reality I've only made one of them official, but they are all lurking and stalking me. It seems like making a simple “To Do” list is so much easier than actu- ally taking stock in what you’ve accomplished and where you’re headed. But before I made that list of who I was going to be once the ball dropped, I started with cham- pagne (Mast and Asti).

Very important, New Year’s Eve should be promis- cuous, thrilling, and unchar- acteristic. Upon waking New Year’s Day, one should easily regret it and forget it — the night and the entire year. The sloppy dancing and kissing, the bad career, the people you promised to get in touch with and the ones you lost touch with. It’s a simple philosophy — hit bottom fast so that you know it can only get better from there on.

A month in, and I've accom- plished 2 out of 5. I think I'm bored with my resolutions though. The thrilling mo- ment of dawn that signified change and rebirth has passed even though inspira- tion should come easily the way that entrepreneurs and advertisers are struck with patents and messages. I think in this respect maybe I am an accountant — One cigarette, one girl scout cookie, one pound, one more gallon of gas — but yet to hold myself ac- countable.

Maybe that's what it takes to accomplish lofty goals and ambitions. Steady, painstaking effort pushing — one work- out, one phone call, one re- sume, one cover letter all at a time. It is so easy to get lost in lofty ambitions and big ideas, it is so easy to picture perfection. However, big ideas are built from awkward imperfections that seem like lumbering through a workout or fumbling through interviews or talking about kismet on a first date.

In the middle of this awk- ward haphazard moment it’s hard to imagine you are getting anywhere. I mean I love being in this moment and want to keep it, but I've been spending time imagining the view, but getting there is a whole 'nother story. Next year I'm starting with Dom.

Babson alumni ring in the New Year at Calle Ocho, an upscale club in New York City. Niral Parakh '05, Rishima Runa '05, Simoni Todi '08, Ashley Jain '05.

Start the Year Off the Right Way

This picture depicts a scenic view of typical storefronts located on a street along with scooters and cars alike in New Delhi, India.
El Viaje Más Excitante

William Hurley
Contributing Writer

As the Honores trip to Guadalajara, our bus that had been promised in January, I had already formed a number of expectations about the country based on past experiences, conversations, and media. Whenever I told people I was going to Mexico, the most common response was, "Don't drink the water! I wonder what about shrimps? Could they be Walter White in the air? In preparation, I bravely a Hepatitis A shot and carried a prescription of the antibiotic, Cipro, at all times.

A few years ago, I had briefly been to Guadalajara, Mexico—a small, notorious tourist-trap village on the border of Arizona, where many Europeans desperately attempted to push their Chinese-made trinkets to unsuspecting tourists. It was obvious to find similar experiences in Guadalajara. In all, I had accumulated a sizable amount of exotic, yet beleaguered, nation. However, the warm climate, culture, and the assertion that I could quickly dispel any prejudices upon my arrival.

I was not a读者 ring theme in my daily journal. Among the delicious dishes I often ate were spiced pork sandwiches, the most popular Chinese authentic Cuban dishes, and shredded lamb that had been cooked and mourned on a spit. I sometimes even ended up with flan, especially its caramel variety, which was a rare highlight. The drinks were quite interesting: often a drink that looked like milk turned out to be a traditional rice drink or coconut juice. On the other hand, American culture was evident in the near-universally available in the nearby McDonalds and Hard Rock Cafe. I even saw a few Spanish to go around; but at the same time, I

Japan

Vanessa Burrill
Staff Writer

We arrived in Japan on November 20, 2005 at 08:00 hours, when we arrived at the Oriental Hotel where we had lunch and then we went to the train station. We took the bullet train to Tokyo. The bullet train was the super express train that can run at a speed of 220 km/h and 50 minutes to get to Tokyo. Upon arrival, we bought local souvenirs and were so excited to get to the Westen. However, for the 15 minutes drive to the hotel the cost of a taxi was over $100, so when we got out we were not that excited about it. The next day we had breakfast where we would all be broke by the end of this stay.

Before we got to down on our hotel, we were all excited. Amoy had gotten us three rooms on the Concourse level for half the price of the normal level, which was in the worse location again! Later that evening, Amoy had gotten us tickets to go see the blue and orange show, so we all went and had dinner during the show. It was great for the first 15 minutes until our attention span wore off and all we wanted to do was talk and joke with each other, but we couldn't. The tour guide around us were so into it and we just kept looking at our phones, which we had a great time anyways.

After the show we walked around the city for about 5 minutes, and then all we got was cold. It was about 55 degrees and we were not used to cold weather so little baby clothes we got a cab and went to a bar in the Westen. Yes, I am thinking about the first page I was talking about! Our next stop was to go to Disney World, which was in the Westen. We had an absolutely amazing time and the best part about it was that we would all be broke by the end of this stay.

8 things you have to know about Chinese New Year

1. Hung Tuo red packets — are red packets with money inside that are given from married couples to unmarried individuals. Traditionally this amount is a monetary calculation of people's social relationship.

2. The Date—changes from year to year based on the day of the first new moon which occurs before the vernal equinox. The holiday lasts fifteen days, and each day has different traditions.

3. Bad—This color is used because it represents happiness, wealth and longevity.

4. Good Luck—must wear new clothes and sweep the house to rid of bad luck and create an environment for new good luck.

5. Fireworks and Lion Dance—these two activities are supposed to scare away demons and evil spirits.

6. Food—have to eat fish, oranges, and black ale grove like fat, because fat looks good and is a symbol that is installed on those who consume them.

7. Reunion—New Year’s is a day of family reunion where in the absence of any family member, we put orange food in the middle of the table and say "Wishing you health!" to the person who has not eaten orange food in the middle of the table.

8. Greetings—two are used, "Happy New Year" and "Congratulations and be prosperous!" In Mandarin the first greeting is "Zi Xin ni de ni" and in Cantonese "Koi Lam fan " and in Cantonese "Kong Hei fan di".

A Wendy’s in Japan

Photo Credit: Babson student overseas for the Babson Free Press
Semester at Sea - Hong Kong

Vanessa Burrill  
Staff Writer

Arriving in Hong Kong on November 12, 2005 at 08:00 hours, it was a nice breath of fresh air to look outside and see sky scrapers. I never thought I would love to see these monstrous buildings but it reminded me of the US. We went on a SAAS trip to Ocean Park, which is basically like Sea World. We got to go backstage to the Dolphin University. While we were there we got to see first hand how they train the baby dolphins.

They were adorable and knew when I pointed the camera at them to hold their position. They absolutely loved getting their pictures taken. Then we went to see the two famous Panda Bears, a male and a female however they were not together. They each had their own 'playground' because apparently Pandas are loners and do not like to interact together except during breeding season. I loved seeing them because I have never seen one before.

We went on up on the gondola where the view was absolutely incredible and off in the distance there were two mega yachts on moorings in the harbor. We even got to see the way the pandas pack in the museum. It was neat; they weren't going to give us the pandas bags so during the discussion I went in the front seat and poked the trunk and got all the bags out.

Then we tried to walk away, one of the cabbies grabbed onto John's bag, which is a common occurrence in Hong Kong. We couldn't understand why he grabbed it. We did look at each other in shock as to why he grabbed it. We turned, we told them we were going to get the police and that was it. We kicked the cabbie off of the scene, and we were moving on.

When we tried to walk away, one of the cabbies grabbed onto John's bag, which is a common occurrence in Hong Kong. We couldn't understand why he grabbed it. We did look at each other in shock as to why he grabbed it. We turned, we told them we were going to get the police and that was it. We kicked the cabbie off of the scene, and we were moving on.

As the stewardesses came over to take our meals, we were met with a wave of smiles. It was a very nice touch.

The scene in Mayanmar

We were off and headed the plane for Beijing.

We arrived in Beijing and hired a minivan to bring us to our hotel, but not before negotiating a price. We decided that John and I would take care of all the planning and financial matters for the trip instead of trying to have the tour company try to be in charge.

We checked into a suite and slowly brought everyone else up to speed. It wouldn't be noticeable. We went to grab a quick bite and then headed off to the 5 floors indoor market.

John knew what it was because he went to the same place when he went to China last year. The trip was only so cheap, so if I thought it was too expensive I turned on the charm. I wanted to buy a jacket which they wanted 350 Yuan for. It was far too much and was out of control so I said "no" and walked away which they would proceed by saying "how much?" and I said 90 Yuan was about 10 dollars and they kept on walking away. Getting so frustrat- ed we talked to them we were going to get the police and that is when our cabbie drive off, but the second one didn't. The other cab finally gave him 100 Hong Kong Dollar more and we walked away.

Is anyone else getting the feeling that maybe there were meant to go on this trip??

We checked in and went through customs and almost. Of course Ness gets stopped, what else is new? I mean why wouldn't I, I do look like the typical terrorist. So they searched me and my bag and let me in.

So the airlines official had to come over and I had to explain to him what I needed. After that ordeal, we were walking, so we could get to the highest point of the wall. The view from the top was breath taking, you could see the wall for miles, it really looked like a giant maze.

We left the Great Wall to go back to the hotel to get our things and head for Shanghai. We decided to take the overnight train, which was EVEN better than Vietnam. We had white linen on our little pull out table and little blue slippers that we all wore. There was also an eat out on the cart.

That night we ate and partied with the crew when everyone else went to bed. It was so much fun, they were teaching us Chinese and we taught them English. My favorite word in English was "Okay" which they over used. It was so bad and probably one of my favorite nights on the train.

We were supposed to catch our flight at 07:30, but the trained stopped at 06:30 and we got up thinking we were early then the train started to move. We freaked. John tried to push the emergency button and we started yelling down the carts, until we found a woman that said we had another hour and that was a quick stop. So we all went back to bed in our clothing and piled all the bags in one room.

Arriving in Shanghai, John and I want to find a place to eat and then brought everyone to it. That day we went to visit a museum that we had heard history and progress of Shanghai as well as pictures of before and after 50 years. My favorite part was the giant layout of the city with miniature buildings and the virtual boat. After the museum, we couldn't leave Shanghai without visiting the largest market so of course we went and spent 5 hours there.

By the end we were so tired of bargaining and out of money we went to eat. John and I went to eat on the 65th floor of the Hyatt to see the view of the entire city at night and Kristin and Linda met up with us later on. We then headed back to the hotel to get up for our 07:30 flight back to Hong Kong.

However, we sat on the runway for 2 hours I was so tuckered out because John and I were being precious time at Disneyland, but as soon as I heard it was because my main man Blas was landing it was all ok, I was happy again! When we arrived in Hong Kong, I took off for Disneyland. It just opened the beginning of 2005 and it was still a lot to build, but it was so much fun. It was a weekday so it was not busy at all and we did the entire park in 2 1/2 hours with only waiting for the cars on a couple of rides. Like every other Disney it was spotless and it was so nice not to see any grumpy for Americans everywhere, people were actually dressed really nicely some even in sport coats.

So after my amazing day at Disney and my tour around China, we headed back to the hotel to depart for Japan at 2300. It was so exhausting and happy never traveled so much in my life, but it was so worth it. I love China and Hong Kong; they are two places I would definitely love to come back to.

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Photo Courtesy of Babson student overseas for The Babson Free Press  

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Hong Kong

The Babson Free Press
Men's Basketball Turns Game Over

Edward Chiu
Staff Writer

Basketball Park, MA: It is always the same thing when the bench points scores as many points as the team turned over the ball (25). The game was over once the ball had gone out of bounds. As the Wheaton College Lyons (13-4, 4-4 NEWMAC) trampled the Babson往 forward (13-3, 1-6 NEWMAC) in front of approximately 100, mostly Wheaton fans, Tuesday night at the Sueke Gymnasium, extending their losing streak to 3.

The Lyons started the game on a 9-0 run and never looked back. The Beaver men could not hang onto the ball as they turned the ball over 25 times. As the final buzzer sounded, the same as the Lyons built an early-13 lead. The Beavers came back with 2 with 3:50 left in the half after a baseline put-in by sophomore shooting guard Kyle McDonald (Wethersfield, CT).

On the back of the Beaver mistakes, the Lyons were led by sophomore center Brent DiGiovanna (Hanover, MA) with 18 points and an impressive 7 rebounds in 24 minutes. DiGiovanna dominated the low post as the Beavers were outscored by the low post, 40-29.

The game was over, it was a 78-52 win for the Lyons as they continued their winning streak. The Lyons are now 13-3 and the Beavers are 13-1.

Bland Bowl?

Jeff Peterson
Staff Writer

I'm normally giddy this week. Next to Christmas and Thanksgiving, the Super Bowl is my favorite part of the year. From August to January, teams duke it out in the trenches to decide who will own the Super Bowl Champion. And yet there is something inherently missing this year. Maybe it's because my Patriots aren't competing for the crown this year, but it seems the entire nation outside of Pittsburgh and Seattle are bored with this match-up.

Ben Roethlisberger will keep his beard. Sounds exciting huh?

It appears the number one story of the game is that Steelers RB Jerome Bettis is returning to his hometown for his first (Yawn) Super Bowl. He is the most important player on the field.

Where is the real excitement to this game? Where is the match-up of the best against the best? Where is the pride of BAway to make a guarantee? Did I accidentally turn the game off? I was too busy watching the regular season against the very same Wheaton team in two weeks.

And he'll probably stay, I guess the West isn't too swell.

It should be another interesting year for the Red Sox. While they will have some injuries this year, I hope the team will continue to develop. I see a strong team in the future.

As the saying goes, if you don't like the weather just wait a minute. Well, this statement could not be truer for Red Sox fans this off-season.

With such a twisted turn of events leading up to this year's Groundhog Day, it's a wonder that the city of Boston hasn't already signed Philly's Punxsutawney Phil in hopes that it could help predict the '06 season.

Indeed, some Sox fans who did follow baseball in the winter months may be slightly confused about some of the wheels and deals occurring over the past few months. To fill you all in, here's a quick summary written in the best of Sportswriter's verse:

You're back in town, and yes he had gone for a bit.
No, Johnny's not a Boox, and instead we got the 38 million-man to hit.
Yes, we are cool for Co Co and good to Go Go with Gonzalez, oh!
Oh, no and no, Mike Myers chose to join Embree o.

Where? Well, to the city formed long, long ago.
A n

Wells?... well?... he thinks he's going west.
But just a little while ago he told us two years ago that he'd be best.
And he'll probably stay, I guess the West isn't too swell.

It was easy to forget about them.

Just know that the Steelers roster would be golfing right now if they didn't have Parker. And don't forget that the Seahawks have NFL MVP Shaun Alexander who amassed an NFL record 27 rushing TD's this season.

I know Seattle is way up in the Northwest, and maybe your geography teacher neglected to tell you about its existence, but please look at the team, how the media looks at the team and how the team got together and it was different. How the players stopped being afraid of failing, which I think was why we could be accomplishing something that hadn't been done in a very long time. I want to bring that attitude to New York.

Grantled, Damon did bring a tenacious, go get 'em stance to the lineup...but, boring? Boston has never been boring (unless Bellehorn was in the box).

Later, Damon was quoted as telling the New York Times, "Manny really wants out of Boston, just so he can relax and chill. If he played for the Mets, he probably wouldn't be able to chill much. But I think the Yankees would be a perfect fit for him, as well as for David Ortiz." As a huge fan of Parks and his crew, I easily can say that if David Ortiz ever moves to New York before his career was over, the Big Papi Crew and all of its affiliates will be in the record books. (Highly unlikely, since Paps can chill whenever he wants.)

Over, since a move to the Big Apple from Beantown comes with a change of sides it will be.

I believe one should take Damon's remarks into account. I would like any other member of the pinstripes, however that may be, to lose their club house and be as miserable everybody was. I like to think that I helped change how fans

give Alexander his props. He had a season for the ages.

How's the game going to turn out? Frankly, I feel like the Steelers are a team of destiny. An unheard of 6 seed team making it to the Super Bowl has the football gods behind them. Do not count the players on the Steelers defense like Polamalu can stop a face paced Seahawks offense, and allow Roethlisberger to control the clock. If Pittsburgh strikes first, they won't look back.

26-17.

SPORTS

Busy BoSox Stir Up Wild Winter

David Barner
Sports Editor

As the saying goes, if you don't like the weather just wait a minute. Well, this statement could not be truer for Red Sox fans this off-season.

With such a twisted turn of events leading up to this year's Groundhog Day, it's a wonder that the city of Boston hasn't already signed Philly's Punxsutawney Phil in hopes that it could help predict the '06 season.

Indeed, some Sox fans who did follow baseball in the winter months may be slightly confused about some of the wheels and deals occurring over the past few months. To fill you all in, here's a quick summary written in the best of Sportswriter's verse:

You're back in town, and yes he had gone for a bit.
No, Johnny's not a Boox, and instead we got the 38 million-man to hit.
Yes, we are cool for Co Co and good to Go Go with Gonzalez, oh!
Oh, no and no, Mike Myers chose to join Embree o.

Where? Well, to the city formed long, long ago.
A n

Wells?... well?... he thinks he's going west.
But just a little while ago he told us two years ago that he'd be best.
And he'll probably stay, I guess the West isn't too swell.

It was easy to forget about them.

Just know that the Steelers roster would be golfing right now if they didn't have Parker. And don't forget that the Seahawks have NFL MVP Shaun Alexander who amassed an NFL record 27 rushing TD's this season.

I know Seattle is way up in the Northwest, and maybe your geography teacher neglected to tell you about its existence, but please look at the team, how the media looks at the team and how the team got together and it was different. How the players stopped being afraid of failing, which I think was why we could be accomplishing something that hadn't been done in a very long time. I want to bring that attitude to New York.

Grantled, Damon did bring a tenacious, go get 'em stance to the lineup...but, boring? Boston has never been boring (unless Bellhorn was in the box).

Later, Damon was quoted as telling the New York Times, "Manny really wants out of Boston, just so he can relax and chill. If he played for the Mets, he probably wouldn't be able to chill much. But I think the Yankees would be a perfect fit for him, as well as for David Ortiz." As a huge fan of Parks and his crew, I easily can say that if David Ortiz ever moves to New York before his career was over, the Big Paps Crew and all of its affiliates will be in the record books. (Highly unlikely, since Paps can chill whenever he wants.)

Over, since a move to the Big Apple from Beantown comes with a change of sides it will be.

I believe one should take Damon's remarks into account. I would like any other member of the pinstripes, however that may be, to lose their club house and be as miserable everybody was. I like to think that I helped change how fans

give Alexander his props. He had a season for the ages.

How's the game going to turn out? Frankly, I feel like the Steelers are a team of destiny. An unheard of 6 seed team making it to the Super Bowl has the football gods behind them. Do not count the players on the Steelers defense like Polamalu can stop a face paced Seahawks offense, and allow Roethlisberger to control the clock. If Pittsburgh strikes first, they won't look back.