Was that Kangaroo Meat I Just Saw?!?

David Barker
Co-Editor-in-Chief

This past week Babson College was given a special treat at Trini Dining Hall. While some might guess this special treat to be a new dish or favorite dessert, it turned out to be the arrival of Australian Executive Chef John Deane. Deane visited Babson as part of Sodexo's Global Chef Program, a part of the program, Chef Deane has been traveling across colleges in New England to share a piece of Australian cuisine with students from the area.

After visiting De an College in Franklin, Chef Deane arrived at Babson with a clean slate and a menu packed with familiarity, Kangaroo meat (yes, that was Kangaroo) and other mouth-watering Australian delicacies.

Prior to Deane's career as a chef in Australia, he began his late teens as a Chef in County Kerry, Ireland. Here, while gaining an interest in Kerry Rugby, he worked for a summer at a restaurant where he had his first apprenticeship as a chef. At the age of 18, Deane decided to leave Ireland and explain what the rest of the world had to offer. Indeed, travel has been an essential part of Deane's career as a chef.

Sitting down with Deane, the Free Press was able in to learn how travel has influenced his cuisine and life. "Not often in jobs do we get the opportunity to see other cultures and places do," he explains. He goes on to add that while he doesn't like "non-researching ingredients" over himself, he enjoys to create, "each dish or style as it was intended." He aims, in his cuisine, to bring out what's best in each recipe, noting that, "[you]n't mess with a good thing!"

After leaving Ireland at age 18, Deane spent three years in London, followed by trips to Switzerland and Germany where he cooked as a Chef at various five-star restaurants. Chef Deane eventually moved to Australia where he met his wife.

Here, in Sydney, in 2000, Chef Deane served as the Executive Chef at the Sydney Olympic and Paralympic games serving athletes from across the world at the Athletes Village. This experience, Deane recalls, was both challenging and rewarding. For a year and a half price to the games Deane met with chefs from across the world to plan the athletic's arrangement of meals. With 15,000 athletes and officials attending the Olympic games there was, no doubt, personal knowledge rather than questions about our government's policies. We worked with large numbers of small business owners, which night to help them develop their businesses, and some of which engaged in targeted consulting projects.

At our culminating event on Sunday afternoon, several hundred people from the community, faculty, and students presented their business in the first competition of kind in the region.

When the winners were announced, I think of the roar of the crowd rivaled the noise at the Super Bowl on Sunday night. And when everyone passed out, reached home a computer as a gift from us, the group ensured its impact would be felt long after we left for home.

While our living conditions in Ghana are comfortable, it is still a vastly different living situation than the norm for any of the group (the water runs most days). Also, teaching in an Af- rican school is very different and a bit scary for a first teaching experience. However, however, however, huge. The friendships formed and the knowledge shared during the two weeks in Ghana will last a lifetime - on both sides of the ocean. Everyone participant in the project has learned that even simple acts like conversations can have a huge impact on the global landscapes. I encourage everyone who is interested in getting involved in the project or in some of the similar projects that are available to you, I think you will be truly amazed at what you will learn and what you can give back to the community to establish the first computer center available to the local people. When opening the doors of the computer center, the people waiting to use the computers and to learn from us numbered in the hundreds.

I have returned to Ghana ever- y January since, and the groups that I have led continue to do some amazing work. This year, the twenty-six students who accompanied me last year into eleven teams and spent an entire week at one of the high schools in the area. The primary goal for each team was to work with interested students to help them learn about entrepreneurship, business planning and personal development. However, much more than that happened. For example, at the end of the week there were literally thousands of high school students in Ghana and new American Friends and new opinions about America formed on the basis of personal encounters with students from the United States.

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Information Technology: Where is it headed?

Dhwani Kapadia
Business & Technology Editor

If you asked me this question, a few years ago, my answer would have been quite different. This goes to show how fast-paced and unpredictable Information technology really is. In the past, all we had to worry about was keeping the technology in working order; now we also need to worry about the cost of buying new technology.

The World Wide Web is the center of our universe and its importance, as evidenced by the past 10-12 years, will increase at an uncontrollably rapid pace. Does it have flaws in factors such as security? Yes. Unfortunately, new programs are being created equally as quickly to keep up to pace. The flaws are painfully obvious, and innovators like Tim Berners-Lee have been quick to recognize them as soon as they are introduced in the Internet.

The times of needing a Personal Computer (PC) are over. (Wait, what?!) Yes, it is just too complex and delicate. The Internet is our computer. With the advent of programs that allow the Web browser to be in an application format, users around the world will be able to log on and access any document with the click of a button. The days of using a computer are gone. The times of needing a personal computer are over.

Iphone: Steve Jobs’ New Stop-

Dhwani Kapadia
Business & Technology Editor

The thrill and the excitement upon the announcement of the new Apple iPhone at the San Francisco MacWorld Expo has been a big hit. Steve Jobs’ keynote, anything is possible. He is undoubtedly a perfectionist and will go to any length to prove that his next innovation will change the way we use technology.

For starters, the new iPhone will sell for $499 (4 GB) and $599 (8 GB) and is supposed to be released sometime in the summer. However, there are many things that are still uncertain about it— even its name is still in doubt—thanks to a trademark suit by Cisco! There is an innovative (and somewhat ephemeral) feature about the iPhone such as its touch screen (which controls basically any feature of the device) or the virtual keyboard (that may lose its functionality after over-use). Steve Jobs did demo it at Macworld, but of course anytime he demo, things are flawless.

Another glitch is the fact that the only mobile-carrier that will support the new iPhone is Sprint. Will T-Mobile or Verizon Wireless users want to switch over to another carrier simply to use the iPhone? People, such as these raise new doubts about the success of the iPhone.

Moreover, something important to note is the fact that the highly-acclaimed and very popular iPod is not grabbing the share that it used to. Apple, undoubtedly, makes things that work and captures people’s attention but the fact remains, consumers want to spend $500 for a 4 GB phone/music player when they can buy a 60 GB music player at a cheaper cost.

If the iPhone proves to be very appealing to the present iPod generation, then many criticisms may be wrong and there may be no stopping the iPhone.

Also, if people are in a frenzy to be the first one to buy such a “cool” device for the lack of a better word—device, the iPhone may succeed. For now, only time will tell the future of this new Apple creation.

Or as Businessweek put it, “Is Steve Jobs untouched?”

Overshadowed by Google's

Dhwani Kapadia
Business & Technology Editor

Google/Google/Google…(How’s that for a tongue twister?) Nonetheless, Google seems to be the solution to most problems in modern times. Also, for many companies, it is the key to survival through different circumstances. One that is directly affected by the success of Google is undoubtedly Yahoo. It surely must be frustrating for CEO of Yahoo Terry Semel, to constantly look at Yahoo’s position in the market and realize that there is not a $60,000 pound behemoth called Google sitting right above it.

As with any predicament, one must come to a solution to eradicate any complications. In Yahoo’s case, Semel is fervently trying to come up with alternatives to catch the attention of Wall Street and put itself in the spotlight for many investors and analysts. FORTUNE has learned from multiple sources that Yahoo has been flirting with AOL. In other words, Yahoo had recently approached Tim Armstrong and showed interest in purchasing America Online. If this were to happen, there are very likely chances that anyone else simultaneously try to reduce the discomfort of having to cram documents back and forth. The Linux OS will undoubtedly challenge Windows’ zombie-like status as it is very flexible with other “third-party” applications.

Security is unequivocally another important concern of many computer-users and businesses. Technology makes it easier for individuals and companies to transfer files and other important information to those you are sending it to. That’s the purpose it serves—making life easy for you. Why can’t you do the same for a lazy bum wouldn’t it?

It must be your responsibility to protect your information, documents, and files. Moreover, this information must be easy to locate and fwd to your clients, customers, or investors. After this importance of information, one must focus more on the delivery aspect. We must apply the benefits and capabilities of IT to improve the speed, accuracy, and efficiency of this very information. Time is of the essence, and patience is absolutely becoming a lost virtue.

Like Businesses...Like Technology...

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ARTS

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2007

Morning Blues

Part I: The Spring

The mental features disarranged as of the analytical ore, in themselves, but little appreciable of one another.

~ Edgar Allan Poe (The Murders in the Rue Morgue, 1841)

As the sun gently glistened atop the window's frame, its golden rays slowly warming the crisp air of the studio flat. Edouard, still sleeping, somehow sensed the drowsy hour approaching. Lying on his back with his four muscles against the bottom of the feather pillow and the stiff, orthopedic mattress - an awkward but effective sleeping position he inherited from his mother, he found himself in one of those circumstances where oddly intimidating takes over from cognitive functions. One of his eyes, the left one, famous for its acuity in analytic hours, failed him. He fell, and the inevitable blackmailers of Ego, slowly winked its way open. The immediate light that followed immediately, as if to indicate the flight going on in Edouard's mind between the sleep-living, lethargic half and the other half of his life, reached the middle window panel. He feebly gathered the strength to open both his eyes, submerging his head from the imperiled pillow, and glanced at the clock. It was 7:20.

A familiar headache poked his head, demanding more. Predictably, he was annoyed that the coming of spring, a season of rest, failed to soothe him. The impressionists that Edouard adhered, slowly eroded the pleasure of the endless studio. Of course, problem could be circumvented by curating. Yet, Edouard refused to purchase them in a vain attempt to convince himself that he lived an artistic life. Or maybe the lack of curtains, along with his sparse furnishings gave him an excuse to indulge in other pleasures he enjoyed more passionately. Those pleasures were on display in his apartment, helping accentuate the otherwise barren interior: heaps of books and papers, various confined, leaning against the walls and the bottles of expensive French wine, most of them empty, dotted around the kitchen table, a small dining table that dated back to college years at Harvard, except back then, bore the preferred menu of oranges and toast. 87 St. Mauvis-Baudoch, stood on his nightstand with its crystal-paned gilded that had helped empty the Dyonysian liquid the night before. He slowly turned himself toward the nightstand to put his watch on, feeling the last night's exhaustion and hit the bottle with his elbow, still being in a state of lethargy, he righteously appropriated the bottle crushing to the floor. In the millennia between his initial chuckles and the bottle's shattered fate, he realized his ambitious wake-up time was unrealistic, the morning joy he had waved about at dinner last night was nothing other than the morning secret for now. The guilty photographs got to housekeeping after the wise after-word of no importance, he did not even remember looking at them. He put his watch on, so as to give his useless, destructive first attempt a purpose, and went back to bed.

Much to his chagrin, he could not fall back asleep. His hangover induced a slight pain that originated from his head and made its way to his lower stomach. Strongly enough, this pain was akin to the physical sensations engendered by a broken heart. It had been almost three years since he had last seen her, Edouard. In final execution, with his father, equally as dramatic as the Flemish paintings that hung on his apartment wall, where the argument took place, seemed to become more vivid with time. The consequence of Edouard's amazing powers of recollection. He began visualizing, as he had done countless times in the past, the minute details of her, making of her, out of his na"ve, in his mind. He recalled stumbling over himself, of the camaraderie between the two, as he packed up all his most cherished belongings: his clothing, his books, his wine, and, of course, his paintings. He remembered going to the only place he could work, two hundred thousand Francs, along with his unused, printed first edition booker and his Cezannean passport - leaving only saving bonds and his Cezannean jewelry in the deposit box. He remembered the perplexed face of the coffee sipping assistant, aside to him, as he ordered him to go to the main gallery in St. German-des-Pres to retrieve twenty-four-few canvases. He remembered calling his contact at Chis. The contact to him with his crew happens a private jet for a transatlantic voyage to Montreal. The only way to smuggle shipments of dollars of art without paying import duties. However, the man had to call the contact, as there was nothing else to do. The man had been seated on the air with no one else in his first class cabin. Before the organized showdown was the agonizing two hour wait for Camille to return home after he had made all the necessary arrangements to ensure he would never see her again. By the time Camille arrived, he could no longer remember how many glasses of scotch he had consumed.

Desperately trying to avoid the diurnal diatribe which his mind had been building up to since he had laid back down, he drew his eyes, so as to convince himself he was dreaming. It is one thing to have troubling thoughts seeping into a misfitting mind that is rendered vulnerable by sleep. It is quite another to have the memories pierce the armor of consciousness, attacking the mind when it is most hard. Edouard knew this, and, with the help of his oversized shrunk and generous medication, managed to convince himself that the tangible soliciting on the part of his memory was but an illusionary phenomenon.

Neal Robert Smokey: Passionate Advocate for his profession.

It's not so much a new therapy, it's more... new ideas. Ideas that the profession is evolving into quite a unique profession. Neal Robert Smoekler is a man that the brain and the mind have made his computer become. His eloquence lies in his ability to reason within himself, not in a society that is knock it out of the park. By one stroke, without so much as an explanation, the gentleman proceeded to do what he had been: the rebuttal. It was very brief, so brief that I wasn't sure what to make of it.

"I got up and I was, uh... I was hanging it was literally reciting in what I can only describe as an unprofessional cross of a speech. It was as if the heaviness of my life somehow lifted. Do you know why I mean? I seemed to till it out of the 'real world', no longer wanting for the proverbial second shoe to drop. I felt like my brain, my entire body had been restored, providing me with a clean slate. Have you ever experienced something that was as incredible?"

Smoekler really had my attention. What exactly was done on this? Neal Robert Smoekler in 1997? He explained that the student's intellectual achievement refers to The Alphabetic Method - which is the comprehensive helping system in the 1990's.

"I've based upon the same fundamental principles in a previous conversation" explained Smoekler. "It is in essence a high level sensory perception which produces a very positive communication into the brain. The nature of this communication instantly translates into a state of well-being and W 3st.

When asked what he enjoys most about his work, Smoekler hesitates for a moment, then as if the answer was there all along he

PEOPLE IN OUR NEIGHBORHOOD

Neal Robert Smoekler: Presiding Advocate for his profession.

replies, "people often come with a sadness, a situation they can't get past, they can't move on from. You can see it in their eyes, that spark."

Today, Smoekler is back in the Bay spending his professional days in Wedesky, Massachusetts - The President of the English Alphabetic Association. And who knows where he'll be in the future.

Opinions

So I Was So Wise

Nicholas Gobbie

A Fearless One

Let me tell you why I am so wise, because I have mastered the intellectual realms of the moment, time, and continuous and now the priorities of a historian's lifelong struggle to gain an infinitesimal amount of knowledge, so that I can focus on what you have learned, and you shove my young eyes, and I have shown you what a literal, and you see from me. That is why I am so wise, because I am a fearless one.

You have no answer to this, for you have no words. In the desert you have created out of your own words, in the flickering shadows fly across the desert sandscape as ships sail toward a horizon they would never reach. Your horizon lines, and you, and behind you, and at the place you stand (sleep, or stand, dry, or eat, sleep), or worship idols (sleep, or even screw the sofa) are not enough to find, it is time, now, in this hour, for you to come to the daunting realization: I am so wise. I am so wise. I am so wise.

So I was so wise, and you, outside the nothingness inside, the nothing inside, the nothingness overtakes you, swallows you whole, and the streetlights go out, when you are encapsulated forever in blackness, where are you then? I know because I am so wise, you will turn nowhere, because you have never turned in your life, in your confusions. Nothing exists, and it is in the inward turn. When you face the mirror and stare into your own soul, - understanding and finding nothing, you will see why I am so wise. I am a fearless one. I am a fearless one. I am a fearless one.

Disagree

Herbie?

Write for Opinions!

Do Not Protect Us from Our Liberty

Harbor Wieseber

Opiion Editor

This is a message to all those self-righteous politicians who feel that they know better than the citizenry they were elected by, for this is a message to all those who feel that they know better than the Constitution and to represent their interests, not to insult them, to disrupt their freedom, but to give them their freedom. Liberals have traditionally stood for the rights of all.

For those who are unaware, New York City has been enroaching on the rights of its residents. America is a balance of power. There is a balance between interests, each having representation in the form of politicians, lobbyists, and media. Unfortunately, when one side becomes too powerful, there can be negative repercussions. In this case, business and libertarians have sought legal aid at the wheel. By July 2017, restaurants in NYC are required to significantly cut their dani-fats used in their food. I am sure that the government is aware that these laws were imposed on their citizens, but I am not always suspicious of those politicians who offer to protect the people from themselves. The message sounds good, but the reality is that it is little more than an ego trip fueled on the liberties they challenge.

Uncomfortably, now, when one side becomes too powerful, there can be negative repercussions. In this case, business and libertarians have sought legal aid at the wheel. By July 2017, restaurants in NYC are required to significantly cut their dani-fats used in their food. I am sure that the government is aware that these laws were imposed on their citizens, but I am not always suspicious of those politicians who offer to protect the people from themselves. The message sounds good, but the reality is that it is little more than an ego trip fueled on the liberties they challenge.

Email: freepress@babson.edu

The Babson Free Press was founded in 1914. Our mission is to provide the Babson community with high-quality, well-written, student-generated content, and to further the tradition of free, independent student journalism.

Thursday, February 2, 2007
A picture of Christie and her fellow Babson team. The team is constructed to consult on expansion strategies for a Swiss company called LombArt. They will present in Spring.

Christie's Swiss JMCFE Experience

Christie Xie
Staff Writer

In collaboration with FHS St. Gallen (University of Applied Sciences), Babson College offers six students the opportunity to participate in the Joint Management Consulting Field Experience program (J-MCFE). In Switzerland a week before the start of spring semester 2007, two student teams each composed of three FHS and three Babson students had their project kick-off.

Away from Boston, the steep, scrubby and spacious highways, I along with five other Babson students spent a week in St. Gallen: a small town near Zurich which is located in the Northeast of Switzerland. The second day was a kick-off meeting with a presentation of the universities and their programs as well as the J-MCFE project, followed by an intercultural workshop. The next day is a visit to the company. My team is assigned to a Swiss company called LombArt. LombArt is a major player in the Point of Purchase industry. The company focuses on producing high quality, take-home displays, shop in shop and packaging for strong brand identities. As an initial meeting, the team discussed the consulting project in more detail.

Next week, the students will finalize the hit list of Austria to the East and Italy to the South, Switzerland is only about the size of Vermont and New Hampshire combined. Combined, it is one of the richest countries in the world. Additionally, Switzerland has a strong history of maintaining political and military neutrality.

We left Boston on Sunday afternoon and arrived at St. Gallen on Monday after an hour train ride from Zurich airport. Our day started with a guided tour of the city center and a café lunch with the J-MCFE program managers of the host university. Then, we met up with the six matching students from the Swiss team. Each of us is introduced to our host Swiss counter parts and their family. My host family is located in Thal, a small town 30 minutes away from St. Gallen.

The second day is a kick-off meeting with a presentation of the universities and their programs as well as the J-MCFE project, followed by an intercultural workshop. The next day is a visit to the company. My team is assigned to a Swiss company called LombArt. LombArt is a major player in the Point of Purchase industry. The company focuses on producing high quality, take-home displays, shop in shop and packaging for strong brand identities. As an initial meeting, the team discussed the consulting project in more detail.

The following two days, the six students finalized the hit list of Austria to the East and Italy to the South, Switzerland is only about the size of Vermont and New Hampshire combined. Combined, it is one of the richest countries in the world. Additionally, Switzerland has a strong history of maintaining political and military neutrality.

We, as the consulting team will assist LombArt's expansion in the U.S. market by conducting a customer and competitor analysis and determine entry strategies for new business areas. During the semester, the U.S. and the Swiss students will work together by conducting weekly conference calls and maintain contact using e-mail and Microsoft Sharepoint. In mid-April the teams will meet again at Babson, and present our findings to clients.

At the end of the day, walking out of each meeting, I feel that we have done so much more than just work. The daily encounters with the Swiss and the inter-cultural exchange is an experience all by itself. I still remember my first experience at a restaurant, trying to decipher the German menu into English by looking at each ten letters words randomly assembled together.

There are experiences and sights that we cannot but miss a day to admire around the country and even outside the country. During our stay, we visited the Rhine Falls, which is the largest waterfall in Europe.

We drove to a boarding town in Germany around the Lake Constance. Soon after I arrived, I was only 30 minutes away from the boarder of Austria, some of us also ran and hiked to a small Austrian town-Gaisau.

We could not remain restless ever during the weekend. All twelve of us drove to Arona, an Alpine ski resort located an hour away from St. Gallen.

The panoramic view from the Alps with mountains half covered in snow is truly breathtaking. And we were even luck enough to be witnesses of the 2007 FIS Snowboard Championships. Looking back, what I learned from this trip is to do what I love the most, traveling.

I have learned that I will respect the rest of my life if I was not able to take on a lifestyle like such - new places, new cultures and the consulting experiences working with a multi-cultural team. There are always things to look forward to if we open ourselves to opportunities at home and abroad.
Who’s Closing for the Sox?  

Patrick McManusara  
Sports Editor

All well that starts well. At least we as Red Sox fans believe each year come March. The Red Sox have a monochromous hoopoe. Anyway you have someone like J.D. Drew batting in your 5 spot, take your power hitting catcher and put him in the 6 spot, and drop a .289/.380/.538 player from last year (Lowell) to the 7 spot, you know you have a guaranteed top four of Youkilis, Lugo, Ortiz, and Ramirez. So the Sox have. Honestly, the all can agree. What about the defense? They have a gold-glove either left side. With a Lowell/Gonzalez/Big Papi/Lehrman offers a great glove at 2nd, with Youkilis hopefully improving over last year, at 3rd, the shortstop, is a former All-Star and a great catcher who can learn the job quickly. Say what you want about Manny, but he’s still there for years, he leads the AL in assists for much of the last few years, and he gets his ball back in quickly. Crisp made the catch of the year in center, and Drew certainly not a liability in left.

That brings us to the pitching. Let’s start with the rotation. Schilling will open the summer. Rock solid Hall of Famer. Beckett, World Series MVP will pitch 2nd. The biggest off season signing. Matsuzaka, will hurl as the third guy. Piniella, arguably the league’s best closer last season, will pitch in the 4 spot. Wheeler, the Sox with the longest tenure and龄 longest, will put in the 5 spot. What a great rotation. Solid from 1-5. Not a lot of room for the possibility of adding Clemente. This will be discussed at a later time, if need be. Ah, all balls real on the plunking. Papi, a golden defense, and an “ice-filled” retention, with the possibility of adding Clemente.

That leaves us with just one more thing: the bullpen. The bullpen as a whole doesn’t look that bad. Veterans Timlin and Donnelly will be great set up men in the pen. Ramirez will be a solid lefty out of the bullpen as well. Delmonico and Haren will be great at younger starting youngsters, should improve. And newly acquired Pinoe should be solid out of the bullpen either in long or short relief. Obviously, the question remains: who closes? This is

Editor’s Note: The staff would like to congratulate Jeff Peterson on his turning 21 today. Go ‘em kid.

Also, if you have any questions concerning any of the articles in this edition of the paper, or if you would like to write for the Free Press, please do not hesitate to contact me at pmcmanusa@babson.edu.

SPORTS

How to Fix the Chicago Bears

Jeff Peterson  
Staff Writer

Another football season has passed and the Chicago Bears have felt the sting of a Super Bowl loss. The Bears have just entered their 20th season under Mike Ditka. Manning’s coronation ceremony and were simply outplayed by a much less physically gifted team. Now how can the Bears take the next step and win a Super Bowl in 2007? Here are my steps for reviving the 2007 Bears:

1) Do not. We used to call Super Bowl 31. Over the last few years, the team that lost the Super Bowl has failed to reach the playoffs the next season. Since 2000, 5 out of 6 teams that lost the Super Bowl did not make the playoffs the following season. The Bears have to believe that they are one year off the class of the NFC. They should not fall into this trap because the NFC South should be as mediocre as it was this past year. The NFC South teams improving upon their 2006 record. The only team that appears to have a chance to unseat the Bears are the New Orleans Saints if they can improve their defense. Choices are slim, look for the Bears to be

2) Snap the franchise tag on Lance Briggs. Briggs is an irreplaceable weak side linebacker who will only be 27 next season. He is the kind of linebacker that speed defenses drool over, especially those who operate under the Tampa 2 defense. He is an unrestricted free agent as of March 22 and he will command top dollar on the free agent market. Despite the Bears’ success, there is a great deal of space under the cap, they should not sign Briggs to a long term deal. They have a young linebacking corps that can adapt to the Tampa 2 system and learn from veteran Brian Urlacher. Locking up Briggs for the long term should not be a priority for the Bears. Let another team like the Redskins overpay him in the 2008 off season.

3) Find a new starting quarterback. Rex Grossman put up terrible passing numbers in the Super Bowl. He single handedly lost the game for the Bears by fumbling twice and making awful thrown decisions. As far as I know, Grossman is the only quarterback that has the ability to turn a 2 and 1 situation into 4 and 2 without the help of a penalty. The Bears need to improve the quarterback market and either make a trade or draft a quarterback. A list of candidates is not particularly long, but does include the intriguing prospect Byron Leftwich. Diagnosed with his situation in Jacksonville, Leftwich possesses the arm that would allow the Bears to stretch the field. While Leftwich does not make the decision, he is an upgrade over Grossman. Also believe that reports to the contrary, Michael Vick is available in a trade. Getting Vick would be the acquisition of the off season for the Bears, and perhaps the entire NFL. If not available, you could always sign Vick’s backup Matt Schaub who is a future pro-bowler and was once a starter for the bench. Trading for him would be a major coup for the Bears.

Overall a return to the Super Bowl should be a given for the Bears. The Bears are in the top tier at quarterback should be a top priority for the front office. If someone is not brought in for the Bears in Super Bowl LII, they should “shutout” their way to a victory.

No More Men On Manning's Back

David Niles  
Staff Writer

What’s the saying? “Defense wins championships.” Unless, of course, the opposing offense is vastly superior to that of the opposition, and their own defense can’t keep from ruin it for the rest of the team. Defense wins championships. Unless your quarterback is so pathetically inept that he cannot help but ruin what the defense accomplished. During the Super Bowl era, the team with the better defense throughout the regular season tended to win their Super Bowl match up about ninety percent of the time. Not this year though. However, most people weren’t that surprised at the outcome of this game. In fact, the game was pretty much exactly according to plan.

All the experts abandoned the “defense wins championships” mantra and jumped on the Colts handwring. They predicted Denver would return a kick to the house against the NFL’s worst coverage unit, while the Colts were great, too. The Denver kickoff return came. The Colts would play terribly as he has in about half of his games this season. However, the Colts would foul, taking sacks at critical moments, and wouldn’t be able to come away with two fourth quarter interceptions that were lobbed so high in the air they would have thought they were out of a mortar. And lastly, Peyton Manning couldn’t finally lead his team to a title and exploit the demons of his past. Manning made a mistake early, throwing a pick 3rd and 12 in the 1st but was, however, relatively flawless there after. He finished 247 yards and 1 touchdown pass and managed the game even more adeptly. He didn’t force any first downs, but with the yards and the TD, he wasn’t wasting, instead checking down to his short crossing routes and screens. Manning called for more runs than usual at the line of scrimmage (42 to be exact). This allowed Rhodes and Addai to pound away at the Bears defense, allowing the Colts to hold the ball for over 38 of the 60 minutes of the game. The Colts did not play like the finest team they have been billed as over the last few years. An argument could be made that the Bears should have been the entire Colts offensive line. They had Manning standing upright and got an excellent push on running plays against a formidable defense. The Colts defense also laid some nice ticks on the Bears’ ball carriers, resulting in four Chicago fumbles. It will be interesting to see what happens to both of these teams next season. It is well documented that over the last decade, Super Bowl losers have failed to even make the playoffs in their following campaign and this past season; the Pittsburgh Steelers struggled after winning the Super Bowl last year. The Bears have all the pieces in place and may only lose a couple of games. They have to reevaluate the quarterback position. Rex Grossman has been in the league for 3 years. He has yet to show anyone he can be a steady starter in the NFL. Since they play the weak NFC and an even weaker NFC North division, they have a chance to get back to the big game next year. For this reason they would be better suited trading for Michael Vick than drafting a young player who might not be ready for a few years. The Colts have big time salary cap problems and have several players eligible for free agency. It is likely that they could lose several key players and not have the financial means to compensate. The Bears don’t need to worry about that now. For now, they should enjoy that every team aspires to and should enjoy it while they can. This is no bugging mini-camps and summer training camps will be here before they know it.