Leonard A. Schlesinger Named 12th President of Babson College

Acclaimed business executive and academic Leonard Schlesinger has been named the 12th President of Babson College. His appointment will begin on July 1, 2008. Schlesinger comes to Babson from Limited Brands, where he served most recently as Vice Chairman and Chief Operating Officer, overseeing Limited Brands, Victoria’s Secret Beauty, Stores and Direct, Bath and Body Works, C.O. Bigelow, Henri Bendel and the White Barn Candle Company. He has also served as a senior executive with Au Bon Pain Co., Inc.

He has also served as the President of Babson Business School, where, most recently, he served as the George F. Baker Jr., Professor of Business Administration, leading MBA and executive education programs. He has also served as faculty member and administrator at Brown University.

He is the author, coauthor, or coeditor of nine books, including "The Value Profit Chain (Free Press, 2000)" and "The Service Profit Chain (Free Press, 1997)." Said Babson Board of Trustees Chairman Thomas S. Kump: "The Board voted unanimously to endorse Len’s candidacy and is excited to welcome him to the Babson community."

The babson student body welcomes Leonard Schlesinger to our "purple community." We look forward to more years in the spring.

Balancing Academic with Business Career Highlights

Twenty years at Harvard Business School
Faculty Member and Administrator at Brown University
Vice Chairman & Chief Operating Officer - Limited Brands
Executive Vice President & Treasurer - Au Bon Pain Co., Inc.

Rudy Giuliani: Towards a Realistic Peace

Stephen Lack Contributing Writer

As the current Republican front runner for the candidacy of the President of the United States, the foreign policy views of Rudy Giuliani are a crucial to the 2001 world. As Giuliani quotes in his Foreign Affairs (September/October 2007), "We are all members of the 9/11 generation," upon which he bases his entire foreign policy view. He believes in the importance of America’s negotiating being able to deal from a position of strength and defines his three primary foreign policy goals as "setting a course for victory" in the war on terror, second, strengthening the international system, and third, broadening the international system.

Rudy Giuliani is a supporter of the Iraq war and finishing the job. In his opinion the war is going to last until the next president takes office. Giuliani views the reaction of the United States government to the various terrorist attacks in recent years, such as the U.S.C. Cole and the U.S. embassies in Kenya and Tanzania, as a sign of weakness to terrorist groups. He wants these types of non-action to cease by the U.S. government. He believes that if the world sees the United States as impervious to attacks that it will not be attacked.

Giuliani takes a particularly strong stance against Iran, which would become a very serious issue should he become President. He discusses the possibility of failure in Iraq and Afghanistan and how, should the United States fail in Iraq, that the country would fall into the hands of insurgents once again and under the influence of Iran. Giuliani also goes on to say that Iran needs to accept the consequences of its actions. However, the scariest thing that he says after this explanation is, "This is not to say that talks with Iran cannot possibly work," because it is clear that his initial assumption is that talks cannot work, obviously he is stressing this country move towards a war with Iran than a diplomatic solution.

There is a big push in this article for an increased size and presence of the U.S. military. In addition to a proposed minimum ten new combat ready brigades of the U.S. Army, Rudy Giuliani is also proposing the development of a "national missile defense system" to protect the continental United States. He goes on to explain that we can no longer rely on "mutually assured destruction" as we did in the Cold War because now the United States is facing increasingly unstable regimes and terrorist groups. No longer is there a defined range of targets to go after. Who do we attack when we don’t know who hit us? This is also important to put a stop to the blackmailing of the United States and its allies by rogue states in possessing nuclear weapons. It gives the United States substantially more negotiating power than the other options.

The editor of the Free Press thank our readers for a successful semester! In this issue, the Babson Free Press offers you some of the upcoming Political Election Issue of 2008. We would like to warmly thank Professor Stephen Deets for motivating the students in his Global Politics class to submit these articles to our newspaper. We welcome all feedback on these articles and other reflections on this topic.

keep you updated with our Facebook releases, and look for a bigger and better Free Press in the spring.

Tahira Adatia Contributing Writer

Before this century, the U.S. has had a predominant position in world politics and has been a world leader for decades. However, the world has experienced a metamorphosis, in which the "global distribution of power" has significantly changed the other nations.

The editors of the Free Press thank our readers for a successful semester! In this issue, the Babson Free Press offers you some of the upcoming Political Election Issue of 2008. We would like to warmly thank Professor Stephen Deets for motivating the students in his Global Politics class to submit these articles to our newspaper. We welcome all feedback on these articles and other reflections on this topic.

adulthood to the needs of the entire global community. As Hilary Clinton says, "restore America's global standing and convince the world that America can lead once again," for her business is about creating the kind of support for "an unprecedented array of challenges in the twenty-first century," such as "Security and Opportunity for the Twenty-first Century," that "Americans need today," she says.

In the United States and the world, I feel that she is too optimistic about the ease with which she would be able to impact the global community in regard to the Iraq war and the war on terror—although she makes some points with which I concur, such as educating all children and making global warming a priority.
ON THE CAMPAIGN TRAIL
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 28TH, 2007

SCHLESINGER...continued from front page

University Graduate School of Business Administration in the field of Organizational Behavior. His thesis topic was "Supervisory Roles in Participative Work Systems." He received the Master of Business Administration in 1973 from Columbia University Graduate School of Business concentrating in Corporate and Labor Relations. He received the Bachelor of Arts in 1972 from Brown University, majoring in American Civilization.

His directorships have included Borders Group, Inc., The Columbia Foundation, Com- mitted Jewish Philanthropies, OC Companies, Inc., Limited Brands, Pegasystems, Inc., and University Medical Center Part- ners.


His professional memberships have included the Academy of Management, the National Social Science Association, and the Journal of Management In- quiry.

Schlesinger received the Doctor of Business Administration in 1979 from the Harvard University Graduate School of Business Administration in the field of Organizational Behavior." 

ADATIA-Clinton...continued from front page

agreed with Clinton, because she has repeatedly tried to reduce the amount of forces present in Iraq, which failed. To limit the number of troops home within her first 60 days of administration is extremely op- posable. She wants to solve the problem in Iraq by creating a "regional stabilization architecture" that helps allies, other global powers and all the states bordering Iraq, after the U.S. has left Iraq militarily.

Bush tried to create talks between Iraq and Syria which took great efforts and time. Therefore, I do not believe that Clinton will be able to create regional stability. Also, although she is a right that there is a human cost to the war on Iraq, nations cannot be expected to partake in killing all of the other human rights viola- tions that are happening at the same time. Finding long-term goals are impossible to achieve simul- taneously. To help our forces re- turn home and not have troops deployed to long term on unspecified overseas deployments would help to bring the war to a close.

If Senator Clinton were to be elected president of the United States, another critical issue she would have to address is war on terror, which is taking place in many countries across the world, specifically, in Afghanistan. Current U.S. policies on narcotics in Afghanistan have increased and the power of President Hamid Karzai and consequently have increased the power of the Taliban. Finan- cing for the Taliban comes directly from profits on heroin crops. Senator Clinton is sure to believe that the solution to this war is to: Counter narcotics efforts [and] to not to cut off funding to the Taliban by funding crop-substitution programs, a large-scale road-build- ing initiative, institutions that train and prepare Afghans for work, to ensure that the democracy creates programs to enable women to play a larger role in society. (Clinton, 2007)

Afghanistan is a corrupt country and is ruled by Islamic extremists more than its own people. Therefore Senator Clinton, while meaning well, has policies that are too optimistic. She has said that the "free market" and funding crop-substitution projects will cause heroin farms to shut down. She believes that we cannot solve the climate crisis alone, and the rest of the world will follow suit. It is a very misleading statement (Clinton, 2007). This is a great example of how global the world is, because every nation has its own way of dealing with situations that have become upon each other. She says that "rapidly emerging countries, such as China, will not curb their own carbon emissions unless the United States has demonstrated a serious commitment to reduc- ing its own," therefore her stance on this issue shows that she understands that the United States cannot just propose an international law or standard without first following the proposal itself (Clinton, 2007)

Clinton is just one of many presidential candidates, but each has a different background. Each is running on the promise of making the world a better place. For their own views on key issues, in- cluding the foreign policy of our country, we need to cast our ballots. Clinton will seize the opportu- nity to reintroduce the United States as a leader in the world and strengthen our power and ensuring that "the U.S. is committed to build- ing a world we want, rather than simply defending against the world we fear" (Clinton, 2007). As globalization increases, the U.S. is no longer in isolation, but rather relies on other na- tions to achieve their goals. Many countries are overseen by coun- tries other than the United States; thus, experiencing a paradigm shift.

America is no longer alone, but there is a new direction that is taking place, resulting in a world where coun- tries must not only face their problems issues that expand across na- tions. Of course there will al- ways be citizens who see cer- tain stances of each candidate, but there will also be others with which citizens agree. I be- lieve that as a candidate Sena- tor Clinton has some valid pol- icies such as educating children and making global warm- ing a priority, but I also think that some of her policies, such as those that target the middle class and the larger war on terror, are too optimistic.
American soldiers present, Al-Qaida have more control and influence over the people in the region than the American forces do. As for the south of the nation, Romney seems to believe that the Iraqi president Mahmoud Ahmadinejad (whose support in Iran is decreasing day-by-day) acting to overthrow the regime and may not be in power by the next Iranian elections in 2009 would be able to gather the support from his government to attack the new nation and withstand the increase in American presence that such an action would cause.

Romney’s realistic viewpoints come even clearer when he comments on the environment and America’s energy. Unlike most politicians, he does not talk of it from the point of view of increasing efficiency or decreasing emissions or global warning but from the point of view of the need for ‘energy independence.' His rationale for moving to renewable sources of energy is bio-diesel is that Americans need to keep sending almost $1 billion yearly to other oil-producing countries, some of which use the money against us” (Romney, 2007).

He proves that he has very little if any real concern for the environment through his statement that America needs to increase our domestic energy production with more drilling off-shore and in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge” (Romney, 2007).

This sort of blatant disregard for the environment will only ruin American perception on the international stage even further, especially since they are now the only nation not to sign the Kyoto protocol to reduce greenhouse gases.

Mitt Romney, Republican Presidential Candidate, answers an individual's question while on the Campaign trail.

LANK-GIULIANI

continued from front page

say as far as to call the United Nations "weak, indecisive, and outright corrupt" in its inability to act. Giuliani’s other major point in expanding the international system is the use of economic and cultural influences. He claims that companies like Pepsi, Coca-Cola, McDonalds, and Levi's helped win the Cold War by entering the Soviet market and bringing the two cultures closer together. He says that the same thing needs to happen in the different Muslim countries. The influence of the United States needs to be increased not only through military strength but through cultural and economic ties as well.

Rudy Giuliani is far more concerned with increasing U.S. influence than managing it. He wants the U.S. to negotiate from a position of strength rather than weakness. In order to do that he wants to increase the U.S. military, economic and cultural strength around the world. Giuliani would go to bat for the Americanism to go unnoticed because it is the primary roadblock on the road to a "realistic" peace.
Babson Free Press

Foreign Policy by a Mayor

Konstantin Alperovich
Contributing Writer

Republican presidential candidate Rudolph W. Giuliani was mayor of New York City during 9/11, and he makes this very clear in "Toward a Realistic Peace" (Foreign Affairs, September/October 2007). Giuliani views the world from the perspective of a victim, a threatened and vulnerable benevolent hegemon, which is why his perspective on foreign policy is so deeply and intrinsically flawed: benevolence is not vulnerable; they are forceful and intimidating. His outlook is based on three key principles: setting a course for victory in the terrorists’ war on global order, strengthening the international system that those terrorists seek to destroy, and extending the benefits of the international system. Giuliani claims on this plan that "rebuilding will not be cheap," which begs the question of rebuilding from what? He explains that the “idea of a post-Cold War ‘peace dividend’ was a serious mistake—the product of wishful thinking and the opposite of true realism,” even though he previously states that “a realistic peace is not a peace to be achieved by embracing the ‘realist’ school of foreign policy thought.”

Giuliani believes that more fire will put out the fires, and tells us that everyone around the world is out to get us with weapons of mass form or another. He uses fear, much like President Bush, to get his points across, and implies that those who disagree are putting the US at risk. His plan to build military defense shields to save us from the “world’s most dangerous states” is the same type of rhetoric and ideology that invite international conflict.

Giuliani ignores the fact that his beloved international system is currently breaking down because of the United States’ own actions, and believes that the best way to reinforce it is to continue doing what the US is already doing. He cites the importance of international diplomatic power, but dismisses the UN, the most innovative and comprehensive form of diplomacy that the world has to offer. He believes that the UN has failed because it has not supported American interests, which should perhaps demonstrate to him what the global opinion of the US is. He cites the UN for failing to "open terrorist and human rights abuses," saying, he must respond to some of these failures because of the United States’ own actions. He must also be referring to the UN’s unwillingness to give permission to attack Iraq, which he believes is not considering a mistake.

Something Giuliani seems to have a good policy on is the importance of economic incentives to eliminate poverty and stabilize governments, especially in Africa. Regarding this point he states, “Ultimately, the most important thing we can do to help Africa is to increase trade with the continent. US government aid is important, but aid alone is unlikely to reverse longstanding bad policies and poverty. It is better to give people a hand up than a handout.”

Demonstrating Giuliani’s precise and critical vision of African aid is critical that the significant amount of dollars that we spend investing in Africa are used to support growth instead of just keeping people alive. It must be used as an incentive to foster improvement and decrease corruptness. The US must use its economic power towards progress in developing and underdeveloped nations, and it seems that Giuliani has that vision.

However, Giuliani otherwise demonstrates his inexperience and parochial vision of what is going on around the world. He claims to desire a strong international system, yet propagates the same American policies that have maimed the system for too long. One is important to note what is behind all of Giuliani’s logic. Is it not coincidence that his foreign policy ideals mirror the Bush doctrine. Since he has no personal foreign policy experience, his advisors must have a significant influence on him. Giuliani’s foreign policy team is led by Charles Hill and Norman Podhoretz, and includes Steve Rosen, all contributors to members of A Project for a New American Century, a think-tank that includes Donald Rumsfeld and Dick Cheney, which propagates questioned war and defense spending in order to expand American hegemony. Basically, Giuliani’s foreign policy is more of the same, and if voters are content with that, then Giuliani is surely an ideal candidate.

RUBACK-DARFUR
continued from pg. 2

another scolding, one staff member could still not commit to the cause of looking into Babson’s investments to see if they are connected to the Sudanese government. The opinion may have been voiced that the staff member would not be back. To my shock and surprise, because of this, STAND was refused support of this important cause, and I believe threatened with the prospect of having a difficult time trying to do this in the future. childish to say the least. My frustration was heightened as some staff walked past multiple times, and simply glared on at the question to sign our petition. So to some of the Babson staff, I am disappointed in your willingness to let hurt feelings get in the way of supporting a cause, and in generating activist work on campus nearly impossible.

To the Babson student body, I am truly grateful for your support. We received well over 100 signatures, generous donations, and some beautiful Polaroids that we displayed on our cart. There were, of course, multiple faculty members and staff who were more than supportive; in fact, the

Thank You!
BABBON FREE PRESS

We Wish to Welcome You To Hillaryland

Robin Messerli
Co-Editor-In-Chief

I guess there's a certain theme to this issue of the Free Press and I don't really see a need to stray from the topic. It has been a long time since U.S. primaries have held so much weight. The winner of the Democratic candidacy has a good chance to become the next president of the United States, and there seems to me to be a great difference between the front runners of this party. About a million years ago, I decided that I wanted to take a closer look at the campaign teams of Hillary and Barack; after this administration, it's clear that what you've got in the cabinet is just as important as what utensils your own brain may lack.

Clearly, I'm biased, and I probably won't shut up about this anytime soon. I ask my readers, whether you agree with me or not, to engage in this campaign one way or another. The more we delve into the facts, the more we will understand who is truly right for this country.

Taking Rove, Gonzales, Cheney, Libby, Snow, Rove, and Scooter into account, I don't really see a need to find out just who we'd elect by voting for a specific candidate. Now, I haven't given this nearly as much time or thought as I'd like, due to a desire to pass a couple classes this semester. However, I've just kinda been searching for some new newies, catching some debates, and reading an article here or there, but the other night I just had a tad to further my inquiry. These are three women who have been inside Hillaryland for while. Hillary says she feels comfortable in the kitchen, so let's see what's cooking.

I started with Patti Solis Doyle, and it's true—Hillaryland may be good at "not leaking information," because there's not much to be found about her. Yet it certainly doesn't work in Clinton's favor that the two have been tight for about 15 years (considering the amount of loyalty that has blind-sighted the white house in the past few years). Doyle is Hillary's campaign manager, for those who aren't aware. I plan to look further into Patti's involvment as executive director of HillPac, but as of yet all I really know about it is that it's a political MACHINE, baby. Hillary's robotic nature is said to be her greatest weakness in winning this election, and the desire to limit all spoutiness from the campaign for fear of mistakes is not likely going to help in this race. Huma M. Abedin is also a part of Hillaryland, but I don't say much about her besides her rumored lesbian relationship with Hillary. One source said she was "exxxy mysterious and beautiful as a unicorn," but I wonder if she's fictional as well. Mandy Grunwald is a member who does happen to have a few words written on her behalf. She works on Hillary's media relations for the upcoming campaign. She got Daniel Patrick Moynihan elected successfully three times into the senate for Colorado (with his great reputation, she probably wasn't of much use), she got Ken Salazar elected to the senate for Colorado (who nominated Alberto Gonzales for Attorney General), she got John Lynch elected Governor of New Hampshire in 2005 (a hard-core business man who's approval ratings have been through the roof), and she worked on failing campaigns for Gifford Miller and Ruth Messinger. I'm not sure she's up for such a large national challenge, I mean, how do you make sure that Youtube doesn't leak?

The articles I've read so far about the tactics that Hillary uses to control her campaign are frighteningly reminiscent of hearing my friends discuss problems within their sororities. While I'm all for the advancement of females in America, I think there are certain things that are detrimental to our cause when pushed too forcefully. I disapprove of repressive efforts within a family, a community, an organization, or a nation. I'm prone to rebel when expected to fall in line, and I can't imagine that the women within Hillaryland, if they are truly modern femi...
Professor Evaluations

it’s almost getting to that time of the year. Thanksgiving is over, in all its glory. Finals are upon us like a train wreck (for me, at least). We live for winter break, and it’ll be here, soon.

But before then, comes a little thought about ritual: professor feedback/evaluation forms. I would be willing to bet that most students haven’t given much thought to these forms. I mean after the first ten or so you fill out, who really cares? Who really thinks these forms represent your true evaluation of your professor or that they are a good use of your class time? (Though I love the 20 minute break.)

Anyway, here are my grievances. First, neither form seems to have changed in at least three years. I find it impossible to believe that every single professor (and the sea that is adjunct professors) agrees that every single part of this document (which you would think would be an important part of their job evaluation) is worthy of being there and that there is no question missing, at all. I doubt they care much, because they probably realize it’s ineffective—which in a little funny, because the students seem to do the same.

Second, only the results of the white form (the fill-in-the-bubble form) are available online (though I’ve never used them to ask a teacher for a course—and I couldn’t access them when I tried while writing this article). When students need to look up information about a professor, they turn to third party sources, such as rateyourprofessor.com. Babson students all have laptops—we use them to talk on aim during class, we don’t mind filling out a survey online. We do all the typing.

Which brings me to number three, the yellow form—the yellow form is the best part of the professor evaluation procedure, but it’s often the most overlooked by students. Everyone (including myself) spends their time filling in worthless bubbles and then posts our as soon as possible. And I think you are only supposed to use a pencil—yeah, so all those times I’ve been carrying only a pen, sorry.

And either way, quantitative ranks are just plain worthless, because each student’s perceptions of their professor just seems to be based on a different set of criteria. There seems to be little correlation between the quality of a professor and a student’s quantitative evaluation. I mean, I’ve been a big critic of the school, but I haven’t ever really thought of it. I even realize that it’s virtually impossible to accurately evaluate how well a professor has taught a student. Sometimes it’s very easy—like in the really good or bad cases—but those in the middle are just too hard to differentiate.

There are so many reasons why students will differ in their evaluations. Professors are more likely to be graced down when they are harder on their students, (more assignments, strict attendance policy) because students are just disappointed with their own performance. It’s hard not to when they hand out A’s at other business schools at our level. “Easy” professors are more likely to be graded higher. In the eye of the student, the best teacher is the one that gives you the highest grade with the smallest amount of work. I would imagine that the administration (erroneously) uses these results to determine which professors to invite back each year, something that scares me to no end.

There is no cookie-cutter criteria students use for evaluating professors, which is exactly why we need qualitative results (available for students and faculty alike), so individual students can evaluate professors based on their own interpretation of other’s qualitative feedback.

It’s gotten to the point where my professors have written their own surveys to give to students in order to get a fair evaluation of their job. They don’t know their own ratings by students—and in many cases when they are not up for tenure or have already received it, they don’t care. It’s just a pointless exercise.

This is a shame, because it’s a very important part of maintaining the Babson reputation. (Ahem, this is why we’re hot, I mean.) We need to work to keep and reward the great professors here. It’s everyone’s job really, everyone’s got to at least try, I’m not blaming the students for not taking the time to fill out the forms to their best ability. Frankly, I myself have done the same thing too many times—we all have things to do, especially during this hellish time at the end of the term.

That’s it. It doesn’t take much investment to change this system—trust me. I know, I build these information systems. Here’s an idea: have the students fill it out online. Babson wouldn’t need to pay anyone to type in the results, we could clearly see which students contributed (perhaps tie it into participation?), and the data could easily be displayed to future students. It’s a simple script that wouldn’t take more than 30 hours from a competent web developer. Honestly, I look at the system now and wonder why the best business school in the nation can’t do this right. Come on, form a committee or something, throw some money at the problem.

The Babson Free Press

Professor Evaluations

Contributing Writer

Thank You Babson College!

We’ve witnessed a lot of positive change on campus this semester. Here’s a cheers to continuing this change in 2008.

Have a fun, safe, and exciting break. See you in '08!

Save so much on gear that you’ll actually be able to go someplace cool to use it.

College Students
Get 15% OFF full-price items.

EASTERN MOUNTAIN SPORTS

Get 15% OFF full-price items.

Natrick
1400 Worcester St.

Get 15% OFF full-price items.

EASTERN MOUNTAIN SPORTS

Get 15% OFF full-price items.
What is This?

Sponsored By

Send us what you think is in this picture.

If we choose your caption next week, you will win

A POPULAR TV-SPONSORED BOARD GAME & MATCHING PIECE OF CLOTHING

Message our Babson Free Press Facebook Profile to Enter!
An Argument for Johan

Brandon Lucette  Staff Writer

After re-signing Mike Lowell, it appeared the Red Sox's off-season has done. Sure, there were smaller fish to fry like the Coco Crip dumping and the ac- quisition of a backup catcher, but for all intensive purposes, the team was set for 2007. That was until the Twins began to shop Johan Santana.

It would be ridiculous for the Red Sox not to give a look to Santana as an option to acquire a pitcher of his prowess only comes along once in a blue moon. It irrefutable how much pitching we seem to have already because Santana offers much more security than the aging Tim Wakefield and Curt Schilling. Santana is set to make right around $13 million in 2008, and he is expected to want an extension in the ballpark of seven year deal worth $81-100 million. The price is high, but we have the money. Let's look at what he offers statistically.

Santana's credentials begin with his award worthy performances: He won the award in 2004 and in 2006. Santana has been, ranked in the top ten in VORP Values Over Replacement Pitcher for pitchers in the last three years, taking the number one ranking in 2004 and 2006, the number two rankings in 2005. He was in the top five in the MLB in strikeouts per nine inning pitched for the last three years as well while averaging an astonishing 227.6 innings pitched per season.

Of course, a deal for Santana would not come without cost. The salary projections for the young phenoms Boston has been building up for the future. For his contract in 2007, Wednesday morning has the trade being a for 1 swap that would send OF Coco Crip, minor leaguers J.D. Lowrie and OF Justin Masterson, and either P Jon Lester or OF Jacoby Ellsbury for Santana. At this time, the Red Sox seem more willing to include Ellsbury as opposed to Lester and Masterson in the trade. By taking a fifth player, minor league OF Ryan Kalish, to get the deal done.

Santana is clearly great, but I believe the Red Sox have the depth to not miss a beat. By not including both Lester and Ellsbury, and not including P Clay Buchholz all at the Red Sox preserve some of the core pros- pers of their homegrown talent. In return, they acquire established talent. While we have seen the history of what Ellsbury and Lester can add to a team, it is still uncertain whether or not three or four years of development before the super star Santana is. Also, securing Santana to an extension would give you a one-two punch at the top of your rotation unrivaled in baseball this season, and possibly ever. With Josh Beckett (ranked one slot above Santana in VORP in 2007) and Santana, one can help be reminded of the combi- nations of Schilling-Johnson in 2001, and Schilling-Pedro in 2004 which both led their teams to championships. Add a footnote that Schilling would be a num- ber 4 starter in the same rota- tion and the possibilities seem endless. This combo isn't one that anyone can top. With Beckett tied down conditionally until 2010, the Red Sox would be set for the next three years.

At this point, I put my faith in the Red Sox front office to get this deal done. I'd rather see Lester and Ellsbury move out of Boston because moving both Cruz and Santos will develop a void in CF which wouldn't necessarily be easy or cheap to close. I am confident that if the deal does get done, the Red Sox will be able to simmer Santana's enormous season to the demands and come to a reasonable extension that makes sense for a 28 year old. Taking all of this into account, I think the Red Sox need this deal to do this in the upcoming days coming off of Chone Fisk's back to the trade talks.

Onto the good old gang in Fenway. I'm really not sure what has happened the past two weeks as the Pirates have man- aged to squawk by what seemed to be inferior teams. They have made backup quarterbacks AJ Feeley and Kyle Boller look much better than they have all season. With Pittsburgh headed into the town, the Pirates will be bur- ned with dealing with Big Ben Roethlisberger and Willie Parker leading the Stealers balanced attack. Still, I believe the Stealers will have to play practi- cally perfect football to win this one. Easterly said it all. Pat- rons 30, Stealers 20.

You better watch out.
You better think twice
‘Cause he’ll find out
If you’re naughty or nice

SANTANA CLAUS BETTER BE COMING TO TOWN! You better watch out.
You better think twice ‘Cause he’ll find out
If you’re naughty or nice

Pat McNamara  Sports Editor

First, let’s get a few things straight to really hype up this week’s showdown against the Stealers. Before the last time the Stealer- game, the Patriots have just three remaining games before they meet the Giants, the Steelers, clearly would be still undefeated with just three games remaining on their way to becoming the league’s only team ever to go 16-0. The first game was a shaky batch between the Patriots and the Jets. Of course, we all know what surrounds this game. This will be the first head to head matchup between Bollichick and Shanahan and it should be an enor- mous incident in September where Mangini was ultimately responsible for the lastest back- lash against an NFL team in the history of the league. This game will be played on the home- turf at Giants -land but all have been up to the challenge. The Pats will not be afraid to win this game by triple digits. The fol- lowing 10 weeks, the Giants and Patriots will take on the de- feated Dolphins, in New England.

In the final week, the Patriots visit the Giants. For the entire season, people who thought that the Pats would have a chance to go undefeated automatically labeled a game against the Giants as a possible game where the Pats would be over-matched, and the Giants would be fighting and clawing for playoff seeding behind a tough home crowd on a Saturday night. But now as the season has pro- gressed, an entirely new theory of what to do with this final game. The Patriots have clearly played with a “we don’t rest players” mentality and have been shown down with-dow-stretch passion against teams like the Eagles and Ravens, that they want to go undefeated. And with a first round by bye already secure securing that game, the Patriots know that they have two weeks to rest their starters before their first playoff game. I don’t expect the starters to sit during any point of that game, unless it’s late in the 4th quarter, and the Patri- ots have a large lead. If the start- ers don’t play much during the last couple of weeks, meaning the Giants have been three full weeks in between meaningful starts for the Pats’ starters, which doesn’t seem any new. Let’s look at the Giants. At 6-3 and three games behind Dallas for the di- vision lead, there is no way that the Giants would be playing for the division title in that kind situation. And without a shot at the division, the best possible seed- less for the Giants is the sixth seed against an NFl team in the history of the league. This game will be played on the home- turf at Giants -land but all have been up to the challenge. The Pats will not be afraid to win this game by triple digits. The fol- lowing 10 weeks, the Giants and Patriots will take on the de- feated Dolphins, in New England.

The Power Ten

Patrick McNamara and Brandon Lucette

1 New England Patriots
It’s crunch time for the Pats. After two below average performances against Philly and at Baltimore, they need to up their game to win this one.

2 Dallas Cowboys
With its win over the now-depleted Packers, the Cowboys have established themselves as the elite of the NFC. They should be able to snatch homefield advantage in the coming weeks.

3 Indianapolis Colts
The Colts are in the bye position after a slight skid. They put that bye up for grabs at Baltimore on Sunday night vs. the Ravens.

4 Green Bay Packers
Despite its loss to the Cowboys, and the temporary loss of Favre, the Packers are in prime position to wrap up the number 2 seed in the NFC and a first round bye.

5 Pittsburgh Steelers
Well, the future Hall of Fame Anthony Smith guaranteed the win on Sunday vs. the Pats. Easier said than done there, Tony. Bring on the steel on the steel.

6 Jacksonville Jaguars
The Jaguars might be the bleaker team of the AFC. Garett tossed his 1st pick of the season this week in Indy. If he can play mistake free ball, the Jags could make a dent in the playoffs.

7 Seattle Seahawks
The Seahawks are on the threshold to perhaps win their first game in their life with a win over the Giants. They also have a fairly weak remaining schedule. They could hit the playoffs running.

8 Tampa Bay Buccaneers
The Tampa Bay Bucceccareens are earning a first round home game in the NFC Playoffs, but I can’t see them visiting either Green Bay or Dallas and making much noise.

9 San Diego Chargers
The Chargers are a very sturdy squad, but have won 6 of their last 8. They need to prove PFT worthy at Tennessee Sunday if they are to remain hot.

10 New York Giants
The Giants seemingly have the 5 seed locked up in the NFC. It should now be there goal to get healthy and set up a 1st round road playoff game.

Knocking: Cleveland Browns, Tennessee Titans