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For more, such as current updates, polls and babsonTV, check out babsonfreepress.org and don’t forget to add our Babson Free Press facebook application to your profile!

Posse Plus: The Retreat
Izra Izrailov
Staff Writer
Is education a right or a privilege? Is education the great equalizer or the great divider? Are you learning to make a living or learning to live? These were just a few of the questions discussed during this year’s Babson Posse Plus Retreat. For those who may not have heard of the Posse Foundation, here’s a snippet about the program. Posse started because of one student who said, “I never would have dropped out of college if I had my posse with me.” This was back in 1989, when a posse meant a group of friends that supported each other. When Deborah Blair heard this, she decided to start the Posse Foundation, which sends a group of students to college together to act as a support system for one another. Since then, Posse has sent more than 2,600 Scholars to top-tier colleges and universities throughout the country. This past weekend, Babson’s four current Possees, along with dozens of other Babson students, faculty and staff drove off to Greenfield, New Hampshire to discuss all the intricacies of higher education in the United States. The weekend was filled with discussions on detailed and controversial topics about the power of higher education and the responsibilities of those who have the privilege of obtaining it. Staff and Continued on Page 2

New Best Buddies Chapter Takes Off At Babson!

Nicole Smith
President, FreeP
One of the newest organizations on campus is a Babson College Chapter of Best Buddies, an international service organization, and its membership is growing astronomically. Chapter founder, Alex Souza Lopez, explains Best Buddies, “we pair up Babson students with kids of around the same age who have an intellectual disability, such as down syndrome and autism, so that they can experience the true gift of friendship.” Although the chapter only began last semester, Alex has been on the waiting list with the International organization for much longer. His enthusiasm for the program is apparent even in an email.

“I work with kids who are part of a Jewish Family Community Service Center in Waltham, kids who particularly go there in the afternoons to have some fun,” explains Alex, in his role as President of the Chapter. The growing chapter assigns its members to a different Best Buddy. To be assigned, a Babson student must first take an “empathy-building course to know what to expect.” Then, once assigned, Buddies must talk by phone weekly and see each other at least twice a month at a chapter function. These functions are normally held on Tuesdays or Thursdays between 3:30 and 5:00PM during which they play games, sports, dance or just hang out. Because not everyone can always make these meetings, due to class conflicts and other reasons, Babson’s Best Buddies chapter will be scheduling “wildcard” events, which they will host at different times throughout the month to make sure that everyone gets a chance to have time with their Best Buddy. Although not all members of the Babson Chapter are assigned at the moment, the whole chapter is invited in the outings and to the events hosted by the organization. Because all affiliate members, those without an assigned buddy, have a similar experience to those with a buddy. Alex says, “we all get to go on the outings together, we all partake in the same activities, we all share all the fun. That way, the buddies feel better because there are loads of people around and everyone gets a chance to spend some time with them as the amazing individuals they are and [the Babson students] learn something about themselves” at the same time.

Best Buddies is still recruiting. To become a Best Buddy, email Alex at asouzalopez19@babson.edu. Note though that the chapter asks for a serious commitment to the program. “It is not a huge demand of your time, but it is important to the Buddies.”

Bernon Center: Needham and Barton Road Housing Authorities

Picture to the left. Bernon Center volunteer Jasmine Brodmyer and students at a field day event held at Babson for both after school programs. Courtesy of Jasmine Brodmyer. More in the article on page two.
After School Programs

The programs also try to do special activities for holidays. For instance, both programs held successful holiday parties during the last week of classes right before Winter Break. Bar-
ton Road had a football own exercise activity while Needham had goodie bags and played games. While the two programs are run under the discretion of their respective managers, the programs do maintain some continuity. Each program follows the homework, snack, free time model. At the end of the year, the two programs host a joint barbecue / Field Day to conclude the programs. For the past two years, the Field Days have been held on Babson’s
Campus News

Posse Retreat from Page 1

fascitates from Babson, including President Len Schlesinger, gave the students an insight on the many factors currently affecting the stock market. As the weekend rolled along, many participants, this reporter included, were surprised by the very large amount of energy that the discussion room possessed and the close connections that were formed almost instantly.

between many of the attendees. So what did we discover? Unsurprisingly, that there is no one answer to the many problems facing corporate America, including rising costs in a fall-
ing economy and the continued lack of diversity that plagues many of our nation’s colleges. However, one feeling that over-
whelmed the room throughout the discussions, a strong and en-
couraging feeling of hope. Hope could very well lead to the long

Applying to Graduate School: What You Need to Know

LaShonda Cooks
Arts Editor

Unlike most Babson students, I decided a year ago that my life immediately following Babson would take place in the classroom instead of the cubicle. Before you get too excited, don’t worry, I’m not pursuing my GMAT—which apparently is a huge taboo without any real world experience—but have decided to pursue a non-business gradu-
ate program upon receipt of my Bachelor’s of Science in Business Management. I’m still deciding exactly which particular area in which I’m interested (somewhat between psychology and edu-
cation), but when I told my plan to a staff member in the CCD department, I was immediately met with panic and was told I need to get started right AWAY (this was the fall semester of my junior year). Needless to say, the encoun-
ter left me with many unanswered questions, which over the course of this piece I will attempt to answer.

First and foremost, let’s start off with the basics

1. What tests are available?

There’s the GRE or General Exam, the LSAT, or Law School Admission Test, the GMAT, or the Graduate Management Admission Test, and the MCAT, the Medical College Admission Test. For the purpose of this article I will focus on the GRE. To get more information on the LSAT, visit http://www.lsac.org/LSAT/about-the-lsat.aspx. To get more information on the GMAT, visit http://www.
mba.com/gmat.htm. 2. When is the ideal time to take the test?

It is suggested that the GRE be taken the “spring or summer” prior to actually applying to graduate school.

3. How is the GRE formatted?

The General Records Exam (GRE) measures (a verbal reasoning, (b) quantitative reasoning, and (c) analytical writing. Interestingly, the “par-
ased exams” are solely offered in areas where “com-
puter-based testing” is not permissible. All of us in the United States will be taking the exam electronically. Oh, the joys of the technol-
ogy. Another interesting fact: apparently there is a non-
ounced portion of the exam, which is used as research for future test questions. Test-takers have three hours to finish the exam. This, of course, does not include the non-scored portion, according to Educational Testing Service website, the analytical writing portion of the exam is always first” and is divided into two portions: issue task and argument task. The “issue” portion is 45 minutes and allows the test-
taker to select one of two topic choices. The test-taker must “state an opinion” and defend it using relevant reasons and examples. The next section asks the testee to “critique the ‘logi-
cal soundness’ of a presented argument. This portion is 30 minutes long. Both essays are scored on a scale of six. There are examples of both types of essays at cts.org. The verbal reasoning portion of the exam has 30 questions, with approximately one minute per question allotted. This section tests the ability to analyze, dis-
tact, and summarize written work. The quantitative rea-
oning portion is 45 minutes long, with 28 questions. This section assesses the testee’s understanding of concepts, solving skills. Okay, so I must admit that this article is a bit biased—I mean, I don’t actually know a ton of people actually interested in taking the GRE—other than myself, anyway. How-
ever, I hope that this article, if anything, provided a bit of knowledge regarding this— in my opinion—absolutely terri-

Best Buddies Chapter from Page 1

ter fully intends to be able to match everyone soon.

In his email, Alex states, “we have an amazing group of kids and a wonderful chapter here at Babson. We have amazing events and outings every single day we fall in love with the buddies and we learn something from ourselves.”

The members of the organization have many great things to say about their experiences: “You can really impact some-
one’s life, and help someone. We just hang out together and have lots of fun.” One chap-

ter member on her best bud-
dy, “She is like a sister that I never had.” Another person explained her reason for being in the organization, “We talk a lot, we laugh a lot. I love my best buddy.”

On a personal note, I have spoken with many people about many different organi-

zations on campus, but before have I been moved by the emotion and passion that the members of this organiza-
tion expressed in our chat. I’m impressed with all of them, but this chapter has made on the campus thus far and it shows great promise for the future.

Best Buddies will be hosting a meeting this Thursday to dis-
cuss upcoming events. Look for a UGRAD email or email Alex. Souza, As always, feel free to contact the Free Press for more information.
Get Arrested: A Message from your local TV-Snob Expert

Amanda Medin
Staff Television Critic

I have been writing television columns for this paper for a while now, and I believe I’ve covered a wide variety of shows both on the air now and from the past for you all to check out. However, there is one show I have referenced several times but never actually attempted to review because words cannot describe how awesome this show was. Today though, I will do my best to do what was probably the greatest show ever some justice. “Now the story of a wealthy family who lost everything, and the son who had no choice but to keep them all together. It’s Arrested Development.”

I try to avoid the films that I know before I see them will be bland numberingly bad, but I always seem to see a bunch of terrible movies anyway. There are films that I am sure are worse that are not on this list. Most of the time, that is because I chose to waste two hours of my life that I would never get back. As a person on a limited budget, spending ten dollars to go see The Love Guru or the Hottie and the Nottie or Disaster Movie or any other bunch of crap is not worth the admission cost and one of the best trailers of the year. I was looking forward to seeing this film. What did they do? Their Razzomino style plot only made the film so repetitive that it became extraordinarily dull. Even with all of the repetition I still didn’t really understand the assassination plot and why they were trying to kill the President. They just showed the same scene, over and over and over again without shedding any real light on anything. Still, I had to give the film points for creativity, hence why it isn’t in the bottom five, where it probably belongs.

Gob (short for George Oscar Bluth and pronounced Joe-b) is the oldest son, and the least favorite. He is a magician who performs tricks—I’m sorry, illusions—but more often than not he messes them up. There are several Gob scenes throughout the series where something will randomly pop out of his sleeves in a trick gone awry. His IQ is about as high as his magic success rate. Every task he is asked to complete, he unintentionally yet skillfully fails to do. His character also has several of the best catchphrases. Michael’s younger brother, Buster, behaves as if he is treated like a little boy. Lucille baby and Buster baby and refuses to let him grow up, therefore turning him into a creepy man-child. Also, there is a whole little mystery/Joke about the true identity of Buster’s father. Michael’s twin sister, Lindsay, takes vapid to a whole other level. She is a lot like her mother in the way she treats other people (other people are below her), but she also loves to protect anything and everything. Most of the causes she gets behind are ridiculous, but it’s her way of giving back. Her husband is Tobias Funke, an analyst-therapist (anadop) turned author/actor who is gay but won’t admit it. Tobias speaks completely in unresolved innuendos which all heavily suggest he is a closeted homosexual. His various pursuits are an ongoing theme in the show, especially his desire to make a music career.

Second on the list is The Help. The Help is a film about a young white girl who, before she begins her first day at a prestigious Mississippi girl’s school, is told that there is a whole other world that people of color live in. She is young and naive and believes that people of color just need to be polite and make an effort to act like white people. Her new employer, Skeeter, convinces her that people of color can talk about their lives and that people of color can actually make a difference. She helps two other women write a book about their lives and experiences. Their book becomes an instant best seller, and the women are able to change their lives.

Another film that is on the list is Inglourious Basterds. Inglourious Basterds is a film about a group of Jewish soldiers who go to Nazi Germany to sabo-
Make
responsibility
count.

Join PricewaterhouseCoopers in New Orleans for
two days of community service that will inspire a new
generation of leaders. Learn more and register for
a chance to participate at www.pwc.tv/neworleans
Worst Movies

Both movies have more fun with the looser than the character(s). Well, they do have decent scripts. No show before or since has ever been as well thought out and performed as strongly as Arrested Development. Every single episode is chock full of references to previous shows and future episodes! I would have been surprised if NASA had planned out the series because each 40 page script is so perfectly engineered.

If you have never given the show a chance, drop what you are doing and watch it now. You'll hate the first episode.

The Happening: There used to be a time when M. Night Shyamalan was good. Remember The Sixth Sense and Unbreakable (even though in the passable Signs). The man has just grown increasingly bad. The film is bad enough, but at least it was unintentionally funny. Nothing happens in The Happening. It starts off well enough with an unknown substance making people kill themselves in violent matters, then it becomes worse and worse and just when you think it cannot become any worse, it defies your expectations and sinks to new levels of patridity. Zoé Deschanel, Mark Wahlberg and John Leguizamo are all good actors, but they are beyond terrible in this film. There are films with minimalist plots that I do like, but this film has nothing. It was mostly extended shots of the wind blowing the grass and the trees. These shots are not scary ones that build the tension through, they just exist to bore. There is nothing really wrong with the basic outline of the story or the casting or the choice in directors. If made correctly, this would have been an atmospheric thriller along the lines of The Birds. It was just executed so terribly. In short, by the time the cast starts talking to the plants (I kid you not on that), I was ready to join the people at the start of the film and jump off the roof of the theater.
The Who, What, Where, and When
Campus Calendar from portal.babson.edu

Tuesday - February 3, 2009
FME Business Fair
Location: Knight
4:00 PM-6:00 PM
Employer Mock Interview Night
Description: RSVP required
Location: Reynolds 241
6:00 PM-8:00 PM
“Beyond Belief” Screening
Location: Olin College Auditorium - Milas Hall
7:00 PM-9:00 PM
Men’s Basketball at Bowdoin
Location: Bowdoin College
7:00 PM-9:00 PM

Wednesday - February 4, 2009
Employees Coffee
Location: Hollister Lobby
9:00 AM-10:00 AM
F-1 Employment Authorization Information Session
Location: Reynolds 241
12:30 PM-1:30 PM
Women’s Basketball at Wheaton*
Location: Wheaton College
7:30 PM-9:30 PM
Soul School
Location: Reynolds Campus Center
8:00 PM-11:59 PM

Thursay - February 5, 2009
Trustee Meetings
Location: Olin, Knight Auditorium
BFRF Research Chat
Location: Needham Room, Olin Hall
12:00 PM-1:15 PM
Chinese brush painting workshop: FULL
Location: Trim 215
5:00 PM-8:00 PM
Friday - February 6, 2009
Alpine Skiing BC Carnival at Wildcat
Location: Pinkham Notch, NH
Trustee Meetings
Location: Olin, Knight Auditorium
Fast Track Visitor Program (Babson)
Location: Olin Hall
8:00 AM-12:00 PM
Friday Basics: Networking
Location: Reynolds Back Dining Room
11:00 AM-12:00 PM
Paint-Your-Own-Pottery at Babson
Description: $5
Location: Trim 221
11:00 AM-1:00 PM
ERD Library Session
Location: Blank Center - Televideo Room
1:30 PM-3:00 PM
Friday Afternoons at the Museums
Location: Horn 321
1:30 PM-3:30 PM
Men’s Ice Hockey vs. St. Anselm
Location: Babson Skating Center
7:00 PM-9:30 PM
Saturday - February 7, 2009
Alpine Skiing BC Carnival at Wildcat
Location: Pinkham Notch, NH
Trustee Meetings
Location: Olin, Knight Auditorium
BSU Alumni Panel
Location: Reynolds
11:00 AM-1:00 PM
Women’s Basketball at Springfield*
Location: Springfield College
1:00 PM-3:00 PM
Men’s Basketball vs. Wheaton*
Location: Staake Gymnasium
2:00 PM-4:00 PM
Men’s Ice Hockey vs. New England College
Location: Babson Skating Center
4:00 PM-6:30 PM
On America's Foreign Policy

Ryan McMamara
Political Columnist

On America's Foreign Policy. After spending seven years in Afghanistan and being no closer to catching Osama Bin Laden than when we invaded, President Obama is suggesting that the remedy to this stagnant war is a troop surge. He is suggesting that our policy in Afghanistan is to capture Osama Bin Laden. My question to the President is what is the point? Osama Bin Laden has been suggested on his death bed for some time now, he'll be dead at the most in a few years any ways. How many Americans lives are worth catching this one man. We have surpassed the 9/11 death toll in Afghanistan and all we have to show for it is castigating the Talibam. The "War on Terror", which is the worst Bushism we’ve come to use in everyday life, is an extension of the Domino Theory. It is a broad theory used as a justification to war. Four wars have been fought in the name of these two doctrines and none of them have been directed by goals or estimable means by which to value success. The foreign policy over the past century of the United States has been based on the moral that we are spreading democracy, generally to poor nations who are less fortunate than we are. This Christian missionary characteristic is our strongest and most repugnant value inherited as a Judeo-Christian nation.

If the U.S. is to be an example of freedom it must do so at home, for it mocks the name of freedom abroad. For over fifty years the U.S. has been willing to support suppressive regimes as long as they are our ally. We have given radical Islam the same ammunition we gave the Soviet Union before, and that is the images and ability to broadcast us in their nation as tyrants and immoral, repulsive and cruel. If that’s what the Arabian Peninsula wants, to use us as ammo and direct us to leave their lands, then let us leave. We are not wanted, so let us not force our presence. We have no need to be there. We did not win the Cold War; the Soviet Union self-destructed. Let radical Islam do the same. Without the ability to blame us for their economic failures and misery, they will be our only gain for their people. History is on the side of revolution. Our international image is tarnished because we are hypocrites to some, for it is impossible to help one nation abroad and not hurt the interest of another, it would seem. If the world doesn’t want us to act, then let us not act. Let us return to creating a strong, impeccable fortress, economically and militarily. Only in isolation can we be truly partial. We have no need for interests abroad. As a good neighbor our best interest is to assist them, trade with them, help them get a market for their products by establishing economic relations. But we cannot just hand out foreign aid. We have done that in the past too. And all it has proven to do is paralyze a country. Economic prosperity is not a gift, it is earned.

Often, the U.S. attempts to act a parent figure. But as sometimes parents do, with their best intentions, they spoil children and don’t let children make their way and make mistakes as so to learn from them. Just as respect isn’t a right, it’s earned, so is freedom. George Washington said: The value of liberty was thus enhanced in our estimation by the difficulty of its attainment, and the worth of character appreciated by the trial of adversity. We cannot earn freedom for other nations. Those who freed is given to a gift cannot appreciate the price to attain it or understand its value and destroy it instantaneously. So has been the case for every U.S. propped up leader abroad. Let us return to George Washington’s advice and practice isolationism. Let us not harm others, and we will not be harmed. Let us again stand as a beacon of hope, but as a beacon only seen at a distance, signaling the correct way, but never close enough to crash into. Let us then focus on our growth as a nation and civilization, and focus our efforts on our own progress and sustainability. As we move forward making mistakes and continuing to grow and learn, let us allow others that right as well.

Super Bowl Madness

Kerry Roarke
Writing Center Director

My first college roommate had parents who screamed at her, "You WILL be a pharmacist on late-night, tear-filled phone calls. This was completely foreign to me, my parents expected me to "find my path" while in college—to them, that was the whole point of going. My roommate also asked me, repeatedly, whether I thought she "acted Asian" or "sounded Asian" (she was Korean-American). This racial anxiety was also foreign to me—I was White American, privileged and oblivious.

Yesterday I was reminded of her, even though she and I are mostly out of touch now. Jenna’s first really serious boyfriend was a man she met in college and whom she dated in college for several years afterward. Her dating him actually drove us apart. At the time, I thought it had happened in the way it often happens: I thought we just drifted apart naturally as she preferred to spend more time with him, thinking about a future with him. I also didn’t really like him, to be honest. He was white, and pretty—really—athletic and smart. Most people saw him as their best friend. He’s turned up collars, his masculine swagger, and his casual drug habit. To Jenna, he epitomized cool, and his wanting her eased many of her anxieties and her battered self-esteem.

In college, we are all self-involved, to a degree that, I think, doesn’t become apparent to many of us until years later. The very act of deciding to continue your education beyond high school reveals a certain temporary selfishness. This is okay, of course. However, in my case, I think I used college, and the academic demands, as a socially acceptable excuse to not see what was really going on with Jenna. I was busy with classes like Statistics and Comparative Literature and also very busy trying to figure out how I was going to pay for it all. I bartendered and studied and kept my head down, literallly and figuratively, ignoring anyone who demanded more than an easy conversation or a few bucks for my share of a takeout order. Anyone emotionally difficult just exhaust ed me, so I realized with hindsight, I became very good at staying far away from people and situations that threatened my careful balance. Temporary selfishness.

Two years after I graduated from college, Super Bowl Sunday rolled around, as it always does, and I got a phone call from Jenna, whom I had not spoken to again, nothing dramatic, just a drifting apart, I thought—about three years. She was crying. It was hard to understand her. She was choking out a question: Have you ever heard that statistic in a textbook? Super Bowl Sunday is the most common day for wives to get beaten by husbands?" I was only 23, I was not married. I had never seen domestic violence. But yes, I had taken Women’s Studies in college. I had read that statistic in a textbook. "Well, I guess it’s true," she choked out. "He’s drunk, they lost, he beat the shit out of me, and I don’t know what to do."

The story is very long, and yes, emotionally difficult. Here’s the newspaper story version: he had been beating her almost since he met. She had kept it a secret for all the usual reasons: she loved him, he was contrite, she felt sorry for his difficult life, etc. Her friend, had never known nor even noticed. I had no idea how to help her on that Super Bowl Sunday, but I muddled through. She left him, eventually—not soon enough to please me, but what right did I really have to say anything? I had obviously failed her for years.

I hate the Super Bowl. I really, really do. I don’t care who plays, or what the commercials are about, or who plays at halftime. Every Super Bowl reminds me of domestic violence (even if the claim that domestic violence rises on Super Bowl Sunday has new been widely contested) and reminds me of how I can’t help but be to be even “temporarily” selfish. Life will always provide us an excuse to ignore signs of distress in others.

I recognize, now, that there was a link between Jenna’s parents’ controlling her and screaming at her, and her inability to accept a measure of that in a boyfriend. I wish, now, that I had protested more vigorously on her behalf after those late-night phone calls, before she had ever met her batterer. I wish I had had the audacity and conviction to make her see that, even if they were her parents, they had no right to treat her that way. I wonder if that might have helped her resist or at least tell someone when her boyfriend started beating her.

I wish, in short, that I had picked her head up.

The Babson Free Press Staff

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Email babsonfreepress@gmail.com
Skiing On Verge Of Regional Berth After Great Weekend At Loom/Pat’s Peak

The Babson College alpine ski teams enjoyed a fantastic weekend at the MIT and UMass-Amherst Carnivals this weekend. In Saturday’s giant slalom at Loom, the men’s team matched its best finish since 2005 by placing third overall, while the women came in ninth. On Sunday, the men finished fifth overall and the women moved up to eighth in the slalom race at Pat’s Peak.

As a result of this weekend’s performance, the men’s team is on the verge of yet another ECSC Regional qualification. With at least a sixth-place finish in both the slalom and GS at next weekend’s BC/Brown Carnival, the Beavers would lock up their sixth trip to regionals in the last seven seasons. In Saturday’s men’s race, the Beavers placed five skiers in the top 20, including two in the top 10. Senior co-captain John Roche (Hingham, Mass.,) led the way with his second best finish of the year, as he placed seventh overall with a combined time of 1:45:22. Sophomore Keith Vella (Sussex, N.J.) was also magnificant for Babson, recording a career-best 10th-place finish with a two-run total of 1:45.95, while junior Chris Jacobs (Rochester, N.Y.) matched his career-best by taking 16th in 1:47.43. Sophomore Matt Winthrop (Avon, Conn.) and senior co-captain Kevin Fusick (North Granby, Conn.) rounded out the Beavers’ top five in 17th and 18th place, respectively, while sophomore Enrico Palmerino (West Brookfield, Mass.) posted the best finish of his career by placing 47th.

Babson’s full team’s performance was on display as the women’s team also posted its best finish of the season by placing second overall with a time of 1:51:23. Vest Burton moved up a spot from 11th to 10th. The Babson women’s slalom team took one of two points away from Adaita in third place and moved closer to the 20th place finish that would have qualified the team for the NCAA Championships.