Babson Celebrates Martin Luther King Jr. 

LINDSAY ALIX
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

This past Monday March 1st, Babson College held its first ever Martin Luther King Jr. Heritage Celebration as a kick off to Multi-Cultural month and as a way to honor the ideals of MLK. The MLK Heritage Committee, which was made up of a variety of people on campus, worked hard to plan an interactive and engaging day, which it hopes to make an annual event.

The event began at 3 PM in Severyn with a welcoming by Thomas P. Sullivan, director of spiritual life and volunteer programs. President Barefoot then addressed the community and expressed the importance of having such a celebration at a college like ours. Barefoot acknowledged that the skill it takes to be a great leader and an entrepreneur are similar in many respects. "Entrepreneurship is the will and the ability to see an idea through and ensure all stakeholders receive value from that idea. Dr. King's idea was social justice and he set a great example with how to combine the means of entrepreneurship with the ends of social justice." After President Barefoot spoke to the community, he presented the Martin Luther King Jr. Leadership Award to a member of the Babson faculty, Professor Richard Blais. Blais was awarded for his attempts at creating and teaching ethical and well-rounded students here at Babson. Barefoot mentioned how Blais started the Citizen Schools Program here at Babson, which is an after school program that helps inner Boston kids.

Afterswards, Fritz Frickmann, Dean of Faculty, addressed the audience on how the faculty viewed the importance of this day and his hope for the future. "Today we start what we hope will be a series of annual celebrations of community."

Men's Basketball Team is Headed to the NCAA Game

CRAIG ZWERLING
SPORTS EDITOR

In a tremendously exciting, edge-of-your-seat finish, Babson Men's Basketball (20-7) was able to squeak by the number four seeded Springfield College (15-17) by the score of 72-70 Saturday night at WPI. This win propelled the Beavers to an automatic bid into the Division 3 NCAA Basketball tournament for the second time in three years.

This game was a tale of two halves and the first half belonged to Springfield. The Pride got off to an early lead cut by a 11-3 run that gave them a 27-17 lead with six minutes into the first half. Babson responded with a late 8-2 run of their own to draw within seven by the end of the half at 37-30.

Throughout the second half, the lead saw-saw back and forth between the two teams. The Beavers were able to tie the game behind a 9-2 run at 39 apiece, but soon fell back behind again when the Pride responded with a 10-2 streak to bring the score to 54-47 with 10 minutes to play. The game continued to be within seven points for the rest of the half.

As is the case with most basketball games, the only thing that mattered in this battle of wills was clutch performance at crunch time. The Beavers were

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Women Building Businesses Panel Held

ASHLEY JAIN
MANAGING EDITOR

This past Wednesday, the Center for Women's Leadership and the Babson Entrepreneurial Exchange co-sponsored their annual Women Building Businesses Panel in Olin Auditorium. This year's speakers were four successful women who have founded and managed four very different companies, ranging from the "hole-kaizen" bag to an all-natural skincare line.

Roilyn Barnes co-founded SJR Foods, was responsible for the creation of the "hole-kaizen" bag, which is a bag with cream cheese already in it. The idea for the bag came from her husband, who went through a drive-through and was given a bagel, cream cheese, and a knife. The company's key success point has been creating value by "giving consumers something special and purposely staying away from the things that everybody can do," said Barnes. SJR Foods' first customer was B&H Wholesale Club, which ordered 74,000 bagels after Barnes and her husband presented the idea.

Marisa Cirino, founder, CEO and Chief Financial Officer of Guardant, just recently sold the company to VertoRisk for $135 million. Guardant provides "managed care" for healthcare services. Cirino was a former employee of Roanbe, a web-design company. After making web sites, clients would return to Roanbe and ask the company to make their systems more secure. Cirino contributed to her boss that they should get into the business, but he responded with "it's just a passing fad!" Four years later, Cirino was $116 million richer. Cirino also noted that in the first few years of starting Guardant, she had 90% of her desk asking to fund her business. In just six weeks, they raised over $20 million. The industry was in great need of security services in 2000, so Guardant entered the market at just the right time.

Valerie Wrenn is founder, President and CEO of Engineering Management Support, Inc., a national personnel placement firm. Wrenn got her start in 1991, mentioning that the hardest part was "getting people to trust you when you don't have a reference base." She then went on to emphasize her immense appreciation for her first customer, which happened to be Sun Microsystems. Wrenn estimates the deal was worth $10 million in revenue this year.

Arend Brede, founder and CEO of Pharmasset, established her business through local sales from her home in Rhode Island. Brock, a Teton native, grew up cultivating herbs and flowers and making different concoctions. Brock would sell different teas and etheric cosmetic products to the local community and found that people kept coming back for more cosmetics.

Her natural, organic approach to skincare was an instant hit. The first big contract for Pharmasset was the Four Seasons Hotel in Boston. She has continued to gain more contracts from other Four Seasons hotels around the country; one of the company's strategies is to contract all of the facilities and marked that one of her challenges in running the company was finding the right people to fill the "organic herb business." All four executives agreed that one of the biggest issues for start-ups is finding the right people with the skills that fit the business in an easy task. Brock recounted a story of an employee who would always come in and import shipments to California via UPS Ground instead of FedEx Air. She stressed that "being decisive is key, not waiting too long," and re marked that she had done exactly what with the aforementioned employee.

Overall, the panel was quite successful and the women all had very interesting comments and anecdotes to share. Participants were encouraged to keep in touch and forward to see the panelists for next year.

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Photo Courtesy of Ashley Jain for The Babson Free Press

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O P I N I O N S

But when I heard about "The Passion of The Christ," my interest was sparked.

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L I F E S T Y L E S

I hate TV. I decided when I have my own place I will not have a television in my living room.

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SPORTS

It felt like breaking up with an ex-girlfriend, but it was something that had to be done. I, Daniel Richard, am done with the Boston Bruins.

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EMC CFO Speaks on Financial Trends
ASHLEY JAIN
MANAGING EDITOR
This Tuesday, Bill Teuber told me about the company’s progress. Teuber is the executive vice president of Corporate Finance and Chief Financial Officer of EMC, which includes the company’s storage and management solutions. Teuber began by saying that EMC has one of the most dynamic and fast-growing storage businesses in the world, with annual revenue of over $6 billion in revenue in 2002 and is predicting revenue of over $7 billion in 2003.
Teuber gained his bachelor’s degree in English from the College of Holy Cross in 1977. He went on to become a successful businessman, eventually becoming the CEO of Boeing in 1988. Teuber then joined his current position at Boeing in 1992, where he currently serves as Chief Financial Officer.
Teuber stated that the importance of communication is key in all facets of business. He first spoke about the importance of passing on information during a period of corporate restructuring. Teuber went through the life cycle of a high-tech company, beginning with growth through leadership and innovation processes. He then mentioned that the focus of the new objective is to create cross-functional teams and train them in the processes.
Teuber emphasized the importance of communication in all facets of business. He first spoke about the importance of passing on information during a period of corporate restructuring. Teuber went through the life cycle of a high-tech company, beginning with growth through leadership and innovation processes. He then mentioned that the focus of the new objective is to create cross-functional teams and train them in the processes.

Habitat for Humanity Seeks Help
DEREK NISULA
CONTRIBUTING WRITER
This March, the Habitat for Humanity Chapter is having a fundraiser to raise money for our work. The chapter is organizing a walkathon to raise funds for the construction of homes.

The Class Deans Corner
Question of the Week...
What do seniors need to do to prepare for graduation?
This is a very exciting time for seniors; you are getting ready to embark into the next stage of your life. To help ease your transition from graduate to alumni, here are some important tips for you.

The Office of Class Deans will be holding Application for Degree sessions on Monday, March 5th from 9:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M. (last name A-K) in Hollister room 206 and on Tuesday, March 6th from 1:00 to 4:00 in Hollister room 206. Additionally, this week the Office of Class deans will be working at the Pub, so stop by anytime for help.

Babson Competes in Beanpot Competition
LINDSEY ALIEX
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
The Beanpot Case Competition is an annual competition where Babson competes against other top business schools in New England. The event, which began in 1997, attracts many intelligent students from top business schools including Babson College, Bentley College, Boston University, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Northeastern University, and Suffolk University.

team, A & B, earned a third and fourth place finish respectively. The Babson case for the Beanpot was written by Alaraft, Nicole Bourque, Josh Liebow, Reka Madan, and Dan Oles. The two teams of the B-School Beanpot Organization at Boston University’s School of Management.

The event, which began in 1997, attracts many intelligent students from top business schools including Babson College, Bentley College, Boston University, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Northeastern University, and Suffolk University.
Each school can send two teams of five students to prepare a written analysis of a case study. The five student teams, which are composed of five students, will debate their cases in front of judges from the corporate community.

The teams compete for a trophie named the Carrick Cup, which goes to the team that has worked the most effectively in developing strategies and concepts to solve real-world problems. The event is designed to provide students with a unique opportunity to demonstrate their skills and knowledge in a real-world setting.

This year, the event will be held at the Beanpot Club at Northeastern University. The event is open to all Babson students, and registration is required. Visit the Beanpot website at http://www.beanpot.org for more information.

A Eulogy for William Andrew Cunningham
THURSDAY, MARCH 27, 2004
E N O W
This is the excerpt from the eulogy for William Andrew Cunningham, delivered on February 28, 2004, given by his brother.

William worked for Sokoloff at the Reynolds Crossroads Café. He will be missed by all those that knew him.

William was the grandson of a chef and driven by an unspoken aspiration for the chance to transform a small town bakery into a mature adult was a palpable presence.

The CD has celebrated New Year's Eve in Times Square and in Folly, Italy; attended a Broadway show; splashed in the coves of New Hampshire; flew in a helicopter over New York City; admired the Grand Canyon; and traveled in trains and planes to see his brother in Washington, DC.

William died of leukaemia. He had loved his work. He recently explained to us that even when he had his "down" periods, as all of us have, he found happiness at Babson College.

William was known to have a passion for the world and the people he met on his various travels. He was a story of a person who truly loved life, unusual, and an open heart.

We will always be there for you William Andrew Cunningham, forever young, forever beautiful.

Thank you for being an adoring brother; a loving son, and a truly respected friend. We will always strive to navigate the world of grey with the black and white tools you provided us with your honesty, unconditional love, and unrivaled humor.

I truly believe that we can all strive to amaze us, to strengthen our faith in all, that is right and just and good in this world, to be better to human beings. I am so very proud to be your brother.

God bless you.
MLK Celebration Held At Babson This Past Monday

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of the day was not aligned with the ideals that Martin Luther King Jr. preached. Dr. Jananne Malveaux, the keynote speaker, addressed the community on a number of different points in regards to social justice. Her speech was at times insightful, humorous, and critical. At one point, however, Dr. Malveaux drew criticism when she said, "I don't know why we have to spend all this money developing zip codes in Iraq. I mean, all you have to do is take a left at the third cable." Sherif Elhawawy '06 asked her how she could "make such a stigmatic comment." Doctor Malveaux replied that she would take his criticism into account, but did not apologize.

Dr. Malveaux is an economist, author, and commentator as well as president of Last Word Production Inc. She writes numerous articles on civil rights topics and has made guest appearances on CNN, C-SPAN, CNBC, and MSNBC.

After the gathering was a reception, which was followed by a performance of "The Meeting," a one-act play about a fictitious meeting between Dr. King and Malcolm X.

Are you interested in a Career in IT?

Finance?

EVS?

Marketing?

If so, join faculty members for conversation and dinner.

Engage in conversation about course selection, potential career paths and goals.

Faculty Dining Room - Trim Hall
5:30pm

IT - March 8th
Finance - March 24th
EVS - March 10th
Marketing - March 23rd

Greek Life Welcomes New Members

GABRIEL SCHAFFEN CONTRIBUTING WRITER

February 11th marked the conclusion of another recruitment season for the Greek organizations on campus. A total of 17 new members were extended bids by the fraternities and sororities. The new brothers and sisters are joining a Greek life that is getting stronger and stronger by the semester, now with a total of 176 students.

Each semester the five Babson Greek organizations open their doors for prospective members to learn more about Greek life in general, as well as each organization. The fraternities and sororities then get to know each recruit and eventually decide who is or who is not for their group.

In regards to her sorority's four new members, Kappa Kappa Gamma President Katie Erickson said, "We have already been impressed by their enthusiasm about Kappa and we're looking forward to getting to know them even more." Rob Kappas' four new sisters are joined by another six new Sigma Kappas as the new sorority members.

The fraternities have grown significantly, as well: "Recruitment is a great time of the semester. Yes, it's definitely a bit of a pressured situation to find the best guys on campus who are a good fit for brotherhood - but it's well worth it. We are really excited about our new guys," says Sigma Phi Epsilon President Noah Rosenberg. With their five new members, SigEp continues as the largest fraternity on campus with forty-six members.

However, Greek life does not end after recruitment. Greeks play an important role on campus, playing in club and varsity sports, leading other community actions, doing community service and hosting other events for the general Babson community.

With their new "go greek" campaign, Greek Council hopes to help other students better understand and recognize these roles.

Continued from Page One

more than up to the challenge. With a minute remaining, the team came tied until Babson's Cullen Enner '05 drew a foul and hit both of his free throws. Each team then took 15 free throws and one out of two free throws and Babson remained up by two points with 17 seconds remaining by the score of 70-68.

Babson then committed a cardinal sin when they fouled Damian Parley '07 with 8.6 seconds remaining and allowed him in chance for a three point play. Fortunately for Babson, the freshman could not handle the pressure and missed his free throw. This gave Men's hoop's the chance for one more play.

Luke Weber '04 rebounded the ball and was able to pass it over to his fellow senior co-captain Jeff Hines '04 who threw up a jumper. The jumper missed but to the delight of the Babson fans and players the ball was tipped in by Parsons '06 with no time remaining to give the Beavers the 72-70 win. It was an amazing display to a very hard fought battle.

Babson was led by great performances of the season with 17 points and 11 rebounds. Hines was able to contribute 15 points, 5 assists and 3 steals.

In addition to his clutch tip-in Parsons also added a team high 21 points. The key to their turn around in the second half was their ability to shoot 46 percent from the floor and hold their opponents to 41 percent. In addition, the Pride got into foul trouble early which hurt them down the stretch. The Bears played without giving Babson free points.

Babson will now take on a tough Endicott (23-4) team that has won 14 straight games. They are led by Jeremy Currier '04, who averages 15 points per game, and Matt Born '05, who almost averages a double-double per game with 12.9 points and 8.3 rebounds.

This game was not only accessible to traveling by WPI. Babson College Radio had a simulcast of the game over the internet.

The BCR announcers went crazy at the end of the game and added a tremendous amount of excitement to the event. They also interviewed Coach Stephen Brennan and many players after the game.

The game will be played in Beverly, Massachusetts on the opponents' home court.

The Beavers have shown a remarkable amount of resiliency all season and should provide their faithful fans with another great effort.

Commencement Corner

What You Need To Know About Commencement 2004!

Plans for Commencement are already in full swing, and this year, we are making extra efforts to ensure that students are fully informed about the Commencement process. The "Commencement Corner" will be a monthly installment to keep you updated on what you need to do to reach graduation.

The 2004 Babson College Commencement Exercises will be held on Saturday, May 15, 2004. All degree candidates will receive their first Commencement Mailing after they return from Spring Break. This mailing will include formal invitations to Commencement, the official Commencement information booklet, and a response card which you must fill out and return to the Office of Special Events in Millett Hall. This is your "RSVP" to Commencement 2004. If you do not receive this initial mailing, but were planning on participating in the May 2004 Commencement exercises, please contact the Registrar's Office at x4519 to ensure you are in fact eligible to graduate.

As Commencement approaches, you will want to be sure to refer to the 'Graduation Checklist' posted on the Commencement Website www.babson.edu/commencement. This site is an excellent resource for all things related to Commencement. It outlines in detail the Schedule of Events, the Rain Plan, the Clearance Card & Cap and Gown Process, local Dining & Hotel Accommodations for your guests, and other pertinent information which we will continue to detail here in the Commencement Corner.

Tips of the Month:

Each student is limited to 2 invitations. If you need additional invitations, they will be available to purchase at the Babson Book Store in Reynolds.

International Students: If you need verification of your pending graduation for Visa purposes, please request an "International Student Verification" on line. This is the documentation that you need.
SGA

Leadership in Profile

Leadership Group: Campus Activities Board (CAB)

Classification: 

Purpose or Mission: To strengthen the spirit and social interaction of the Babson College community by identifying and fulfilling campus needs through cultural, social, political, educational, and recreational events. We strive to achieve this objective through both internal resources and through extensive collaborations with other campus organizations.

Members: (Currently on our distribution list)

- Keri Barrett
- Henry Brown
- Thomas Callahan
- Kristy Chin
- Jacob Dennial
- Emmanuel Egbeum
- Kelly Good
- Sarah Gauzy
- De Hagerman
- David Heath
- JJ Jones
- Katie Keimman
- Andrew Killeen
- Stephanie Madeh
- Judy Mattison
- Terry Nuss
- Ed Nuns
- Nikki Pautkas
- Alix Powell
- Marie-Francoise Rivera
- Noah Roseberg
- Josh Rudolph
- Teni Ruhl
- Jennifer Sanchez
- Dave Santino
- Brett Selland
- Rick Steiner
- Sarah Silverman
- Rebecca Small
- Jenna Unbrush
- Lindsay Watts
- David White
- Bethany Yeasted
- Ming Zhang
- Lauren Zepetti
- Malle Zybalski

Executive Board/Chairperson(s):

- President – Mike Reettivo
- Vice President – Patrick Cahill
- Special Events Co-Chairs – Chris Merritt/Puja Patel
- Finance Chair – Phil Shipper
- Promotions Chair – Erikla Bowser
- Pub Chair – Tann Friedman
- Knight Party Chair – Lisa Campobranco
- Adviser – Jenie Erdle

How to be a contributor:

Anyone is welcome to attend our weekly meetings on Monday which are held in the SGA Room (in Trim) at 6:30pm. The meetings last less than thirty minutes and it is a very open environment, all members sharing feedback, suggestions, and new ideas.

General members assist the E-Board in setting up and running CAB sponsored events. We also welcome students to request our meeting minutes and general updates by requesting to be put on our mailing list. They can simply DM “BabsonCAB” with your full name and e-mail address to be included. This is a great way for students to give feedback even if they can’t make the meetings.

Contributors can also be student organizations that wish to collaborate with CAB on specific events. We see collaboration as the perfect opportunity to achieve all the mission statement drives us to.

Contributions to the Babson Community:

CAB likes to think of itself as a major contributor of events on campus. Our presence can be seen weekly through our pub nights, Knight parties, movie nights, concerts, and special events that occur all year long. CAB hosts and/or contributes to countless events throughout the year, some highlights being Orientation, Family Weekend, Oktoberfest, Winter Weekend, and Spring Weekend. This Spring Weekend, CAB is already gearing up for our O.A.H., which is looking to be Babson’s biggest concert yet!

Students can see the contributions CAB will be hosting in the near future by checking out the AIM profile of “BabsonCAB.”

Please attach picture(s) to represent your group if possible. Thanks!

IMPORTANT FALL 2004 HOUSING INFORMATION

Would you like to live on Campus during the 2004-2005 Academic Year??

All students wishing to live on campus next fall must participate in both the housing application process and the room selection process at www.babson.edu/ugrad/housing.

Questions?

* Call X 4438 or e-mail housing@babson.edu
* Arline Thomas will have drop-in office hours

Tuesday, March 2nd – Thursday, March 4th, 3-4:30 PM, and Monday March 9th, 3-4:30, Campus Life, Reynolds 211.

Important Dates to Remember:

* Tuesday, March 2, 2004 - Lottery Applications available on-line.
* Tuesday, March 23, 2004 - Lottery Applications must be completed by 11:59 PM.
* Wednesday, March 24, 2004 - Lottery Numbers are generated and posted.
* Thursday, March 25, 2004 - Suite Captains and Students that applied for Special Interest Housing or Substance Free Housing are notified of their status.
* Friday, March 26, 2004 - Displaced Squatters Select
* Monday, March 29, 2004 - Suite and Substance Free Selection
* Tuesday, March 30, 2004 - General Lottery for Seniors and Juniors
* Wednesday, March 31, 2004 - General Lottery for Sophomores
* Thursday, April 1, 2004 - General Lottery for Freshmen
* Friday, April 2, 2004 - General Lottery closes at 11:59 PM.
you accidentally knock your roommate’s toothbrush into the toilet. He’s not home. What do you do? Answer the question. Compare your opinions with others. Explore what matters at pwc.com/lookhere.
You Cannot Have Jobs Without Employers

CHRISTOPHER LEBVINSON
STAFF WRITER

Jobs protection has become the rallying cry of the Democratic presidential campaign, yet no Democratic candidate has presented a clear-headed plan on how to create new jobs. Instead, they vow to fix things down the road without producing new jobs and increase taxes on investors, an approach that will only lead to more jobs in the future.

President Bush, on the other hand, believes in freedom, liberty, and hard work. He believes that the best way to ensure jobs is through private investment and entrepreneurship. His plan is to cut taxes and reduce regulations, allowing businesses to create jobs and invest in the future.

Yes, it is important to be able to stay alone and know that you are not alone. However, the key is to be able to do so without being isolated. Too many people are isolated because they do not know how to make ends meet. This is not because they truly live it, but because other people will commiserate and admire them.

So what do I suggest? I suggest taking some time for yourself. No work, no parties, just a night off. It is quick and meditative and think about yourself. Think about your actions? Are you proud of who you are? Are you proud of how you treat others? What are you weak in a person? What do you admire in others, what would you change in yourself? Make a list of goals, start small. After you work on the small ones, you can gain confidence to work up to the life-changing ones. For example, you can start one week as a janitor, then one week as a janitor, then one week as a janitor, and so on. The key is to build a foundation of belief in yourself.

This goes beyond finances, marketing, economics, or technology. It involves the basic assumption of people. Money will not make you happy; nobody can make you happy. Happiness comes from within. Remember it is never guaranteed that someone in this world will love you, you only like yourself. Find yourself and discover the person you want to be. College is an exploratory time in your life, so explore yourself. Maybe if everyone looks within, we will be less superficial people on campus and a more friendly environment.
“The Passion” Fails to Stir Any Passion

MARIE PROKOPETS
EDITOR-FOR-EMERITUS

I am not a very religious person. I occasionally pray, I have been to church only once in my life, I miss most of the Hillel meetings and events, and I have never read the Bible. But when I heard about “The Passion of The Christ,” my interest was sparked.

Before the movie, I thought a few things about Jesus: he was a Jew, he is part of the New Testament, he is believed by some to be the messiah, he is supposed to have died for our sins, and he could perform miracles. I knew little, though, about his death.

So what exactly did I expect to see in a movie about Jesus?

Well, I knew almost nothing about the movie, except that it was supposed to be a hit too gruesome. But, I put aside my fear of blood and scary movies, bought a large tub of popcorn and a Coke, and sat down next to a woman with a “Jesus Christ” pin on her shirt.

Once the movie started, I was enamored with the cinematography, the language I had heard only once in my life, and the fact that it was in my own language. I was determined to see it until the blood began to spill.

I wanted to know more about who Jesus is thought to be, how he is thought to have lived his life, and yes, how he supposedly died.

But what I didn’t want to see was two hours of excruciating whipping, beating, bloodletting, pounding spices into hands.

And I didn’t see most of it; I hid behind my hand and other people’s reactions. My friend had on a straight face, the Jesus pin-lady and her husband cried, and I ate my popcorn and glanced up when I was poked to indicate that the bloody parts were at an intermission.

So what exactly did I feel? I felt strange. Jesus was a very interesting character, until he started getting beaten and killed. I felt as if his entire character was stripped, and all that was left was flesh and destruction. Is this what was meant to happen? Was he just supposed to be shown as an empty vessel meant as a means to salvation?

Why did I watch the movie with an aversion to Jesus, and why did I still feel so much in that mind? After the blood and guts and flying skin began, I attempted to appreciate the cinematography, the language, the other actors, the story in which people acted; but it was impossible.

From then on, every time I saw Jesus my entertainment was diminished.

Besides, I thought, a movie about something religious like that really be entertaining? Aren’t we going against religion in a way by turning it into a form of entertainment?

This movie left me with many questions: What made me feel so much was mean, uncharitable, and unemotional. Why wasn’t I sad for Jesus? I knew, regardless of my personal beliefs, that Christianity has had a tremendous impact on the way in which Western society has functioned, grown, and developed. Much of literature, philosophy, and even politics have been created by religious people, and grounded in Christian principles, making Christianity very important in the development of Western civilization. But, this movie in no way reinforced my positive views on the story that our society is built on.

The passion of the Christ was too brutal, too focused on Jesus’ death, and there was no character depth. It seemed to me that those with those qualities, I would have rented “Night of the Living Dead.”

The Media Hypocrisy is Exposed in The Coverage of “The Passion”

JASON BREDICK
OPINIONS EDITOR

The media have exposed themselves in their disproportionate coverage of Mel Gibson’s “The Passion” when compared to media coverage of other recent Hollywood blockbusters.

First, the media attacked Gibson for making the movie anti-Semitic, spurred by self-appointed Jewish “leaders” like Abe Foxman of the ADL, arguing that people would come out of the theater angry and screaming that “the Jews killed Jesus.” This claim is as ludicrous as arguing that Jews would come out of “The Ten Commandments” with a new hatred for Egyptians. Anyone who comes out of “The Passion” feeling anti-Semitic probably went into “The Passion” feeling anti-Semitic. Christian theology holds that Jesus, a Jew, died for all humanity. Theologians have put the age-old “decide” charge to rest.

Finally past the ridiculous claims of “anti-Semitism,” the media has moved on to trash the film for being too violent. Ray Richmond of MTV News declared it as “wantonly sadistic” and “ferocious” in an article titled “Passion” -- pornography for the whole family?

A.O. Scott of the New York Times wrote, "The Passion of the Christ" is so relentlessly focused on the savagery of Jesus’ final hours that this film seems to arise less from love than from wrath, and to succeed more in assaulting the spirit than in uplifting it.

Lisa Schwarzbaum of Entertainment Weekly foolishly predicted, “Gibson has made a movie for nobody, really, but Gibson.” I wonder how her foot tasted when the film grossed more than $83 million in the first weekend (and roughly $144 million as of this article).

But the epitome of anti-Christian mudslinging came from David Ansen of Newsweek who wrote, "This peculiar, deeply personal expression of the filmmaker’s faith is far from sentimental, pious depictions of Christ that popular culture has often served up. Relentlessly savage, "The Passion" plays like the Gospel according to the Marquis de Sade."

Self-proclaimed satirists like Ansen feel so superior when Christians portray anything but a hippy-style "pop culture" version of Jesus.

Now let’s compare what some of these very critical satirists said of other violent films. In an interview with Quentin Tarantino, our friend David Ansen from Newsweek said, "There’s some brilliant action in ‘Kill Bill.’ One of the things that makes it effective is the sadistic revenge that’s going on, the cutting of the glass and the music—it’s all incredibly visceral.

There’s a long, 22-minute chapter toward the end, which you call the ‘House of Blue Leaves’ sequence, which takes on virtually an entire army of people. To me, what I didn’t like about that sequence is Utrecth’s美学与杀手的gallery-look, girl-lookin-assassin, Go Go, and her mace."

So we have completely gratuitous violence involving a woman killing roughly 80 people with a sword is “brilliant,” while a film about an historical figure being crucified is “sadistic.” Gee, maybe that’s because crucifixions were actually sadistic!

Of “Kill Bill,” A.O. Scott wrote, "Mr. Tarantino is in a reprehensible shovelford, recklessly flaunting his formal skills as a choreographer of high-concept violence, but he is also an unabashed cinephil, and the movie has enough energy to give this messy, uneven spectable an odd, feverish integrity.

What is “high-concept” violence anyway? Apparently Tarantino knows something about movie violence that as far as Scott is concerned Mass slaughter, good; sfferer, bad; man, bad. Right, Scott?

Despite hypocritical and baseless attacks at the f.m. by self-appointed Jewish “leaders,” the media, average Americans are still turning out in droves to see Gibson’s work of religious art. Self-satisfied film critics everywhere are scratching their heads.
Companies Lobby Against Foreign Outsourcing

CORNELIUS TANASE
STAFF WRITER

During the past decade, hundreds of thousands of jobs in the United States have been exported abroad because of cheaper labor and materials. Now, with the election of the new administration, a major cause for concern is how many white collar jobs are now leaving the state. The United States is, in fact, significantly affecting domestic labor? Can the government do something to re- duce foreign outsourcing?

Manufacturing jobs have always been moving abroad. Examples are apparent in both the steel and tex- tile industries. Three years ago the first of the many publicized movements in jobs has been from white collar jobs like call centers to software engineering and even financial services. What is most concerning is that this is hap pening at a time when the already America has not produced new jobs to fill those that are mov ing away.

Many state legislatures and even Congress have begun to introduce legislation that would try to keep jobs in the state. The argument as stated by the as si stant director to the AFL-CIO eco nomic department is that if the state can, energy and energy could be bet ter spent to keep jobs at home. Most of the bills already before the house re quire a company to repatriate that any state or government funded projects re quire that the work is completed by domestic workers. Other bills restrict the number of foreign workers in a company, labor from being completed abroad.

Hedge Fund Increases Profits An

Amazing 41% in 2003

CORNELIUS TANASE
STAFF WRITER

On March 1, HSBC Holdings, the world's largest banking group, announced that its profits increased by almost 41 percent, to £4.7 billion, and consumer lender Household International. This past week, HSBC (CEO) announced that the bank will become increasingly involved in its investment banking business in 2004.

The international bank HSBC has a market capitalization of £7 billion, and successfully earned £8.77 billion in 2003. This is a large increase in sales is $8.77 billion is increased year by year. Revenues increased 54% to $41.1 billion.

The company has already strongly pushed into North America by buying the Mexican bank Grupo Financiero Bital in 2002 and Household (in 2005), and about 70 percent of the company's in come comes from its investment bank. Household International is a company that makes loans to people with poor credit histories. Buying this company finan cially made HSBC company more profitable because HSBC's previous poor credit scores lowered the combined cost of cap itals.

Nonetheless, the bank has a reputation for being very cost conscious, especially when it comes to its investment banking business. In early 2002, the bank severely damaged its employee's moral when it told bankers and analysts in the unit that because 2002 was such a terrible year, no bonuses would be given out. Some employees left, however, and several turned down a job offer by hiring John Stuzinski from Morgan Stanley, another HSBC has been adding analysts since.

For the past year, the corpo rate and investment division contributed about $4.4 billion in earnings. This amount to a larger increase from last year. The bank has no plans to purchase a domestic investment bank or to buy a company with a foreign bank. Even the CEO travels often for the HSBC, but HSBC may never be able to enter the culture of high-risk and high-need banking. In the U.S. and Mexico. These areas are expected to be increasingly important, and HSBC is expanding its international operations and regions is the company will be needing in early years in the global economy.

The Only Way to Shop and Sell is Online

JUSTIN KWOK
CONTRIBUTING EDITOR

So your printer is broke again. You are jealous of your neighbor’s newest DV decoder. You want a bigger hard drive to back up files from your Facebook laptop. You want the newest cell phone out there. And, as always, you wish the iPod was cheaper.

What do you do? You go to Best Buy, Circuit City even Radio Shack? You are increasingly aware of the newspaper’s advertis ing.

Now, however, this is not the only way to obtain the latest tech nology. Nowadays we have our favorite resource, the internet.

Today, we can place an order online and have the product de livered right to our Babson Post Office Box. Rather than hit the over crowded tech stores, I urge all of you to check out the online prices before making any purchases.

Sites such as Bensbargains.net, Goapex.com, and Prigelcomposer.com always almost always carry products at a discount to traditional stores because of their cost savings. Bensbargains.net often gives you discount and re view sites such as new computer technology. Goapex.com lists its daily discounts with coupon codes for many other sites. Prigelcomposer.com provides you with the bottom line price pre-factor for tax and shipping, for almost any item available. Of course, those are not the only sites for you to re search on. And Bzirate.com, Yahoo’s shopping online, and ebay.com also pro vide their customers with ex tremely competitive prices.

To obtain the cash you need to buy these new products, I strongly recommend selling your used books and whatever you don’t want online. There is al ways, eBay’s Half.com, which not only saves you a bunch of money, but you also get the most for your used books than selling them elsewhere. For your unwanted black lights, refrigerators, and anything else you don’t need, it’s easy to turn your trash into money by selling it on Craigslist.org. Craigslist allows you to post a cheap ad for the things you are selling that will be seen by tens, hundreds, or even thousands in your area or around the world. Putting pictures of the things you are selling is often increases sales.

In short, the point I am mak ing is that, with the wide prol iferation and utilisation of the internet today, you will be able to find the best deals from the comfort of your home.

HSBC & Foreign Outsourcing

By Harlyk D. Seabrook

The company huge move into the U.S. market is due to the large increase in demand. The company will be increasing its investment in the U.S. market in the near future.

State Minority Leader Tom Deschle, a Southern Democrat, is lobbying a number of Republican members of the House, Senate, or even the phone call centers to become directors where they are speaking from at the start of every day.” The office has been backed by Senator John Kerry and could sincerely affect domestic opinion.

A coalition calling itself the Coali tion for Economic Growth and American Jobs has condemned against federal and state legislation to restrict foreign outsourcing. Made of almost 200 trade groups and very well funded, the coalition claims that such bills will drive the world away from the United States. It is a very undetermined year for the market is also worthwhile.

In addition, the coalition is preparing a public advertising campaign to educate the public about the penalty of restricting companies to do business in the U.S. The coalition’s strategy is to press Congress to fund aid for science and technical education and hiring of Ameri can employees who have lost their jobs.

Although the coalition’s success is uncertain, anti-outsourcing bills have been introduced to thirty states has been unsuccessful when I came to power. At of yet, none have passed. Of these, six states have tabled or voted down the bills.

Though these big lobbying has been able to successfully put together their agenda today, this may not be the case for long. Should the economy turn into a terrible year, no bonuses would be given out. Some employees leave. However, and a small number of workers have turned down a job offer by hiring John Stuzinski from Morgan Stanley, another HSBC has been adding analysts since.

For the past year, the corporate and investment division contributed about $4.4 billion in earnings. This amount to a larger increase from last year. The bank has no plans to purchase a domestic investment bank or to buy a company with a foreign bank. Even the CEO travels often for the HSBC, but HSBC may never be able to enter the culture of high-risk and high-need banking. In the U.S. and Mexico. These areas are expected to be increasingly important, and HSBC is expanding its international operations and regions is the company will be needing in early years in the global economy.

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To obtain the cash you need to buy these new products, I strongly recommend selling your used books and whatever you don’t want online. There is always, eBay’s Half.com, which not only saves you a bunch of money, but you also get the most for your used books than selling them elsewhere. For your unwanted black lights, refrigerators, and anything else you don’t need, it’s easy to turn your trash into money by selling it on Craigslist.org. Craigslist allows you to post a cheap ad for the things you are selling that will be seen by tens, hundreds, or even thousands in your area or around the world. Putting pictures of the things you are selling is often increases sales.

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Italy’s Parmalat Bankruptcy Case Delves Deeper

ITALY

PARMA, Italy—Parmalat, Italy’s leading milk and dairy company, made requests for its case to be shifted to a lower court in an attempt to evade a strict convic- tion, but was rejected by judges. With control over half of Italy’s milk and dairy products market in Italy, Parmalat is Italy’s largest food company, and fourth largest in Europe. The bankruptcy court headquartered in Milan filed for bank- ruptcy as a result of information that demonstrated that the company had generated false assets which did not exist in an attempt to hide the im- mense debt of 50 billion in US dol- lars.

With the collapse of Parmalat, unfounded, it led many investors to unesi- nial in Italy and around the world, since the company constitutes 1.5 percent of Italy’s Gross National Product (GNP), leading to a greater impact on the Ital- ian GNP than that of Exxon and MCI WorldCom combined on the US GNP. The company also affects many people around the world, including approxi- mately thirty-five thousand employees, located at numerous and fifty loca- tions around the world.

In addition, the international finan- cial market has also been affected by the investigation that has been launched in this case. There were approximately seven banks involved in the Parmalat’s deception which included firms such as Citibank, J.P. Morgan, Deutsche Bank, Bank of America, Banco Santander, and ABN, in addition to some of the leading Italian banks that are banks such as these are being criticized for giving investors a false and unrealistic view of Parmalat’s situation, and by issuing Parmalat bonds with Parmalat when they should have been aware of the imminent problems in the company’s financial status.

Some of the biggest losses that Parmalat encountered as a result of this company’s founder, Calisto Tanzi’s decisions to invest in risky ven- tures all across the globe to create better returns on investment. Some of the risky investments which resulted in a total loss of 15 billion. Originally the initiation of a cookie product line in the United States, creating a tourism com- pany in France, and also investing in a soccer league called Parmaroma. None of these investments, and many oth- ers proved to be incredibly lucrative in- vestments, and led the company to go under.

As rumors started to increase in the second week of December of the im- pending financial crisis of Parmalat, Standard and Poor’s issued a junk bond rating for the company, and soon enough the company’s stock prices dropped by over forty percent within a week. In the third week of December, a 38.9 bil- lion dollar account that Parmalat claimed to exist with Bank of America was non-existent, and as a result the company’s bankruptcy status was re- vealed. The news led the stock price to again collapse, but this time it was almost double the price. Soon after the Ital- ian government rushed procedures, and did everything they could to ensure that the Parmalat case would not have a massive effect on Italy in general.

Following this news being ex- posed, there is an on-going investigation for which the latest decision by the judge was that proceedings from Milan to Parmalat were rejected, as there are twenty-five people who are currently on trial in Milan.

Parmalat will soon issue its restruc- turing plan, and rumors of the com- pany selling off some of its interna- tional divisions have also risen. Part of the Parmalat Australia, as seen as one of those divisions, but the rumour’s have been disputed by Parmalat officials in charge of the company’s restructuring plan in Australia.

The financial world has once again received another immense shock with the financial collapses of some major corporations in the recent years. Parmalat will soon be seizing its restructuring plan outlining its future, as the investigation probe continues.

Coke Accused of Misleading Marketing in UK

VIRAL KAPADIA

INTERNSATIONAL EDITOR

Coca-Cola in London has been ac- cused of "mishandling marketing," and is being investigated by the Food and Standards Agency in the United Kingdom to look into the inci- dence. The company is being criticized for selling its line of bottled water, Dasani, in the U.K. as "pure," when it is actually derived from tap water. The Food and Standards Agency has ordered the town where the company’s plant operates to investi- gate, and has shown a recent trend in having worsened rules any rules. The com- pany issued a statement in which it says was cooperating with authori- ties, and is confident that it is abid- ing by all rules regulations that are in place.

The investigating agency has not released its report as of yet, but it has been believed by information sources that the company is not strictly adhering to the definition of the term “pure.”

The bottled water market consists of three different types of water rang- ing from spring water, natural min- eral water, and drinking (tap) water. Dasani’s use of the term “pure” is not eligible for its water because it uses a purification process, and then adds minerals to it. This process came at a very crucial time for Coca-Cola’s Dasani since it was introduced into the Brit- ish market only one month ago. The company has spent a hefty sum of over 12 billion dollars in market- ing and launching its new product into the growing British bottled wa- ter market. Currently, the bottled water market in the United Kingdom is valued at producing almost 1.55 billion dollars in revenue annually.

Coca-Cola believes that its mar- keting of the water as “pure” is vi- able even though the water it uses is from the tap water because it per- forms a steretisment and "highly sophis- ticated" three-stage purification pro- cess, and adds minerals to the wa- ter.

The company describes its purifi- cation process as the first stage cleaning and filtering water for external particles. During the second stage the water goes through a process of "re- vehiculation" which is used by NASA to purify water aboard space shuttles. The third stage of the process is when a tiny concentration of minerals are added to enhance the water and its flavor.

The UK water company, Water UK, contradicted Coca-Cola’s state- ment saying that they disagree that the water has impurities and exter- nal particles. The company claims that they have a nine stage process that begins to go through to make it hygienic for drinking after it is taken from the Thames River water. Once again, Coca-Cola denies all ar- guments and states that according to the company they are “purifying” the water and offering consumers a product they want and are paying for. Dasani, even though it has been recently launched in the British market is appealing to customers who are looking for something that is pure, and this new market very profitable.

The tap water that Dasani uses costs up to 0.06 per liter, whereas seven move- es, once, and after its three stage purification process is sold in bottle bottles for over 1.75 dollars.

Coca-Cola also believes that its competitors are behind these alle- gations to prevent it from entering the market and capturing their mar- ket share. Currently, two of the lead- ing bottled water-making companies that control the market in the United Kingdom are Britvic and Carlsberg. Dasani faces a tough battle against its competitors to break the barrier of entering the British market, but it is strongly determined to do so.

2004 Australia Summer Study Abroad Program:

Advanced Economies and Emerging Markets: Australia and the Asian Region

June 19 - August 2, 2004
Application Deadline: March 23, 2004

Study abroad in the exciting city of Sydney at the University of New South Wales, travel throughout the country of Australia, and earn 6 credits for the experience!

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To find out more or apply now for an experience of a lifetime in Australia contact: Stacia Zukoff (zukoff@babson.edu) or Stop by at the Office of Global Program Services for more information in Nichols Hall.
Single in Babson Park: A Critique of Television

SARAH SILVERMAN
STAFF WRITER

I hate TV. I decided when I have my own place I will not have a television in my living room. I consider TV to be an anti-social object. I rarely believe it provides any meaningful information, at least much that can be gained from other alternative activities (come on business students...opportunity cost, a threat of substitute). All this said, the other night I was getting ready for bed and decided to give the television a chance to prove me wrong, maybe something had changed. I was flipping through the channels and eventually stumbled upon WE - a cable channel exclusively for women. They show afternoon chick flicks and also have produced many original shows. That night one of the shows was called "Single in Las Vegas," a wannabe Sex in the City. The cameras follow around three women in their quest for Mr. Right.

Out of curiosity I began to watch the enthralling lives of these ladies. It immediately became apparent these people were representative of three different stereotypical women. The first was a twenty-something single girl from England. I never really figured out what her job was, but on this particular episode she was buying white go-go boots for her evening as some type of showgirl. Later in her night she seemed to be offended when a man hit on her who was only in Vegas until the following morning. She seemed to be interested in one on one, night stand, and how could you even make her for that type of girl, white go-go boots all?

The next woman was what I call the bitter witch who probably got really burned when I call the 9/11 attacks, she was buying light dressing (on the side, of course) because I am on a diet places. She kept talking about all the things wrong with men; how they can't get it together, and how she knew what a real man was. Given sometimes men do have faults (I.e. their fascination with odd and weird TV shows about animals consuming other animals and Tag each other's in any park, however women have one to match (i.e. how we ask "does this look ok" a thousand times). None of us are perfect and we all have our faults. My question is where does this witch get an attitude about men like she is an expert about every single little facet of them? How the hell does she know men? The third was the type of woman who totally over obsessed about everything, including you guessed it, meeting men. Sheochtied that can been gained from other alternative activities (come on business students...opportunity cost, a threat of substitute). All this said, the other night I was getting ready for bed and decided to give the television a chance to prove me wrong, maybe something had changed. I was flipping through the channels and eventually stumbled upon WE - a cable channel exclusively for women. They show afternoon chick flicks and also have produced many original shows. That night one of the shows was called "Single in Las Vegas," a wannabe Sex in the City. The cameras follow around three women in their quest for Mr. Right.

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Frank Advises: How to Soften Yourselves Up

FRANK FREE PRESS
STAFF WRITER

The other day I sat down for breakfast with a friend of mine. Accompanying him were two other people, people I did not know, but being the jocular fellow that I am, I sat down anyway. We struck up a conversation for a bit, and then my friend left, leaving my plate of eggs half finished.

The other two people continued their conversation without me, and then after finishing his plate, I left. Most importantly, I said “Nice to meet you guys,” despite how false I knew it was. Because the thing is, I didn’t meet them. Someone, either them or I, was way too ‘tough’ to acknowledge a new person. What’s up with that?

My brother claims that when he comes to Babson, people are generally unfriendly, that they just look around, never introduce themselves or talk to a stranger, but bite them instead. My brother has also been known to ‘play the flute’ in his bare feet in third world countries. So maybe we can’t trust him. But just in case, here are some tips to soften up the students of Babson.

Meet a Freshman

I think that Babson should initiate a buddy system. Since we all know that nobody in the administration listens to a word I say, I think we should take it upon ourselves. If you are a senior, your mission for the week is to call one random freshman, and offer your services, whatever these may be.

It would be something akin to the idea of Greek Life hazing freshman. Except this isn’t hazing, because hazing, We are not football players, embraces the good, not the bad.

And if you’re a freshman, don’t think you’re getting off so easy. You need to befriend an Olin kid. And you need to walk there, in the rain, uphill both ways, with no shoes on. (This last sentence clearer by Campus Life as a ‘non-hazing’ proof).

Lastly, try and make a conscious effort to get new people into your life. Smile so much that even your friend wants to ‘rip the ___ eating grin of your face’. Always say hi, and greet with high fives.

Trim

While the subject of Trim is on my mind, there are a few things I’d like to say. First of all, I think we should shake it up a bit. To test your new allies who ARE reading my article, sit down at a table of people you don’t know. If they do not acknowledge you, know you are they, and must be swept off the planet. If they do, you are all set.

Next, I think everyone is a little too critical of the Trim staff. All I know is that they are nearly nice, and the orange juice is less filling.

I think, to put it in our place, we should reverse roles. For one day, we can get behind the omelet pans and fry a couple up. See what happens then. I bet everyone will be a lot nicer to the Trim staff.

We’re not Football Players

Babson does not have a football team. We are not football players, nor should we act like them (I mean acting tough, on the field, you know FTF doesn’t have a stereotype). The last item on the list is to fairy yourself up a bit. I think we could all benefit from some flute playing and court jesting, in the image of Frederick the Great of Prussia.

Take matters into your own hands. If you want to take it to the limit, you can write articles that are essentially about nothing in the Lifestyles section of the Free Press. How’s that for sens- etive?
**SPORTS**

**Thursday, March 4th 2004**

**Super 8 Provides Added Hockey Action**

Dave Santino  
Staff Writer

If the Babson varsity hockey team’s playoff run isn’t enough to satisfy you, then check out some of the high school state hockey tournament matches up that are taking place during the next few weeks.

The Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association’s Div. IA Super Eight tournament, which showcases the state’s top eight high school boys’ hockey teams, continues for the third round Sunday at Framingham’s Loring Arena.

First seeded Catholic Memorial, last year’s state champion, faces off against fourth seeded Hingham. Fifth seeded Walhalla, which hasn’t appeared in the Super Eight since 1999, will play eighth seeded Duxbury, which has dominated after a dismal five-win season a year ago and is a newcomer to the tournament. Second seeded BC High, the Super Eight runner-up last year and the champion three years ago, will face third-seeded Arlington Catholic, which hoisted the championship trophy in 1997.

Sixth-seeded St. John’s Prep will battle seventh-seeded Belmont, which is making its second Super Eight appearance this year.

This year’s tournament, which is traditionally dominated by private schools, has an unprecedented four public schools. The private that are back, though, have dominating programs. The state has seen Catholic Memorial and BC High in the finals for several years, and there is no reason for them not to dominate the tournament again.

Babson’s version of March Madness does not only include the varsity Men’s Basketball team, Swimming & Diving team, and our Hockey team. Intramurals will host its own version of March Madness this week, with the Semi-Finals on Monday and the Finals on Tuesday. The semi-final games will be held at 7:30 PM and 9:30 PM, respectively. The top two teams will advance to the final game, which will be played on Thursday at 7:30 PM.

**March Madness, Intramural Style**

Shawn Hawthorne  
Staff Writer

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To enter the tournament, register your team with Babson’s Intramural Office. The registration deadline is Wednesday, March 3rd. The cost of participation is $40 per team.

The top two teams will advance to the final game, which will be played on Thursday at 7:30 PM.

**Student Employment Appreciation Week**

The Student Employment Office has designated the third week in April (12th-16th) as Student Employment Appreciation Week.

**The Purpose of this week is threefold:**

1. To enhance awareness of student employment and its important role in the higher education experience.
2. To recognize students who work while attending college. Currently there are over 600 students, Undergraduate and Graduate, who are employed at Babson College.
3. To thank YOU, the employers who hire and supervise students for on campus positions and make the student employment program such a success.

President Brian Barefoot has given his support of this week. It is an opportunity for student employers to show their appreciation for the hard work and dedication of their student workers. In addition, the Student Employment Office will hold its annual Student Employee of the Year program and awards presentation.

Nominate an exceptional student and use this week to reward your hard-working student employees!
**SPORTS**

**Baseball: A Vicious Game of Love and Hate**

Erik Litwin

**CONTRIBUTING WRITER**

It is amazing how fast the game can do a total 180. The trade between the Texas Rangers and New York Yankees ruined all fans' hopes for their teams having a chance to compete in the playoffs (unless their team is the Yankees). The Yankees received the hands-down best player in all of baseball to add to their already oversaturated all-star lineup. The Yankees' lineup this year is ridiculous since six or seven of their hitters and at least three of their pitchers are potential all-stars. Can this team not win 120+ games this season? I agree that this is one of the best teams ever assembled and will be interesting to watch, but it is still bad for baseball and all of its fans outside of New York. I am from L.A. and I am a huge Dodgers fan. So, before this trade, I really had no feelings for the Red Sox-Yankee rivalry to speak of. While the Yankees and Red Sox were making deals over the off-season I thought this might be one of the best years for this rivalry until the A-Rod trade occurred. As soon as this ugly deal came to pass, I started to hate the Yankees just as much as any Beantown native. They make me sick!

The source of this problem is the mastermind known as George Steinbrenner. He is the cause of this trade taking place just because he can. He has enough money to buy any player and for that matter just about any championship he wants. The Yankees' payroll this year is approaching $200 million, which is absolutely absurd. The Toronto Blue Jays, who are in the same division as the Yankees, have a payroll that is four times smaller than that of the hated Evil Empire. This makes the Toronto Blue Jays' chance of winning, or should I say chance of having a chance at this year, absolutely zero.

The people of Toronto have no reason to care about their team this year and that equates to lost revenue and lost fans for the MLB. However, this is not only true for Toronto. This is true for a fan of almost every team except that of the crawled Yankees. Teams such as Oakland or Chicago who played great last year do not have a CHANCE! This is ridiculous and this is the problem that the league is going to face. Yes, there might be high attendance at every Yankee game, home or away, but for the other 15 or so games fans just will not care enough because they know that their respected teams have no shot to win.

Commissioner Bud Selig is, in my opinion, the one most responsible for this dilemma. If he only had the common sense to foresee what this trade does for the Yankees and the league, this would never have occurred. There is nothing else left to say besides: Congratulations, Yankees, on your 2004 World Series Championship!

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**NFL Scared of Maurice Clarett Precedent**

Jose Gastambide

**CONTRIBUTING WRITER**

Earlier this off-season, Ohio State football star Maurice Clarett was declared eligible to enter the NFL draft only two years removed from his high school graduation. Earlier this month, the NFL asked the second US Circuit Court of Appeals for a stay of the ruling, which deemed the previous NFL eligibility rule a violation of anti-trust law.

Let's make this very clear right now: the National Football League is scared to death of this possibilitiy, and so is the rest of the football world. The NFL has seen a dramatic decrease in attendance and viewership in recent years and NFL parking lots are down almost 25% from their all-time highs reached in the mid-nineties.

NBA commissioner David Stern has tried to his best desolate teenagers from entering the draft, proposing league minimum age, but getting support from anywhere. That's because Stern knows how damaging it is for basketball. Consumer polls have showed a decrease in interest stemming from the youth inserted into the NBA. The main argument: How can the NBA claim to be a talented league if high schoolers can play with the big boys? The NFL is now the most popular sport in America. With Major League Baseball being tarnished by strikes, steroids, competitiveness, and talk of contraction, football has taken a step forward and captured the most opportune time. College football has benefited from a "brick down" effect capturing its highest ratings in decades.

But this new development threatens to stall both organizations' increasing popularity the way it had the NBA. If stars like Clarett, USC wide receiver Mike Williams, and Randy Moss look alike Larry Fitzgerald leave college football, the NCAA stands to lose a chunk of the ground it gained in recent years. While some would mention that it would benefit the NFL to get some young exciting talent into the league faster, the facts are that football is the most physically and mentally demanding sport, and it is unlikely that many, if any, player would be able to handle both those requirements at the age of 19 or 20. Football will instead see more potential talent burn out in college.

College is where players learn the things that will make their stars. The NFL is where they become those stars. There is no way that a player can become re-trained through only one or two years of college. NFL coaches are simply not there to teach the men how to play.

You think Bill Parcells is gonna have the patience to explain to his DB's what kind of defense he'll be playing? Think anyone 19 years old can handle Belichick's defensive scheme? Some NFL vets can't handle them. But pressure from fans and media will force personnel directors to make their choices based primarily on the NFL's best selling point: competitive balance.

Count me as one of the fans who believe that this situation is an aberration, not the norm. As tall, thin, and as Clarett, Williams, and Fitzgerald are, I silently pray for struggles in the coming years; struggles that will keep any potential early entry as far from the draft as possible. Rest assured that the NFL shares my feelings. Joe can be heard on his show "Drysdale and Big Ho on the Big Show", Sundays from 6-9-7-00, only on Bobson College Radio.