Students Travel to Switzerland for J-MCFE

ALI WATKINS  
STAFF WRITER

From January 14th to January 21st, six Babson students traveled to St. Gallen, Switzerland, to act as consultants with the selective J-MCFE program. Two Swiss companies, who covered traveling expenses for the consultants during their time abroad, sponsored this program. The program teams consist of three Babson students with three Swiss students from the University of Applied Sciences students. The two groups will consult for the Swiss companies throughout the semester and then make final recommendations in April. The Swiss students and company sponsors will travel to Babson for the final presentation on May 1. In Switzerland, the teams had the opportunity to visit Plastom AG and Letac Geosystems, the sponsoring companies, to meet with company executives and to tour the facilities for a full-day presentation. Both projects involve marketing issues surrounding distribution and target market expansion in Europe and the United States. While visiting the companies, the teams were able to experiment with the company's product lines and ask questions that would focus their project work.

Following the company visits, the teams met with their Swiss colleagues to determine a strategy for addressing the company's business problems. The combined Swiss and Babson teams will conduct their group work, collaborating biweekly via videoconference on their progress.

New Semester Brings New Students to Babson

LINDSEY ALIX  
ENROLLMENT OFFICER

With the start of the new semester, Babson welcomed a number of new students. Last Wednesday, four first-year students started a new semester here. In addition, twenty people transferred from other schools. The new semester also brought four exchange students from various areas of the world.

The number of transfers is an average amount for this year; however, the office of class deans withheld the number of students who transferred out of Babson or withdrew.

On January 21st, all the new students were greeted at Babson with a one-day orientation. The orientation was a condensed version of the one given in the fall to new students. To begin orientation the twenty-four students met for a sit-down lunch at the Cranberry Cabin. Afterwards, parent programs hosted a small gathering for the families, students and staff to mingle.

In the afternoon, the students and parents were offered a variety of sessions to attend, which were geared to help them acclimate themselves to a new school. To give an introduction to the campus, and satisfaction of the orientation, the survey again similar to the fall one will be issued.

To give the students registered, Pam Solomon, coordinator of first year and transfer programs, and the other class deans assisted them during the visit in Babson and during the visit in Switzerland while the weekend before drop-add ended.

"Registration was tight this year, but we were able to get them into all the classes they needed," says Solomon.

Transfer students do not take FPE. Instead they are placed in either MOB or MIS, which is a modified version of the curriculum of the year and all transfer students are eligible for the DIC curriculum.

The transfer students have already had some college experience, they do not need a program like first year experience. An alternative, all transfers are placed in an eight-week first semester seminar that is geared to the changes and difficulties of entering a new school. This course is taught by Pam Solomon, and assisted by Katrina Lundberg '04.

Dean Rachael Reiter has assisted the first-year students in their registration process. These students are being placed in a special FPE section being taught by Jim Berrigan and Maggi Kirennadl.

Overall, the orientation of the new students was smooth and they seem to be very satisfied with their new environment at Babson College.

LIFE STYLES

PAGE 10

Think back to winter break — what interesting things did you do? Did you do anything you’ve never done before? Do you have anything to show for a month off?

THE ARTS

PAGE 11

Last Thursday I went to hear the Boston Symphony at Symphony hall with the honors program. If you haven’t been, you don’t know what you’re missing.

SPORTS

PAGE 12

The Babson men’s basketball team had an excellent week that ended with a strong victory over Springfield College.

Continued On Page 3

Ants

PAGE 7

The older I get, the more people I interact with, and the further I walk through my career at Babson, the more I realize that this is the purpose of the rest of my life.

Continued On Page 3

Wireless Routers Root Of Network Downtime

DJ SCHEPPER  
CONSULTING EDITOR

Since the beginning of this academic year, the network has gone down a number of times, causing many students to be unable to access the network or Internet. It has been determined that viruses, hardware failures and employees of the school did not cause this problem; instead, students around the campus have caused many of the network problems that have been experienced over the last five months. Not all students with wireless routers make this mistake, but an incorrectly configured wireless router can cripple the Babson network by sending out fake IP addresses to individual computers on campus.

Continued On Page 3

Laptop Policy

MARIE PROKOPETS  
CONTRIBUTING EDITOR

The laptop policy, which is signed by students upon the receipt of their Babson computer, will now include a charge of $100 when ITSD must ship out a computer in order to fix it for more than one time.

The decision to charge Babson students the insurance deductible came, according to Wes Baser, IT service center manager, when ITSD realized that "clearly some folks aren’t taking care of the laptops."

He explained that students who held Babson leased laptops, which includes the laptop and deducible charge.

Continued On Page 3

CCD Adapts Programs To Economy

LOUIS BELOTT  
NEWS EDITOR

To better assist students in finding jobs and internships, the Center for Career Development (CCD) is focusing on offering a wider range of services in 2003. Most of the programs offered by the CCD toward a specific set of students; however, the main goal of the office remains to individually meet the career needs of each student.

While the economy was booming, typical programs involved decision-making workshops and career fairs. Programs this year will focus on research based, offering more strategic and innovative methods of job searching.

"It’s important for students to get started early, so we’ve expanded our database of contacts for students."

Continued On Page 3
Class Deans Offer GPA Improvement Seminars

LINDSEY ALIX
Rotrow-In-Chief

Over the next few weeks, the office of class deans is sponsoring a series of seminars for those students who are looking to make improvements to their grades. The seminars will address a variety of academic skills that many students will find useful.

This academic program was created by the Office of Class Deans to help improve the academic performance of university students. The program focuses on academic success strategies and includes workshops, small group sessions, and individualized support. Attendees will learn skills such as effective note-taking, time management, and exam preparation.

The series will run on a weekly basis. Students can choose to attend any or all of the sessions based on their availability. For more information, contact the Office of Class Deans.

The first seminar will be held on Monday, March 3rd. Attendees are urged to sign up in advance to ensure a seat.

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BRAD VORMS '06 helps a student cut in laptop support services. Support services helps fix problems that students have with laptops.

Andrew Bentley for The Babson Free Press

ITSD Solves Cause of Network Problems

Continued From Page 1

The purpose of this program is to help students (or anyone) who are experiencing problems with their laptops.

Continue Reading

Students Charged $100

For Fixing of Laptop

Continued From Page 1

Babson is charged a $100 deductible.

After deliberating on the subject, administration and ITSD decided that the first time a computer is left at ITSD to be repaired Babson will cover the cost of the deductible. After the first time, students will have the $100 charge added to their tuition bills.

When asked whether or not the insurance deductible was listed on the contract signed by Babson students, Esse said, "I don't know whether or not it was specifically stated."

Although students are now being charged a deductible, ITSD is attempting to be flexible and keep charges at a minimum. Students who have been covering batteries that have been dying due to wear and tear and have been paying for the insurance contract down from a $250 to $100 deductible. A big challenge, explained Esse, is for the school to purchase laptops that are rugged and dependable

There have been about 10 charges in total over since ITSD began implementing its policy in the fall. Esse explained that he hasn't heard any complaints yet about the policy, but has received questions from students.

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LOW 11
HIGH 31

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LOW 16
HIGH 36

SUNNY, WINTERY MIX
LOW 16
HIGH 36

SUNNY, WINTERY MIX
LOW 16
HIGH 36

SUNNY, WINTERY MIX
LOW 16
HIGH 36
Olin College: Yes, We Really Do Exist

WILL CLAYTON
STAFF WRITER

Hopefully, a few people who just read this headline thought, "Of course Olin exists! I have tons of friends from there, it's the country with some cool Olin chicks!" or "Yeah, Olin! I go over there sometimes, it's a great place to hang out this weekend!" Okay, well, probably nobody said that last one, but there goes a whole bunch of potential readers.

Anyway, this is just the first in a series of articles that will look at the rapidly growing, under the radar, but surprisingly bustling Babson community learn a little bit more about the little college next door. One thing we probably should mention right away: Olin is not part of Babson.

We're the Franklin W. Olin College of Engineering, and although the grad school at Babson is also called Olin, our two schools are totally different institutions. We have our own dining hall, our own student government and our own newspaper. As far as I know, there's no way to transfer from one to the other.

Here are the basics: there are 750 of us here, and the charter class is for the time being, every new class will have 750 members, and our school will have a student body of 500 in four years. Eventually, Olin may grow larger, but not while any of us are still in college.

Also, Tuck isn't Olin (now and in the near future) has full tuition scholarships, paid for by the Harvard Business School.

Flood in Forest Causes Heavy Damage

CHARU SHARMA
ARTS EDITOR

Some unfortunate Forest Hall freshmen had a rude welcome back to campus on Monday, January 27. A violent storm hit the campus at 3 A.M. that morning, the Forest fire alarm went off, and a Resident Assistant and a floor senator had to sit on a freezer leak on the third floor. A few freshmen came back to find their ceilings caved in, windows broken, and water gushing by the crudest of means. While extreme cold temperatures of the room itself, a heating pipe from the radiator in Forest room 324 froze and burst when the heat kicked in, causing extreme damage to rooms from the third to the first floor.

What was the root cause of the pipe bursting? Some of the students had theories about the cold outside wall with their desk, bookcases, and other materials, prohibiting air circulation, which might have prevented the freeze up.

According to Sheryll Kaplan, Associate Vice President of Facilities Management and Planning, the pipe burst for two reasons: because of the extremely low temperature and lack of air circulation within the room. This was caused by the extremely low setting of the thermostat, which was at its lowest setting of 45 degrees.

Kaplan, moreover, is located on the interior wall from the heating element, so that the unit itself was on the inside of the Babson fridge further complicating the situation. The result was a rupture in the thinnest part of the pipe, which happened to be the heating part.

Kaplan also said that the radiator water gushed down from third floor all the way to the first floor, through the walls and floors, against the cold outside wall with their desk, bookcases, and other materials, prohibiting air circulation, which might have prevented the freeze up.

According to Sheryll Kaplan, the project cost was estimated at about $7,000 plus the actual cost will be about $8,000.

Kaplan said the approximate break down is as follows: replacement of the pipe, $2,000; carpet replacement, $1,000; emergency response labor, $1,000; and damage to contents, $3,000.

The ill affected students and their undamaged belongings will be relocated to another campus room until they can safely return to their renovated rooms. Surprisingly, this is not the first time that an event has occurred. In fact, a similar situation played out in Coleman about five years ago when a window was left open and the thermostat was at its lowest setting.

But the problems of facilities can make efforts to ensure that this kind of situation doesn't happen again in the future, the main elements, "Information and communication is always key. We have learned that there might be a chance in the future as emails about setting heat back for the inter-session period.

Moreover, students can take pre-vention measures as well to ensure that these kinds of events don't happen. "Getting pleasant surprises after break," Kaplan suggests that in extremely cold temperatures like the current Boston weather, students should not turn their thermostat lower than a benchmark of 60 degrees. They may also take an extra step for their room's safety by checking that building exterior walls are not blocked by furniture or other materials, so as to maintain air flow around heating elements.

Attention Everyone:

The Office of Class Deans has assembled a series of workshops open to all Babson students to sharpen and further their job skills. These workshops will assist students with time management, setting goals, accessing campus resources, and approaching faculty. We are asking for your help in marketing this program to our students. The workshops are only an hour long and will be delivered by some of Babson's finest!

As a token of our appreciation, we will offer all individuals some coupons to the coffee bar for referring students to this worthwhile campus program.

Thank you in advance for your support. We are looking forward to a great semester.
SGA Minutes for Wednesday, January 29

EXECUTIVE SUMMARIES
- Met with search committee dean of undergraduate programs.
- A big thanks goes out to FME Business IN YOUR FACE promotions for advertising the hockey game Friday night.
- New radio system has been put in.
- New Beaver suit is now available through the athletics dept.
- Student town meeting in March.
- Budget is posted - Ways and Means.
- Compiling results from student business survey.
- ITSD has installed wireless web in certain dorms and printers in dorms will come shortly, speeding up the registration process.
- Babson shuttle service is in effect with new times - great late night turnaround.
- SGA can now send out mass emails.
- New SGA attendance policy is in full effect.

SCHEDULED BUSINESS
- Introduce Chris Kandus, SGA and CAB’s new advisor

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Outrageous Cost of Books Hurts Students' Pockets

LINDSEY ALX
Editor-In-Chief

This semester I paid $340.75 for my textbooks, and I did not even buy all of the required books. Another class of mine spent over $400. In fact, the total amount of books I could have purchased was $580. These prices seem steep considering the prices we are already paying for the classroom environment.

Currently, the most expensive book in the bookstore is $115.60. The class which seems to have the highest book prices is IMC II, where all of the required books cost a purchased cost of over $500.

These prices are extremely high for students who do not have their parents cover the expenses or who are on financial aid. One of the most frustrating things when spending this money is the sneaking suspicion that the book you are buying is really worth the investment of hundreds of dollars.

In order to keep track of my costs, I have been keeping an overall total of my book expenses. One of the classes in a class last semester, which cost $650, has a total of $250 for approximately 15 pages of all 250 it contained.

The higher the price of textbooks would be less if there were a guarantee that we would actually use the material in class, or that we would even use them enough in class to cover their cost. The professors who write the textbooks and who determine what the book is absolutely necessary and there is no other way to go to the material to the student.

A Case Against Pending War with Iraq

JACK S. PHELPS
BUSINESS AND TECHNOLOGY EDITOR

In 1989, UNICEF considered Iraq an "emerging first-world country," meaning that almost 50% of its population had access to good food, water and healthcare, as well as education and a decent standard of living. However, in 1991, the United States had destroyed so much civilian infrastructure that the rating had to be downgraded to "third-world." Moreover, despite the United States' success in achieving its goals in the Gulf War was questionable, it was successful in removing or destroying some weapons of mass destruction. The 1994 UN inspections succeeded in removing over four times as many as was originally stated.

The case against war in Iraq is primarily an economic one. Whether it is a good idea, and what do we stand to lose? Though we cannot be certain, the economic consequences can be sure that the consequences are great.

First, war will destroy a larger economic growth. During the 1940s, the World War II helped the US build important industry and infrastructure that sustained growth at the consumer level for decades. Additionally, early computer technology was developed to purchase a larger economic growth.

Second, war is not a significant driver of economic growth. It does not help employ nearly as many people as it is used to.

Third, Iraq's economy is not a significant driver of economic growth. It does not help employ nearly as many people as it is used to.

Moreover, military infrastructure has been cut or has been sold. If investors could be assured that war was unlikely, they would feel more comfortable investing money to a variety of investments. In this respect, the war has had a very negative impact on the economy.

Fourth, US military spending has risen to over $1.5 trillion per cent of the pending US budget. With $386 billion expenditure is more than three times what Russia and China combined, and more than twenty-seven times what the seven "rogue nations" (Cuba, Iran, Iraq, Libya, North Korea, Sudan, Syria) spend annually combined. Given that this great expenditure serves little economic benefit, and is counter to the US economy, I feel that the US government should work on other ways to allocate the money.

Two that come to mind are: first, the government should work on other ways to allocate the money. Second, we can cut taxes, cut small businesses would help the economy, which has always kept the US a leg up over other countries.

Education: Bettering youth education is important to the continued growth of the US. By continually continuing education grants can help make people more employable and efficient, which greatly help the economy recover from its current state.

Keep in mind that Sudden Hussein has not taken any aggressive actions against the US, and does not have any heavy systems that could harm the US economy.

I'm sure there are many things that a wiser economist than I could come up with which would better serve the American public more military spending on a sense-

Credit Restriction Hurts Learning Experience

D.J. SCHREPP
CONSULTING EDITOR

Over the past few years, Babson has maintained its reputation of being a business-oriented university. This has made Babson a choice for students majoring in the business field.

The credit restriction that Babson has put in place over the last few years has been a major concern for students who are interested in majoring in business.

Babson restricts the number of credits that a student can earn in any one semester. This restriction forces students to take longer to graduate, and it limits the number of courses that students can take in any one semester. This means that students must take classes that they are not interested in, which can hinder their progress.

This restriction has been implemented to ensure that students are able to take courses that are relevant to their major. However, this has caused a problem for students who are interested in taking a variety of courses. They are forced to choose between taking courses that are relevant to their major and those that are not.

The credit restriction has also caused a problem for students who are interested in taking courses that are not offered at Babson. They must look elsewhere for these courses, which can be time-consuming and expensive.

In conclusion, the credit restriction that Babson has put in place has been a major problem for students who are interested in taking a variety of courses. It has hindered their progress and caused a problem for students who are interested in taking courses that are not offered at Babson. Babson should re-evaluate its credit restriction and find a way to allow students to take courses that are relevant to their major.
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Look beyond the numbers.
Presenting a Case for War with Iraq

JASON BEDRICK
Opinions Editor

Nobody wants to go to war. War is horrible, violent and destructive. However, there comes a time when all other methods for recourse have failed, and when the world becomes inevitable. Americans not only have a right but also a moral duty to ensure the protection of their nation, their freedom, and indeed their very lives. When Americans are threatened, they must act.

The question remains, does this looming threat of Saddam Hussein warrant war?

Unfortunately, I believe that it does. Saddam Hussein poses a threat to the nation greater than even Osama bin Laden. Saddam’s older son, Qusay, was quoted in Tuesday’s New York Times for something he had said just a week before, “If [the Americans] come, what will they do? And what they viewed was a major event, it will appear as a picnic for them.” He also threatened the use of bio-chemical weapons. Yes that’s right, the same bio-chemical weapons that his father claims to not have.

Even the UN Chief Weapons Inspectors’ Report of December '02 shows Iraq has not sufficiently complied with UN Resolution 687. Bush stated that he had found in Iraq he had disagreed several illegal weapons including, among others, anthrax.

He also believed that there were more warheads, like the ones discovered this fall, that his predecessor had also failed to declare. “Iraq appears not to have come to genuine disarmament, that was demanded of it and which it needs to carry out to win the confidence of the world and live in peace,” said Blair in front of the United Nations Security Council.

The fear that President Bush expressed in his State of the Union Address last month, which polls show is shared by a majority of Americans, is that Saddam Hussein would give these illegal weapons of mass destruction to terrorist groups to use against America.

One of the anti-war claims is that Saddam is not a direct threat to the United States. Whether or not he was directly attacking Americans, the threat on Iraq is irrelevant. Saddam has openly supported terrorism even after 9/11 and it is important that he is seen as a threat.

When Roger Bush created this fine institute we call him the Bush Institute in 2006. He felt he needed to educate others— even you. So what was he really thinking? Stop taking and starting again. In the end we will have a better institution, and we will be more peaceful.

I believe Ba’athist’s “problems” have little to do with anybody but the students. Because, let’s face it, there is and will always be some nonsense wherever you go. It is how we react to it that makes the difference.

Anti-War Protests Present Facade for Anti-Americanism

JASON BEDRICK
Opinions Editor

Are all forms of dissent acceptable? Does the American Nation prepare for a war against the maniacal despot, Saddam Hussein, does protesting the war mean that you are a traitor to your country? Or can you be a legitimate conscientious objector?

Many on both sides cite the Vietnam conflict, though for different reasons. Those opposed to the war are afraid that we might be embattling ourselves in a situation where we will only cause needless bloodshed. Others cite Vietnam because of the reprehensible treatment that our gold-skinned warriors when they returned from doing their patriotic duty.

Is either our involvement in Vietnam right or wrong, the way this country received its returning veterans was certainly wrong. Do we protest here to harm the morale of our troops across the world? But if the war is wrong, can we find faultably and not use our voices to object? These questions have no easy answers, but let us exam- ine the nature of the protests and the voices against the war in America.

There are many people in this nation who have legitimate concerns about the nature of this war and feel obliged to speak out against it. But many of those protesting in Iraq, I have no problem with these people; indeed I find those with whom I disagree as noble when they fight for what they believe to be the right.

The majority of those who oppose the "anti-war" protests were merely a façade for anti-Americanism. On Saturday, January 18th, I attended the protest in Washington D.C. in front of our nation’s Capitol. It was described as disturbing at best, for it was a horrid spectacle of anti-Americanism, and a front for some with legitimate anti-war concerns.

The majority of sign holders were quickly available but the onesephos who were they pushing their own agenda. Signs for communism, socialist- ism, free-government-protests, abortion, equal rights for women, and other causes were plentiful. Pol- ice had to cordon off an extraordinary Ameri- can flag by the thousands.

Some were there to protest against Israeli or the Chinese treatment of their fellow nationals, to free the Occupied Palestinian land and stop the Kumalaires, others signs like “If -You’re Bush’ which showed that they weren’t against the war, just our president. ‘If -War’ was only about opposing the war but no more intelligent.

As further proof that this was nothing but a façade, I talked to an anti-war activist who signed Bush, one must note that there were no massive protests like this when we first went into Iraq, so I hope that someone like Shobhan Miskovich, where were the protest as the bombs rained down on Iraq.

The usual crowd of Ramsay Clark, Cynthia McKinney, Al Sharpton, the International Socialist Organiza- tion, the Revolutionary Communist Party and others like them were all involved, but in addition to the professional protesters that were bussed in by the thousands.

I would like to understand when analyzing the event is the people who organized the demonstra- tions, why they are here? Stop the War and End Racism I’m not sure just yet where the “racism” part fits in but I’m working on it) is an anti-war organization that has become the International Action Coalition.

The IAC is in turn a front for the World Workers Party, a quasi- Socialism communist organization that has known members for years free to form the Kumalaires and communist dictatorships. With this in mind, this was the event planned by those who have been anti-Iraqi American agenda masked as such. I feel bad for those people who did not know about the intentions of A.N.S.W.E.R, because they will hear none of this. Never mind that Saddam’s regime owes both Ayatollah Khomeini and共产党 leader Schoeder and Jacques Chirac of Germany and France respectively billions of dollars in dollars that are really in this for the oil. They are only opposed to the war because they have some vested interests in Saddam’s wallet.

Claims that America is in it for the cheap oil, now that America wanted oil, we could have had it in 1991 or we’d be after Saudi Arabia as well. The president has a background in oil does not mean that he would wage war with Saudi Arabia because people would disagree, but they have no proof, just speculation.

As for Frazex, they are threatening to use their veto power to stop the Security Council from enforcing United Nations Resolution 687. (And I’m not sure why they were even granted this power anyway) anyway, they have no credibility with the Nations in WWII, but that’s another topic.

I heard one radio pundit declare that if you want a United Nations resolution passed you must go to the United Nations and if you want it enforced you must turn to the United States. Of course, after America does all the dirty work of going to war, the countries will all want a part in the peace-keeping forces (read: economic benefits).

I have friends stationed in Kuwait as we speak. I do not want to see my friends take any more American soldier wounded or killed. However, the threat that Saddam poses to America and our way of life is too great to stand idly by, hoping that he won’t arm himself or that he will move away. We have appeasement worked with Hitler.

Saddam violated countless UN resolutions and he has himself armed himself with weapons of mass de- struction, and he supports terror- ism. He also has the money to hire those fighting, swiftly and decisively will be far greater than the price our brave soldiers will pay for us in war.

We used it was obvious a lot of people would have to fight for their country by their surroundings. This minor- ity was there to protest the war and it was not a group of those amongst a mishmash of agendas that was organized by anti-Ameri- canism.

It’s also interesting to note that police were there to protect a group of patriot, flag-waving counter-pro- testers from so-called “pacifists.” These counter-protesters, organized by anti-war activists, made sure to make the media think includ- ing “Like Protecting Against Amorin? Thank a Veteran!”

It’s completely ridiculous to accuse of fascism and terrorism, and a string of names like “the Kumalaires,” or “paxxles” from the protesters who have no ranks people dressed in Cold War era communist leadership outfits, an- ti-american, anti-war. The Kumalaires, flags, men dressed as terror- ists waving Palestinian flags and so on. The media is in the game. In conclusion, those who have leg- itimate concerns about the war must also prove that they don’t have a fear of persecution. In America, Land of the Free, our Constitution protects that right. However, I think Americans we must also be aware of the agenda that any group may have when they present their positions. God Bless America.
Sony's Divisions Conflict with Each Other

JACK S. PHELPS
BUSINESS AND TECHNOLOGY EDITOR

A recent article in Wired Magazine painted a picture of a pending disaster inside the walls of one of the world's largest consumer electronics firms, which is also one of the world's largest media companies.

Sony, the article shows, is busting at the seams trying to manage the conflicts between its hardware division and its movie and music studios. The company has revolutionized the consumer electronics industry several times, with the personal transistor radios in the 1950s and its Walkman tape player in the 1970s. More recently, its home recording hobby and subsequent suit against Universal in the 1980s were the major forces allowing consumers to bring movies into their homes with VCRs. However, Sony has recently pulled several models of Mp3 players from the market, partially because they frequently allow consumers to infringe on its valuable music copyrights. And only two years ago, Sony was heavily pushing its minidisc recorders, but it crippled most models by disallowing certain audio-media transfers, which destroyed their practical applications.

The article further points out that Sony ought to be far ahead of products like Apple's iPod. However, Apple's product allows consumers to freely transfer music from their computer, whereas Sony's product forces one to go through a complicated verification process to protect against piracy.

Sony's president, Kuninaka Ando, laid out a strategy a year ago to create a unified electronic experience for consumers. But the company's obsession with protecting its media division is severely harming Sony's consumer electronics division.

Magie Builds Empire Off The Basketball Court

JEFFREY HEIGHINGTON
STAFF WRITER

He was in the prime of his athletic career, at the pinnacle of his game when news broke that he was diagnosed HIV-positi

ve. In 1991, the sports world wondered how a national star who had engineered five world championships, and possessed an infectious check-to-check smile and outgoing personality could be stricken with a virus that was usually reserved for reckless individuals.

Surely it was incomprehensible that this great player and former NBA icon Earvin Johnson. The truth hurt, as many family, friends, opponents, and sponsors stopped associating with him. Though it was a harsh reality, Magic would never cease the spirit of 'Magic'.

Known as basketball's ultimate floor general, he quickly guided the Los Angeles Lakers with unmatched court vision and sense of when to take chances and opposition stood a three time league MVP, his talent and size dominated the point guard position. In 1990, he returned to NBA as one of the top 100 greatest who ever joined to Basketball's Hall of Fame. By no means has life been easy, for Magic since word of HIV rippled across the nation. Rather than letting the virus act as a hindrance to his life, Johnson relied on his renowned vision to deliver on an early age dream - becoming an entrepreneur. To this day, his vision is something that only someone named Magic could possess - unique and able to transform the playing field around him.

Like all successful entrepreneurs, Johnson took a proactive approach with his business endeavors when he began noticing the voids of opportunity within inner cities. In his eyes, he saw the potential that the African American population held as a market, capable of spending over 800 billion annually.

Switching his game plan from the court to board rooms proved to be a flawless transition for Magic, as he surrounded himself with educated professionals that sided him in implementing his goals. Delving into relationships that previously had not existed, Johnson soon left his mark on the nation’s poorest urban youth, and it was accomplished by building a strong bond not just by selling people or his celebrity status.

He now ventures with established companies, such as Loews, Starbucks, Entertainment, and T-Mobile and chose to work in underdeveloped, crime ridden locations more suitable for his businesses. With lower property costs, his plan made services which tradition ally catered to white Americans available for the entire urban community.

Owen Johnson Development Corporation (JDC, Magic has built partnerships with numerous restaurants and hospitals. After formulating an investment strategy centered around the passion of the+I employee, Johnson now has the unique value in urban communities, Johnson has economically stimulated metropolitan areas, such as inner cities of Los Angeles and Chicago, which were once unattractive for growth.

Owen Johnson Development Corporation in San Francisco, a leading AIDS drug company that has provided him with treatment to help thwart the HIV virus, which Vitamin B has been side-lined. The move shows not only how healthy he is, but also demonstrates the tremendous positive influence Johnson exerts over the urban demographic population.

One thing remains certain - Magic has never lost sight of the vision he's had all along.

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Foreign Interests in Iraq Threatened

COREY TANASE
STAFF WRITER

With war against Iraq a growing threat, many domestic and international energy corporations have much at risk. Oil is the single most important export of the Iraqi economy, the war with Saddam regime will most certainly put that export into great uncertainty.

Even our Vice President, Cheney's former employer, Halliburton Co., has $73 million worth of oil contracts that could be shredded if Saddam loose power. Although vice president Cheney stated has a "firm policy" against trading with Iraq, this former employer made it a habit to deal with risky foreign nations like Libya, Iran, and Iraq.

However, Halliburton has denied trading with Baghdad. Yet it was discovered that Halliburton subsidiaries, Dresser-Rand and Ingalls Dresser Pump Co., sold material to Baghdad through French affiliates and also pledged to purchase oil.

In a response, Cheney said he didn't know the subsidiaries were dealing with the Iraqi regime when Halliburton purchased Dresser Industries in September 1999. It is also quite suspicious that Cheney sold Halliburton stock after Halliburton signed nearly $900 million in contracts with Iraq.

Such dealings with Iraq, however, have not remained exclusively domestic. Franco and Rus sia have been among other countries which have sold oil contracts, military sales, and loans. It is those loans which will probably be defined upon should a new government be created.

The total value of Saddam's foreign oil contracts awards during 2001 was $1.1 trillion, according to the International Energy Agency's World Energy Outlook 2001. Russia has most to lose should these contracts be renegotiated. Russian banks are very concerned about $87 billion in Soviet-era debt that the Russians still have left to pay.

Both these countries have veto power within the United Nations and are among the few to have voted against the United States going to war. In response to the position of the United States, both countries signed deals with Russian oil companies under the oil-for-food program, and Iraq expects to increase vastly in the near future.

An Iraqi official named Shaheen is quoted to have said, "Iraq will not allow anyone to try to destroy our economy in order to strengthen Russia's position against America. It is a matter of national security."

"Two new recent contracts by Iraq were with French and with Russian companies and were both for pipeline equipment and spaces. The French contract awards of only $16.6 million and the Russian contract $363,765. The total value of all awarded contracts approved to date is $64.52 million. Only the result of the upcoming Security Council will decide what will happen to foreign interests in Iraq."
North Korea a Harmpul “Axis of Evil”

VIRAL KAPADIA
International Editor

Last year, during his State of the Union address to Congress, President Bush named North Korea as part of the axis of evil. Why did President Bush need to specifically name the countries that he considered the axis of evil? Because he wanted everybody, specifically Congress, to be aware of the threat that he believes North Korea, Iraq and Iran pose for the world.

It is very possible the President’s statement and inclusion of North Korea in his axis of evil has lead to the increased level of tensions with North Korea.

Out of fear of a possible attack, North Korea has taken steps to protect itself. According to what I have read and seen, I feel that North Korea is afraid that the US is going to attack their country regardless and must prepare themselves.

The Bush Administration has pushed the issue of North Korea too far. The situation is tense currently as there were rallies in South Korea against the United States, a major US ally for a potential war.

The reason for the opposition in South Korea is the deaths of two girls who were killed by a US army tank. I believe that the relations between the US and South Korea are strained because South Korea feels that the US does not understand that it has changed from what it was ten years ago, and is now a developed nation.

The President-elect of South Korea, Roh Moo Hyun was elected on a platform that expressed an anti-US sentiment. It is believed by many that North Korea’s communist leader Kim Jong Il, is trying to save his country by re-initiating the nuclear plan. He is hoping that as a result of the threat that will be created by the plan, the US and the UN will offer to lift off sanctions providing for economic and agricultural aid in exchange for the removal of the weapons.

Currently the state of the North Korean people is in a very bad shape. Of the 23.3 million people who live in North Korea, 57% are malnourished which is approximately 13.2 million people.

The country is not in a decent economic state either, and is hoping that by preventing intervention and domination from the US it might be able to regain its economy while also receiving aid for its people.

It is very likely that if this strategy, if it is what Kim Jong Il is using, backfires, than it can cause the economic state of the country to drop to an even lower points. North Korea is definitely a threat, as it currently has an army of over a million men, who are very well trained and prepared.

North Korea also has missiles and a weapons arsenal, and is making more that can reach Japan, China, or Russia. As a result the neighboring countries are not in support of a military war, because it would jeopardize their safety.

Japan is deliberating on whether it should create a few weapons of its own, incase there is an attack from North Korea.

Currently, the Bush Administration has not been too militarily aggressive on North Korea, and has sent a delegation for peace, because it is hoping that as a result of the pressure created by the UN, its government will chose to give up its weapons over watching its own country and economy become destroyed.

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Visit to Russia Filled With Learning Experiences

LINDSEY ALIX
Editor-in-Chief

So, it was the middle of winter break and I ventured to find out where the best vacation spot would be. Somewhere warm and tropical — no, too typical. Instead, I decided that Russia sounded best, with its attractive negative 30 degree Celsius weather.

Despite the bitter Russian weather, my trip was a fun filled learning experience. I spent about three weeks there visiting friends.

First, I spent three days in Moscow where I visited the Red Square and the Kremlin. Both places were sites of amazing beauty, enormity, and architecture.

Afterwards, I traveled four hours north to the city of Yaroslavl. Like most of Russia, the city was very industrial with many large apartment buildings and lacked many remarkable buildings.

The best sites to see in Russia are the churches, which are very ornate and detailed. However, beyond churches and the occasional government building, not much is very worth seeing or taking a picture of.

Despite the dreary weather, the people of Russia are very warm and gracious. My favorite time was when my Russian friends and I would have a party. Drinking vodka and eating pickles was the highlight of my trip.

Another highlight is that drinking in the streets is legal. You can drink beer wherever you want and it is ok. I am going to miss all those opportunities to drink on the subway.

A great thing about traveling in Russia is the fact that the dollar is equal to 29 rubbles, so things are very inexpensive. Some decent vodka is little over a dollar and a bottle of beer is about 17 rubbles.

Before the Russian economy can improve, people there really need to learn how to run businesses. First of all, Russia lacks major financial institutions that are necessary to support the economy.

Secondly, the Russian retail business needs serious revamping. They lack major chain stores and organizations.

Stores are mainly mom and pop operations that sell a variety of things, which makes it hard to determine who their target customers are. In one example, a store called Kid’s World sold a variety of things from women’s clothing to clocks.

Another thing Russia needs to develop is a better department of transportation. In the United States, at the first sight of snow, things are plowed, circled, and salted. It is an expected and normal occurrence here, but in Russia plowing is rare: I’ve never done at all. What essentially occurs is two lanes form in the snow for tires and cars which are not high enough off the ground to merely scrape on the top of the ice over snow.

Overall, my visit to Russia was a great one. I was hosted by a very good friend, Kirill Rybatin. I will never forget all the vodka, pickles, the ridiculous cold, the cross-country skiing and all my friends.

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Escaping Death While on the Ski Slopes

LIFESTYLES

MARK WAITING
LIFESTYLES EDITOR

While many students were sitting on their sofas eating dingdongs and rubbing their beer bellies, four bold skiers were making their way to Vail, Colorado on a trip that would almost and their lives. Justin Schneider '05 was kind enough to open his chalet to Matt Russell '04, Chris Smith '05 and this writer for a week of skiing, sledding and late night fun.

Although I went to Colorado knowing that I would somehow injure myself, I never could have fathomed how close I would come to experiencing death.

The evening of the accident began as every other one had. Jack Daniels and Mr. Smirnoff had been very persuasive in convincing us to seek late night entertainment. We decided a trip to the ski slopes was in order and booked tickets for the late-night sledding special.

An hour later we reached the peak of the mountain on a gondola and hastily made our way to the sledding area. Children cowered in fear as we yelled loudly and showed blatant disregard for our own personal safety. Yet soon we became bored with the hill and forever to abandon the formidable ski slope, we setup beyond the perimeter of the tubing area.

Sobriety was not a factor when Matt and Chris decided that sneaking past the ski patrol under cover of darkness was a good idea. Naturally, I followed. We hid ourselves as best we could under the moonlight and ran to the nearby woods. A sled would be needed to slide down the mountain so we began our search for a smooth, flat object. A safety mat wrapped around a pole was just the ticket.

We knew that the friction of the mat might inhibit our ability to travel at breakneck speeds, so we selected the steepest slope we could find: a double black diamond. As the mat picked up momentum, the three of us began to scream. Halfway down the hill, Chris yelled, "Bail!" to Matt and myself. Unfortunately, we did not heed his warning.

The sled gained more speed without the dead weight of Chris and soon we were traveling at 40 mph as the scaffolding of powder spray blinded both of us. Then we hit the trees. THUMP!!!

I woke to find myself laying belly down in the snow with a trail of blood leading to my face. In the background I could hear Matt groaning in pain. I looked down the embankment to see that he had flown 20 feet farther than me.

My first thought was that I was paralyzed. I struggled to unravel my body from the tree and thankfully realized that I could move my toes but immediately felt a piercing pain in my left knee. I reached over to find that my shin Guard was dislocated, so I gave it a quick smack to pop it back in. Matt yelled up to me and said that he couldn't walk.

We contemplated calling the police to send a mediac, but decided that dragging our injured bodies down the hill was better than spending a night in jail.

Two hours later, we somehow made it to the emergency room. Matt was diagnosed with a severely bruised pelvis bone and I was told that my knee had been hyper-extended and that my shoulder would require a few weeks to mend.

Looking back on the accident, all of us are glad to be alive. Next year, we plan on being much safer and have decided to send our friend Justin down the hill first to make sure conditions are safe before we go.

Lifestyles Editor Mark Waiting was woken up at 2 A.M. to move his Jeep that was parked in snow that was "too deep."
Boston Symphony Orchestra Delights Honors Program

CHARU SHARMA  ARTS EDITOR

Last Thursday I had the chance to hear the Boston Symphony at Symphony Hall, where their music is always a delight. If you haven't been to it, you don't know what you're missing. Symphony Hall, located on Massachusetts Avenue in Bos- ton, was classically beautiful in itself. Ornately decorated, the hall had a richly tradition- al atmosphere that was a warm and welcoming environment.

The old world was a refreshing comfort as compared to the bleakness of the modern city. Every detail, down to the sand color of the chairs the musicians sat upon and music stands they used, was care- fully coordinated.

Starkly pure statues of Greek gods and goddesses subtly lit from underneath were nestled in alcoves high on all the walls. The acoustics were incredible, and the sound was framed in an immense, thick gold border with meticulously carved details. The walls were surrounded with luxurious red draped fabric. The old hall in the hall is something one needs to expe- rience and cannot be described in words. Notice how many woofers and tweeters your surround sound system has with the unbelievable clear sound that the hall encompasses.

We were fortunate to hear Michael Steinberg, former Boston Globe music critic and annotator for the Boston Sym- phony Orchestra, give a talk in Symphony Hall. Steinberg's deep voice permeated the room and echoed on the walls as he gave us back- ground on the symphony.

The symphony was con- ducted by Marek Janowski and had a wonderful sense of flow. The orchestra consists of twenty- one players, and the concert was a special one to celebrate the upcoming symphony season. Antwez, Fish, and Green played with great passion and skill.

After the concert, we were able to meet and chat with the musicians. It was a wonderful experience to see the musicians in person and get a chance to talk to them.

Overall, I definitely recommend attending a concert at Symphony Hall. The music is beautiful, and the atmosphere is incredible. It's a must-see experience for any music lover.
Sports
Thursday, January 31, 2003

Men’s Basketball Buckles Down to New-15-2
BLAKE LEONG
STAFF WRITER

The Babson men’s basketball team had an excellent week that consisted of a slaughtering of WPI and a decisive victory over Springfield College. The Beavers rebounded from a tough four point loss last week to Clark to win two straight. These two wins put the Beaver’s record at an outstanding 15-2 overall (3-1 in the NEWMAC). Babson’s first victory of the week came on Tuesday over WPI where Babson ran all over WPI like Tampa over Gaannon. Babson dominated the entire game. The Beavers outscored their opponents 41-19 in the first half and 31-17 in the second half. The Beavers were led by Chris Michalowski ’03, who contributed 12 points. Jeff Hines ’04 and Jeff Nicholson ’05 also threw in 12 apiece. Michalowski led the team with five assists. Hines grabbed seven boards, and Nicholson picked the opposition four times. As a whole, Babson shot 60.5% from the field and 76.9% from the free throw line in the 72-36 victory.

Babson Hockey Fights Back to Earn Tie

In a thrilling game, Babson was able to bounce back from a late deficit to salvage a 5-5 tie in men’s ice hockey action on Friday night at the Babson Skating Center against Salem State.

The Beavers jumped out to an early three-goal lead. Babson had a flurry of goals by Joe Gianontio ’03 at 11:39, Dustin Kim ’04 12:59, and Derek Nisula ’04 to get off to a roaring start. Late in the period on the power play, Salem State was able to get on the board. Salem State managed to cut the deficit to one with a goal six minutes into the period. Then, Babson struck right back with Nisula’s second at a minute later.

Unfortunately for Babson, the Huskies opened the goal. Salem State scored two quick power play goals to go into the intermission tied at two goals. Early, then in the third, the Vikings blasted a slap shot by Jason Hart to put the Salem State lead into the lead.

Winter Intramurals Get Ready to Kickoff the Season

MATT ORSZULAK
STAFF WRITER

Before starting another season of Intramural action, let’s do a quick recap of the champions in the fall.

Kent Crusei and the Wheelers claimed the floor hockey crown after a hard fought battle with Sig Eps. They also slipped past Trem to win the Coed Ultimate Frisbee championship.

The Streetball Legends ran away with the 3v3 basketball title due to the stellar play of John Banes.

Babo United’s offense was too much for the feisty Sig Ep squad, winning the soccer title game 5-0. In our raucous sport’s Bruce Sher won the championship match in raquetball, Vaishal Shah won squash and Ken Harashima took home the title in tennis.

Fall All-Star recognition went to the following athletes: co-ed ultimate went to Anne Gordon, Katherine Lukas, John Nelson and Dave Towill, 3v3 Basketball went to Marco Uy, John Besran and Dave Crowley; outdoor soccer went to Jonathan Margolis, Craig Garelo, David Castillo, Sam Coens and Matt Laband; and co-ed hockey went to DJ Schepker, James Gnatych and Dan Abell.

The winter Intramural season is expected to be just as promising as the fall.

The sports will include 5 on 5 basketball, indoor 6 versus 6 soccer, co-ed 6 versus 6 volleyball, squash and racquetball.

Special events will include the new WallabyBall Night as well as our Hot Shot Basketball Night.

All leagues still have openings for teams, so grab a sign-up form from Webster or e-mail Andy Dutton and become a part of what is shaping up to be a fun and competitive season.

With play beginning Monday, February 3rd, it is time to get active and get healthy.