



the Herald



By and for the students of Hobart and William Smith Colleges

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World news at student fingertips, for free

Melissa Sue Sorrells
Copy Editor

Hobart and William Smith Colleges has recently joined a long list of colleges and universities that are giving away free newspapers.

The USA Today Collegiate Readership Program (CRP) began in the fall of 1997 as a partnership with Penn State University, where students read more than one and a half million newspapers a year. The program delivers an assortment of regional and national newspapers to hundreds of college campuses across the nation, providing students with the opportunity to be more aware of world events.

HWS students began enjoying this

service after the Winter Recess thanks to Robert Flowers, the interim director of Residential Education. Students may pick up the free papers, which are dropped off by 7:00AM, every weekday morning at the displays in three campus locations, including Scandling Center and South Hall.

The program is a six week trial, but if community members are reading the papers then the program may be extended through the year. "If students show interest and positive feedback, then I will pursue it," Flowers told *Herald* contributor Patricia J. Foster.

CRP supplies colleges with newspaper delivery and pickup services. They also provide displays for the papers and recycling bins. The newspa-

pers are completely free to the students, although the college does pay for the newspapers that are taken. Unused papers, however, are recycled, and the institution does not pay for those papers.

As Foster's column (see page 3) points out, the typical college student doesn't consume the news on a regular basis, and that trend is detrimental. Flowers and the CRP hope that easier access to newspapers will make students more inclined to learn about the news on a regular basis by establishing a pattern of engagement. The program's web site reveals that the program has profound benefits, stimulating a greater understanding of world events, helping students develop values and promoting discussion of issues.

Students 'all-in' with new poker craze

Kari Bakalar
Assistant Copy Editor

A beautiful woman in a bikini walks across the television screen. She stops at the back of a man sitting in a beach chair and puts her arms around him. The man looks up from the laptop computer he is using and says, "I never miss a game of poker with my friends!"

This is a television commercial for PartyPoker.com, the "world's largest poker room."

As poker has grown in general popularity over the past few years, HWS has not been left out in the process. Thanks to the development of the new HWS Poker Club and a reinterpretation of the campus policy on gambling, today's Hobart and William Smith students don't have to use an online service to play poker.

The 2004-2005 *HWS Handbook of Community Standards* contains only one sentence regarding gambling: "gambling in any form is prohibited."

So when Hobart first-years Stephen Halsey, Brad Johnson and five or six other students began meeting in a lounge on the first floor of Hale Hall to play poker on a regular basis, Jack Fisher, the area coordinator for their building, was less than pleased with the situation. Fisher told the students that because gambling was not permitted on campus, they would have to stop playing. Even after the students decided to play without betting money, Fisher told them campus policy did not allow the game.

At this point, first-year class president Brad Johnson decided, "We're going to start a poker club." He went to a Hobart Student Government meeting and voiced his concern. Dean Clarence

Butler was at the meeting and Johnson persuaded him to discuss the matter with the Colleges' lawyer. The lawyer reviewed the situation and interpreted the sentence in the *Handbook* to mean that students could play poker on campus as long as HWS was not profiting from it. Johnson sums up the school's new stance on the policy: "As long as the house doesn't make money...as long as it is for charity, it is completely legal."

The club currently consists of five regular members, all male, but Johnson says that more than 100 people have shown an interest in participating and that about 80 percent of those interested are female, a fact that "really surprised" Johnson. Johnson speculates that the number of women interested in poker is rising because of the increased exposure the game has been receiving recently. While society has traditionally considered poker to be a masculine pastime, televised games on ESPN and the growing number of players have expanded the extent to which the game is part of everyday American life.

The fact that ESPN now airs the World Series of Poker has probably also contributed to the changing attitude toward the game. For one thing, it is not just a game anymore; it is a sport. When asked whether he considers poker to be a sport Johnson said, "It takes just as much mental conditioning as any other sport."

The club's five current members are experienced players; they all have been playing between five to seven years and Johnson has been playing for 11, but the club is open to students of all levels of experience, including those who have never played before. If you would like more information about the HWS Poker Club, or you would like to join, email Johnson at brad.johnson@hws.edu.

DAILY Update

Fire at Chi Phi Fraternity

A fire was reported at Chi Phi Fraternity house, 573 South Main St., on the Hobart and William Smith Colleges campus at 2:15 a.m. on Saturday, Jan. 29. Campus Safety and all three companies of the Geneva Fire Department, along with Border City Fire Company, responded to the blaze. All occupants of the house escaped without injury.

The cause of the fire, believed to have started on the third floor, is under investigation by Geneva Fire Department. There was serious damage to the third floor of the 88-year-old structure, with smoke and water damage to the first and second floors.

The 11 residents of the house are being relocated and will receive vouchers for clothing and essential items as well as books and meals.

Fire at Comstock Hall

At 11:36 a.m. the fire alarm system in Comstock Hall was activated. Campus safety responded to the scene, as did the Geneva fire department. There was significant smoke in the basement kitchen area of the building. The fire was caused by a malfunctioning clothes dryer used by dining services personnel. Student were evacuated from the building for approximately one hour, however, there was no damage to the student living area of the building.

As a result of the fire, Comstock dining hall will be closed for the week and will re-open on Monday, February 7th for regularly scheduled hours.

Smarter than the average Baer

John Rosenbaum
Sports Editor

When you speak 15 languages fluently, have traveled around the world as a monk, and studied at the Biblical Institute in Rome, there is certainly a story to tell. And professor extraordinaire, Eugen Baer, can tell such a story.

Daniel Abrams, a psychology major senior from New Canaan, Conn. describes Baer as, "the most interesting, intriguing and engaging professor I have had." The Hobart and William Smith philosophy professor was born in Klosters, Switzerland, in 1936, to an Italian father and Swiss mother. His early years were predominantly spent on the hills of this 6,000-foot famous ski res-

ort, which is a popular vacation spot for much of the European royalty.

At the age of 16, Baer left for boarding school, and he came home a changed man. "I had a great urge to help people, and therefore decided to join the monks of the Capuchins," said Baer. During the next 10 years, Baer traveled all around Europe and other parts of the world, helping people in duress and studying at the University of Salamanca in Spain and the Biblical Institute in Rome. The more learned and proficient he became, the more he began to question some fundamental values and ideas of the Capuchins.

"At the age of 30, I decided to reinvent myself... I fell in love." The admiration of his affection was won by a French woman with whom he had three

children - Stefan (currently a librarian at the the Warren Hunting Smith Library at HWS Colleges), Ariane, and Natalie.

After leaving the monastic life, in concurrence with his liturgical advisers, Baer was recommended to apply to various American universities. "They received me with open arms and gladly paid for my higher education," said Baer. Although initially studying at Kent State University in Ohio, he was soon recruited and given a full academic scholarship to Yale University in New Haven, Connecticut. He graduated from Yale University in 1971 with a Ph.D. in philosophy.

Baer is a 34-year veteran teacher of HWS, and while he has mainly taught

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Eugen Baer/HWS News Release

Weekend Weather

Geneva, NY	Fort Yukon, Alaska
Friday: Mostly Sunny, 33°/26°	Friday: Mostly Sunny, -32°/-48°
Saturday: Partly Cloudy, 31°/18°	Saturday: Partly Cloudy, -24°/-46°
Sunday: Mostly Cloudy, 34°/28°	Sunday: Partly Cloudy, -17°/-39°

Weather provided by Weather.com



Matt Stone / Boston Herald via Polaris

Health Hints

Tips for keeping warm this winter, and what to do if you get frostbite.

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Lip Smackers

Three women sound off on the sexist "art" of kissing presented on campus.

Page 3

Dave Diehl Reviews Ani DiFranco

So descriptive that you don't even have to listen to the album. Although you'll want to.

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THE HERALD

Established 1879

By and for the students of Hobart and William Smith Colleges

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SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

The Herald is currently accepting submissions for our coming issue. The Deadline for this issue is Sunday at 7pm. All submissions left in the drop box MUST include the name and phone number or e-mail of an individual person that *The Herald* can contact regarding the submission. BOTH a hard copy and disk copy must be left in the drop box. If you are submitting by email, please make your submission an attachment. If criteria are not met the *Herald* may not be able to print the submission.



Terri Hannan, RPA-C
Contributing Writer

Ah! Winter in the Fingerlakes! There are some winter enthusiasts who really like snow, cold and gray skies. The rest of us tolerate winter as a trade off for living in one of the most beautiful areas in the country. The cold winds, drifting snow and slick sidewalks and streets can be hazardous and must be approached with respect. It is amazing to see how many students make their way across campus in sneakers and sweatshirts with no coat, hat or boots. This is the time of year to forget about making a fashion statement and be sensible enough to prevent cold-induced injuries and illnesses.

When the body is unable to warm itself serious, cold-related illnesses and injuries may occur, and permanent skin tissue damage or death may result. Death? Yes, death from hypothermia. Hypothermia can occur when land temperatures are below freezing or water temperatures are below 98.6 degrees Fahrenheit or 37 degrees Celsius. Cold-

related illnesses can slowly overcome a person who has been chilled by low temperatures, cold winds or wet clothing. Hypothermia is a fall in body temperature below 95 degrees. It can affect all major organ systems, including decreased blood flow through the kidneys and brain.

Early symptoms include: poor muscle coordination, mental confusion, shivering and low body temperatures (below 95 degrees F), slow pulse, weakness and drowsiness. Late symptoms include: rigid muscles, temperature drop ranging from 70 to 84 degree Fahrenheit, purple fingers, toes and nail beds or loss of consciousness. Risk of hypothermia increases with age over 60 years, thin or wet clothing, slender body size, smoking (due to decrease in blood circulation), excess alcohol consumption, mental impairment or in persons with chronic disease. Preventative measures include: wear windproof clothing in layers including a scarf, hat and gloves or mittens; keep moving to generate body heat; stay at home or in dorm rooms during a severe snow storm; stay away from ice on a lake or pond

unless the ice is known to be safe; carry emergency provisions if hiking or walking in cold weather; use the buddy system when leaving your room or home in a storm or extreme cold. Persons should avoid drinks with caffeine when out in the cold.

Frostbite is another hazard of exposure to subfreezing temperatures. Formation of ice crystals in the skin and blood can lead to tissue damage or tissue death, depending on the temperatures and length of exposure. Arms and legs (especially fingers and toes) and the face (especially nose and ears) are usually affected. During exposure to cold the symptoms include gradual numbness, hardness and paleness of the affected area. The skin becomes waxy-white in color. As the areas thaw, pain and tingling or burning of the affected area occurs, with color change from white to red, then purple.

When frostbite or prolonged exposure to cold is suspected there are specific treatment plans that should be followed. First, move the person to a warm, dry area. Don't leave the person alone. Remove any wet or tight cloth-

ing that may cut off blood flow to the affected area. DO NOT rub the affected area; rubbing can cause damage to the skin and tissue. Gently place the affected area in a warm (105 degree) water bath and monitor the water temperature to slowly warm the tissue. Don't pour warm water directly on the affected area, warming the tissue too fast. Warming takes about 25-40 minutes. After the affected area has been warmed, it may become puffy and blister. The affected area may have a burning feeling or numbness. When normal feeling, movement and skin color have returned, the affected area should be dried and wrapped to keep warm. If there is a chance the affected area may get cold again, do not warm the skin. If the skin is warmed and then becomes cold again, it will cause severe tissue damage. Over-the-counter medications such as Tylenol and Ibuprofen can be used for minor pain. Please call a medical facility for persons with severe pain, severe swelling, fever, or redness associated with drainage at the affected area. Call Hubbs at X3600 with questions and wear your hats.

Baer the Great

Continued from Front Page

classes within philosophy, he also serves as a media and society adviser.

He believes that fate brought him to HWS. "I went to a Washington D.C job fair with university recruiters from all over the country, and what I found greatly disappointed me." He left the fair and went to a local bar, where he met former HWS professor of philosophy Benjamin Oliver. "Soon afterwards I visited the campus of HWS and fell in love with the lake, and the name Geneva, with its connection to Switzerland," said Baer. The rest is history.

Although he still considers Klosters, which is close to Zurich, the financial capital of Switzerland, his home, Baer is now a dual citizen, and has grown fond of his provisional home here in the United States. Outside of his teaching duties, Baer has held several public offices since 1989, serving as supervisor, which is the equivalent to mayor. He has also chaired the Seneca County Board on two occasions.

When asked about his favorite philosopher, Baer smiles, thinks for a moment, and then hands me a bible-size rendition of Emmanuel Kant's greatest works. "When I see a student who wishes to be challenged, I give that individual the option to take my Kant class, and then we see if they are up for the challenge," Baer said.

His scholarly interests range from semiotics (study of signs and symbols) to language and religion. In addition, he has served as president of the American Semiotic Society on two occasions. "I love the study and practice of signs including language. My research and teaching interests are motivated by this great love," says Baer.

Today, Baer is married to Karen, a human rights commission worker, whom he met after coming to HWS. With Karen, Baer has a 3-year-old son, Geni, which is a Swiss variation of Eugen. "He is a Eugen Jr.," said a radiantly proud Baer.

Baer currently resides with his family in the Finger Lakes region.

EL HERALDO

Veronica Mora
El Heraldo Editor

Club Notes

Latin American Organization: LAO would like to thank all those who helped and supported the bake sale on Thursday January 27, 2005. Thanks to all the help, the bake sale was a great success.

Sankofa: Join Sankofa in the Celebration of Black History Month this February. There will be several events that Sankofa will be hosting, starting Friday, February 4. This first event will be African-American Friday Flick, which will be shown to kick off the exciting month. Stay tuned for more info and look for flyers around campus.

Asian Student Union: ASU would like to invite everyone to their meetings every Thursday at 8pm in the Intercultural Affairs House.

Photo by Veronica Mora



Noticias Del Mundo

Mexico showed its disappointment towards the United States after this country warned its citizens about traveling to Mexico. The United States' Department of State made a formal announcement warning its citizens about the recent violent incidents that have occurred in northern Mexico. The State Department even said that "some elements of the police might be involved" in the violence. This caused immediate response from Mexican government officials who considered that the warning had gone "too far", "exaggerated and outside the scope of reality." As a result Mexico's Tourist Department said in its news release that its country's tourist places were safe and that the U.S was just telling its citizens to take common sense precautions while traveling.

Successful Bake Sale Helps Young Tsunami Victims

Thanks to everyone that helped and supported, the Latin American Organization bake sale was a success. All proceeds of the bake sale will be donated to The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), which is a world wide organization that takes part in the Glo-

bal Movement for Children. UNICEF was created in December 1946 by the United Nations as a means to help children that faced famine and disease after World War II. This organization helps and wishes to develop a world where children are given all the rights they deserve. Since its beginning UNICEF has had great influence in many parts of the world and now has more than 7,000 people working in 157 countries around the world. In the past they have worked to help children in many ways including their health, education and overall well being; they believe that "nurturing and caring for children are the cornerstones of human progress".

The United Nations Children's Fund is playing a big role in helping the children who have been victims of the tsunami; there are more than 13,000 children which have been left orphaned as a result of the tsunami. UNICEF's most important and urgent concern is to distribute safe water and emergency immunization which is needed to prevent the spread of diseases to these children. They have been working hard trying to distribute this safe water and helping all the children who lost their parents and now have no one to look after them.

Another great concern is people taking advantage of these children which have been left orphaned or separated from their families. Indonesian authorities are worried that traffickers will take advantage of these children and as a safety measure have prevented people from leaving the country with children under 16 years of age. A couple has already been arrested in an attempt of traffic of children. UNICEF is working hard with the Indonesian government to help in the care of these children, the organization has promised to help set up child care centers. These children centers will help by meeting the needs of the children and helping them get reunited with members of their extended families.



Photo by Veronica Mora

Many groups and individuals are joining UNICEF in the effort to help these children by making donations to the organization. The Latin American Organization has also joined in this effort by donating our proceeds from the bake sale to them. It may not have been a large amount of money but it was definitely a great contribution to the world wide effort in aiding the tsunami victims.

Celebrity diplomacy

Continued from page 4

Clooney and Matt Damon as running buddies—you could have the hottest rap sheet in Hollywood history. Frank Sinatra would have nothing on you, baby. You went from Julliette Lewis to Gwyneth Paltrow (good), from Gwyneth to Jen (better), but then you stopped there, gave up, settled down, why, oh why, did you do this? But your back in it now buddy—and it is time to write a new testament. Your linked to Angelina, and word is you were doing a little tomb raiding on the set of *Mr. and Mrs. Smith*. Good work. This is what I am talking about—she is hottie Brad, and people never get enough of her antics, or her lips. You're into charity work now, that's cool I

guess, 'cause so is she. So, save Tibet together, that's alright by me, don't really know where it is on the map but hey, just make sure you can get freaky with her in the limo, Billy Bob style, before the premiere. Word is you want kids, that's okay man, your forty-two, biological clocks, yah-yah-yah, but just don't get sidetracked. Babies are the must have accessory of the season, just look at Gwyneth and little Apple. So, I am giving you the green-light on the kid thing, but stay single, just bring one back from Africa the next time you are hanging out with Nelson Mandela (whoever that is). Forget about AIDS research you got a kid now, brother—and that's news worthy. God was dead, but over the past month

he has been resurrected and transformed into Brad Pitt. He is our savior, performing Christ like miracles—I mean who else could galvanize the American public and get people reading again?

So Brad, please I am begging you, stay single, forget about Jen and her friends (Jesus, I am cooler than David Arquette) and just keep snatching up headlines and dames. All you got to do is give the people what they want to see, hear, and read—gossip.

NEWS FLASH: The Michael Jackson molestation trail commenced today, Sean Penn pissed all over a crowd of paparazzi outside of New York City hotspot, Bungalow 8, and oh yeah, 31 Americans just died in a helicopter crash outside of Baghdad.

88% of HWS students **NEVER** cause property damage as a result of any drinking during the academic year.

THE FACTS OF LIFE AT HWS

Source: Data based on a 2003 Spring survey of a representative cross-section of HWS students with 320 respondents.

The Art of Discrimination

Katherine Delp
Linda Hafner
Katherine Freund
Op-Ed Contributors



On Saturday night, we went to the Hirschson Ballroom to see Michael Christian's "The Art of Kissing." We expected a mildly humorous evening. What we did not expect was a night of subtle homophobia and misogyny.

Christian went around the room asking women how they like men to kiss them. One William Smith student made the point that women don't only kiss men. Christian seemed confused, but after a brief pause said, "You mean gay couples?" He brushed it off, mentioned his show being protested, and said that he had once had two men as demonstrators. He then asked this William Smith student what she liked in a kiss. She said she had nothing to add on that topic, and Christian commented, "That's not surprising." We found this quite rude and uncalled for, particularly as only one woman had volunteered to

tell her kissing preferences.

What followed were a series of misogynic kissing scenarios in which Christian showed men how to bite and spank their girlfriends while kissing. He emphasized the importance of surprise and reminded them to hit hard. After all, don't all women like it rough? He also showed "female fantasies" of kissing dentists and professors. Three guesses as to who was placed in the power position. We have all met female dentists, and there are plenty of skilled female professors on this campus, but there was no hint of that reality in Saturday's show.

To round out the increasingly offensive show, Christian ended with a "joke" we found quite distasteful. It involved a man (of course) driving a car while his girlfriend climbed into his lap to kiss him, wanting him, as Christian claimed, "to have an accident."

Having barely survived a serious car accident last winter, the three of us found this both outrageous and insulting.

After the show, Christian offered to tell people what their perfect mate would be like and what careers would suit them based on their birth order. And what was his sagacious advice? One of us, an only child, was told that she should be an assistant to a man of power—secretary, executive assistant, or First Lady. He told the two of us, who are younger sisters, that we would be muses inspiring men to do great works. Excuse me?

We attended The Art of Kissing expecting an enjoyable evening. While many situations presented were quite funny, we nevertheless left with a bad taste in our mouths. We thought that these Colleges prided themselves on equality. What happened?

Watch Me Unravel

Brian Wills
Op-Ed Contributor

Many people at this school go abroad, and I was no exception. I've always been particularly mundane on paper, and I thought going to Galway, Ireland for a semester might add that extra dash of salt which my otherwise unappealing meal of a life lacked. Time will tell if it worked, I suppose, but here I am, like many other former expatriates, back on campus.

For those people who did not go abroad in the fall, the returning travelers provide plenty of unexpected fun: things like discovering who *really* let themselves go, watching the confusion and dissatisfaction in Saga, and especially meeting new neighbors. Everyone likes to see who their new neighbors are, and why not? You'll be living together for awhile. And so you set off with all the best intentions to make a new friend as you walk next door.

The excitement quickly wears off however, when you begin to realize that your brand-new housemate is a twisted, nervy mess. Going abroad has, if anything, made me less reticent than ever. I don't even think twice when I exercise some of my crazy idiosyncrasies, much to the chagrin of those who share walls with me. The other day, for example, I showed some poor person just how shoddily I cope with the unex-

pected. As she walked into our kitchen, possibly hoping to make herself a calming elixir of hot coffee and whiskey, her peace was rent by a strange, black-haired boy hurling himself at the microwave, frantically stabbing the clear but-



ton until the display resumed its calm announcement of the time. What was his problem? Who can this unstable individual be? Well, it was me.

I have a problem, you see. Well, actually, I have lots of problems. Maybe I'll highlight a new one each week. But this

week, I am going to dwell upon only one. You see, I have trouble with microwaves. Typically, they peacefully tell the time in an easy to read manner, even from across a room. Sometimes, however, Terrible Things happen. Someone will unknowingly leave time on the display—usually just a few seconds—which will prevent the microwave from doing its crucial secondary duty of announcing the time of day. To most people, this isn't even worth a second thought. To me, it is like a thousand briars tearing at my favorite sweater as I roll down the Hill of Chaos, only to be hit by the Train of Disaster at the bottom. This is, naturally, a difficult feeling to explain, and I doubt my new housemate would have understood even if she had lingered to see if I regained my composure. Since all I heard were quick retreating steps fading off into the intrinsic creaks of the house, I will never know.

And so I dedicate this subservient piece of "journalism" to you, mysterious terrified stranger. This is my answer to your departing steps. You have committed no sin. Unless, of course, it was you who left those two lonely seconds without any hope of use or closure, hanging perpetually until I swept in to euthanize them. In which case, you have been warned.

Super Bowl XXXIX Match-Ups

John Rosenbaum
Sports Editor

New England Patriots vs. Philadelphia Eagles – Tom Brady vs. Donovan McNabb. Super Bowl XXXIX is upon us. In 38 previous Super Bowls, the quarterback of the winning team has been voted the Most Valuable Player (MVP) 20 times, including Brady in 2002 and 2004. This year is no different. Unless something extraordinarily happens, either one of these gentlemen will win the MVP award as they lead their team to a Super Bowl ring.

On Sunday February 6, two of the most prized quarterbacks in the game will be meeting in Super Bowl XXXIX. Both are viewed as the undeniable leaders of their team. Both are versatile and multitalented quarterbacks. And both are about to play perhaps the toughest game in their illustrious careers.

Although the Patriots are viewed as heavy favorites, there is no question that Philadelphia will be a daunting task because of Donovan McNabb's ability to run the football, as well as any quarterback in the league (ok, except for Michael Vick). This is

precisely where the Eagles can, and probably will hurt the Patriots, as the reigning champions have yet to face as good a running team as the Eagles are. But the Super Bowl is a lot more than just football. In fact, it is as much about the surrounding events as the on-field action. Be it shocking commercials, unparalleled attendance figures and television audiences, bizarre amounts of money spent, scandalous halftime shows, or a who's who of celebrities; records of every kind are broken at this all-American Shangri-la affair.

Last year an astounding \$215 million was spent on advertising and sponsorship during the game alone. And who can ever forget "Nipplegate," where Janet Jackson's nipple made an unexpected cameo appearance during the halftime show. A Super Bowl never disappoints.

Therefore, it is no surprise that in American television history the Super Bowl holds nine of the top ten audiences of all time. In 1984, a record breaking 115 million viewers joined the 84,000 at Stanford Stadium, Stanford, Cal. and

saw the San Francisco 49ers beat the Miami Dolphins 38-16. Dan Marino was the losing quarterback on that occasion as 49ers legend quarterback, Joe Montana, tore apart the Dolphins defense with both his arm and his legs, rushing for 59 yards and completing 24 of 35 passes for 331 yards, and three touchdowns.

Last year the old viewing record was shattered as 130 million Americans joined an 800 million strong worldwide audience. They watched as Adam Vinatieri kicked a 41-yard field goal with four seconds remaining as the Patriots won their second Super Bowl in three seasons.

What can we expect this year? Well, we know that Terrell Owens is playing, and Paul McCartney is singing. These two facts alone should make the wait until Sunday nothing short of insufferable. New England or Philadelphia? Brady or McNabb? Whatever your preference or allegiance, kickoff is only 48-hours away. The wait is soon over – welcome to Jacksonville.

Reading Politics

Patricia J. Foster
Op-Ed Contributor

If former presidents Eisenhower, Kennedy, Johnson, Nixon and Ford campaigned directly towards the young adult demography vs. H.W. Bush, Clinton, and W. Bush, who would win? Students read less news than in the 1960's and 70's. Did presidents impact students more so in those two decades than they have recently? Did they involve the younger demography more than recent leaders?

In the 1960's and 70's social and political activism was high among most college students. Participation in rallies, protests, and marches peaked. Students ranted and raved about The Civil Rights Movement, The Vietnam War, and The Watergate Scandal. Reading the news was a daily ritual, providing a basis for their political beliefs.

In 2005, students overlook the news, neglecting to read it daily or even weekly. College students at Hobart and William Smith Colleges specifically do not read the news. For every four HWS students asked if they read the news daily, only one said yes.

Junior Geoff Gonzalez, a Religious Studies major from Florida, reads his local papers "religiously." When asked why, he answered, "It's home. I like to have some sort of idea what's going on in the world."

Sophomore John Dolci from Virginia admits that he doesn't read the news regularly. "I'm not interested in keeping up with the news because it depresses me. There's a lot of bad stuff in the world," the Architecture Studies major told me. "I don't particularly agree with, or like, this government. It's frustrating to read about it because I never know what's the truth [sic] or not. My choice is to be extremely skeptical about what I read or not read at all."

Maryland native Margaret Dolan, a junior, reads her hometown news occasionally online. Sometimes she checks MSNBC or CNN, she said. Dolan is a Media and Society major.

Math major Brooke Atwood, from New York, only reads the news when she anticipates a specific story. "I can't get into the news. Only when I know it is something good," the sophomore said.

Theresa Hiatt, 50, read actively as a student at Babson College in the mid 1970's. "I read newspapers all the time

because it was my connection to the rest of the world. We all did. I wasn't as active in protesting and rallying, but I knew what was going on," she said. "I still read the paper very actively. I receive 3 newspapers a day: *The Boston Globe*, *The Needham Times*, and *The New York Times*. I read them all during the morning, and then in the evening I read some online papers or news, like CNN," she concluded.

Anna Hutton, 31, reads the paper daily, but not to the same extent as Hiatt. "I read the paper at work in the morning. I wouldn't say I am an active news reader, but I like to follow along with some local and some national," she said. "In college I followed along, but I was never a news buff. There were some kids who got really involved, but I just read daily what I felt was necessary." Hutton was a college student during the early 90's.

The percentage of students who read the news is on a steady decline since the 60's and 70's. During that politically tense time students were all active in reading the news, following updates and reacting in some form. Today though, while a war rages on and a Presidential election season recently concluded, college students are quite frankly not reading the news. Maybe the next president will be able to change that.

A former Dean at the College of Holy Cross and Colgate University, Rob Flowers, of the HWS Residential Education Department, has registered Hobart and William Smith Colleges into *USA Today's* Collegiate Readership Program. For six weeks, the Colleges receive *USA Today*, *The New York Times*, and *The Rochester Democrat and Chronicle*. This program "makes newspapers available to students for free," Flowers said. Flowers has a tally of how many papers the students take; if it continues to be a high number then the program will continue through the year. "If students show interest and positive feedback, then I will pursue it," he stated.

The Collegiate Readership Program is Hobart and William Smith Colleges opportunity to read more and become more involved socially and politically without waiting for a president to involve students in daily affairs.

Photo from whitehouse.gov



Thumbs Up

Space heater in Parker's Girl's Room
Dollar Drafts at Parker's
Smoothies
Salt
The Orange Bowl
Drawn Together
The Shins
The Garden State—The movie
The New Shuttle Drivers

Photo from Hayek family website



Thumbs Down

Men's room, still freezing
The "No more \$1 Drafts" Rumour
Gin and Vermouth
Pepper
Ashlee Simpson
Anime
Clay Aiken
The Garden State—The State
Andrew's Near Death Experience

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Slap Your Hands on *Knuckle Down*

Ani DiFranco is the "Female Bob Dylan," and redefines her majesty with her latest release.

David Diehl
A&E Editor

Where would folk-punk music be without its icon, Ani DiFranco?

Knuckle Down, DiFranco's latest LP that was released on January 25th, is her sixteenth solo project since 1990, not to mention all of her bootlegs, tours, and compilations. DiFranco started Righteous Babe Records as a statement that she could provide herself with more than any top-flight commercial label. And it has been a masterful success. Her last album, *Educated Guess* (2004), was nominated for two Grammys, including Best Contemporary Folk Album. Expect the same brand of success for *Knuckle Down*.

In the past, DiFranco has recorded her albums by herself—just her voice, her lyrics, and her guitar. But for the first time, with this most recent album, DiFranco has invited the production participation of another songwriter and performer, Joe Henry. This gives a slightly newer feel to the album, but not too new. Ani is still Ani. If you have always loved DiFranco and her music than you will be just as elated with her latest offering.

Knuckle Down offers the same righteous Ani DiFranco—gritty and poetic. It offers the same DiFranco guitar melodies—definitive and defiant. And the album offers the same DiFranco persona—real and real close. Her attachment to life and her dedication to its true foundations strum out some of her most intelligent and sometimes scary work. On some tracks, her voice can be haunting, and on others it can tickle. This is the

range that makes DiFranco so unforgettable and impacting. She can yell at her guitar or her voice can dance into a subtle yodel—DiFranco's vocal variety teams with her lyrics and distinct guitar playing as a constructed complimenting mate.

The title track is a high-paced, ramble and rap about her star-struck alter ego's journey through a night that exudes blatant contemporary naiveté. Ani's lyrics are a crystal clear fable of

and gossip a past relationship and the consequences that have affected each person. She is relaxed at first, just recalling this man. But it irks her. And her vocals become increasingly possessed. The drums beat into her chorus as she lets out her steam. "But you can't fool the queen, baby/cuz I married the king/and maybe it was I who betrayed his majesty/with no opposite reality." The song is a triumph in portraying the pretty side of the ugly side of relationships, and why we can all endure our "manhole of memories."

The highlight track is *Seeing Eye Dog* with its bellowing bassline and rock vocals that conclude into a light-hearted retreat of what it means to be in love. "I just want to go with how I feel/like my only job here/ is to care for and covet you, dear." The Seeing Eye dog is a metaphor of how important her lover is in her life. Without the love, she is "blind." "I love the way your stories seem to fall from your lips/with just enough slobber so it sparkles and drips/ the way you hang the whole room on a word." DiFranco describes, through her own experience, that love is admiration. The message is conveyed in her casual language and passionate delivery.

Also included on the album is a classic-Ani spoken word about an unwanted house intruder called *Parameters*. It is so special when you get to this part of the CD, because no one can perform a spoken word quite like DiFranco, and the subject matter is so disgruntled that you can't stop listening to it. *Knuckle Down* is another classic Ani DiFranco portrait that will enthrall all of her fans and will win over many more. Some are reluctant to listen to her music; they don't know what they're missing. She is a poignant musician, and a brilliant songstress that doesn't have any secrets to hide—don't miss too much.



Photo by Jay Blakesberg

what makes this immaturity so endearing. "Lecherous old lady wanna-be/ much too young and shy/flailing her whole life/just thinking she can teach herself to fly." Deep inside, everyone has this playful personality. It comes out the first time we fall in love, the first time we go to New York City, the first time we eat chocolate soufflé. DiFranco captures this feeling in her tangible description of this person. "Shooting glances at the mirror/to see if her scar is showing." We are taken to a time where we too were so delicate.

Manhole is a fierce story of memories and identity. The verses explain

Hotel Rwanda

Alicia Laible
Contributing Writer

Last semester while I was away in Vietnam, my duties as a movie reviewer went neglected. I have now returned to my public, promising you a new, more understanding Alicia. One who has a new found respect for life and admiration for all things good. Praise Jesus.

Actually, I still like it when the bad guy wins or when the girl doesn't get



Photo by Steve Granitz for WireImage.com

the guy in the end. Hell, I will still never watch a movie that involves talking animals. I guess my return hasn't changed me much after all, except now I have a few new blood parasites and a bad case of scabies.

This past weekend I traveled all the way to New Orleans to review my movie. Why so far? Because they serve you daiquiris at the movies and promote lewd behavior. As a buzz kill I decided to see "Hotel Rwanda" and forget "White Noise" because Rwanda is the true horror film of the year. The movie, based on a true story, is about the struggle between the Hutus and the minority Tutsis. The main focus is on one hotel manager's struggle to house refugees and seek help from the ignoring west. It stars Don Cheadle as Paul Rusesabagina and his wife Sophie Okonedo as Tatiana. Nick Nolte plays Colonel Oliver, but in my

version I would have replaced him with Jude Law.

This political movie is at no point shy, and its bluntness has an intense effect on your psyche. It did however downplay the actual violence of the time, an attribute of the film that actually added to its impact. In one memorable moment, Rusesabagina is driving through thick fog on a bumpy road. He yells at his driver to get back on the path and makes him stop the car. When he gets out he sees that under the fog is a road paved with dead bodies. Something like that can really damage the bottom of your car and forget ample insurance coverage.

There is a moment in this movie where my heart actually stopped. Rusesabagina tells his wife that if the Hutus penetrate their barrier she must take the children to the roof and jump. What a notion—that leading your babies to their death is a far more humane way to die than the murderous alternative. Realizing you need to make a decision like that is a far worse fate than sitting through *Electra*.

A theme of this movie is how eas-

Other Cheadle Movies:
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Boogie Nights
The U.S. Of Leland

ily we, as the West, turn a blind eye and how what we see on the news is observed but rarely internalized. See how long it takes you to forget this movie after you see it. Often it is not that we are overly callous people, but movies like this hurt so much that we want to forget them. I know that half way through my next daiquiri, I didn't give it a second thought. On the Alicia scale of 1 to 10.3, I give this film an 8. It's emotionally draining and often shocking, but see it. Hell, you'll soon forget it anyway.

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7 ACADEMY AWARD NOMINATIONS - BEST PICTURE
BEST ACTOR & DIRECTOR CLINT EASTWOOD
BEST ACTRESS HILARY SWANK

MILLION DOLLAR BABY
PG-13
11:10 3:50 6:30 9:10

5 ACADEMY AWARD NOMINATIONS
BEST PICTURE
SIDEWAYS PG
12:30 2:40 4:45 6:50 8:55

● ARE WE THERE YET? ICE CUBE
12:30 2:40 4:45 6:50 8:55

● MEET THE FOCKERS PG
12:10 2:30 4:55 7:20 9:40

7 ACADEMY AWARD NOM. BEST ACTOR JOHNNY DEPP &
● FINDING NEVERLAND BEST PICTURE
12:20 2:25 4:35 6:40

● ASSAULT ON PRECINCT 13 8:45 R

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A Film Without Excitement

Kailey Voellinger
Contributing Writer

Director Sergio Arau poses the question, "how do you make the invisible visible?" in *A Day Without A Mexican*. As a purple fog surrounds the borders of California, millions of Latino citizens curiously vanish without a trace. The events that unfold reveal the necessity of legal and illegal Hispanic workers, actors, singers, artists, and athletes to American culture.

I suppose this film could be considered controversial, as a viewer could take this film as racist and an atrocity towards cultural acceptance. It does play on the stereotypical Hispanic and white roles in society. It also takes a somewhat humorous approach to the confusion and chaos that unfolds while the remaining Californians (who are for the most part portrayed as helpless racists) struggle to survive without Mexicans (who are portrayed as mostly lower class servants), and try to figure out where they disappeared to.

The motive of the film, which is half documentary and half feature film, is to raise awareness to the necessity of Hispanic, and all cultural groups for that matter, for the survival of society. Also,

the movie tries to dispel the myth that all Hispanics are Mexicans. There are 40 countries "south of the border," and many Americans are ignorant to that.

The DVD has decent special features, such as the original short and a behind the scenes look at the making of the film that helps explain the motives behind it. Despite the movie's ingenious concept, the filming and the uninteresting plot line do not successfully or completely deliver the message of the movie. The movie itself is somewhat dense and dry, and it tries too hard. There are humorous instances, but in general the film is serious and attempts (unsuccessfully) to make the scenario as realistic as possible. The original version of the film does a better job projecting the message of the movie, as it is filmed more in a documentary style and has a crude, yet realistic "Unsolved Mystery" quality about it that properly displays the confusion experienced by the remainder of the population.

Overall, *A Day Without A Mexican* is easy enough to sit through, but I probably wouldn't see it again because it missed a huge opportunity to be a great film. Also, because of its failures, I would only seriously recommend this film for its message. So, if you go a day without this film, you aren't missing too much.

Wintering In Upstate New York

Kailey Voellinger
Contributing Writer

Are you lucky enough to hail from warmer climes? Are you feeling bored, anxious, or depressed? Do you just want to stay in your dorm, never to see the light of day until spring? Wintering in upstate New York can be rough, even to a native upstate New Yorker like me. Cabin Fever sets in hard and fast here, but fortunately, I'm here with a few tips to save your winter!

Luckily, Rochester and Syracuse remain within an hours drive (on a snow-free day), and there are plenty of events to go around. The Harlem Globetrotters, Bill Cosby, Jerry Seinfeld, Bill Engvall, Colin Mocherie, and Brad Sherwood all come to the Upstate area in February and March. There are also 100 some-odd concerts in the next 60 days in the upstate region featuring bands from all genres. Plays, sporting events, and the arts also live through the winter as both Syracuse and Rochester have hockey and indoor lacrosse teams, art galleries, and plays visiting the area. Not to mention local sports with Hobart hockey and basketball and William Smith basketball. Another option for winter follies is a trip to the mov-

ies. Many different films such as *Boogeyman*, *The Wedding Date*, *Constantine*, and *Son of the Mask* come out in February.

To keep healthy and active during the winter, maybe you should think about joining an intramural sport: volleyball, tennis, indoor soccer, and table tennis all have sign ups until February 25th! Even if you don't join a team, a visit to Bristol Gym won't hurt a bit. To fight the winter-time blues, it is also a good thing to keep your mind flexible, so you can see the Ayckbourn Comedy Show from February 3rd through the 5th and the Vagina Monologues on Feb 11th. You could even attend a Buddhist Meditation!

If none of these ideas tickle your fancy, at least consider playing outside in the snow! To people from the south and southwest, this can be a good time! Sledding, snow football, snowball fights, building snow men, snow angels, and skiing/snowboarding are great ways to get out of your dorm and have fun during the winter. Getting outside and getting some fresh air, and sun (?) can really make the winter more manageable. If not, curling up inside with a good book or movie and some hot cocoa is also a stress reliever. Who doesn't like the sounds of that?

All The News That's Fit To Print

A.B. Kasprzak
A&E Contributor

I was happy when I heard the news that Brad and Jen had finally called it quits—I mean I was high-fiving store clerks and giving bag-boys slaps on the ass, and doing all this while laughing at the hordes of people crying into the latest copy of *US Weekly* (filled with seventeen previously unreleased pictures of Brad and Jen during the last days of their union).

Who gets married in Hollywood? Marriage is a mid-west, red-state, value driven gesture—for people who read Bibles, not magazines. Happiness and marriage are for ugly people and suckers. It has no place in Hollywood, the one place that is accepting of Johnny Deep thrashing his hotel room (cool), Paris Hilton's latest sex tape (awesome), and Robert Downey Jr.'s cocaine molars grinding all the way into his fourth arrest (a must read). I mean this is the stuff that my inquiring mind just has to know. This is the stuff that is news worthy.

You get no gossip, *no news*, out of marriage. *US Weekly* and *People* only get one good issue out of wedding, but can only satisfy the public's interest every eight months with cover shoots asking—Is Jen Pregnant?—pretty boring stuff that makes me want to jam bamboo shards under my fingernails way more than Jen's performance in *Rock Star*.

There is no room for marriage in LA—that shit got barred from the Sunset Strip at the same time Roman Polanski did—and he just had a mild infatuation with under age girls, so I have read. Simply, getting married in Hollywood is sin. Your name falls out of circulation and can no longer be linked to the latest curvy Brazilian beauty, with who *Playboy* has just inked a seven figure deal, or that guy with golden hair and fabulous abs from *Sex and the City*. Ben Affleck lives by this mantra: marriage, fuck no! On his way to the multi-ethnic alter with J-Lo he decided to live the Hollywood dream, and gigli'd it up with a gaggle of Canadian strippers (just to let you know, in Canada strippers=full service escorts). Now that is what *Star Magazine*, and I, are talking about.

And if you do get married in Hollywood, it can't be a happy marriage because that is career suicide and just so not LA. You have to pull a Meg Ryan and let your co-star dominate you, master and commander style, even though you have a husband and two kids, playing Candy Land, in your 4.6 million dollar house looking over the Hollywood Hills. Good work Meg, you got the covers of all the "it" magazines, were in the news, while your Hubby was reduced to playing some washed-up baseball player in the go-nowhere movie *The Rookie*—Christ, I mean I don't even remember his name. Hollywood is equal opportunity (or they try to be), they even put Ellen Degeneres's name in lights for a small time when she went scuba diving, finding Portia De Rossi's nemo, when she was in a four-year-old relationship with Alexandra Hedison. Brad you're the sexiest man alive. I can name more movies you star in than States—who cares about Tsunami's when you can recite that monologue from *Fight Club* verbatim. Dude, you're Brad Pitt, BRAD F'N PITT, with George

Continued on Page 2

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