Obama Inaugurated as 44th President

CAITLIN BENNETT
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Obama has promised change; after taking the oath of office on Tuesday, November 20, 2009 the nation, as well as the world, is waiting for that change to come. With an all-star cabinet, compromized of current Secretary of Defense Robert Gates and newly appointed Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, Secretary of the Treasury Timothy Geithner and Secretary of Homeland Defense Janet Napolitano, what will he do next?

According to ABC News, Obama has his first, 200 hours planned with a jump start. David Axelrod said on ABC’s “This Week,” that “on his first full day in office,” President-elect Obama “will order military leaders to begin planning the pullout of most combat troops from Iraq within 16 months, as promised during the campaign.”

According to the Associated Press, Obama “got a global standing ovation long before he was elected president. But in aickle and fast-moving world, the overseas reviews are already turning mixed,” as there are “signs the anger is cooling as the sheer weight of his challenges sinks in.”

First Lady Michelle Obama has broken traditions; CBS News/ New York Times polls describe the 44th American feel positively about the new First Lady. Compared to 30% for Laura Bush and 23% with Nancy Reagan, it is evident that Michelle Obama has connected herself to the people and many feel they know more about her and her background than previous First Ladies.

Breaking traditions is an ongoing theme with the Obama family. According to Incoming White House press secretary Robert Gibbs, President Obama wrote his own Inauguration speech. Obama won the hearts of many with his words and eloquent speech in the 2008 election, and it is now unclear if Obama will follow the tradition of allowing new President to fix the economy. An economic stimulus package is already underway with plans to deliver an estimated $900 billion by mid-February, some are worried that the stimulation is proposed to be forever tax breaks and

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Students Given Choices for The Big Event

CAITLIN BENNETT
EDITOR IN CHIEF

If you were given $5,000 to host an on-campus event, what would you do? Would you hold a decathlon with dunking tanks, tug of war or basketball? Would you transform an area into a coffee house with musicians and poets? Maybe you would hold a career swap day with Downey and Harborside students switching places for the day.

As a JWU student you can choose the next Big Event. The Office of Student Activities and Student Government Association have selected seven of the best ideas and on Thursday, January 29 they are giving you the choice to the students. At the Harborside Rec Center from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. the finalists will showcase their ideas and give an attempt at their best sales pitch.

Students will also be given the opportunity to decorate their own fish bowls and take home the only pet that Residential Life allows, a goldfish.

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Greek Life Recruitment Brought Record Numbers

CAITLIN BENNETT
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Each trimester the fraternities and sororities at Johnson & Wales University go through a process known as recruitment. This is the time when potential new members can learn about each chapter and get to know its members in order to mutually decide if the student can or will join. Greek Life recently held recruitment and this time record numbers turned out. Each chapter has its own process and timing for recruitment, but most offer the opportunity to join each trimester.

Tanya McGinn-Paolo, Director of Student Activities, commented that “Everyone seemed to have a really strong year with the number of new members being much higher than it has in the past. Some groups saw recruitment numbers double or triple. In addition, we had Delta Upsilon colonize on campus and that brought in an additional thirty men to the Greek system.”

The reason that Greek Life saw such a turnout was a combination of marketing and publicity. New students are introduced to the idea starting with Orientation, parents as well as incoming students are able to discuss Greek Life with student leaders and staff members.

Victoria Goodman, Program Coordinator for Greek Life, explained “I think Greeks at JWU have started to shed the typical image of just being rowdy, drinking clubs and we are attracting students that would not have considered

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Photo Courtesy of Cassie Mummaik

interested students can meet them and interact with current members. Women have a very structured process where there is a recruitment weekend and interested students attend small events throughout the weekend and narrow down their choices while the sororities are narrowing down their choices as well.”

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Obama Inaugurated as 44th President

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almost a trillion dollars in bailout money. The goal is to increase the gross domestic product (GDP) by 3.7 percent and provide roughly 3.5 million jobs by 2010. The Appropriations Committee stated that this package will provide $550 billion in new spending, $275 billion in tax-relief, $90 billion for infrastructure, $87 billion in Medicare to the states, $79 billion to school districts and public colleges and about $160 billion for other areas.

Former President George Bush left office with a 22 percent approval rating, the lowest since Nixon. American people saw gas prices rise to over $4 per gallon under the Bush administration, and while he may have kept the United States safe at home the economic crisis and war in Iraq has overshadowed the latter. A Dallas Morning News editorial had this to say: "There's no way to neatly summarize eight years. But as a newspaper that has supported Bush through two gubernatorial and two presidential races, we can draw this conclusion: History could very well view him differently, particularly his domestic achievements, but at this point his presidential failures, sadly, overshadow his successes and may for some time."

"A New Birth of Freedom" was the theme on Inauguration Day, with more performers than a Super Bowl and more newfound patriotism than has been seen in the past eight years, the Inauguration seemed more like a party than a political event. Celebrities ranging from Bono to Beyonce, Garth Brooks to Will And, and Sheryl Crow came out to celebrate the new administration.

"Obama's cause is all about the future. I think that's why everyone's so excited right now," Sylvia Schoen of Phoenix, Arizona told CNN from her seat eight rows in front of the inauguration stand. "It's like we can do anything. Look, what we just did -- the people. The people did this. Not the politicians -- we did it."

The feeling of hope and happiness has been spreading since November. Washington D.C. was filled with people just hoping to listen and be present for this history making event. President Bush declared the District of Columbia to be in a state of emergency in order to receive $15 million in inauguration activity federal aid. 350,000 people were allowed on the parade route and all others were turned away. Twenty Jumbo Tron screens were set up in the National Mall for people to view the activities.

On campus students, staff and faculty joined together to watch the inauguration. In Pepsi Forum some students were there because of class but others were hopeful about the president and the future of the country. Lauren Shibely, '09, commented that she "hope(s) that he can ultimately the economy and make more jobs available." Another attendee, Tracy rittifh remarked, "I'm getting so excited. I'm sweating.

A group of fifty Johnson & Wales University students attended the inauguration events in Washington D.C.

Johnson & Wales University's School of Technology to Host 2nd NewB Camp.

NewB Camp is an "unconference" that brings people together to learn about technology. Organized by the School of Technology with participation from AIGA (American Institute of Graphic Arts), and in partnership with Free Geek Providence (a sustainable business tech practices nonprofit), the event will be held at JWU's Pepsi Forum on Sunday, February 8 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tracks this year include: Social Media/Web Development; Graphic Design/Art; Hardware/Assembly; and Software/Security. For more information, go to newbcamp.com.

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Adult Circus Performers Impress

Students in Pepsi Forum

Alan Leonard
Staff Writer

The Johnson & Wales University Involvement Board brought the "Adult Circus" to campus Wednesday, January 14, 2009. About fifty students attended the show held in the Pepsi Forum. Chris Chełko started off the show with a mix of juggling and comedy. The crowd clapped with laughter from his student volunteer. Chełko then impressed students by juggling seven balls at once. After Chełko finished his first set his friend and partner from college, Michael DuBois came out and started a magic show eventually working up to a mind-reading act. DuBois showed that he could guess cards, shirt colors, underwear color, and words while blindfolded. The final set consisted of DuBois standing on broken glass with Chełko standing on his shoulders juggling fourteen inch knives. Once many students realized how good Chełko and DuBois' juggling was, more than one student noted that they would have expected more publicity. A group that went to the Temple with a friend noted that they had "seen a few postcards posted around campus to attract people to the show."

Kazakhstan Not Only About Borat, Kazakh Aul Shows Heritage

Salamat Zhamagaz
Contributing Writer

"Kazakhstan Nomadic Traditional Event" is the name of the event that brought Salamat Zhamagaz to campus. Along with his friend Daniyar Badaralin and Daniyar's family, the event was developed after seeing the movie "Borat," which people made a wrong assumption about Kazakhstan. Some argue that the movie made Kazakh people look bad, whereas, there is a negative side - many Americans fail to understand what it means to be a Kazakh, and the movie made them ashamed of who they are, their culture and traditions. Furthermore, other children started to pick on them in school and ask some weird questions. In order to help these children, and protect them from harm while at the same time making them proud of who they are, a couple local families with relationships to Kazakhstan created a non-profit organization named "Kazakh Aul." The purpose of this now successful organization is to help children who have been adopted by American families remain their heritage and culture. This organization hosts events such as the Kazakh Traditional Nomadic Event all over New England. The opening ceremony of this event at Johnson & Wales University took place on January 14, but the yurt (nomadic traditional houses) remained in the Multicultural Center through January 30. The goal of the yurt and the event is to draw a clean line between the fictional reality and the real Kazakhstan.

The Multicultural Center, the International Center, the Kazakhstan embassy and Kazakh Aul started to prepare for the event on Saturday January 10, 2009. With the help of Johnson & Wales University students we assembled the "yurt." The students involved in raising the yurt were so enthusiastic about the event and assembling the yurt — it is raised with only rope! After five hours of hard work it was finished, with only the decorating left to do.

Students Given Choices for The Big Event

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

1. NAACP Pre-Dawn Celebration
   "This event will represent our initiative to bring the JWU community together by hav- ing a night of fun dedicated to all students, as well as commemorating the NAACP's 100 year existence. Our goal is to have the Harborside Rec Center divided into sec- tions for various activities. We plan to have a movie room on the second floor, a bas- ketball tournament in the gym, a karaoke con- testion in the dance room, and a Blue- Gold party in Delaney Gym."

2. Club of Culinary Excellence
   A Day in Our Shoes: Career Swap
   "The club would like to have A Day in our Shoes: Career Swap. Students from each campus, Downtown and Harborside, would swap. This would be voluntary to interested students who want to walk in each other's shoes. The downtown students would get to experience a day in the culi- nary kitchens and culinary students would get to experience mini classes that are of- fered downtown."

3. Sigma Sigma Sigma
   Sigma Loves Locks of Love
   "Local salons would set up stations in Gaebe Commons to give haircuts. People would also have the opportunity to donate their hair to Locks of Love. The day would also showcase a DJ, local bands, a fashion show, games, and raffles."

4. Special Functions Club
   Taste of the Nations
   "Inside the David Friedman Center, we will divide each floor into a separate con- tent (The Americas, Europe, Asia). Each continent will be assigned a team of chefs who specialize in those certain cuisines. Each country will produce and serve one signature or native dish from their country or a small tasting of dishes."

5. Sigma Pi
   Johnson & Wales Decathlon
   "The decathlon will consist of ten per- son teams participating in ten events. The teams will battle against each other to earn the most points in to win the entire event."

6. AIGA
   Coffee House
   "A celebration of Johnson & Wales cul- ture. Pepsi forum will be transformed into a coffee house. Small tables and intimate lighting will create a relaxing setting. Stud- ent performers including musicians and poets will provide entertainment. Student art work will be displayed in a gallery. Attendees will also have the opportunity to make their own artwork. To remember the night, attendees can get their pictures on a coffee mug."

7. Sigma Alpha Mu/ Tau Epsilon Phi
   JWU March Madness
   "Our event is going to be a volleyball tour- nament. Four teams will compete in three games. The winning team will be crowned champion. They will play two games, determining the champion. There will also be a final game. During the intermissions, there will be raffle prizes given away, and a dance competition."

Safety & Security Update

Saturday, December 6
Arrest: Campus 12:49 AM
Two students arrested for simple assault after an altercation that occurred off campus.

Saturday, December 6
Stabbing, Off Campus 3:37 AM
Friendship Street near Chestnut Street
Province Police reported a stabbing which occurred soon after nightclubs in the area closed. One group of nonstu- dent nightclub patrons was confronted by another group on Friendship Street near Chestnut Street. This confrontation led to a fight which resulted in a fatal stabbing. Police apprehended the suspect at the scene. Police officials reported all persons involved in this incident had just left Club Hall and were both located on Richmond Street. Province Police reported a stabbing which occurred soon after nightclubs in the area closed. One group of nonstudent nightclub patrons was con-fronted by another group on Friendship Street near Chestnut Street. This confrontation led to a fight which resulted in a fatal stabbing. Police apprehended the suspect at the scene. Police officials reported all persons involved in this incident had just left Club Hall and Level II, both located on Richmond Street.

Monday, December 8
Arrest: Campus Hall 4:11 PM
Student arrested and charged with a narcotic violation.

Friday, December 12
Arrest: Harborside Village, 10:45 PM
Student arrested for Aggravated Assault (No weapons)

Monday, December 15
Arrest: Snowden Hall 1:47 AM
Student arrested for Disorderly Conduct and Simple Assault.

Monday, December 15
Arrest: Harborside Assault, Off Campus 11:45 PM
In front of the Province Performing Arts Center

Suspect Description: The suspect was de- scribed as a white male, about 5'5" tall, wearing a designer shirt with markings similar to an "Ed Hardy" brand of shirt. A male student was assaulted in front of PPAC. The report stated that the student was attacked from behind by an unknown male suspect after leaving a local bar.

Tuesday, January 6
Arrest: McNulty Hall 10:03 PM
Student arrested and charged with a narcotic violation.

CRIME PREVENTION TIP
Do not frequent late-night establishments located in areas where incidents and crimes have occurred. When confronted by aggressive persons, walk away as soon as possible and call 911 if the aggression persists.

If you have any further information regarding these incidents, please contact the Crime Prevention Unit. (401) 598-2947

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President Obama’s Inaugural Address

BARACK OBAMA
PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

My fellow citizens: I stand here today humbled by the task before us, grateful for the trust you have bestowed, mindful of the sacrifices borne by our ancestors. I thank President Bush for his service to our nation, as well as the generosity and cooperation he has shown throughout this transition.

Forty-four Americans have now taken the presidential oath. The words have been spoken during rising tides of prosperity and the still waters of peace. Yet, every so often the oaths is taken amidst gathering clouds and raging storms. At these moments, America has carried on not simply because of the skill or vision of those in high office, but because the American people have remained faithful to the ideals of our forbearers, and true to our founding documents.

So it has been. So it must be with this generation of Americans. That we are in the midst of crisis is now well understood. Our nation is at war, against a far-reaching network of violence and hatred. Our economy is badly weakened, a consequence of greed and irresponsibility on the part of some, but also our collective failure to make hard choices and prepare the nation for a new age. Homes have been lost, jobs shed, businesses shuttered. Our health care is too costly; our schools fail too many; and each day brings further evidence that the ways we use energy are not sustainable and threaten our planet.

These are the indicators of crisis, subject to data and statistics. Less measurable but no less profound is a sapping of confidence across our land - a nagging fear that America's decline is inevitable, and that the next generation must lower its sights.

Today I say to you that the challenges we face are real. They are serious and they are many.

They will not be met easily or in a short span of time. But know this, America - they will be met. On this we agree, because even as we sing about a country we love, we know our work will not be measured in years but decades; we know our challenge is not one generation but many generations.

For everywhere we look, there is work to be done. The state of our economy calls for action, bold and swift, and we will act - not only to create new jobs, but to lay a new foundation for growth. We will build the roads and bridges, the electric grids and digital lines that feed our commerce and bind us together. We will restore science to its rightful place, and wield technology’s wonders to raise health care’s quality and lower its cost. We will harness the sun and the winds and the soil to fuel our cars and run our factories. And we will transform our schools and colleges and universities to meet the demands of a new age. All this we can do. And all this we will do.

Now, there are some who question the scale of our ambition - who suggest that our system cannot tolerate too many big plans. Their memories are short. For they have forgotten what this country has already done; what free men and women can achieve when imagination is joined to common purpose, and necessity to courage.

What the cynics fail to understand is that the ground has shifted beneath them - that the state political arguments that have consumed us for so long no longer apply. They question the value of our common institutions; they want us to choose between our liberal and our conservativewing.

The question we ask today is not whether our government is too big or too small, but whether it works - whether it helps families find jobs at a decent wage, care for their children, and retire with dignity after a lifetime of hard work.

No response to the crisis will be lasting that does not involve hard choices, but these choices must be bold and clear: We must put in place strong regulations and bring suspects to justice; we must expand the authority of the Nanny state; and we must face the truth about our dependence on oil and invest in clean energy solutions.

So long as we have the power to create wealth out of none, this government too shall create wealth out of none.

This is the journey we continue today. We remain the most prosperous, powerful nation on Earth. Our workers are no less productive than when this crisis began. Our minds are no less inventive, our goods and services no less needed than they were last week or last month or last year. Our capacity remains uniminished. But our time of standing pat is over, and a new word has come to define us: narrow.

In reaffirming the greatness of our nation, we understand the true promise of America. For the dream of America is not a state where the nation is merely prosperous, but a nation that is prosperous in the sense of its people, not merely in the sense of its economy. The tests we face are real. The questions we ask are hard. But it is true that in the face of adversity we must ask not what America can do for us, but what we can do for America. In the face of crisis, we ask not what our country can do for us, but what we can do for our country.

In the face of hardship, we ask not what our government can do for us, but what we can do for ourselves. And in the face of difficult choices, we make not the choice that is easier, but the choice that will work.

This is our challenge; this is our opportunity. It is as difficult today as it was some three hundred years ago, but we have seen some three hundred years of progress; we will see three hundred more.

And so to all of you who have labored so long and so hard to make our nation prosperous, I say: ‘Thank you.’ Thank you for your service. Thank you for a job well done.

And to all of you who wear the uniform of our country, I say: ‘Thank you.’ Thank you for your service. You have borne the brunt of our nation’s trials; you have defended the country we love; you have made us safe.

And to those who would question the character of our nation, I say: ‘Thank you.’ Thank you for your sacrifice. There is no finer class of Americans than those who wear the uniform of our country.

For to Americans in every community who have worked so hard, so long, so selflessly, for the country we love - we applaud you for your service. The sacrifices you have made will last forever in our memory. And to all of you who see in our union the strength to sustain and progress to preserve - we applaud you for your service.

We will consult; we will listen; we will lead.

We will begin toPalestine, and we willgovern.

And for we will be one nation and one people, striving for one thing and one thing alone - that is our true north.

And so to all of you who have fought to defend America, I say: ‘Thank you.’ Thank you for your service. You have made us safe.

And to all of you who have struggled to create America, I say: ‘Thank you.’ Thank you for your service. You have made us strong.

And to all of you who have worked for prosperity and opportunity, I say: ‘Thank you.’ Thank you for your service.

You have made America.”

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE
Ideas & Opinions

Inaugural Address

Continued from previous page

The force of our example, the tempering qualities of humility and restraint.

We are the keepers of this legacy. Guided by the principles upon which this nation relays, we must meet those new threats that demand even greater effort - even greater cooperation and understanding between nations. We will begin to responsibly leave Iraq to its people, and forge a hard-earned peace in Afghanistan. With old friends and former foes, we will work tirelessly to lessen the nuclear threat, and roll back the specter of a warming planet. We will not apologize for our way of life, nor will we cede our defense, and for those who seek to advance their aims by inducing terror and slaughtering innocents, we say to you now that our spirit is stronger and cannot be broken; you cannot outlast us, and we will defeat you.

For we know that our patchwork heritiage is a strength, not a weakness. We are a nation of Christians and Muslims, Jews and Hindus - and non-believers. We are shaped by the experience of every war, every disease, every every day of this Earth; and because we have tasted the bitter swell of civil war and separation, and emerge from those experiences in one chapter stronger and more united, we cannot help but believe that the old hatreds shall someday pass; that the lines of tribe shall soon dissolve; that as the world grows smaller, our common humanity shall reveal itself, and that America must play its role in ushering in a new era of peace.

To the Muslim world, we seek a new way forward, based on mutual interest and mutual respect.

To those leaders around the globe who seek to sow conflict, or blame their society's ills on the West, know that your people will judge you on what you can build, not what you destroy. To those who cling to power through corruption and deceit and the silencing of dissent, know that you are on the wrong side of history; but that we will extend a hand if you are willing to unclench your fist.

To the people of poor nations, we pledge to work alongside you to make your farms flourish and let clean waters flow; to nourish starving bodies and feed hungry minds, And to those nations whose lot we enjoy - relative peace and prosperity - we say we can no longer afford indifference to suffering outside our borders, nor can we consume the world's resources with no thought of how the world has changed, and we must change with it.

We consider the road that unfolds before us, we remember with humble gratitude those brave Americans who, at this very hour, patrol far-off deserts and distant mountains. They have something to tell us today, just as the fallen heroes who lie in American cemeteries across the ages. We honor them not only because they are guardians of our liberty, but because they embody the spirit of service; a willingness to find meaning in something higher than themselves. And yet, at this moment - a moment that will define a generation - it is precisely this spirit that must inhabit us all.

For as much as government can do and must do, it is ultimately the faith and determination of the American people upon which we rely to make progress.

The world will not be made safe for democracy by wishing it so. It will be made safe by building it. And we will build it through strength and prudence - the belief that freedom and justice for all nations are the best in the long term for America.

We will not mounting an international policeman that bears a grudge or runs an empire from the White House, but we will not be asked to step up to new threats, either.

The vision of America's enemies is not permanent. Their arms will grow cold.

We the people, through our representatives, the elected officials of this nation, must take responsibility. We must not only act in our own interest, but in the interests of all humankind.

To the world: You, too, must hold us accountable; you must support the efforts of the United States; and you must help to roll back the specter of a warming planet.

We will not only safeguard our democracy; we will not only defend the American way of life, we will pursue it for all who aspire to freedom. And in the process, we will make the world safer for us all.

If we accept these obligations, and fulfill these responsibilities, we will build not only a better America, but a better world.

Observe:

OTT NEUBAKER
ASSISTANT EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

As I sit in class watching Barack Obama stumbling over the oath of office Tuesday afternoon, I could do nothing but shake my head and smile. All he had to do was speak one sentence. One simple sentence. But he's never even had to memorize it before... Chief Justice John Roberts read it to him by bit by bit. Yet, at what will have been the pivotal moment of his life, he still managed to forget the line. Roberts had to give Obama a second cue.

And they say Bush is a bad public speaker.

Once Obama was safely placed in front of his podium, he morphed into the fluent orator we all familiar with.

I was expecting a speech that was clearly delivered, failed to provide more than vague generalizations and goal statements, carefully crafted not to offend viewers of any creed. Such speeches, devoid of anything but vague platitudes of "hope and change," were typical of Obama's campaign.

I was pleasantly surprised, then, to find honest and principled speech. While the policy proposals Obama's statements implied are clearly dangerous for America, the worldview expressed on Tuesday was fundamentally conservative.

Obama said that it was the "risk-takers, the doers, the makers of things" who made America what it is today. His respect for the prime movers - the minority of Americans who effect real change, allowing the rest of the country to simply skate through life being unequated and apathetic - makes me optimistic that "took the rich" liberalism will not be as dominant as I once thought it would be in an Obama administration.

Moments later, Obama continued on to address the economic crisis. Rather than jumping into allegations of greedy business executives jumping from US Airways #1549, golden parachutes in hand, he took the time to remind us that, as John McCain said at the election, the fundamentals of the American economy are strong.

"We remain the most prosperous, powerful nation on earth. Our workers are not less productive than when this crisis began. Our capacity are not more inventive, our goods and services no less needed than they were last week or last month or last year. Our capacity remains undiminished."

I'm glad Obama and I are in agreement on the economic crisis (though it'd be nice if Obama had taken this position earlier, rather than launching attack on McCain, 53 vs. 47, for telling it like it is).

On foreign policy, Obama reaffirmed his intent to withdraw from Iraq, a line which I'm sure appealed his liberal base. More importantly, however, was his understanding that previous American victories were based on "enduring convictions."

"We saw the way of the world, not will we waver in its defense," Obama added. This seems a direct challenge to the liberal idealists demanding we change even aspect of our lives to fit the environment and other nations.

Perhaps I'm simply reflecting my hopes and dreams onto a tabula rasa candidate. Or perhaps I've finally been driven insane by all the hypothetical liberal waving flags today who were just four years ago threatening to leave the country if Bush won.

I'm sure I'll be back to hating him in a few weeks.

The worldview [Obama] expressed on Tuesday was fundamentally conservative.

Letters to
the Editor

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Have an opinion? We want to publish it! E-mail your thoughts, ideas and opinions to campusherald@jwu.edu.

talkback
GreekStrength.com: The New Social Network

Ryan Barry
Contributing Writer

There is a new social network in town, specifically for Greeks. Vassil Developments LLC has introduced www.greekstrength.com. The site is the internet's first network to combine social networking with organizational tools that are exclusive to members of national and local Greek organizations. GreekStrength.com is committed to providing its members a place to re-connect with alumni, gather information on a prospective organization, and work to manage the day-to-day functions of campus chapters. Greek Strength will work with all aspects of Greek life from rushes to alumni, so that its members brother & sisterhood is not limited to the four years in which they will be on campus. National organizations will be able to post general information about their entire organization as well as chapter specific information, so that potential rushers can gain access to all the information needed to make the best choice on the organization for them. Members will be able to set up personal pages that will be linked to their organization profile, so that they can network with brothers and sisters across the country and remain updated on the current events going on in their specific chapter. Each chapter will also have the capability to sign up for "My Chapter Page" under which they can design newsletters, organize meetings through the desk top SMS text messaging feature, and plan events.

Unlike other online social networks, GreekStrength.com will be designed to not only enhance a member's experience while they are an active student but to help them grow bonds with companies and alumni through the web sites resume building functionality and job posting page. The members of the GreekStrength team are committed to growing the awareness of the site throughout the business world in order to make Graduates a hot topic in HR departments across multiple industries.

The mission of the web site is to be a simple extension to one's organization that allows the bonds of Greek Life to continue well beyond the days spent around campus. GreekStrength.com is the first online Greek Community that allows Fraternities and Sororities to manage their chapters, inform prospective members about themselves, and keep in touch with alumni.

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Adam Lombard
Staff Writer

With the current economy in rough shape, everyone over 18 wants to keep a close eye on their credit score. John & Johnson & Wales students are no different. One way that is completely free is a credit score monitoring service called Credit Karma. CreditKarma.com allows you to sign up with a secure connection and monitors your credit score. CreditKarma Incorporated owns and operates the web service and partners with Transunion credit bureau to get your free credit score. Users are able to update their credit score one time per day if they wish. CreditKarma is a completely free service, they don't ever ask for credit card information. Their goal is to education Americans about credit, and to help people off all ages to improve their credit. One of the more interesting was that they do this through a personalized credit simulator. The good credit score allows users to see what would happen to their score if they modify certain aspects of their credit life; for example, if you make two late payments (30, 60, or 90 days past due) you would lower your score. CreditKarma even lets users compare their score to others their age, in their state, and compares scores with the average for email domains.

CH: What is your full name and title?
Kevin L. Lin, Founder and CEO

CH: What was the founding idea behind creditkarma.com?
Kevin L. Lin: A person's credit score, is one of the most important metrics of their financial health. It was astonishing to me that people had to pay for something that they continually create and in many ways own. I always thought easy and immediate access to a person's credit score was a fundamental consumer right, so I started a company that provides credit scores for free, along with educational resources, interactive tools and personal financial news.

CH: Why just scores?
KL: Our first offering was free credit scores, but we were just the beginning. We decided to start there, since the 2003 FACT Act provides consumers free access to their credit report once a year. The missing component from that legislation was the credit score, which we saw as our first opportunity. Now, after 5 years, we offer granular education, specific advice and a set of powerful personal finance tools for monitoring and improving your credit score, all of which are free.

CH: How can CreditKarma help college students?
KL: Having good credit is incredibly important, especially today's economic environment. We want to show students that good credit is essential to their future, and how to get on the right track. It takes years to build good credit but only a few missed payments to destroy it. Often these missed payments come early in our lives and can haunt us for up to 10 years. Hopefully, CreditKarma will make our users more informed consumers.

CH: Is it safe to give CreditKarma your personal information so you can return the score?
KL: Using Credit Karma is as safe as online banking since we use the same encryption and security precautions as the major banks. We also never store any SSNs on our site to make it even safer.

CH: Are they the scores are updated?
KL: Yes, I update my score about twice a month and it is accurate and to monitor my credit for identity theft.
CH: What is your favorite service that CreditKarma offers?
KL: I think the Credit Karma Credit Simulator is one of our coolest tools. It allows users to create what-if scenarios and see the potential credit score impact of actions such as applying for a new credit card or missing a payment. Because the credit score is based on your individual credit report they differ for every user, making them more accurate and useful for making decisions.

CH: Are we using to see "Free offers" to view our credit score — they end up not being free. How is CreditKarma.com different?
KL: We build a site and business model to be completely free from start to finish. We decided that advertising, like much of the internet, would be a better way to provide the feature. Unlike many of the other "free" sites, we pay for your credit score with no strings attached, we then hope to recover the cost of the credit data through selling banner advertising on our site. We think this is the more interesting and definitely more consumer-friendly approach.

CH: Can/how can Credit Karma help in this recession?
KL: In a recession, we all need to be more diligent about our finances and what we guilt. The interesting fact about credit scores is that they affect everything from your credit card interest rate to your auto insurance rates. We try to educate consumers on all the facets of credit to help them more savvy and leverage their credit for financial gain.

CH: We know Credit Karma is still in Beta, does this mean you have more coming, and is it stable?
KL. The Credit Karma platform is absolutely stable. Our beta status is more indicative of the fact that we have many more features to bring. Credit Karma will be one step closer to our beta until we are completely satisfied with our tools and the value they provide us users.
Jack B.'s Shows to Check Out

January 24
Reel Big Fish, Streetlight Manifesto & Tip the Van
@ Palladium
$20 | 7pm

January 24
Neo Nouveau, Annette, Glowkold, & Candace Brooks Band
@ AS220
$6 | 9pm

January 25
Funeral for a Friend, The Sleeping, This is Hell & Emora
@ Palladium
$14 | 6pm

January 26
The Killers
@ Agganis Arena (Boston)
$50+ | 7pm

January 30
The Might Be Giants
@ Lupo's
$20 | 8pm

January 31
Tim & Eric's Awesome Show, Great Job!
@ Wilbur Theater (Boston)
$27+ | 7pm

Owl City brings a more up-beat persona on board with an easygoing, dreamscapely yet also down-to-earth approach involving simplistic lyrics that are more reflective of every day life. Each song seems to add its own quality to a diverse wall painting of melodies and emotions as the albums progresses.

In Owl City's first seven track EP "Of June", each track inserts a unique component to the album including the poppy sub-delinic of "Captains and Cruise Ships", the refreshing metaphorical and lyrical light-heartedness of "Panda Bear" and the aspiring emotions expressed in "Fuzzy Blue Lights" through interlaced piano, synth, Young sings about lofty aspects of love: if you were swaying from the highway overpass/within the western hemisphere/ I'd feel rather afraid and insincere/ if you began to dissipate."

Fast forward to the most recent twelve track full length, "Maybe I'm Dreaming", and you enter a complex landscape involv-
ing a more evolved Owl City. Whether it be through the sweeping introduction and reflections of life at a distance in "On the Wing" or the combination of acoustic, key-
board and a female duet to create a melo-
dramatic story upon the seascape in "The Saltwater Room", Young possesses the ini-
tial ability to illustrate in his songs every-
thing from the distance between people and relationships to the objects that surround us. The only thing that might be lacking, is the amount of bass produced in a few of the tracks, but hardly takes away from the splendor the album incorporates.

Native RI Band The Invite

Signs with Atlantic Records

A couple months ago, The Invite, consisting of Johnny Gates (Lead Vocals), Jamie Jarboe (Lead Guitar), Matt Scannell (Drums) and John Loeck (Guitar/Backup Vocals) packed up their Rhode Island memories and moved down to Nashville, Tennessee to pursue new ventures in one of the hubs of the mu-
sic world. Some of you may remember the guys from local shows they played around Providence. Could it be, whether it was with a major touring band at Lupo's or the Living Room, or even when they played JWU back in 2005 with other local bands. Since those days the band itself has transitioned through multiple and additional band members, as well as different tempos of music. In that time (as well as their time in Nashville) they were able to discover their niche sound in a more coun-
try style while production is supervised by Nathan Chapman, who is a part of Taylor Swift's recent success. Yet, The Invite still retains the finesse and uniqueness of their music. This has all led to the recent signing of the band with Atlantic Records.

"It's been a long 5 years.... and ever since finding out about and signing the deal, I really haven't had it all sit down and be like... wow my dream just came true... it seems like... the road just got longer and we have a lot more work to do... which I think is great and will keep us all humble and mo-
tivated," reflected lead singer Johnny Gates.

As for their plans, The Invite is going with the flow and letting it all soak in. As they get more ac-
customed to the new regiment of recording and pro-
ducing, and recording some more, the band hopes to have a fresh single out this Spring and eventually a full length album. They also are looking at touring nationally, hitting radio sta-
tions and venues alike.

Be sure to check back for more details and also check them out at www.myspace.
com/theirinvite.
OFFICE OF STUDENT ACTIVITIES PRESENTS:

Ski & Snowboarding at Jiminy Peak
Mountain Resort
Saturday, January 31
Depart Campus: 8 a.m. (HRC)
/ 8:15 a.m. (GaBe)
Depart Resort at 6 p.m.

Tickets are limited and sold at both OSA locations (CBCSI & HRC) and are non-refundable

Tickets: $30 per person
(Includes transportation, lift ticket & rentals)

THAT'S A DEAL!

Call 401.598.4668 for more information

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Thirteenth Annual
One Ton Sundae
Thursday January 29, 2009 1-4 PM
Harborside Green Space
(rain location HRC)

Sponsored by:
Flames of Inspiration
Honoring Influential Individuals on Campus

An event celebrating individuals that go above and beyond leadership expectations.

February 8, 2009
Reception at 5:45pm

The Providence Black Repertory Company
276 Westminster St.
Providence, RI 02903

Please call 401-598-2804 for more information.

JWU Winter Week 09

MONDAY JANUARY 26
Bingos Goes Winter Week
2nd Floor HRC 6pm

TUESDAY JANUARY 27
AIR BRUSH WINTER HAIR
Cafe Commons Harbor Side
1 PM - 4 PM

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 28
HOT COCOA and ESPRESSO BAR
Snowden Dining Hall Patio
4pm - 7pm

THURSDAY JANUARY 29
ONE ON SUNDAE
Ice cream social
Harbor Side Green Space
Rain location HRC
1 - 4 PM

Movie: THE EXPRESS
HRC 9 PM

FRIDAY JANUARY 30
SnoBall JWU's Winter Formal
Emma's Pizza - Warwick
7 - 11 PM Tickets $20

SATURDAY JANUARY 31
SKI TRIP: JIMINY PEAK
"Departs from HRC 6:30am Cara"
Tickets $30

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 1
SUPER BOWL XLIII PARTY
6 PM 2nd Floor HRC

OSA
office of student activities

We're missing an essential piece to our Puzzle...

YOU!!

The Office of Student Activities is now accepting applications for the 2009-2010 academic year.

Various positions available.

Final applications are to be submitted to the Office of Student Activities at CBCSI or HRC by February 10 at 3pm.

Please contact 401-598-2804 if you have any questions.
Res Life Week
February 2-7, 2009

Monday, 2/2: Resident Appreciation
• Day and evening activities in every hall

Tuesday, 2/3: Staff Appreciation
• Take time to thank your residence hall staff for all of their hard work and dedication

Wednesday, 2/4: Battle of the Bands
• Co-sponsored by Office of Student Activities and University Involvement Board
• Harborside Recreation Center @ 8pm
• Purchase tickets at any residence hall or the Office of Residential Life for only $8
• Come see JWU’s hottest bands perform live!
• Proceeds will be donated to Flying Kites Kenya

Thursday, 2/5: Hall Council Late Night Breakfast
• Co-sponsored by Dining Services
• Snowden Dining Hall, 9-11pm
• Come have breakfast served by faculty and staff!
• Pick up FREE tickets at the front desk of your residence hall anytime this week

Friday, 2/6: Super Star Showcase
• Xavier Auditorium @ 8pm
• JWU’s TALENT SHOW featuring students! Come support your peers!
• Purchase tickets at any residence hall or the Office of Residential Life for only $5
• Proceeds will be donated to Flying Kites Kenya

Saturday, 2/7: Think Pink—Women’s Basketball Game vs. Rivier
• Rec Center @ 1pm
• Support your Wildcats and breast cancer research—don’t forget to wear pink!
Culinary Arts

A Week of Cheap Eats
Daily Deals on the Downcity Campus

Asia Hunter
Guest Writer

As college students, there are many challenges and sacrifices that we have to face. One thing we shouldn’t have to sacri
cifice while being away from home is good food. McDonald’s and Chinese food should not be main components of the college diet.

Fortunately, one can find a variety of quality foods right here in Providence. For a short walk and as little as five dollars, you can get quality meals on a college budget. Each. An order of ten wings with a small order of hand-cut fries is about $5.50. Blue cheese is 50¢ extra, but it’s a great deal for such good food. There are many other options and appetizers to pick and choose from. For a few dollars more you can get the soup of the day, a side salad or more wings. The menu also features daily spe
cial that range from ten to twelve dol
ars; on Mondays, though, it’s all about the wings. Remember: lemonade is seasonal; if you go now, don’t ask for it.

(Trinity Brewhouse is open 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 a.m. Friday, noon to 2:00 a.m. Saturday, and noon to 1:00 a.m. Sunday. The kitchen closes daily at midnight.)

Monday: Trinity Brewhouse

Start the week off right at the Trinity Brewhouse, located at 186 Fountain Street just across from the Dunkin Donuts Center. Aside from the beer, Trinity’s food have been given rave reviews and won nu
merous awards.

Monday is the day to go to get the most for your money. After 5:00 p.m. the brewhouse offers all-you-can-eat wings for 30¢

Tuesday: Cilantro’s

Just across the street from Gable Com moms in Cilantro Mexican Grill, more commonly known as Cilantro’s. With their “Two Timers Tuesday” special, University students can get twice as much food for the
same price with a flash of their student ID. Though with the large portions they serve, it’s almost enough for three students.

These are some of the best burritos in Providence, crafted from fresh ingredi
ents alongside house made sauce, chips, and fillings. Each can weigh up to a pound once you fill them with your choice of top
ings. Quesadillas, and soft tacos and ‘bellies’ (everything in a burrito, but without the tortilla) are also available.

For around ten dollars, you and a friend can get hefty burritos and drinks that are sure to keep you coming back for more. (Cilantro Mexican Grill is open 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Sunday through Thursday and until 1:00 a.m. Friday and Saturday.)

Wednesday: McCormick & Schmick’s

When Wednesday comes, or if you’d prefer a quieter atmosphere, consider McC
ormick & Schmick’s. Located across from Kennedy Plaza, this ordinarily expen
sive seafood restaurant offers a range of items at a discounted rate with their daily bar men

From 3:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m. to midnight, you can choose from items such as the classic half-pound cheeseburg
er or fried or blackened chicken sandwich for a mere $1.95. Other items for this price include crispy potato croquettes and spicy rice balls. The bar menu is broken down by price range from $1.95 to $5.95. They have a variety of foods, including steamed mussels and shrimp scampi.

There’s a $2.50 drink minimum, but the food is excellent. You can sample the seafood from the area, as well as the rest
aurant’s other specialties such as the mini

edge salad and parmesan garlic fries. It’s

perfect for a lunch date or late night din
ning—something many college students are accustomed to.

(McCormick & Schmick’s is open 6:30 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. Sunday through Thurs
day and 6:30 a.m. to midnight Friday and Saturday.)

Thursday: La Creperie

When Thursday arrives, think Thayer Street. La Creperie, located just off Thayer Street in an alleyway behind Au Bo Pan, offers some of the best crepes in Rhode Island; possibly the best in the tri-state area. La Creperie is located just off Thayer St behind Au Bon Pain.

In this restaurant described as “the Paris of Providence,” you will find savory crepes filled with meats like chicken, turkey, or Italian sausage and a mixture of vegetables and cheeses. Complete your Parisian ex
perience by sampling a dessert crepe with Nutella and fruit, or perhaps a very classic butter and sugar. The savory crepes go for about $6.50 and a classic butter and sugar is about $3.00.

La Creperie also serves sandwiches and smoothies, although nothing beats watch

ing your crepe made-to-order on a hot griddle, smothered out with a wooden dole, then flipped faster than you can blink and filled with whatever your heart desires.

The shop may be small, but the flavors of the food are anything but minute. La Creperie is worth taking the trip up the hill.

(La Creperie is open 10:00 a.m. to mid
night Monday through Thursday, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m. Friday through Saturday, and 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. Sunday.)

What better way to top off the week than with a little bit of Latin flair? La Sonrisa, located at 320 Broad Street, offers hefty portions of Dominican foods—things like chicken, fried pork chops, or stewed beef with rice that you and a friend could eat of
for around eight dollars a person.

The food is flavorful and made fresh daily. While you’ll have to take a short ride on RTIPTA to get there, La Sonrisa is more than worth it.

(La Sonrisa is open from 7:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.)

The next time you’re in the mood for quality food and want more for your mon
ey, avoid the dollar menu that often dis
appoints us all with cold fries and slobby

burgers. Put down the take-out menu your resident assistant shoved under your door.

Instead, gather some friends and visit some of these restaurants. You’ll find qual
ity food on a college student budget.

Are you a Foodie?

The Campus Herald needs food writers.

E-mail us at campusherald@wvu.edu to join the staff.

Are you a Foodie?

The Campus Herald needs food writers.
Culinary Arts

United BBQ Serves Up Variety

Are you a Foodie?
The Campus Herald needs food writers.

E-mail us at campusherald@jwu.edu to join the staff.

Bartender: A Mojito Please!

Samantha Kay
Staff Writer

Imagine this scene...you are lounging on a tropical beach somewhere in the Caribbean. As the sun sets behind you, the ocean water sparkles and the warm breeze caresses your skin. You decide to order a refreshing drink to complete your perfect day. Your choice? A Mojito. It's easy to see why this cocktail has become such a popular choice, not only because of its vibrant flavors but also because of the fun traditions it is associated with (like the famous Mojito dominoes game). And, of course, there's the added allure of the tropical atmosphere it evokes.

When it comes to making a great Mojito, there are a few key ingredients that can make or break your drink. First, you need a high-quality rum. A fine Havana Club Silver or Ron Zacapa will do wonders for your drink. Next, you'll need fresh lime juice and a touch of sugar to balance the tangy citrus flavor. And don't forget the mint; it's essential to the Mojito's flavor profile.

But what sets a good Mojito apart from a great one? It's all about the balance of flavors. The rum should be smooth and well-balanced, the lime juice should be bright and crisp, and the mint should be fresh and fragrant. And don't forget the finishing touch: a sprig of fresh mint or a twist of lime to garnish your drink.

So the next time you're ordering your drink, make sure to specify your preference. Whether you prefer a classic Mojito, a lime mocktail, or a blackberry infused version, the bartender will know exactly what to do. And, who knows, you might just be the one to start a new tradition! After all, who says you can't enjoy a Mojito with your friends or family while bird watching or playing dominoes? It's all about having fun and enjoying the little things in life.
Maximizing Your Closet

JUDITI OLIVNICK
GUEST WRITER

With the economy as it is, us col-
lege students certainly aren’t getting any
wealthier. Stores aren’t hiring, and our
sources of disposable cash are running dry.
For this reason, its time we started creat-
ing with what we wear. Pair a set of jeans
can only be a pair of jeans, but there
are some items in your closet that can
work over time. While the following suggestions might sound a little “bootleg”, it
might mean you’ll have a new outfit
to wear out Thursday night without having to spend a penny.
The first bootleg trend would be wearing a tank top as a skirt. Yes, it sounds a little
strange, but think about it: the pencil
skirt is a flattering look on anyone. And
how many plain formfit-
ting tank tops do you have lying around.
The only re-
quirement is that they have some sort of stretch mate-
rial in them, as a 100% cotton tank will stretch out and bag unflatteringly in a hell-like shape—not the
desired look. To achieve this look, simply step into the tank as if it were a skirt, and pull it up to your waist.
You can make it as long or as short as you want. Since the straps won’t be on your
body, it is better to pair the “skirt” with more of a money top, to bal-
ance the tightness of the skirt and conceal the straps and any extra material.
Another unique idea would be wearing
a scarf as a halter-top. While this may be
an option easier to “rock” in the summer, a gold scarf top worn with black pants would de-
finitely be a playful option for a night.
Out. All you need is a scarf of lightwe-
tight material that is a perfect square. Fold the scarf
into a triangle by bringing two diagonal corners to a
point. Tie the two opposite ends of the scarf behind
your back, and then tie the other two ends behind your neck. It
is not to use a scarf that is a dark
color and an opaque material
do that its not see through. It is
also optional to wear a tank top
under the scarf if you need more
coverage.
An easier trend to utilize would be us-
ing a cosmetic bag as a clutch. Sephora sells
metallic makeup bags for under $20 that would go
perfectly with almost any evening outfit. Also, us-
ing a thick ribbon tied to the
zipper pull of the bag, you
can turn any zipper bag into a wristlet, which is
convenient. Basically, if you apply
this kind of mindset to all the
other things in your
wardrobe, you can create endless combinations
of outfits and accessories.

VDay

Brought to you by:
The Women’s Center
The International Center

JWU 2009 Casting
for Eve Ensler’s play,
The Vagina Monologues

Friday, January 23, 2009
between 9am - 4pm
3rd Floor CBCSI
Drop in, or Call the Women’s Center
at 401-598-1138
for a casting appointment
or to volunteer.

2009 Performance Schedule
Tuesday, February 10th,
Hammond Amphitheatre, 8pm
Wednesday, February 11th, Xavier, 7pm
Saturday, February 14th, Pepsi Forum, 2pm
Doors open 30 minutes prior to curtain
Tickets: $5 Students/ $10 Non-Students
All proceeds support victims of violence.
For more info - Check out “JWU Women’s Center” on Facebook

MAMA'S BOYZ

WWW.MAMASBOYZ.COM

JERRY CRAFT

Why do Rhode Islanders rush out for bread and milk before every snowstorm?
This phenomenon happens all over
the country, but in all the places I have
traveled, nowhere is it more chaotic than in
the little state of Rhode Island. Though it
seems like so many people take part in this
ritual, none of us sane people can figure out
why. I would bet that the people who do
this don’t know why either.
In my quest for knowledge and my
obligation to answer your questions I did
some research and I believe I have finally
solved this mystery; it is to appease the
Snow God.
The Snow God is a very powerful god.
He has the ability to close schools, knock
out power, and even kill the non-believers.
It is believed that leaving him an offering
of bread and milk will help ensure your
safety during the snowstorm.
One question I still had after discovering
this was why in Rhode Island home to the
most followers. After reading through some
history of Rhode Island I discovered
that this state has had very bad luck with the
Precipitation Gods in the past, and that
this has stopped since the amount of offerings
has increased.
So next time a storm is on its way, rush
to the store for some bread and milk
and pray the Snow God will spare you.

Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phillips

The HAIR ON THE BACK OF MY HEAD IS BEGINNING TO SMOKE SO PLEASE TELL ME WHAT I DID WRONG?

With the types of storms and poor snow
removal we have in this great city, that is
a question that many people ask. Being
shovelled in a horrible time for anyone, having
to go through it in those prized like
Residence Halls can be even worse.
My first suggestion would be to read
The Campus Herald, but since you are
doing that already you’ll need some more
ideas. The next step could be to recycle that
newspaper into a fun game: Newspaper
basketball, newspaper hockey, and my
all time favorite newspaper stickball(best
played in Snowdon in the wider section
near the suites). Another great newspaper
activity is to recruit us some
new readers and writers. This
is usually very boring, unless
done by force. No one says no
to newspaper pirates, simply
fashion some newspaper
hats and swords and start
conquering your dorm.
One suggestion I have
heard many times is to make
a slip and slide down the
hallway. This is more of a
summer activity, so I came up
with a similar activity more
appropriate for these winter
months, indoor sledding.
This one will require some
planning when the snow is
in its way. Start by building
a piping system from an
open window to a nearby
stairwell(suggest a stairwell
that has less traffic). Once
the snow starts to build up
mold some ramps at each
platform to help turn onto the
next set of stairs. The
last step is to find a suitable sled. Large
plastic storage bins are the best choice.
Cardboard could also be molded to
make higher performance sleds.
Hope these ideas keep you from going
insane next major snowstorm, and please
let us know of the conquests you have
made for us.
Ask Harold what’s on your mind! Drop
questions by the front desk at CBCSI, or
e-mail them to computervolsh@jwu.edu
Is There Life After Football Season?

The Extra Point

Kishal K. Tapanca
Sports Editor

I loathe the winter. The snow is pleasant until it transforms into that dark, murky slush that I’ve slipped on at least four times and of course the holiday food is delectable but this time of the year comes with one painful, inevitable truth: The end of football season. I came to this realization as I sat at the Chicago O’Hare airport after Christmas break waiting for my flight back from Texas. Discomfort began to settle in. Football season the only time I’m allowed to hang up on my own mother during a game and have it be completely acceptable. The Tapangan household didn’t call me for a week after last year’s Super Bowl because they knew that “I needed some time to myself.” I know that life must go on and that there are plenty of other things to prevent me from drowning in the sorrow known as mid-February through August. I’ve constructed a list of other events that are almost as satisfying as watching the games on Thursdays, Saturdays, Sundays and Mondays. Here are some alternatives to help us through the real winter blues.

The NCAA Men’s Basketball Tournament, also known as March Madness, is a yearly single elimination championship competition that has rapidly become one of my favorite things to watch in the spring. Given that the reason why I filled out a bracket last year was because at City Burger, if you submitted a bracket that advanced past the 3rd round, you received a free burger voucher and honestly, how could I say no to free food? Although it is only January, I already have my eye on a few teams.

10 Pittsburgh Panthers – They were currently undefeated until a surprising loss to Ohio State. As expected, the Panthers are still a dominating team on the court. Forward DeSean Blair has averaged 14.2 points, 12 rebounds per game. He ranks a close second behind Oklahoma’s Blake Griffin in having the highest rebounding percentage.

86 Oklahoma Sooners - The Sooners are 16-1 and are led by sophomore talent Blake Griffin. With number like 22.4 points a game along with 13.8 rebounds, Griffin is a major threat on all aspects of the game and will most likely be the driving force for Oklahoma.

01 Texas Longhorns - The Texas Longhorns are currently 12-4 in the Big 12 conference after losing to the Oklahoma Sooners on January 12, 2009. The guard-forward Damion James, who averages 14.7 points a game, is an excellent outside shooter who has often stepped up when leading scorer A.J. Abrams struggled.

Then there is the NFL Draft. Ok, I know it still relevant to football but it’s just like getting a peek at your gifts before Christmas. The NFL Draft takes place in Radio City Music Hall in New York City on April 25-26, 2009 and is a free event open to the public. The tickets are on a first come, first serve basis so it’s only a matter of waiting in line at least 48 hours in advanced. Best part? I’ve convinced two of my best friends to accompany me during this two day event. They truly have no idea what they’ve gotten themselves into. Everyone has their picks, and although the Detroit Lions will most likely select quarterback and 2008 Heisman Trophy winner Sam Bradford from Oklahoma, a close second will definitely be my pick. Andre Smith, the offensive tackle from Alabama is a prominent top five pick in almost every sports analyst mock draft. Tossing at 6’4 and 340 lbs, he separates himself from other tackles through his incredible strength and dexterity. If he can manage to keep his ankle healthy, he’s going to be an incredible presence in the NFL.

Perhaps I was spoiled growing up, being able to play a game of touch football outside in 80 degree weather in the middle of January. Maybe unlike kids growing up in the Northeast, I was taught that football season is a year-round event, that off-season wasn’t a break, it was the time a team perfected its offense, defense and special teams. Or possibly, just maybe, it took me moving to another part of the country to realize that there is life after football season.
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Sports

Hockey Team Stays Strong After Loss to Morrisville Hits Hard

JONATHAN CLARK
STAFF WRITER

After starting the season strong, the Johnson & Wales Men’s hockey team fell to Morrisville on January 9-10, 2009. The first game on Friday began at 7:45 p.m. and was a nail biter that went into overtime. Neither team was able to score until the third period. Almost as soon as the period began Morrisville was able to gain the lead 1-0 and held the lead for most of the period until Kevin Marchesi, ’11, with an assist from Jeremiah Ketts, ’12, scored a goal at 19:18 to help bring the game to overtime. However, the Wildcats weren’t able to prevail as Morrisville scored another goal during overtime to seal the win 2-1.

The second game took place on Saturday, January 10th and featured much more scoring. Morrisville again struck first, but the Wildcats stayed in contention with two goals from Jeremiah Ketts and one each from Stephen Pfeiffer, ’10, and Jimmy Van Asch, ’10. The game ended in Morrisville’s favor as they once again beat the Wildcats 7-4. Ketts and Pfeiffer along with Shane Poulin, ’11, and Domenic Recchia, ’12, were all awarded assists.

During both matches Morrisville was able to get more shots off allowing them more opportunities to score. JR Woodland did his best to keep the opposition from scoring with 35 saves the first game and 34 the second. In both games, the Wildcats had less than 30 attempts on the
game severely putting the outcome in Morrisville’s favor.

The Johnson & Wales hockey team has an overall record of 6-5-2 giving the team a winning percentage just over .560. This year’s team is persistent as was shown during their five game winning streak early in the season. The streak was broken by two ties and a loss against Tufts. With 12 games left in the regular season, the Wildcats have enough games to get back in gear and keep themselves in winning contention. Their ECAC Northeast record stands at 5-1-1 which places them in 4th place in the standings, 1 point behind Curry and Westfield State who are tied for 3rd.

Men’s Wrestling Team Continues Solid Run at #20 in Nation

DILLON WIGGERSHOFF
STAFF WRITER

Led by senior All-American standout Jerome Owens (Kettering, MD), the JWU wrestling team had a strong showing at the 2009 Warburg College Desert Duals in Las Vegas, Nevada on December 21, 2008. The event featured seven of the top 25 teams in the nation, with JWU facing off against #1 Warburg, #23 Oliver, #16 Elmhurst, and Concordia. Owens finished 4-0 overall at the tournament, including a victory over the #1 ranked and two time All-American Kyle Vanderhyde of Olivet College.

Currently undefeated in the season, Owens has recently topped over 100 wins for his career and earned d3wrestle.com Wrestler of the Week honors. All-American Bryan Lenhardt, ’09, and Nick Cucinelli, ’11, also anchored the team, with Lenhardt earning four wins and Cucinelli adding three wins on the day. Overall, the team posted a 1-3 mark at the tournament, with JWU wrestlers Christopher Giannos, James Soprano, Skylar Engelken, and Andrew Van Dyk also contributing victories.

Jerome Owens and Bryan Lenhardt will look to lead the JWU wrestling team into the second part of the season as they prepare for the 2009 NWCA Championships and the NCAA Championships. Leading up to the NWCA National Duals, January 10-11 in Cedar Falls, Iowa, the JWU wrestling team had an overall record of 5-3 and is currently ranked 20th in the nation.

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