

THE OBSERVER

A BROWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE PUBLICATION

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JANUARY 28, 2008

Candidate Special

Know your presidential candidates

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Special

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Features

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Network update

BRUNO NICCOLI
SPORTS EDITOR

The communication failure that affected BCC campuses during the first week of classes was not caused by AT&T.

After 22 hours of communications failure, it was determined that there were no problems with the AT&T metro internet. The problem was in the configuration of the BCC network switch at the WHC Campus.

With the source of the problem located, it took BCC's IT department, with the assistance of AT&T and Cisco on a conference call, about three hours to be able to get the system back and functional.

According to Patti Barney, V.P. of Information Technology, BCC is now looking at the risk associated with spending millions of dollars to replicate the network, as opposed to having each department build what is called "business continuity plans."

Barney explained that BCC is also in the process of changing all phone equipment, and the changes made on Monday during the first week of classes, should never have happened.

"[It was] very unfortunate, because we spent the last two years investing money and improving the performance, reliability, stability of everything we have," said Barney during an interview a week after the major communication failure. She also explained that "this time, two years ago, we completely replaced all of our connectivity, all of our Bellsouth circuits with something that is 10 times faster."

The new connectivity has up to 100 mega bytes of bandwidth capacity, and allowed professors to create their own pod-castings and video-streaming, which was not possible with the older system. Students also benefited from the faster connection, they were now able to surf the net without having to wait minutes to access a webpage.

BCC also took all of its

• FOLLOW UP
CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

New program set to sail at BCC

BUZZ LAMB
STAFF WRITER

BCC is embarking on a brand-new Associate of Science degree program aimed at providing a skilled technical workforce for Florida's burgeoning marine industry.

According to Dan Jones, Associate Dean of Automotive/Marine Technology, the new Marine Engineering Management degree will open doors for students wishing to begin a career in the yachting and marine industry.

Classes for the new program begin for Session III on January 28 and run through April 25. The program will operate from the BCC Miramar Center, 7451 Riviera Blvd., Miramar, Fla. And the first semester will offer three courses of instruction; Introduction to Marine Technology (MTE1004C), Marine Electricity (MTE1400C) and Rigging and Make Ready (MTE1018C).

There are no pre-requisites

for the course but new applicants must take the College Placement Test (CPT) before being accepted into the program. The Marine Engineering Degree is designed to prepare students for a career in the large-yacht maintenance and repair industry. "Graduates of this program could end up being part of an on-board crew of one of these mega-yachts and traveling around the world," Jones said.

According to Jorge Guerra, Dean of the Aviation Institute on South Campus (which oversees the automotive/marine programs), BCC has joined the

American Boat and Yacht Council (ABYC) which is a national organization which sets standards for safe



Dan Jones, Associate Dean of Automotive/ Marine Tech.

PHOTO BY BUZZ LAMB

• MARINE
CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

South Campus provost bids farewell



Provost Shouan Pan FILE PHOTO

NATALIE BOBB
STAFF WRITER

BCC South Campus Provost Shouan Pan said that when he came to BCC four and a half years ago, he knew that it was a great campus.

"My goal when I first came here was to build on the foundation laid by my predecessors," said Pan.

According to Pan, he has reached his goal, but he has not done it alone.

"[The campus' success] has been possible through the district leadership, the board, faculty and administrative staff," said Pan. "Enrollment at South Campus

has continued to be strong—particularly at some of the centers," he added.

While Pan has been South Campus Provost, the campus opened the Weston Center location and the Maroone Automotive Center at the Miramar Center. The South Regional/Broward Community College Library became Broward County's first "green" building and the Performing and Cultural Arts Theater was renovated. In addition, a Boeing 747 commercial airliner was donated to the Aviation Institute.

"I am proud I was able to work with Dean Jorge Guerra of the Aviation Institute," said Pan. "The Boeing will be turned into a lab so that aviation students can learn how a commercial airplane works," he added.

According to Pan, impacting the lives of students and ensuring that they get the best education possible is what matters most.

"We have been encouraging faculty and student affairs people throughout the district to do as-

sessments to look at best practices not only for BCC but nation-wide and throughout the state in order to incorporate those practices in our approach and reach a consensus on college preparatory philosophy," said Pan.

Pan also recognizes the work he has done with professor Trish Joyce as key to the school's success.

"Along with Trish Joyce, we succeeded in obtaining mini-grants in order to send faculty and staff to Evergreen State College in Washington to be trained in learning communities," said Pan. "These faculty and staff members have become advocates and fore-runners for learning communities at BCC," he added.

To Pan the most rewarding part of his job is that everyday, whether he is planning meetings or engaging faculty and staff, he is impacting the lives of students.

"If a student's dream is to have a college education, they can come here [to BCC] and we can help them," said Pan.

For Pan, who is leaving BCC to become president of Mesa

Community College in Arizona, departing is bittersweet. But he is confident that the campus will continue to grow as well as serve its students and the community.

While Pan does not want to take sole credit for the campus' achievements, his assistant, Jennifer Ambrose, credits him with being an honest person who is dedicated to his work as an administrator.

"He [Pan] taught me how to listen and to always strive to do my best," said Ambrose. "And he is always honest and gives good advice," she added.

BCC will begin a search for Pan's successor soon. However, Dean Terri Justice has been named as the Interim Provost at South Campus.

Pan said that what he will miss most about BCC are the students, faculty and staff he has had the privilege to work with over the years, not only at BCC but district-wide as well.

"I owe them a great deal of debt and appreciation for their support. I will miss them tremendously," said Pan.

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MLK brunch takes on a historical perspective

BUZZ LAMB
STAFF WRITER

February is Black History month but this year a large crowd of students on BCC Central Campus gathered in January to celebrate the life and times of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. at a brunch sponsored by three very active student organizations.

Adrian Carter, Student Life Director for Central Campus, welcomed the crowd of about 60 people to this year's event which featured a candle-lighting ceremony honoring the tremendous contributions of Dr. King to the civil rights movement. "I hope everyone is here today to pay homage and true respect and honor to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.," Carter said.

Carter read an excerpt from a speech which Dr. King delivered at Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta on Feb. 4, 1958. "Recognize that he who is greatest among you shall be your servant. That is the new definition of greatness...those who serve others," Carter uttered as he reiterated the words of the powerful speech.

Carter offered some little-

known insight to the history of the King family. According to Carter, Dr. King came into this world January 15, 1929 as Michael Luther King, Jr. and later changed his name to Martin. His grandfather was the pastor of Ebenezer Baptist Church from 1914 to 1931 and his father led the congregation during Dr. King's youth and adult years. King graduated from the Atlanta public school system at the young age of 15 and got his B.S. degree from Morehouse College.

Freshman Chemistry Major, Alexcia Frankson-Jones presented the Invocation to the hushed crowd followed by freshman Music & English Major, Michael Calhoun singing an acappella rendition of the first verse of "Lift Every Voice", the inspirational Black National Anthem.

This year the Annual Celebration Brunch had a new twist. Breakfast was served right in the middle of the program instead of at the end, as it has been in the past. The line at the buffet table moved rapidly thanks to the efforts of the Central Campus Student Life Organization which served up some fantastic biscuits, scrambled eggs, bacon and sau-



PHOTO BY BUZZ LAMB

sage along with some rib-sticking grits and ice-cold orange or apple juice.

After breakfast, the program resumed with a video presentation of Dr. King delivering his world famous "I Have a Dream" speech at the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C. Following the film, Donald Cleveland, adviser to the African-American Student Union (AASU) led a discussion and reflection which included a dedicatory response where nine students, one by one, solemnly lit a candle at the end of each response.

Central Campus Provost, Dr. Lois Bolton was among the attendees at this year's celebra-

tion. "It is wonderful to see so many people here. Dr. Martin Luther King is definitely a great American hero and we need to honor him," she said. "I think we are making progress in our nation...but we have a long way to go to achieve his dream."

Cleveland encouraged attendees to become inter-active with the program being presented. "I have some questions for you. There is no right or wrong answer...it's all about what his dream means to you," he said. Nefretiti Rudock, 18, said "Everybody, no matter what their color or their nationality, should be treated equal. That's what his dream means to me." Rudock added that she felt black

people were not taking advantage of their right to vote. "A lot of my friends don't think their vote matters...but I know it does and I try to convince everyone to vote. Its how we can get things changed," she said.

Cleveland asked the audience what they thought Dr. King might say if he were able to come back to life today. The general consensus was that great strides have been made and that Dr. King would generally be pleased with the results but change is still needed. Student Ken Young said, "When Dr. King was alive we got beat up trying to get black kids into school, now we have to beat up the kids to get them to go."

In his closing remarks, Adrian Carter agreed with that sentiment, "The game has changed. The struggle back then was different. Legislation has changed. There are new issues, new struggles, new challenges and new opportunities. That tells you that there has been a paradoxical shift from the time when Dr. King was alive," he said. "We have to consider the dynamics of time and place and the relevancy of what is going on. We all need to keep working to make his dream become reality."

Exhibit on Central

JESSICA BEANS
CENTRAL BUREAU CHIEF

An impressive collection of all different kinds of Fine Arts has come to BCC. Located on the Central Campus, the Fine Arts Gallery is situated in the southwest corner, Building 3. Gallery director Barbara Ryan and the Visual Arts departments are in no doubt on a mission to expose the talents and promote enthusiasm to not only the Humanities and Cultural Arts departments, but to the entire community. The works of art are nothing short of impressive.

The Fine Arts Gallery is not just the exposure of art work presented in an ostentatious environment. The message, like art itself, is far deeper. The idea that art is an expression or an outlet of emotions inspires extraordinary work and more importantly inspires the people who view it. Another notable focus of the exhibition is the proposal that art continues to have a profound effect on society and has played an important role in history. Needless to say, if nothing else this will give everyone an



PHOTO BY JESSICA BEANS

opportunity to view and be a part of a world class exhibition.

Opening night was Jan. 17, and everyone was welcome to stop in and take part. Upon entering the spacious gallery, the collections literally stop you in your tracks. From abstract impressions to simplistic pieces the display set a fairly pretentious tone. However, that would quickly pass as you are greeted by very friendly faculty and staff. If paintings are not necessarily your artistic forte, sculptures and unique ceramics are also on display.

If that isn't enough to get you out there, all the exhibitions are free to the public. In between those lackluster classes and repetitive lectures, make your way to the gallery. This is a limited time event, so aspiring artists and art aficionados come one, come all. The exhibition is ongoing until Feb. 5, open Monday thru Friday 9a.m.-2p.m. and Saturdays 11a.m.-2p.m. Or, check out the Fine Arts Gallery page on the BCC website.

www.broward.edu
www.geocities.com/bcc-fineartsgallery/statemt.html

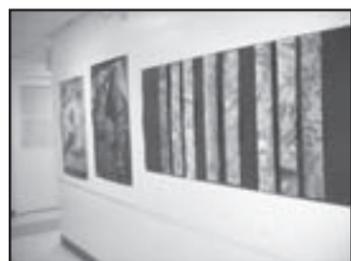


PHOTO BY JESSICA BEANS

Board of Trustees visits Central Campus

BENDOR LOUIS-JEAN
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

This year, the Student Government Association (SGA) is working twice as hard toward bettering the Central Campus and Willis Holcombe Center.

The Central Campus SGA started the year strong, by focusing on the major issue within the school. The students were given surveys of what they thought the major issues are.

The survey showed five major concerns, which include flooding, from when it rains; more benches/leisure areas around the campus, Wi-fi throughout the campus, increased security for night students, and the visibility of night lighting for night students.

It's these concerns that are major issues to students. The student government is meeting with the Board of Trustees (BOT) to begin the process in getting the assistance we need toward resolving these major concerns.

Everyone is welcome to the BOT Student Forum. The meeting will be held on Jan. 29, at noon in the library on the fourth floor, room 425.

The Central Campus SGA also holds its general assembly meeting the first of every month in Building 17, on the fourth floor at 3:30 p.m. The general assembly meeting is where all organizations come together in creating

new ideas for the Central Campus and Willis Holcombe Center.

Your opinions matter especially if you have a suggestion; please try to attend the meeting. Student Government will be having its elections the third week of April.

Students who are interested in running for office can stop by

Student Life and fill out an application. For more information on elections, or to becoming a member of Student Government contact the president, Ashley Airaghi, or Vice President, Katherine Efthimiou, at 954-201-6846 or send an email at csg@broward.edu. Together we can all make a difference.

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BCC's first annual Seminole art exhibit



HEATHER DULMAN
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

The art gallery on South Campus featured the Seminole art work Jan. 17 and will continue until Feb. 22. For opening night the lecture hall was packed full of students eager to hear what the artists had to say about their paintings and a little about themselves.

Seminole Artists attended and contributed to the art gallery were: Carol Cypress, Elgin Jumper, Regina Jumper Thinn, Jessica Osceola, Samuel Tommie, Gordon Oliver Wareham, and Pedro Zepeda.

This was Thinn's first art exhibit and one of her wall hangings was on the cover of the BCC flyers. There were paintings, wall hangings, and sculptures that had its own uniqueness to it.

Most of the artists said that art was their escape that calms them down and that it was their mediation.

"When I start shooting, it's another world," said Oliver. "Everything means something," said Osceola.

Donating her own time and desire to make the art gallery happen, Dr. Kyra Belan

achieved her long time goal to have the Seminoles featured at BCC South Campus art gallery.

Belan's idea started in the fall of 2006. In the past Belan had very little support and wanted Seminole art year round. It took about a year until Belan got a grant called Staff and Program Development, which supports her to have the Seminole Art.

"I have been a Seminole culture fan for many years. I truly enjoy culture. It's nice to have Native American culture might as well expose it to students."

"Samuel Tommie is what a true artist is really about. Its not just painting a picture, it's about

sending a message. What you want your audience to receive because in the end art is life. You can find art in any aspect of life. If you can look in to somebody's art and get their inspiration then they did their job," said BCC student, Troy Jeffers.

"I'm glad to see Seminole artists in a group. This has a purpose and meaning," said Jumper.

The art gallery on South Campus is located in Building 69. Gallery hours are Monday through Friday, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. There will be an event Seminole Tribal Fair and Pow-Wow on Feb.8- 10 at the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel and Casino.



PHOTO BY HEATHER DULMAN

One piece of Jessica Osceola's art work.

PHOTO BY BRUNO NICCOLI

Pedro Zepeda posing with one of his works of art on opening night.

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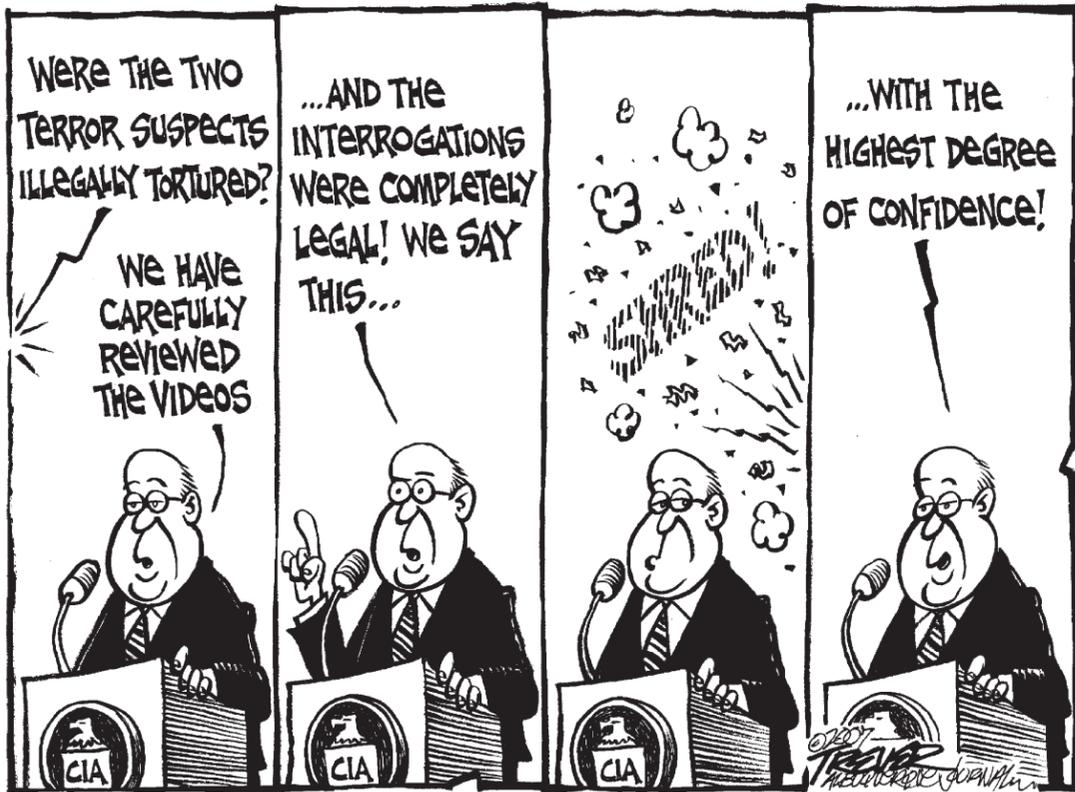
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■ **CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1**
boating. "They came down and checked out our program and have designated us as a Marine Center of Excellence, one of only seven in the whole country," he said.

Representatives of the ABYC inspected the building and helped design the floor-plan layout for the new center which will contain offices, classrooms and a cavernous open space where large

and small yachts will be available for "hands-on" training for students. Currently there are two vessels inside the building and they are dwarfed by the enormity of the open space.

Guerra said BCC has received a U.S. Department of Labor grant for \$1.9 million which is earmarked for equipment purchases and staff recruitment and development. "We have that money now and we are putting

it to good use in curriculum development," he said.

"Joe Charles, CEO of Charles Industries has been a great partner for us as well," Guerra added. "He has assisted us already in obtaining hundreds of thousands of dollars in equipment for the program." Guerra said BCC has partnered with the Marine Industries Association of South Florida as well. "They have assisted us as an advisory board,"

he said.

BCC set up a booth at the Fort Lauderdale Boat Show last October. "The show manager, John Nigro, donated the space for us," he said. "We will be at the Palm Beach Boat Show in the spring."

Guerra said the marine program will provide an all-around education for the students because it requires completion of courses such as English

Composition, Introduction to Chemistry, Social Behavior Sciences and even a Humanities Elective in addition to the intense marine industry focus.

Although classes begin on Jan. 29, Guerra said they will accept applications until Feb. 4 when the registration for the new program will close. For more information by calling Dan Jones at 954-201-8621 or by going to the website at www.broward.edu/automotive.

Students voice your opinion

BUZZ LAMB
STAFF WRITER

The January meeting of the BCC Board of Trustees has been re-scheduled to accommodate former BCC President Willis Holcombe's schedule. Originally planned for Jan. 23 it is now slated for Jan. 29.

According to Jillian Printz, BCC Public Relations coordinator, the student forum and the board meeting will be preceded by the grand opening of the Will and Jo Holcombe Education Center on Central Campus. The Holcombes are to be the guests of honor. Holcombe, who is now serving as Interim Chancellor of the Community College System for the State of Florida, had an appointment which could not be changed.

Traditionally, during the first three months of the year the Board holds their meetings on Central Campus in January, South Campus in February and North Campus in March. At each location, prior to the start of the meeting a Student Forum is conducted which includes presentations from student organizations and also offers an opportunity for students to voice their compliments or concerns directly to Board members.

This year, the first meeting on Central Campus will be held on the fourth floor of the Library (Building 17).

The ceremony honoring Dr. and Mrs. Holcombe will begin at 10 a.m. and will be followed by informal tours of the new educational center. Several dignitaries will be speaking during the 45 minute program including current BCC president J. David Armstrong, Jr. and Central Campus Provost Dr. Lois Bolton.

According to Dr. Bolton, the BCC Collection will also be on display in a special area of the fourth floor. The BCC Collection includes numerous items from the collection of the former Graves Museum of Archeology and Natural History in Dania Beach as well as several valuable pieces of literature. Bolton said the display is being coordinated by BCC special collections and archival librarian, Andrew Dutka.

Dutka said BCC is one of the few community colleges in the nation to dedicate resources to a specific area for an archival collection of the college's memorabilia and artifacts.

"Part of Dr. Holcombe's legacy was to insure that this collection would be preserved for future generations," he said.

Dutka has been working at BCC since mid-2004 laboring long, tedious hours cataloging the BCC Collection. "It is a lot of hard work, but I love my job," he said as his eyes darted from books to photographs in the well-stocked storeroom.

Dr. Bolton said the Will and Jo Holcombe Institute for Teaching and Learning Excellence will focus on development for faculty and staff in the area of promoting more effective teaching.

"We are launching baccalaureate degrees for teaching at BCC, so the Holcombe Institute will be the home-base for coordinating that program," she said.

The Student Forum will take place on the fourth floor of the library at noon and all students are invited to attend. Following the Student Forum, the Board of Trustees will conduct their monthly meeting which is also open to the public.



"Part of Dr. Holcombe's legacy was to insure that this collection would be preserved for future generations"

- BCC Librarian Andrew Dutka

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Connection Follow up

■ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

administrative application systems that runs financial aid, student services and payroll, from the mainframe onto an Intel box. This transfer, according to Barney, saved BCC \$500,000 a year in the operating budgets.

Because of the major failure, Barney explained that “We are going to implement a new technology policy enforcing change control management.” She also explained that changes in the network during critical time periods, such as first days of classes and grades processing period will no longer happen and this procedure has already been approved by the cabinet members.

BCC will also purchase new software intended to aid the technicians with troubleshooting and problem determination in the network, so they don’t spend as much time with the vendor. The investment will cost about \$160,000.

The unfortunate follow-up of events that led to the 28 hours of communications failure, was also aggravated because during this period, the network expert BCC has a contract with (for events that are not a vendor problem), was in the hospital.

Barney stated that “By changing our standards of

practice and putting this standards control procedures, this exact situation will not happen again.” The possibilities for other forms of network failures and power outages are still existent, but Barney is trying to bring a proposal forward for total redundancy and move forward with the new plans.

The budget cuts that BCC has been dealing with for the past year are affecting the pace for the approval of new plans. But once the proposal gets approved it will only be a matter of changing from the current network, to the more efficient and safe network. This will also benefit the students using the computers at BCC.

In the future, BCC will utilize its phone system to broadcast every two hours, updates in case anything happens to the network. The use of the hotlines, with recordings, similar to the standard for emergency events such as hurricanes, will also be incorporated in the plans to help students be more informed about the situations on the campuses.

“We are very dependent on the internet now and we don’t want to change that, but we do have other options for doing those communications,” said Barney. “We are going to treat it more like an emergency event.”

Because a communication failure is not considered an a safety issue or a danger to lives,

the technology available for informing students of exactly what was going on, was not used. But according to Barney, “We are going to do that as a part of a non-emergency now.”

The new procedure that is already in place, allows students

and faculty members to call the hotlines to check voice-messages in a regular bases.

Barney said she is “taking full responsibility that changes are made and implemented.” She also explained that “The reliability, stability, security of our network

is first and far most. All of our planning is based in having a reliable network to serve all of our students, faculty and staff.”

Barney finished by saying “We are going to learn by these lessons, to learn how to avoid these in the future.”

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BUZZ LAMB
STAFF WRITER

When it comes to something as personal as your whole human genome, genetic counselors warn that some people may find the information hard to handle since most of the current genetic knowledge is related to a person's risk for a number of complex diseases. In spite of those warnings, the race to provide a way to access that information has gone into overdrive.

The little understood science of human genomics has now hit the streets. For those able to pay about a thousand bucks, their genome can now be analyzed on the Web. DeCODE Genetics, a company based in Reykjavik, Iceland has launched a service they say will provide a detailed personal genetic profile.

DeCODEme will not only assess a person's risk for specific diseases but also bodily traits such as hair and eye color and the origins of ethnic backgrounds and ancestral heritage. Unlike current genetic testing and genealogy companies, which only look at a few specific genes, the new service will examine the whole human genome.

The company reported that the first completed sequencing of a human genome occurred in 2003. A few short years later it now claims that it is possible to analyze, on a single computer chip, a large portion of all of the variations in the genome that makes all of us unique.

In the decade prior to 2003, the researchers at DeCODE had analyzed the genomes of hundreds of thousands of people. According to the website at Fiercebiterch.com, our genomes are more than 99 percent identical, but in that tiny one percent remaining there are millions of variations that make us unique. Now people can discover things about themselves that are both informative and fascinating. Some people are even comparing genomes with family and friends to discover what blocks of DNA code they may share.

The new service uses devices known as SNP chips (single nucleotide polymorphism) which capture the major points

of differences in an individual's DNA while ignoring the many sites at which people have the same DNA unit. According to the company's website (www.decode.com), subscriber's to the service pay a one-time fee of \$985 and just a few weeks after sending in a simple cheek-swab they will receive expert analysis of more than a million key variants across their genome.

Kari Stefansson, MD, PhD and CEO of deCODE said, "In an era when we are encouraged to take greater personal control of our lifestyle and health, we believe we should all have the opportunity to

learn what our own genome can tell us about ourselves."

Besides information about disease risk and normal physiology, through an intuitive interface

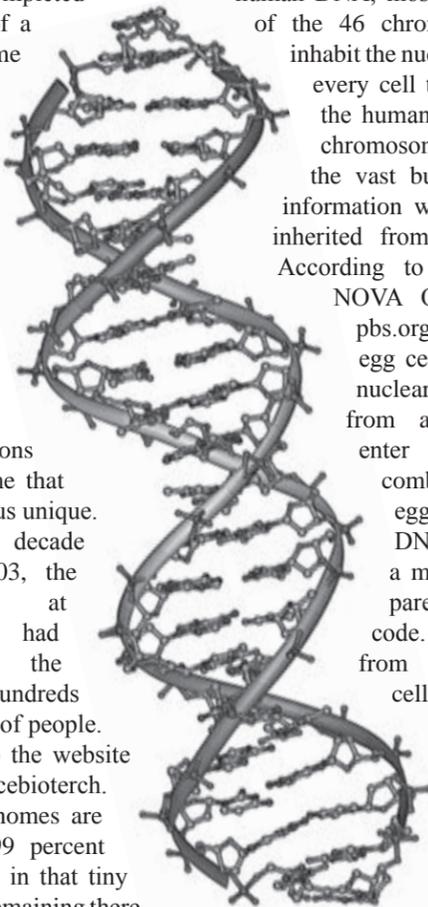
it is possible to view how your mother and father and their ancestors contributed to your profile and how much of your genome is derived from people in Africa, Europe or Asia. DeCODE does this by examining the Y chromosome and mtDNA (mitochondrial DNA), the only two elements of the genome that are always passed down basically unchanged from one generation to the next.

When someone mentions human DNA, most people think of the 46 chromosomes that inhabit the nucleus of almost every cell that comprises the human body. These chromosomes hold the vast bulk of genetic information which we have inherited from our parents.

According to the website, NOVA Online (www.pbs.org), whenever an egg cell is fertilized, nuclear chromosomes from a sperm cell enter the egg and combine with the egg's nuclear DNA, producing a mixture of both parents' genetic code. The mtDNA from the sperm cell, however, is left behind, outside the egg cell. The result is that mtDNA is passed only along the maternal line.

The SNP's on the Y chromosome reflect the origin of a man's ancestors back to when modern humans left their ancestral homeland in northeast Africa. Many people may welcome this unique new way to get to know yourself better...from the inside out, while others may chose to ignore the cutting-edge science. In either case, it's all about you!

*A UNIQUE WAY
TO GET TO
KNOW YOURSELF
BETTER, FROM
THE INSIDE OUT.*



2008 Olympics: China meets major challenges

JOHN WILSON
STAFF WRITER

In every leap year since 1896, with notable exceptions, two events became a guarantee: the existence of Feb. 29, and the Summer Olympics. In preparation for this year's event, which is being held in Beijing, the Chinese government has been taking steps toward being respected as a modernized country, while the Western nations have criticisms in some areas.

The main challenge the Communist country of China faces is its air quality, considered to be poor throughout. In 1998, three years before winning the right to host the Olympics, it implemented the Blue Sky program to measure sulfur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide and PM10, which are all major contributors to the smog of Beijing. While it has had success in decreasing the amount of poisons in the air, it still doesn't hold up well to the standards of the United States or the World Health Organization.

According to the International Herald Tribune, a day that rates as "good" in Beijing would usually be rated as polluted in the United States. Also, adding to the air pollution are the additions of 1,200 autos a day, massive coal consumption (30 million tons last year), and

the wind currents which remove and add pollutants to the city with a population of 12 million estimated.

Because of the air being a performance issue for the athletes, Jacques Rogge, president of the IOC, cautioned that pollution might lead to the postponement of some endurance sports.

Secondly, the government, along with eager US companies, is setting up one of the most comprehensive high-tech public surveillance systems in the world. Critics of China's human rights record cite the passing of a 1990 law banning the import of "crime control or detection instruments or equipment" to China. This law was passed after the Tiananmen Square protests, along with the following military crackdown. The companies involved in assisting the Chinese government with detection equipment are Honeywell, General Electric, United Technologies, and IBM. All together, they are will create a network which will analyze feeds from heavily populated areas in the city, allow for simultaneous

control of thousands of video cameras, have the ability to catalog people with behavior, and further development for the 2010 Asian Games.

Rep. Tom Lantos, the U.S. House Foreign Affairs Committee, said his committee would continue to investigate what he sees as American corporate assistance for political repression. Steve Vickers, a former head of criminal intelligence for the Hong Kong police who now heads a consulting firm, said "China is likely to emerge from the Olympics with remarkable surveillance capabilities".

Another area which detractors of China are critical of involves the country's humanitarian efforts in Darfur as a public relations move to illuminate the goodwill of the country, along with its modernization for the Olympics. Some US and European activists have threatened to call for a boycott of the Olympics unless China exerts more pressure on the Sudanese government to cooperate with the UN and bring the four-year-old Darfur conflict to

an end, according to the Washington Post. Liu Guijin, China's special envoy to Darfur, stated that those who make these charges are people who do not view China's role objectively and look at the Darfur tragedy "through lenses colored by ideological bias".

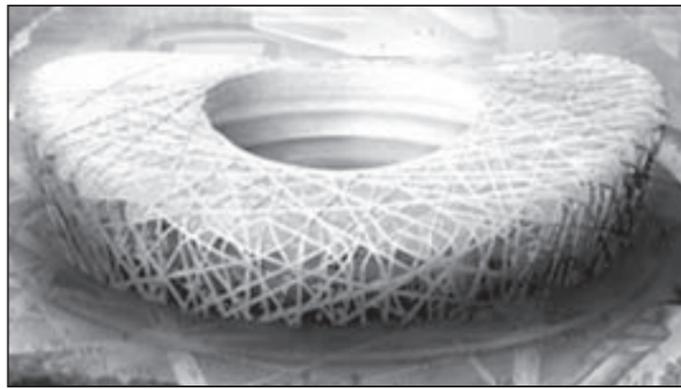


PHOTO COURTESY OF BEIJING2008.CN

Plans of the national stadium for the 2008 Beijing Olympics.

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Kyra Campbell, 29

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Howl at the Moon

This dueling piano bar has many locations around the United States and ours is located on the second floor at Beach Place in Ft. Lauderdale. They have four entertainers who take the stage two at a time for an hour. At the end of the hour all four get together on stage for a little two-to-three song show and then the other two take over. They sing a variety of songs that the whole audience gets involved with. Want to embarrass a friend? Pay to have them taken on stage and humiliated! "I love having my friends totally embarrassed on stage doing the "adult" Hokey Pokey and even just hanging out with friends singing along to all of the songs," said Joshua Hachigan. Every night is like a new show all together. There's never a dull moment. They have jell-o-shots and tube shots, and if those don't interest you, get a bucket of long island iced tea with multiple straws. Now that should get your taste buds going. For more information on this bar you can visit howlatthemoon.com.

Artbar

Located in downtown Ft. Lauderdale in Riverfront; Artbar has three rooms you can dance the night away in. The red room is where you can hear the latest Latin Dance, Reggaeton and Reggae music. The main room has the r&b, hip hop and Reggae music. And then there's the VIP room which overlooks the main room. Artbar really takes care of the ladies with it being ladies night Wednesday through Saturday.

Round-Up

This country western bar is located on the corner of Pine Island Road and 595. Here you can come and enjoy your favorite country songs and learn the line dances to them as well. But don't be fooled by all of the cowboy boots and hats, they still know how to break it down to the latest pop and rap songs.

Wednesday night is ladies night with a men's best chest competition at midnight. Thursday night is bike night. Come on your bike and pay no cover charge along with drink specials. Friday night is also ladies night followed by Saturday nights which is sink or swim. \$15 gets you in with free beer from 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. "It's not like other clubs; they teach you the line dances. It's fun to go out and try something new with your friends," Said Allison Lictman. For more information about this nightclub visit www.roundupcountry.com

Barmaniacs

Located on N. Dixie Highway and Hollywood Blvd., this is not your typical bar. This is a flair bar. Your drink can be poured behind the bartenders back, on his elbow and even poured while in flames. There is a dance floor and a stage with a stripper pole. Think you got what it takes? Strut your stuff on the pole on Thursday nights with their hot body contests, first place wins \$200. Thursday and Saturday nights is ladies night, so ladies you drink free! Wednesday nights starting at 9 p.m. is beer-pong tournaments, \$10 cover but that includes all you can drink draft beer and first place wins \$200. "Barmaniacs is a place where you can come and let loose after a long week at school or work. The people are awesome and the bartenders are even better," said Kristin Allgair. For more information on Barmaniacs and dress code for guys please visit www.myspace.com/Barmaniacs.

Non-theater majors allowed in plays

NATALIE BOBB
STAFF WRITER

Acting is not just for theater majors anymore. On Dec. 15-16 students from a variety of majors auditioned for roles in BCC's upcoming production of Martin McDonagh's *The Pillowman*.

"We get all kinds of students at the auditions," said Mariah Johnson, Theater professor and director of *The Pillowman*. "We get a fair amount of theater majors, but we like to cast new people too," she added.

During the first night of auditions, students were required to perform a one-minute monologue of their choice. "For this play, I requested that they do a serio-comic or dramatic monologue," said Johnson.

Students who made it past the first night of auditions were called back the following night to perform cold readings from the play. Those who made the final cut were informed Dec 17.

According to Johnson, the most important trait she looks for in a potential cast member is dedication. "I look for people who really want this because I'm a teacher. I don't expect a student to walk in and know everything," said Johnson. "My job is to make these students great actors, so I'm looking for people who really want



"WE GET A FAIR AMOUNT OF THEATER MAJORS, BUT WE LIKE TO CAST NEW PEOPLE TOO."

- DIRECTOR MARIAH JOHNSON

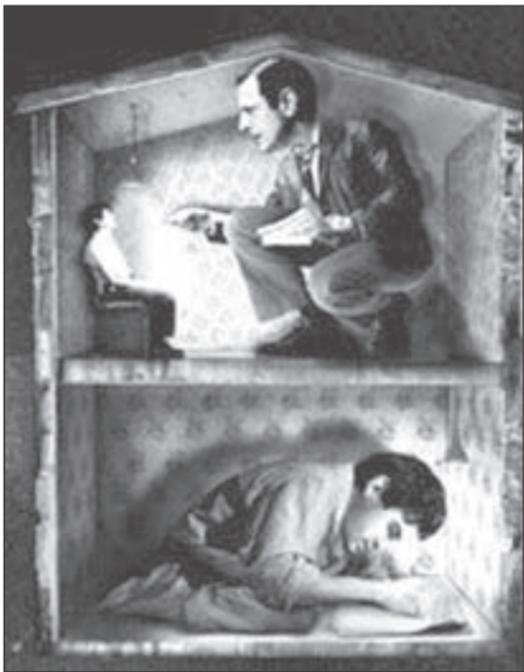
this and are willing to work hard," she added.

Another characteristic Johnson looks for is a student's ability to effectively convey a character's qualities. "One of the characters was tortured as a child and is mentally ill, so I needed somebody who has that vulnerability and isn't afraid to go there," said Johnson.

Johnson encourages those who do not get cast for *The Pillowman* to keep auditioning. Johnson

and Theater professor Debbie Kondelik take turns directing main-stage plays. Since Johnson is directing this semester's main-stage play, Kondelik will be directing a series of one-act plays.

"There are students [at other schools] who never get a chance to be on stage," said Johnson. "That is the beauty of BCC. There are many opportunities for students



The poster from the original Broadway play.

who want to be on stage," she added.

According to Johnson, since BCC students get a substantial amount of experience, they tend to do well when they move on to universities. "We have students, for example, at FAU now who get parts because they have the confidence that comes along with experience," said Johnson.

Students interested in auditioning for a play are encouraged to visit the call board located on Central Campus, in Building 4. There, students can find upcoming audition dates and requirements.

A 2.0 grade-point-average is required in order to participate in a campus play. "This is demanding," said Johnson. "If a

student is struggling in his or her classes, we certainly don't want them to get involved in something that will make it more difficult," she added.

Students participating in a play are required to register for a Performance Lab once they are cast. The Performance Lab is a 1-credit course that does not have a scheduled class time. Students receive credit for the lab as long as they attend rehearsals regularly.

The Pillowman, will run from Mar. 13 through Mar. 22.

Big Boned is a big hit

MEG CABOT CREATES ANOTHER HERION CHARACTER IN HER NOVEL, BIG BONED.

ANGELA OSBORNE
OPINION EDITOR

Things don't always go as planned for Heather Wells. Maybe nothing has in her life. She was a famous pop star, she had tons of money, and she had the perfect pop star fiancé. In the latest installment of the Heather Wells series, *Big Boned* by Meg Cabot, you find Heather in quite the same way you left her. She is still broke, she is still working in New York College's "Death Dorm", she is dating her math professor, and she is still completely in love with her roommate/landlord.

Heather is trying really hard to make her newest relationship work, she is even eating vegan and waking up before dawn to go running. Are such sacrifices really necessary for a self proclaimed rebound relationship? Apparently they are. When "Death Dorm," the residence hall that Heather works at, claims it's newest victim, she is left to solve the mystery as always, and clear her newfound

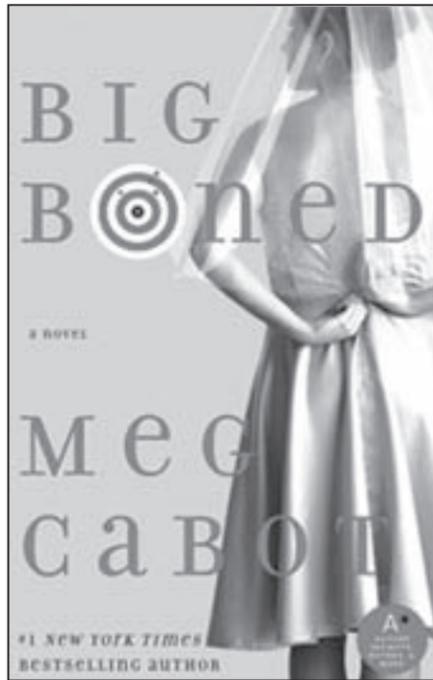


PHOTO COURTESY OF MEGCABOT.COM

boyfriend's name.

While Heather is trying to solve her newest boss's murder, because the police, as usual, won't take her seriously, she is suddenly faced with an unexpected question from her boyfriend. Not that she has any idea of what that question is. However, as any normal girl would suspect, with absolutely

no merit or cause, she thinks it's "The Question."

As in any of Cabot's 40 books, you can almost reach out and touch the characters. You can relate to the drama of Heather's everyday life, except for the boss being murdered at work thing. However, when you spend countless time trying to interpret mythical signs from a guy, you know what she is going through.

This is the final installment of the Heather Wells series, starting with *Size 12 is Not Fat*, and *Size 14 is Not Fat Either*. The first two books are wonderful reads but in *Big Boned* her life finally starts coming together. But how could you not want to know what that

question is or exactly if she will pass remedial math?

And please don't try anything that you read in *Big Boned* at home. Do not go and chase down murder suspects in your free time, or undergo drastic personality changes just for a rebound guy that, may or may not, have important questions to ask you.

Bowling for our Generation

SUSAN SCHWARTZ
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Bowling is said to be one of America's great pastimes. But is that all there is to it? Could bowling really be a thing from the past? Schumacker and Company, owner of SpareZ Davie and other bowling centers, has developed a way to bring bowling back into the spotlight. Though the traditional bowling atmosphere is kept during the weekdays, at night it becomes a whole other experience. "The SpareZ model of bowling is a prototype for the future," said Joe Schumacker, CEO of Schumacker and Company. The current alley under this transition is SpareZ in Davie.

Located between Stirling and Griffin Road on University Drive, SpareZ Davie creates an atmosphere similar to that of an up-beat club. Wednesday, Friday and Saturday nights welcome the young and the young at heart as DJ Jeff Courtney from Tunz Radio livens up the party with today's top hits, prizes and contests.

"Lightning Strikes has been one of the most exciting scenes of weekly entertainment for me," said Courtney. "The show gives you the chance to experience an exciting and exclusive entertaining piece of bowling."

Schumacker has been in the bowling business in some way, shape or form most of his life. He is confident that the SpareZ he is creating will be geared more towards the entertainment venue without losing the appeal it has

for competitive bowling.

Parker Starson, a BCC Alumni, has been bowling at SpareZ Davie for two years, one-and-a-half of those years he has been on a league. Starson joined a league with his friends for some healthy competition. As far as Lightning Strikes is concerned, he had this to say:

"Lightning Strikes provides a grown-up atmosphere for bowlers who want to have fun."

The public can expect a lot of new renovations as they continue bowling at SpareZ Davie. New restrooms have been built, tile has been laid and automatic doors are currently being installed to help bring the center up-to-date.

Once the facilities are finished, there are future plans in 2008 that include an overhaul of the food and beverage area. The entire project is estimated to cost \$2.5 million when all is said and done.

"I've been in the bowling business since I was 15, for me, it's a legacy project I'd like to get right and have it become a prototype for the future," said Schumacker.

BCC Sophomore, Megan Dunmire, has been employed by



SpareZ from inside at the Davie location.

SpareZ Davie for nearly a year. "The renovations are very cool. It's no longer a dingy bowling alley. It's bright and clean."

As far as price, the public can expect a slight increase. However, large groups make bowling all the more enjoyable as well as affordable, especially at night with special group rates including the Pizza Bowling package. This package includes two hours of bowling for up to six people on one lane and includes the shoe rental, a large, one topping pizza and a pitcher of soda.

SpareZ Davie stays open well past midnight on Friday and Saturday nights as does the onsite bar and grill.

For more information on prices, hours or even birthday parties, call SpareZ Davie at 954-434-9663.

Upcoming Events

CDS:

- 01/29 Bullet For my Valentine's new album "Scream Aim Fire."
- 01/29 "A Moment of Forever" by Willie Nelson hits stores.
- 01/29 LouisXIV releases "Slick Dogs and Ponies."
- 01/29 The Helie Sequence's "Keep Your Eyes Ahead" will be released.
- 02/05 Sheryl Crow's "Detours" hits stores.
- 02/05 "Good Times," Alan Jackson's new record will be available.

MOVIES:

- 02/05 "Across the Universe" will be available in stores.
- 02/05 Rosario Dawson's film "Descent" will be available.

THEATER:

- 02/01 The Eye, featuring Jessica Alba hits theaters.
- 02/01 Eva Longoria is featured in the film, "Over Her Dead Body."
- 02/08 Matthew McConaughey stars in "Fools Gold" along side Kate Hudson.
- 02/08 "The Hottie and the Nottie" starring Paris Hilton will be released.

CONCERTS:

- 01/31 Rod Stewart performs at the Hard Rock Live.
- 01/31 Exodus at the Culture Room.
- 02/02 Sound Advice will play host to Ron White.
- 02/03 Angels and Airwaves will perform at the Carnical Studio Theatre.
- 02/05 The Darkest Hour plays at the Culture Room.

Bring on the chick flicks

JESSICA BEANS
CAMPUS BUREAU CHIEF

If people are curious as to whether "27 Dresses" falls into most chick-flick stereotypes; no need to guess: it does. The film gives romantic comedy lovers everything they want and more. A cookie-cutter typecast of any great "always a bridesmaid, never the bride" movie.

The writer, who is famous for movies like "The Devil Wears Prada", scored yet another hit. If you were a fan of "My Best Friend's Wedding", "The Wedding Planner", or anything with wedding in the title, you'll love this. The underdog beauty, Katherine Heigl, plays the eternal bridesmaid who is accepts her

position in life. That is until her younger sister is getting ready to plan her wedding. Who can resist the handsome guy to the rescue, James Marsden? The slightly cynical version of the "knight in shining armor" enters Heigl's chaotically bitter life and makes it just a little more complicated.

Yes, the movie is highly predictable. What do you expect, it's almost Valentine's Day, the perfect season to take your significant other to see this movie. Or, if you're looking to impress the lady you've had your eye on, this is a great film for that. Coming from personal experience, ladies, just see it with your friends. Make it a girls night out, because the film may just make your guy fall asleep!



Katherine Heigl posing in one of her many bridesmaid dresses. PHOTO COURTESY OF POST-GAZETTE.COM

From an epic novel to timeless cinematography

BARBARA QUIJANO
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

An epic story line filled with captivating performances to a heart-warming script and performed to perfection by a stunning cast in this year's Academy Award nominee, "Atonement", which has won two Golden Globe Awards and is up for 47 nominations.

A film that entices the senses, "Atonement" was written by Ian McEwan and directed by Joe Wright, who brought McEwan's wondrous imagination to the big screen creating eye-catching results. "Atonement sweeps you up on waves of humor, heartbreak and ravishing romance," stated a review by Peter Travers in Rolling Stone magazine.

"Atonement" takes place in the 1930s, taking us through WWII. It starts off with Briony Tallis, played by Saoirse Ronan, typing a play filled with an imagination that only a thirteen-year-old can create, foreshadowing her misconceived notion to a love portrayed between Robbie Turner, performed by James McAvoy, and Cecilia Tallis, enacted by Keira Knightley, leading to lies, betrayal, and guilt.

Sisters, Cecilia and Briony, are daughters

to a wealthy British family, while Robbie, son to the family housekeeper, and tremendously in love with the one and only witty, breath-taking, Cecilia Tallis, who discovers her passionate love for Robbie, which is keenly portrayed after he gives her a letter that wasn't meant to be read by her, but only by him, because it depicted an erotic fantasy rather than the apology that was meant to be expressed. After an exchanging of words that sorted and explained a misunderstanding, passion drowns the room leaking into the innocent eyes of Briony, causing anguish, separation, and misjudgment between Robbie and Cecilia.

Keira Knightley, who is

nominated for Best Performance by an Actress in a Motion Picture, brings to life Cecilia Tallis blending "beauty and gravity to stunning effect," as Travers declares.

Her character comes off as an over-confident, demanding rich girl, but you can see right through her when her eyes drift to watch him, Robbie Turner, "portrayed with ardent precision" by McAvoy, who is nominated for Best leading Actor.

The gazes, glimpses and stares utter great profundity while the literary aspect expresses clarity, emotion and distinctiveness to such precision that as Travers proclaims, "It's obsessed with the power of words."

I personally like the way they bring out the delicate and innocent mind of a thirteen-year-old, which is exactly that, delicate and innocent, full of imagination, but blind to the many components of what love and life actually entail and consists of.

Then there's the love between Cecilia and Robbie that leaves you hoping, wanting, and expecting so much more because of the in-depth and passionate portrayal their brief moments of shared, mutual emotion comprised in action and words throughout the movie.



Keira Knightley along side James McAvory. PHOTO COURTESY OF TEAMSUGAR.COM

Mega and DirectTV unite

ANDRES LOPEZ
STAFF WRITER

It's not often that the name of a television channel already contains the specific word to describe it. However, for Spanish Broadcasting Systems' Mega TV that is already a fact. Recently on a casual night at Chakra Nightclub located on 1501 Collins in Miami Beach, Florida, various attendees were able to say 'Presente' for the launch of the new contract between Direct TV and Mega TV. The contract gives Mega the ability to be seen nationwide through channel 405 on Direct TV's channel line-up and beginning on Feb. 27 subscribers to Direct TV in Puerto Rico will have the opportunity to see the program on a daily basis on channel 169.

Television viewers will be exposed for the very first time to already successful shows such Bayly, El Circulo, Maria Elvira Live, Oppenheimer, Paparazzi TV, and Lamusica.com to mention some of the vast programming that has made Mega TV an outlet for the competition to have a watchful eye on. Jaime Bayly, host of his own show titled Bayly said

that with this new contract "the idea has not changed, the idea is still to have fun and entertain the audience."

The night of the South Florida launch was marked with celebrities from various facets of the entertainment industry, as well as some of the famous faces that make up the Mega family. Salsa singer Lefty Perez who is also host to the "Top 20 Countdown" on 95.7 FM on El Zol said "Viva Mega today, tomorrow, and forever." Madai, the up and coming singer of the hit "Shake It" was also at the event, along with Latin Grammy nominee Alejandra Alberti, Cuban singer Albita, who is the powerful voice behind the theme song of "La Mega se Pega" and Puerto Rican Salsa singer Jerry Rivera.

Members of the Mega family like Jaime Bayly, Frank Cairo, Lourdes Ruiz Toledo, Maria Elvira and Mariela Encarnacion who was the master of ceremonies for the night. So much talent that make up the family of Mega TV that will now be available on channel 405 to those who are Direct TV subscribers. Albita said that she felt very happy to have been chosen for the new jingle

of La Mega Se Pega and added "that its a new image for Latin television and its just the start."

As the night went on, party-goers were dazzled by two of the most enthusiastic entertainers that for years have made a meaningful part of parties a traditional Latin flavored ambiance. These artists were Jerry Rivera and Albita, who turned the party's volume up with some of their hit songs. Albita started it off by showcasing her vocal chords and sang the theme song of "La Mega Se Pega," which made everyone feel the vibration of the passion she sets in every beat. Shortly afterwards, Jerry Rivera took the stage and made everyone's heart melt with his melodic voice as he sang "Mi Libertad" and "Cuesta Abajo," his latest single from his new album Caribe Gardel.

One of the unexpected songs of the night was, Happy Birthday which was sung for Maria Elvira Salazar by the talent that makes up the Mega family. That night many memories were created and numerous highlights made everyone feel the love and passion of an exciting merger that marks the triumph between two great companies.

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Questions?

For more information, contact Sharlene Funchess in Student Financial Services at 954-201-7620 or sfunches@broward.edu.



The editor's quiz

HOW VAST IS YOUR SPORTS KNOWLEDGE?

- What is the distance for the longest field goal in the NFL?
- What is the highest rating a Quarterback can achieve?
- In which year the NBA established the three point shoot?
- Who is the only baseball player to receive 7 MVP awards?
- How many NASCAR titles Richard Petty won?
- How many seasons the United States Football League had?
- Who is the youngest Quarterback to win the Super Bowl?
- Which team was the first to appear in three consecutive World Series?
- Who was the first player in history to throw a World Series perfect game?
- Which MLB player was walked intentionally 120 times in 2004?
- Which MLB player hit 15 RBIs in two consecutive games?
- Who was the first player to lead the NFL in rushing and win the Super Bowl?
- In which year Tiger Woods won his first U.S Open?
- Which college football team won the most BCS championship?
- What is the name of the BCC mascot?
- Who was the first African American player in the MLB?
- Which city will be hosting the next Olympics?
- How tall is Shaquille O'Neal? What is the size of his feet?

Answers available on the next issue

Giants: From underdog to Super Bowl contender

ANTHONY SEDLEY
STAFF WRITER

It's safe to say that the majority of NFL fans had a hunch that the New England Patriots weren't going to be stopped this year, and placed them as the team to beat in Super Bowl XLII, it was just a guessing game of who their hapless opponent would be.

That unfortunate team will be the Giants. Even though they are already 12 point underdogs to the unbeaten Patriots, Giants fans have every right to feel that their team can take down the NFL's offensive juggernaut. The Giants nearly accomplished that in week 17.

Known for falling apart in late season games in years past, the Giants have won 10 straight road victories in the regular season. So just how did the Giants survive an unfavorable playoff schedule to earn their way to Arizona?

One can say that the football Gods are showing some love to Archie Manning's other son, Eli. Or you can argue the fact that the Giants are using their "road warrior" mentality to upset the teams that were supposed to send them home, licking their wounds. Whatever the probability is to

those odds are, are up in the air. But what fans can't ignore is the stellar team play on both sides of the ball by the men in blue from New York.

Eli Manning has been near perfect in his third post-season venture, throwing four touchdowns and no interceptions in three games, while racking up just under 600 yards. But what made Manning better than his ill-fated counterparts? Fans say it could be that Manning has a tough and tall wide receiver with Plaxico Burress, or a seasoned veteran in Amani Toomer.

However, a stellar running game with a great one-two punch in Brandon Jacobs and Ahmad Bradshaw doesn't hurt either.

Both Jacobs and Bradshaw have carried the ball more than 40 times each this postseason, wearing down opposing defenses to set up the Giants lethal passing game. In the divisional round of the playoffs against a stingy Dallas Cowboys defense, both of the Giants bruising backs split the work load and ended up with a touchdown apiece while averaging over four yards a carry.

It was the same story a week later up in Green Bay with below zero temperatures, but this time Bradshaw saw more carries and yards than he did in the previous week at Dallas, carrying the ball 16 times for a total of 63 yards one touchdown and catching a pass, taking it nine yards up the field. Saving his best performance for the last game in the NFC playoffs, Jacobs had two touchdowns, one by air, and one by ground. He finished the game with 67 yards in 21 carries and catching two passes out of the backfield for 16 yards.

It's obvious that a team has to have more dimensions to their game than just a great offense to take down the Patriots, but for now football fans have to just wait it out until the two teams meet again in February to battle for the Lombardi trophy.



PHOTO COURTESY SPORTS.YAHOO.COM



SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2008
5K Run/Walk 7:30 a.m. start
USATF Certified
Nova Southeastern University
Davie Campus

Race Day Schedule:

Registration & Packet Pick-up is from 6:30am to 7:15am. Pre-race warm-up at 7:10am. The 5K Run/Walk will start at 7:30am. The Awards Ceremony will start at approximately 8:45 a.m.

Awards and Age Divisions:

Male & Female First Overall; Masters Male & Female Overall; First Male & Female Wheelchair. Three Deep Age Group, 10 & under, 11-12, 13-14, 15-19, 20-24, 25-29, 30-34, 35-39, 40-44, 45-49, 50-54, 55-59, 60-64, 65-69, 70-74, 75+ . The Awards Ceremony will start at approximately 8:45am.

Course: 5k run/walk USATF Certified

ChampionChip:

The race will be timed using the state of the art ChampionChip Timing System. All participants are required to pick up their ChampionChip on the day of the event. Any participant that fails to pick up their ChampionChip or who does not wear the ChampionChip on their running shoe will not be timed or scored in the results. All chips must be returned to volunteers at the finish line. Participants must pay \$35 for lost or unreturned chips.

Refreshments:

A variety of food and drinks will be available to all participants.

Registration:

5K Run/Walk Pre-Registration Fee = \$20.00

ALL 5K Race Day Entries = \$25.00

Special Olympics Athletes free registration for all events.

Pre-registration by mail:

Make checks payable to: Special Olympics Broward County

Mail to: 2211 Charleston , Weston, FL 33326

Pre-registration on-line: splitsecondtiming.com

All t-shirts, race numbers & ChampionChips will be picked up on race day, Sunday, February 10 , 2008

Results will be posted on: splitsecondtiming.com

Patriots path to perfection

THE NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS ARE JUST ONE GAME AWAY FROM NFL HISTORY

Record: Tom Brady 92.86 completion percentage is the best ever for playoffs and regular season with at least 20 attempts.

Record: Tom Brady 16 straight completions, most in playoffs.

Record: New England 16 wins in the regular season.

Record: 0 losses in regular season, tied for least ever. (1934 Bears 13-0, 1942 Bears 11-0, 1972 Dolphins 14-0)

Record: 19 consecutive season wins. (2003/4 Patriots 18)

Record: 589 points during a season. (1998 Vikings 556)

Record: Tom Brady 50 touchdown passes in a season. (Manning 49, 2004)

Record: +315 point differential on season. (1942 Bears +292)

Record: Randy Moss 23 touchdown catches on season. (Rice 22, 1987)

Record: Tom Brady +42 TD/INT ratio. (Manning +39, 2004)

Record: Eugene Wilson's touchdown made him the 21 player to score a touchdown on the season, tying the Patriots for most players to score a touchdown.

BRUNO NICCOLI
SPORTS EDITOR

The New England Patriots are going to their fourth Super Bowl in seven years, but this time, they are perusing more than another title, they are trying to achieve perfection.

The Pats did what seemed to be an impossible achievement: they finished the 2007 season without losing a game. After defeating the Jacksonville Jaguars in the Divisional Playoffs and the San Diego Chargers to win another AFC championship, New England now has the chance of becoming the second team to win an NFL Championship undefeated.

New England's amazing season came along with outstanding performances and innumerable records broken. On their path to perfection Tom Brady and his teammates were able to re-write the NFL record book like no other team has done before.

These are the NFL records broken by the Patriots.

Record: Randy Moss is the first player to gain 100 yards in first four games with a new team.

Record: New England's five consecutive AFC East championships is the most in AFC East history (Dolphins 4 1971-74, Dolphins 4, 1981-85 (82 strike), Bills 4 88-91)

Record: Randy Moss 4 touchdown catches before a half time tied him for most before the half time break.

Record: Tom Brady 10 consecutive games with three or more touchdown passes.

Record: The Patriots became the first team to win first eight games by 17 points or more.

Record: Richard Harrison became the first member of the club for those with 30/30 INTs/Sacks during their careers.

Record: Ellis Hobbs 108 yard kickoff return in the first game of the season is still the NFL record

Record: Tom Brady became the youngest QB to reach 100 wins, after defeating the Chargers for the AFC championship

Record: New England's impressive list of broken record also includes the most records broken in a season.



WK	DATE	OPPONENT	RESULT	W-L	PASSING	RUSHING	RECEIVING
1	Sun, Sep 9	@ NY Jets	W 38-14	1-0	Brady 297	Maroney 72	Moss 183
2	Sun, Sep 16	San Diego	W 38-14	2-0	Brady 279	Maroney 77	Moss 105
3	Sun, Sep 23	Buffalo	W 38-7	3-0	Brady 311	Maroney 103	Moss 115
4	Mon, Oct 1	@ Cincinnati	W 34-13	4-0	Brady 231	Morris 117	Moss 102
5	Sun, Oct 7	Cleveland	W 34-17	5-0	Brady 265	Morris 102	Watson 107
6	Sun, Oct 14	@ Dallas	W 48-27	6-0	Brady 388	Faulk 47	Stallworth 136
7	Sun, Oct 21	@ Miami	W 49-28	7-0	Brady 354	Maroney 31	Welker 138
8	Sun, Oct 28	Washington	W 52-7	8-0	Brady 306	Maroney 75	Welker 89
9	Sun, Nov 4	@ Indianapolis	W 24-20	9-0	Brady 255	Maroney 59	Moss 145
10	BYE WEEK						
11	Sun, Nov 18	@ Buffalo	W 56-10	10-0	Brady 373	Evans 56	Moss 128
12	Sun, Nov 25	Philadelphia	W 31-28	11-0	Brady 380	Maroney 31	Welker 149
13	Mon, Dec 3	@ Baltimore	W 27-24	12-0	Brady 257	Maroney 44	Maroney 79
14	Sun, Dec 9	Pittsburgh	W 34-13	13-0	Brady 399	Maroney 18	Moss 135
15	Sun, Dec 16	NY Jets	W 20-10	14-0	Brady 140	Maroney 104	Moss 79
16	Sun, Dec 23	Miami	W 28-7	15-0	Brady 215	Maroney 156	Gaffney 82
17	Sat, Dec 29	@ NY Giants	W 38-35	16-0	Brady 356	Maroney 46	Welker 122
DIV	Sat, Jan 12	Jacksonville	W 31-20	17-0	Brady 262	Maroney 122	Stallworth 68
CONF	Sun, Jan 20	San Diego	W 21-12	18-0	Brady 209	Maroney 122	Faulk 82
SB	Sun, Feb 3	NY Giants	6:30 PM	TV: FOX	Location: University of Phoenix Stadium		



Thirty two and counting for the Heat

ANTHONY SEDLEY
STAFF WRITER

Big number 32 has arrived in Miami.

No, I'm not talking about big daddy Shaquille O'Neal rejoining the Miami Heat after seeking alternative recovery methods for a hip injury. I'm talking about the Heat suffering their 32nd loss of the season. The Heat are currently taking a disastrous ride on a 14 game losing streak. The last time this team tasted victory was back on December 22nd just squeaking past the Utah Jazz 104-102. But, even the most dedicated Heat fans are having trouble keeping optimistic and finding that faint glitter of hope called the silver lining from their team this season.

What's the easiest way to find that misleading silver

lining? Just watch Dwyane Wade do his thing.

In Monday's game against the Cleveland Cavaliers, Wade finished the game with 42 points, putting up 18 buckets in the

fourth quarter, setting a franchise mark for most consecutive points, which also happened to be the last points his team scored. Wade also had 32 of the Heat's 38 second half points, also a franchise record and tiny bright spot in Miami's less than sunny season. O'Neal, on the other hand, was limited to 28 minutes and 10 points due to a nagging hip and hamstring injury. Shaq was the Heat's only other starter to score more than 10 points in Monday nights contest.

The Cavaliers came into Miami with the NBA's leading scorer LeBron James, averaging 29.7 points per game. The Heat defense held him to 28 points for the night, but excellent bench play from the Cavs complemented James with 26 points of their own.

Compared to the Heat bench that put up a measly 14 points when failing to score at crucial moments. The Heat's 3-point shooters coming off the bench were anemic, going 0-6 when points were needed most. Wade made the only shot from beyond the arc on only 3 attempts. Fellow

Heat guard Jason Williams went 0-4 from 3-point land.

Whether it's the Heat's lack of team chemistry or poor defense, especially in the closing minutes, this team is looking to set another franchise and possibly NBA record with most losses in a season.



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PHOTO COURTESY SPORTS.YAHOO.COM

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Ballots make a deafening noise

VOTERS CAN SEND LOUD MESSAGES TO OFFICIALS WITH NOTHING MORE THAN A BALLOT

ANGELA OSBORNE
OPINION EDITOR

There are two types of people out in the world, complainers and the people who complain about complainers. Sometimes its good complain, and other times people just don't have the right to.

When it comes to our everyday issues in life like running out of ketchup or leaving the toilet seat up, complaining about it really doesn't matter and it just annoys other people. But when it comes to issues like property taxes, gas prices, or our educational system, only those who vote should have the right to complain when the system doesn't work.

As an example, you as a BCC student isn't exactly thrilled that our tuition is being raised, again. Elections shaped that decision, and if you voted in the last election, you have the right to complain about it. Why? Here's why, big college issues like tuition increases are decided by the board of trustees, the board is appointed by the governor, and the citizens of Florida vote for the governor. Voting effects more aspects of our daily lives than you might think.

Late last year, there was an issue with Florida's no fault auto insurance law. This issue affected those who drove a car, those who rode in cars, and the people who even crossed a street. The state representatives, (the ones that work for the state legislature and senate) whom we vote for, were able to pass a new law correcting the auto insurance problems to protect Floridians.

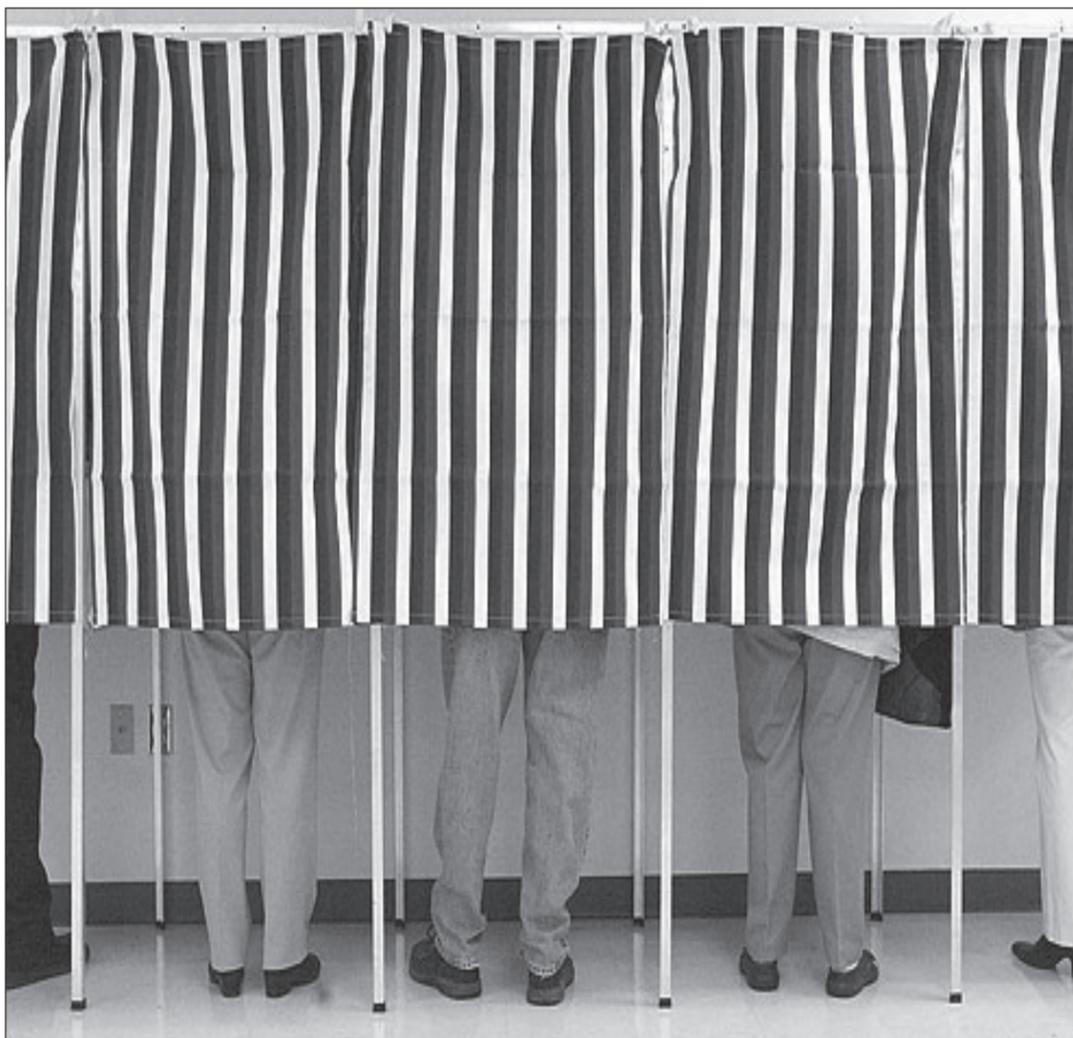
Almost everyone by now may know someone, or at least knows someone that knows someone that

has served in Iraq or Afghanistan. For those, the war is a major issue. Also, this upcoming presidential election is a time where you can get your voices heard, if you are for or against the war. You can research the candidate's stances on the issue and vote for who you agree with.

These are big issues that really impact everybody, either of the state or the nation. But there are smaller issues that our city and county elected officials deal with every day. In Palm Beach County, the county officials passed a law that dogs and cats that belong to breeders cannot have more than two litters a year. You may say who cares, but this is something that local officials do. Ever wondered who made the decision of how high is to high for grass, the city officials did.

It is important to vote. It is truly the only way to get our voices heard. Voters don't always vote for people, there are also amendments and propositions that is nothing more than a popular vote. This year in Miami there is the issue of Las Vegas Style slots in pari-mutuel facilities. It will generate millions for education but some still don't want it because of moral issues, a popular vote will decide what will happen.

The loud get heard, and sometimes the loudest thing you can do is cast a ballot. If you are registered voter, go and vote, with early voting there really is no excuse anymore. If you aren't registered, there is still time to get registered for the Nov. elections. If you need to get registered and live in Broward County, you can go to www.browardsoe.org for more information.



Voters casting their ballots.

PHOTO COURTESY OF BOSTON.COM

Democracy lives on, sort of

JASMINE GRANT
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

I know that I can not be the only one who is disappointed about the Democrats not being counted in the Florida Primaries and this affecting other states as well. It seems the National Democratic Party is penalizing the candidates running for the Presidency under the Democrat party because certain states decided to break the rules and move up their Primaries. The only democrat that has left their name on the ballot is Hillary Clinton. The other candidates figured it makes no sense, since the Democrats will not be acknowledged at all in the States that broke the rules. So now, when people go out and vote in Florida on January 29, they will only be representing Republican, Independent or Undeclared candidates.

This year's election can be both a gift and a curse. The fact that the Democrats won't be recognized on the ballots will show less division between parties. This could be a sign of great things to come for the citizens of America.

Just maybe everyone will be able to achieve the 'American Dream' and live a life of peace and harmony. Maybe in the near future there will be no different parties to separate Americans more than they are by social classes and such. We can elect someone who can represent all Americans. Red States and Blue States might not exist, but an actual *United States of America*.

Even if the Republicans get penalized like the Democrats it would not be right; but in the end those who cared would not have the power, or even the voice to make a difference. Whether or not you, as a reader, take me to be a Democrat or a radical, it is the principle of fairness, or more appropriate equality. For our 'Republic' or representative Democracy to work it must be equal and fair. Or, maybe, it could just be a sign that those in control of things figure the Democrats might as well be considered as the 'independents' and 'others' with their liberal thinking. The greatest thing about 2008 which many citizens apparently agree on, according to surveys and

statistics, is that President George Bush will be saying good-bye to the White House.

I find it ironic that the Republican Party is not punishing all the states that broke the rule of pushing up their primaries. Really, who is in charge of making these choices? Whoever they are, they deserve to be shot, or sent to trial for endangering this so called Democracy that the United States has as its Government. I asked my American Government teacher if this is going to have a huge effect on the elections and the answer was: yes. With that answer, anyone or any group of people, who thinks they are entitled to endanger the majority of citizens of exercising their rights is criminal.

If you would like to stay updated on the Primaries this year you can check out <http://www.cnn.com/ELECTION/2008/primaries/results/state/>. Also, to check out the results in all counties in Florida you can go to <http://www.cnn.com/ELECTION/2008/primaries/results/state/>, or stay tuned to your local news stations.

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Florida's Primary Election is Tuesday, January 29

GO VOTE!



Not your grand parent's politics

QUINTIN JACKSON
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

With two of the strongest presidential hopefuls from the Democratic party being a female and an African American, also, with the main issues being same sex marriages, the war in Iraq, and how to correct our country's ever downward spiraling economy. This election year is growing ever more important in America's history.

Your grandparents also probably got the luxury of meeting, or at least seeing, the candidates as they would travel to towns big and small all over the country attempting to gain votes. Now, in today's non-stop, constantly moving world, where people can collect the news from a handful of news groups like Fox, CNN and MSNBC, who are able to shrink the entire countries news down to fit a three hour block. No one seems to have the time to tune in and find out what most of the candidates are actually talking about or against.

On the other hand those same people who couldn't take the time to vote last election found plenty of time to critique George W. Bush and his procedures of running the country. Everyone's vote does make a difference, which was shown when the President won by only a few hundred votes in the last election.

If anything had to be said so far about the upcoming election it will definitely be discussed for years to come. Even though we are not completely through the first month of the election year 2008, the political wheels are beginning to pick up full stride on their spin. Many BCC students have not thought about any plans for next November. However, the campaign race began nearly a year ago and still has until next November.

On a closer date, Jan. 29, Florida will hold it's primaries

on the presidential election. Sadly, the last day to register to vote in the Primaries was in late December, however, go ahead and register now so that you don't forget. This will help prepare you for November.

The Observer, however, doesn't hold a catchy slogan like P. Diddy's "Vote or Die," which was used in the 2004 election. Or, the new slogan of MTV: "Rock the Vote". Even though I personally feel that media is entangled far too much into the election process; they all do have a point.

This is our country, and even though we are still in progress of furthering our educations to one day run this country, our voices still need to be heard. Many people have fought and died for our freedoms. I may not have a catchy slogan like most million dollar entertainment companies but I do have a true slogan. "We are the future.....and the future is now." Since when did the presidential race turn into a popularity contest? I understand that it's a smart thing to tie yourself to a celebrity. This

can be very misleading though to those who don't know anything about politics. It's not

like Barack Obama is going to appoint Oprah Winfrey as his Vice President. Please keep in mind that the celebrities are a political tool used to help bring in votes.

Now don't get me wrong, we all love Oprah's book club. But, when it comes to politics, my needs from a candidate are going to differ a bit. Even on the Republican side of the fence the same stands true. Chuck Norris is an amazing person and we have all seen the funny things about him. But, you will never turn on C-span and see him giving an address about Mike Huckabee.

Please, if you get nothing else out of this article, keep in mind that no matter which side you were

**We Are the future
... and the future
is now.**

From Our Editors

The polls aren't always right

For the next nine months, you will constantly hear about the standings of the Presidential campaigns or the results of the most recent polls. What exactly are the polls? Where do these polls come from? And exactly who is conducting these polls? All good questions, but when you get to the exact root of polling it can get fairly complicated. Consider the fact that polling is not exact; it is nothing but an educated estimate.

Candidates base their entire campaign on polls. The polls can range from how vocal a particular candidate should be on any given issue to the color tie they should wear to the rally. But one of the simplest and most important things a poll does is election projections, is Obama going to take New Hampshire or is Hillary?

From what we know of the past, polls don't always project the correct information.

The inaccuracy of the poll results during past and the current presidential races have led voters questioning if they should trust all these poll results that are thrown on them. Hillary Clinton became the newest beneficiary of misguided polls, when all the numbers, (including her own, because every campaign has their own pollsters, to make their candidate seem better than the rest) said that Barack Obama would win the democratic primary in New Hampshire.

If you are looking to find out who is really ahead in the election, there is no clear-cut answer. One reason is because it is too soon to get a handle on real tangible results. Even though the 2008 election began rather prematurely, January is technically the starting period. So in essence, there is a long way to go and much more voting to be done. And since the media has over-hyped the whole process, as such that each newspaper, internet site, and political show has their own set of polls, it makes it that much harder to actually tell what is going on in the political world.

Anyone can invent their own poll. It's not that hard. And when the correct poll is leaked to the media it can spin the public's opinion. There are a lot of undecided voters that will wait until the poll results come in, and then decide whom to vote for.

Misleading polls can also sway public opinion with the use of push polls. Push polls are a form of negative campaigning in which pollsters call voters and ask questions that have nothing to do with the actual campaign. In the 2000 election George W. Bush's camp used push polls. Voters in South Carolina were asked if they would be more or less likely to vote for John McCain if they knew he had an illegitimate black child. This question had absolutely no relevance yet it reached thousands.

If you truly want to be an informed voter, make sure exactly which poll results you are watching, because not all of them are accurate. Just be aware if you are tuning into the news and you see a poll it's not just for who will win the next American Idol.

raised up or where you stand to this day. They are all politicians, which in turn means that they are telling us good ideas. They are not signing any contracts stating that once they get into office all of their ideas will be turned into laws. They attempt to play off of people's emotions, or whatever they have to do to get your vote.

My suggestions to all readers: there are a few easy steps that you can take to prepare for the upcoming election. Know your candidates, not what the media says about them, but do some researching on each candidate to make sure that you truly support them. After all everyone is already using Google anyways. Never

take anyone else's opinion as fact. Believe nothing that you hear, and only half of what you see. That is the philosophy in politics.

I hope that I have helped clear some matter up for someone. I also hope that everyone joins me at the poll this January and November to encourage and vote for their candidate.



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Opinions expressed in this publication are those of the writers and do not necessarily reflect those of BCC students, staff, faculty and administration.

In The Running

THE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES OF 2008

Democrats

Republicans

Barack Obama

Education: Columbia University & Harvard Law School
 Experience: Junior Senator from Illinois since Jan. 3, 2005
 Member of the Illinois State Senate from 1997-2004

Abortion: Supports rights

Iraq: Against war

Guns: Is against concealed weapons law nationally. Supports decreasing gun sales to one per month.

Mike Huckabee

Education: Quachita Baptist University
 Experience: 54th Governor of Arkansas from July 15, 1996 - Jan. 9, 2007
 12th Lieutenant Governor of Arkansas from Nov. 20, 1993 - July 15, 1996
 Chairman of the National Governors Association from 2005 - 2006

Abortion: Opposes abortion rights.

Iraq: Approves of the war.

Guns: Is in support of guns.

Hillary Clinton

Education: Wellesley College & Yale Law School
 Experience: First Lady of the United States from Jan. 20, 1993 - Jan. 20, 2001
 Junior Senator from New York since Jan. 3, 2001

Abortion: Supports Abortion rights.

Iraq: Approves of the war and would plan on a cap of soldiers in Iraq.

Guns: She has voted on and claims to mandate strict policies on

Mitt Romney

Education: Brigham Young University & Harvard University
 Experience: 70th Governor of Massachusetts from Jan. 2, 2003 - Jan. 4, 2007

Abortion: Opposes abortion rights except in case of rape, incest, and to protect the life of the mother.

Iraq: Approves of the war.

Guns: He feels that the background checks right now are doing there job.

John Edwards

Education: North Carolina State University & University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
 Experience: US Senator from North Carolina from Jan. 6, 1999 - Jan. 3, 2005
 Abortion: Supports abortion rights.

Iraq: Completely against war in Iraq and plans on withdrawing.

Guns: John Edwards is against guns and has made that clear on his record in the Senate.

John McCain

Education: United States Naval Academy
 Experience: Senior Senator from Arizona since Jan. 3, 1987
 Served in the House of Representatives from Jan. 3, 1983 - Jan. 3, 1987
 Chairman of the Senate Committee of Commerce from Jan. 3, 1997 - 2001, Jan. 20, 2001 - June 6, 2001, & Jan. 3, 2003 - 2005

Abortion: Opposes abortion rights. Except in case of incest, rape or mothers safety.

Iraq: Supports war in Iraq.

Guns: Supports gun control.



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& Thomas Hanten