

The Student Voice of  
St. Thomas Aquinas College



January 24, 2008  
Volume 42 ♦ Edition 1

# The THOMA

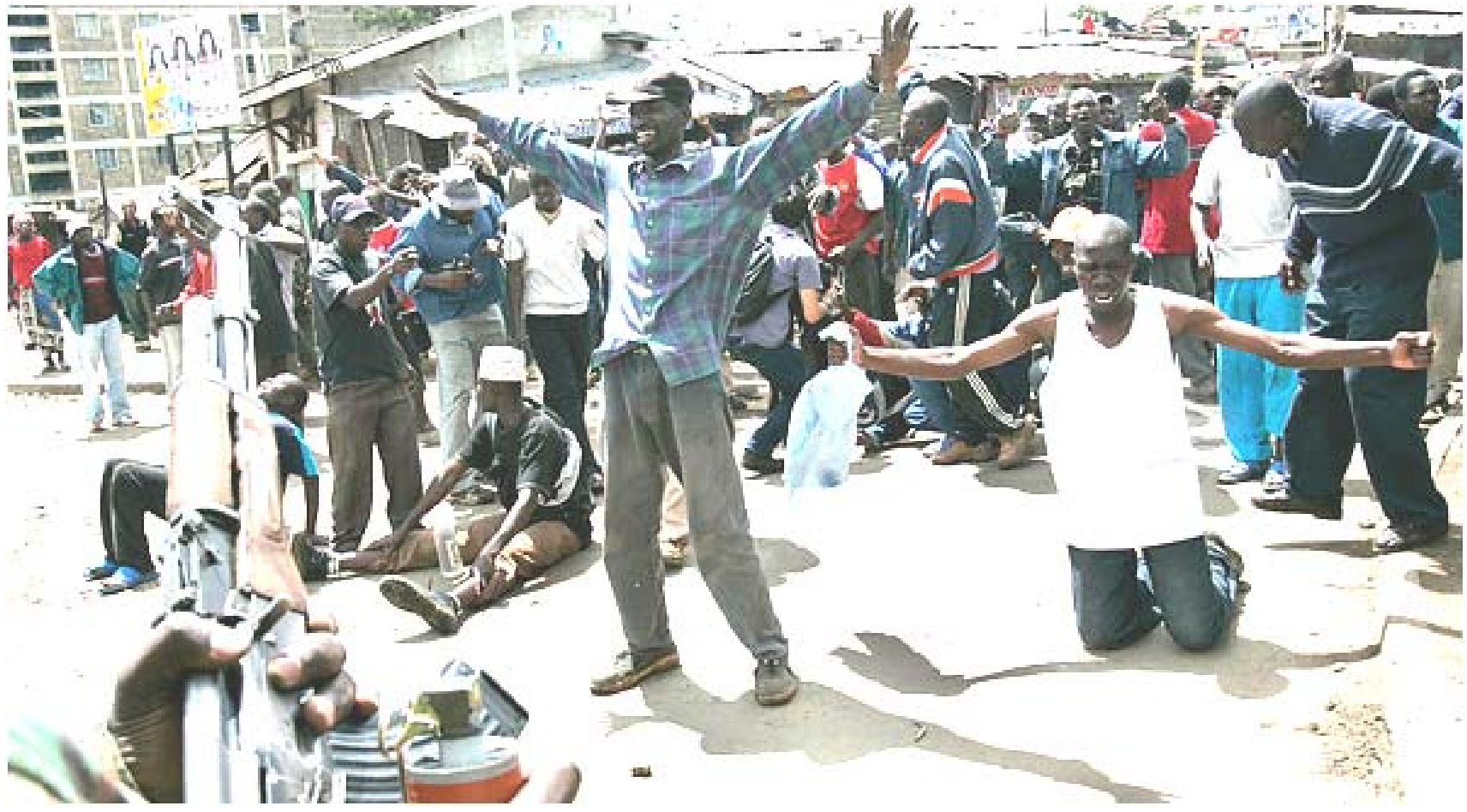
(INSIDE)

News about  
your world!



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## ELECTION SPARKS PROTESTS IN KENYA



Protests in the slums continue around the Presidential Election in Kenya.  
Photo Courtesy of nytimes.com

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**Jasmine Cintron**  
Staff Writer

Clouded smoke filled the air, gun shots echoed and angry protesters filled the streets of Kenya. After what was suppose to be a victory for one politician, was a “narrow victory” for another. This sudden out break in one of Africa’s well-known country was the cause of the Presidential election. December 27th was the day many looked forward to for change, but became the worst day for Africa’s democracy.

The candidates were Mwai Kibaki, a gentleman and an economics genius, as well as a tribal politician, whose campaign was primarily on education for all Kenyan citizens. His opponent Raila Odinga, a rich, bold businessman ran as “the champion of the poor.”

In the pre- election polls, Mr. Odinga had a strong following among the country’s frustration in looking forward to success. He challenged the power among the numerous ethnic groups in Kenya. Many thought that Mr. Odinga had the shoe in for the elections but was bamboozled when Mr. Mabali won victory.

Observers have said the vote was rigged in the election process. Because of this presidential election Kenya has been in a state of turmoil. New Year’s Day was brought by mayhem of the news and Kenya was lead into to a “tribal bloodletting.” The death toll was at more than 300 including dozens burned while hiding in a church.

Tensions had arisen since last month’s elections. Protestors and mob scenes has been flooding the streets of Kenya. The citizens of Kenya are in the state of revenge. Its police are now trying to put pressure on anyone that is getting in there way.

Reports have said photo-journalists and photographers of newspapers have been detained for several hours because there were taking pictures of a blooded scene when police beat a protestor who was unarmed last Wednesday.

For days now, mobs carrying gasoline and protestors fighting are the end result of a long awaited battle for change in Africa.

For the most recent news concerning the riot, please refer to the New York Times.



# WELCOME BACK EDITION



Faculty, Staff, & Students,

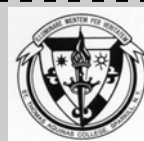
The stockings and ornaments have been packed up, the parties are long over, and unfortunately many New Year's resolutions have been made and broken at least a dozen times. As depressing as it is, winter break is officially over. As I was driving away from my house, leaving my sobbing mother behind, I was ready to get back in the academic game. Don't get me wrong, I love a break from non-stop scholastic stress, but the countless hours without a schedule drives me mad. Call me an over-achiever.

As I came back to STAC and unpacked my life, it hit me that it would be my last time having to do so. Graduation seems so close, yet so far away and I can't decide if I'm looking forward to it or dreading it. My guess is that it's a combination of both.

So this is the beginning of the end and we all know beginnings are never easy. There's always the fear of failing, not being accepted, and normally just the thought of change is enough to hold you back. But with all beginnings come new journeys. January, as cold as it seems, brings about a fresh new start. We all have had obstacles that have taken our emotions for a rollercoaster ride that we never thought we'd ever get out alive. But no matter how bad they seem, it's not the end of the world. We should remember our past, but never let it dictate our future. As we embark on new journeys, we find strength we never thought possible in ourselves. That's the beauty of change.

So my dedicated readers, my wish for you this year is that you let new beginnings unfold before your eyes and grasp on to them with all your might. The road of life is waiting for you.

Peace & Love 



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*The THOMA is a student-run, bi-monthly publication. All views expressed herein are not necessarily those of the college nor the campus community in general.*



## A Message from Our President—Spring 2008

Happy New Year!

I hope that you had time for rest and reflection. Over the break, I had time to read a few books on: the life of a former U.S. President, the moving story of a genocide survivor, the building of schools in Afghanistan, and a few mystery novels. I find reading both relaxing and transformative. Of course, there was more time as well for family and friends and some TV watching!

All of these encounters make me realize how important our national elections are this year. We live in a democracy with so many freedoms and opportunities. Just the opportunity for a college education is a luxury the majority of the world's population does not have. We have a responsibility to seek the causes of injustice and to bring justice, to nourish the hungers of bodies and souls, and to bring light to the darkness.

We all want to be successful personally and professionally. We want to be happy and at peace and we want the same for our family and friends. Hopefully, we want this same peace and joy for all the people in the world. As President Truman points out, we must work hard for it.

So my New Year's wish for you is that you commit yourself to your studies with energy, enthusiasm and hard work. I pray that your reward will be a deepening of understanding, an urgency to be compassionate, and a commitment to be an articulate leader in our global society. May you enlighten the world through truth.

Sincerely,

Dr. Margaret Mary Fitzpatrick, S.C., Ed.D.  
President

*"I studied the lives of great men and famous women, and I found that the men and women who go to the top were those who did the jobs they had in hand, with everything they had of energy and enthusiasm and hard work."*  
--President Harry S. Truman--



# Brutal Tiger Attack in San Francisco



*Photo Courtesy of San Francisco Zoo/ AP*

**Kaitlyn Giroux**  
Staff Writer

On December 26, Christmas Day in San Francisco, three individuals visited a zoo and only two managed to come out alive. The previous year, a zoo employee was also mauled to death by a tiger from the same facility. At first police were trying to determine whether or not the tiger had been provoked before it's attack on the three men and were trying to figure out if someone had released the nine year old tiger, Tatiana, out for her brutal attack.

On January 18, 2008, the 19-year-old Paul Dhaliwal denied to the victim's father that any of the men present at the scene of the crime had tossed any objects into the grounds with the tiger. According to an affidavit, he did admit, however, to have been intoxicated and were boisterous and gesticulated their arms towards the animal. "As a result of this investigation, (police believe) that the tiger may have been taunted/agitated by its eventual victims," revealed Valerie Matthews, the inspector who put in order the affidavit. Officials firmly accept as true that "this factor contributed to the tiger escaping from its enclosure and attacking its victims," Matthews said (cnn.com).

The victim's father, Carlos Sousa Sr., said that Dhaliwal revealed how he and his friends stood on top of a metal railing a couple feet from the tigers' facility. It was said that after the men retreated from the railing a noise occurred in a nearby shrub, causing them to turn around and be attacked by the tiger. Dhaliwal was the receiver of the tiger's first attack.

It is believed that since it was stated that none of the victims had their legs over the pit of the animals, the tiger had somehow managed to climb out of the enclosed tiger moat. Authorities believe this was possible due to the fact that the wall was a full four feet shorter than is suggested.

Although the attorney for Dhaliwal did not speedily return phone calls, the affidavit disclosed the toxicology reports for the young men. Dhaliwal's blood alcohol content was two times the legal limit, while his brother and their friend Sousa contained the legal limit of consumption. The three men also had marijuana in their systems.

A spokesperson for the zoo showed their discernment towards the situation when he claimed that he did in fact believe that the tiger had been tormented. He finally ended with "Those brothers painted a completely different picture to the public and the press," he continued with "Now it's starting to come out that what they said is not true" (cnn.com).

## Entertainment & News Briefs



- ◆ In addition to the celebrity baby boom, actor Matthew McConaughey and his model girlfriend, Calmila Alves, are expecting a child this upcoming summer.
- ◆ After twelve years running, RENT this musical will be taking its final bow on Broadway June 1.
- ◆ Actress Jessica Alba has ruffled some feathers with her comments of teen star, Zax Efron, in an interview with Elle magazine, saying "He looks like a child with a lot of makeup."
- ◆ After twelve seasons, Coach Joe Gibbs has retired from his position from the Washington Redskins.
- ◆ After his death in December, medical examiners have determined the death of Ike Turner was due to a cocaine overdose.
- ◆ American Chess player, Bobby Fischer, died in Iceland at the age of 64. The cause of death has yet to be announced.
- ◆ Walid Obeidi, senior leader of the military wing Islamic Jihad had been killed by Israeli troops.
- ◆ In an interview with CNN, Omar bin Laden son of Osama bin Laden, he states, "I try and say to my father: 'Try to find another way to help or find your goal. This bomb, this weapons, it's not good to use it for anybody.'"
- ◆ Two planes flying over Corona, California, crashed; killing 5 people in the process.
- ◆ After serving 48 days for drunk driving chargers, Kiefer Sutherland ("24") has been released from jail.
- ◆ Due to a specific rape scene as well as ethnic issues, the film "The Kite Runner" has been banned from Afghanistan.
- ◆ John Stewart, who is most famously known for writing the song "Daydream Believer" for the Monkeys, has died at the age of 68 from a massive stroke.
- ◆ After a perfect season, the Patriots are scheduled to face the New York Giants in the 2008 Super Bowl.
- ◆ Miley Cyrus, aka Hannah Montana, is set to release a 3-D version of her "Best of Both Worlds" concert in theatres the first week in February.
- ◆ In a new study, science has linked a mother's consumption of caffeine with miscarriages.
- ◆ Due to changes in government restrictions, Saudi Arabian women are now allowed to be in a hotel or apartment without a male guardian with them.

# GRUESOME PUNISHMENT FOR LOHAN

**Jessica M. Liss**  
Staff Writer

Infamous starlet, Lindsay Lohan, has been sentenced to four days of service in both a morgue and emergency room as part of her sentence for her drunk driving misdemeanors.

Prior to this sentence, Lohan has spent two months in rehabilitation as well as orders for community service work in hope to fulfill her provisions for a plea bargain. In 2007, the actress was arrested twice for driving under the influence and cocaine charges. For that, she has served a whopping 84 minutes in jail, serving her duty.

The court is hoping Lohan's experience in the morgue will show her the consequences of her actions and prevent future incidences in her life.



*Photo Coutesy of yahoo.com & the AP*

**Want to Rant or Rave?**

**Want to see something new?**

**Interested in being a writer, artist  
or photographer for The Thoma?**

★ ★ ★

**E-mail: [thoma@stac.edu](mailto:thoma@stac.edu)  
For more information!**



# IT WAS THE BEST OF TIMES... IT WAS THE WORST OF TIMES...

*A look back at the best and worst gifts received in 2007.*

**Kelly Leonard**  
Staff Writer

No matter how old we get, there is still something exciting about waking up Christmas morning to a pile of gifts underneath the Christmas tree. Every year we dream about getting the items on our wish lists and look forward to opening up that special gift on Christmas. Every year it's something different, a new fad, game, or electronic that you as well as all your friends anticipate on getting for Christmas.

Christmas of 2007 was the year of electronic gifts and video games. The very popular Nintendo Wii was an item on many wish lists this year as well as the newest game system, Playstation 3. The newest version of Playstation is different from it's previous models because it can play blue ray discs, the controllers are wireless, you can play online and you no longer need a memory card to save your games.

The best game to receive to play on your brand new Playstation 3 or Wii this Christmas was Guitar Hero. This unique game combines your favorite music with a competitive twist. People of all ages enjoy rocking out to good music and playing guitar better than their competitors.

Mp3 players make it to the top of many wish lists this year. Both Microsoft and Macintosh have come out with leading mp3 players just in time for the Christmas season. Microsoft's "Zune 80" has 80 GB and is capable of holding up to 20,000 songs, 25,000 pictures or 250 hours worth of video. Apple's new "iPod nano" is much smaller than the "Zune" and has a new square shape. It can play up to 5 hours of video and 24 hours of music before having to be charged.



Photo Courtesy of infoworld.com



Photo Courtesy of codinghorror.com

Apple's iPhone was a desired item for many this year as well. Essentially combining a wireless computer complete with unlimited internet access, a camera, an mp3 player and of course a cell phone, all into a small and sleek device. The iPhone is controlled by a unique touch screen which has unbelievable clarity.

Whatever was on your wish list this year, I hope it nestled underneath your tree waiting for you to open on Christmas morning.

**Kaitlyn Giroux**  
Staff Writer

"To give is better than to receive" is a quote often heard during the holidays when individuals constantly nag about the hectic season and the stress of finding the perfect gift. When people utter this quote, one must wonder exactly what is going through the person's mind when they receive a gift. As quickly as the holidays came, they passed just as swiftly: with each gift that was given and received all I can say is yeah the thought of giving is a nice one, however maybe some of the gift choices were better left a thought and a wave would have been more fitting. As my best friend Rich and I sat and discussed all the gifts we received, we soon realized that we both got the short end of the stick. Yeah sure, to give is better than to receive but personally a wave would have been much more sufficient than hidden insults or a faulty toy. Here's to the gift givers and the gift receivers who need a good laugh in their lives as we poke fun at the top 10 worst gifts received and we hope that the next time you give a gift you double check to make sure all the pieces are in tact.

10) Socks- okay maybe our socks may be a bit dilapidated and sure perhaps a tad discolored but hey, we can buy our own socks, you stick to the toys and the fun stuff and leave the frilly footwear to us.

9) Navajo Indian necklaces- okay enough said.

8) Action figure fully equipped with only one leg- okay I don't care if you watch Spiderman or not but I am pretty sure we all know that he was not a one legged super hero and by the way what exactly happened to his other leg and where did it go because the box was properly sealed. Hmmmm....guess the left leg will be on the list for next year.

7) Life Savers- one word...why?

6) The dynamic duo of deodorant and toothpaste- okay I bathe everyday that's all I'm saying. I know I don't smell appalling...geez...guess last time I ran into them I was having a bad day.

5) Orange turtleneck perfectly paired with the green sweatpants from the following gift box- By the way mom I don't care what you say orange and green are not complimentary colors and sure you may think it's cute and use the excuse how "they look great for Halloween" but it's December.

4) Irregular undershirts with one arm longer than the other - and what happened to the neckline? The world may never know.

3) Sunflower seeds- what?

2) Gift card fully loaded with \$2.36- Geez ...guess someone forgot to buy a gift and scrambled in the pocket for the first thing they found. Thanks I'll go buy some bubblegum?

And last but certainly the best of all I must thank my friend Rich because I almost died from laughter and felt that it was perfectly fitting and entirely necessary to make this number one.

1) 75 cents in a card- "Thanks?" Grandma- "It would have been \$2.00 but the card cost \$1.25."

So just when you think you got someone the perfect gift, take a moment to really think and analyze every possible reaction. For parents out there picture this...your child so happy, running downstairs shaking all the gifts and hoping for that one present they have been so patiently waiting for, for an entire year and then imagine their disappointment as they unwrap that pumpkin colored turtleneck that will forever remain in the back of their closet. Now remember it wasn't cool when you wore it and wear it still and as much as you are trying to "bring it back" it will never be in style. Well... look at the bright side of all of this...at least you have some life savers to munch on.

## QUOTE OF THE WEEK:

"My grandmother has a bumper sticker on her car that says, 'Sexy Senior Citizen'. You don't want to think of your grandmother that way, do you? Out entering wet shawl contests... Makes you wonder where she got that dollar she gave you for your birthday." - Andy Rooney

## Stay in Shape!

### STAC Fitness Center Hours

Monday-Thursday 8am-10pm

Friday- 8am—8pm

Saturday & Sunday- 12pm-6pm



# Steps for a Stress Free Semester

**Melissa Vitiello**  
Staff Writer



Welcome back to STAC, college students! I hope everyone is excited to start the Spring Semester. As with every semester, we should all be determined to make it productive and successful as well as enjoyable. Here are some tips to help you start off the semester well:

- ◆ Time management is very essential! Remember that we are not in high school anymore. We no longer have our parents and teachers reminding us of what we have to do, when we have to do it. Get a planner or an agenda and record all your major coursework and figure out how you're going to deal with your workload each week. Don't forget to include activities that will take up an immense amount of time such as sports and / or your job. Set deadlines for yourself and keep them. Creating a "to-do" list isn't a bad idea either. You'll be happy you did this once things get hectic as the semester goes by.

- ◆ Do not slack off! You should be more determined than ever not to slack because you have a fresh start and a chance to ace the semester! Plus, if you fall back now, you're going to regret it later when you're trying to make it up but you're swamped with other work. So don't go crying to your professor at the end of the semester when you can't hand in an assignment on time.

- ◆ You know that paper the instructor gives out the first day of each class with all the fine print? It's called a syllabus and it's very crucial to passing the class. Don't let that important document get lost among a stack of papers. Not only does it clarify the rules of the class and tell you how you will be graded, but it also entails a detailed schedule for the semester. It assists you in keeping up with the work as well as helping you get ahead.

- ◆ Try not to miss any classes or lectures. Unless it's a serious emergency, what reason do you have not to go to class? And don't use the excuse "I partied too hard last night". It just doesn't work. It's almost as bad as saying your dog ate your homework.

- ◆ Try to improve your attention span in all of your classes. Even if the course doesn't come of interest to you, keep your self occupied by taking notes. If there is required reading, do it well before class so you have a good understanding of the lecture. Highlight the most important context as well as what the professor is talking about. Sit in front so you can hear well and take notes. If your instructor says something more than once, write it down!

- ◆ MySpace and Facebook are fun sites and majority of college students have them, but you should try and spend a little less time on them. You could use that time to do something a bit more productive such as starting an assignment for a class, or perhaps even reading a book or a magazine. Try it some time. It's really not that bad.

- ◆ Do not wait until the night before the due date to start an assignment or paper. Once your professor hands out an assignment, make sure you completely understand everything the professor says. Don't be afraid to ask questions. You'll most likely help out your classmates as well by asking questions. Plus, it says to the professor that you actually care about the work. Then make a schedule and plan what you'll do each day.

- ◆ Make sure to study in an area with very little or no distractions. This also means stay away from the television and the computer and anything else that can cause interference with your studies. Perhaps your dorm isn't always the best place to study because of all the chaos and disturbance that occurs. You're much better off going to the library and / or the Academic Skills Center where it's quiet. An empty classroom works just as well. And don't wait until the night before to study for an exam! Cramming often ends in poor performance. Even if you do well on the exams, realize that you're learning very little. Break into the habit of studying a little bit each day.

- ◆ Become more involved on campus. Consider joining a student organization, club, or even a sports team. You want to get out there and meet new people, learn new things, and seek opportunities that you never knew existed.

- ◆ Don't be scared to ask for help! There is a reason why your professors have e-mail addresses and office hours. If you're struggling in class or need help with an assignment, let them know! Show that you are willing to make an effort. College is no time for apathy.

- ◆ The feeling of being overwhelmed in college is very common but sometimes it will sneak up on you. Be prepared. You're going to have those moments where everything just seems like it's too much to handle. Just remember that you are not the only one who is feeling that way.

- ◆ Finally, always make sure you have time for yourself. Whether it's watching your favorite television show, browsing the web, listening to music, or even taking some time out to write for your own recreation ... take part in something you enjoy and that will help you relieve some stress.

## Keeping Your New Year's Resolution

### YOUR QUICK GUIDE TO SUCCESS

**Kelly Leonard**  
Staff Writer



New Year's is more than just partying and having a good time with friends. It's a celebration of the New Year and what it has to offer you. Many people intend on taking full advantage of the New Year's offerings and see January 1<sup>st</sup> as a starting point for a better way of life. Optimists all around the world view the month of January as their chance to start on a clean slate. It's a time to look back on 2007 and decide what aspects of your life you would like to be different for 2008.

The most common New Year's Resolutions involve improving your physical appearance and your overall health. Losing weight and getting fit are the most popular New Year's resolutions for Americans. Although the New Year seems promising, many people give up on their resolutions before February even begins. The reason for this is people expect drastic changes to happen almost immediately and try to jump right into their new lifestyles without allowing themselves to warm up or ease into it.

So how can you keep your resolutions for 2008? It's simple. First, before choosing a resolution, make sure it's something realistic. Have you tried the same resolution every year and every year have you failed to keep it? If this is the case, it's time to pick a new resolution. Otherwise you are just setting yourself up for failure.

The second thing you can do to ensure that your resolution will be made is to take baby steps. Instead of claiming your resolution to be losing weight, how about trying to claim a smaller goal like exercising for a given amount of time each week? Or, how about eating less junk food and more fruits and vegetables instead of giving up your favorite snacks all together. Sticking to less intimidating goals will make your resolution easier to accomplish.

The next thing you can do to be sure you stick to your resolutions is to tell your friends and family about it. Most people can deal with disappointing themselves but it is hard to admit to a friend or a family member that you have failed. Plus the people who are closest to you can be your best support systems and your best critics.

Finally, in order to achieve your New Year's resolution you have to be patient. The purpose of a resolution is to make this year better than last year, so technically you have 365 days to accomplish your goal. If you plan on changing your lifestyle, it is definitely not going to happen overnight.



# Always a Bridesmaid, Never a Bride...

**Jennifer Panaro**  
Staff Writer

On Thursday, January 10th, AMC Lowes Theater in Lincoln Square, New York City, hosted a free screening for the movie *27 Dresses*. Free screening shopping bags, filled with notebooks and candy, were given out to the people who were able to attend.

Directed by Anne Fletcher (*Step Up*) *27 Dresses* stars Katherine Heigl, James Mardsen, Malin Akerman, Edward Burns, and Melora Hardin.

The movie begins with a young girl named Jane around eight years old. She is in a wedding which makes her realize that she loves the idea of weddings. Older Jane is played by Katherine Heigl who you've seen in last summer's *Knocked Up* and 'Grey's Anatomy.' When Jane gets older, she is always the bridesmaid but never the bride. At one of the wedding she meets Kevin (James Mardsen) who is a journalist and writes about weddings.



Photo Courtesy of blog.mlive.com

One day Jane's sister Tess (Malin Akerman) comes in and she meets Jane's boss who Jane has been in love with for a long time. Tess and Jane's boss get engaged and Jane has to plan the wedding. Kevin spends time with Jane and sees one day that she has 27 bridesmaid dresses in her closet. She kept the dresses of all the weddings she was in in the past. Awhile after Jane and Kevin get to know each other, Jane finds out that Kevin wrote an article about her "Always a bridesmaid never the bride." She is then mad at him and never wants to see him again. Kevin wrote it

before he realized that he fell in love with her. At the night of Tess's engagement party Jane decides to embarrass Tess and let's everyone know who the real Tess is. The wedding is then cancelled.

Towards the end of the movie, her boss kisses her and even though she has wanted it for a long time she realizes it wasn't how she expected. That is because she is in love with Kevin. Of course you could guess what happens after that.

I definitely recommend that people go see *27 Dresses* when it hits theaters. It has a great cast and is filled of both comedy and romance, making it a great date movie. The chemistry on screen between Katherine Heigl and James Mardsen is great. When they first meet in the movie you could tell that they are meant for each other. The

music in the movie is really great; it makes the movie what it is. There was also diversity when Jane was in different weddings for people of different cultures. I liked the concept of how everything was diverse and open minded, unlike some films and media today.

*27 Dresses* hits theaters January 18th so go see it while you can. It is definitely a movie that you don't want to miss. Everything about the movie is very great. If you see it you will get your money's worth.

## BRITNEY'S BREAK-DOWN

**Jennifer Panaro**  
Staff Writer

The Britney Spears drama continues. Pop star Spears had a breakdown and had to attend Cedars-Sinai Medical Center late at night on January 3rd to go through a mental evaluation.

In a court date, Spears was told her children had to be with their father and for awhile she wasn't allowed to visit her children. According to timesonline.com, a court commissioner gave sole physical and legal custody of Britney Spears' two little boys to ex-husband Kevin Federline and suspended the troubled Pop Star's visitation rights. Even though Britney was in a bad condition she refused to let Federline have custody of her children. In an interview, A teacher at Pepperdine University in California named Cron said "My guess is that she won't be seeing her kids for awhile."

Spears' bodyguard Tony Baretto blamed the cause of her breakdown on drugs. Baretto also explains there's something that needs to be fixed with Britney. He stated, "No bodyguards can do it. An assistant can't do it. And Britney obviously can't do it alone." He also explained how her parents can't control her. He discusses how Britney does what she wants.

"I think it's insane. I remember idolizing her but unfortunately I don't remember why. But I have nothing against her. She is who she is," Melissa Vitiello, a student at St. Thomas Aquinas College says when asked about how she felt about Britney's recent breakdown.

Some celebrities are also putting in their opinion on the Britney issue. In an ABC News story, Donald Trump told Insider, "This is Anna Nicole Smith all over again! Someone needs to help her." Katherine Heigl from Grey's Anatomy and *27 Dresses* stated, "She is obviously in a great deal of drama and pain, and that's a horrible thing for someone to go through in front of the entire world and I'm sorry for her."

Britney's time in the hospital will restrict her from not only everyday life, but her children as well. Some people feel that the only way for her to get her children back will be to get the help that she needs.



Photo Courtesy of celebslam.buzznet.com

**Jasmine Cintron**  
Staff Writer

The New Year has rung in, the family dinners are done, and school is back in session. Basically that means work, work, and more work. But 2008 doesn't necessary mean all work and no play. Listed below are events that are happening all around the city for the next month. If you are bored in your dorm room and enjoy the arts, music, and poetry. Check out what the city has to offer.

Enjoy writing poetry and listening to other poets? The Nuyorican Café is the place to be on Friday nights. Starts at 10pm with a poetry slam. Then after enjoy "The Open room" a Nuyorican tradition bring a poem and read. Hosted by the A-Trayan. Admission: \$10. For more information and other events. Check out there website: [www.nuyorican.org](http://www.nuyorican.org)

If your passion is art, take a trip downtown to the Museum of Modern Art. There are numerous lectures and gallery openings.

- ◆ Fri. Jan. 25— 11:30am, 31: 1:30pm  
*New Perspectives in Latin American Art: 1930-2006* with Kiara Cabanos
- ◆ Sat. Jan. 26— 1:30pm—Mulptex: *Directions in Art 1970 to now.*
- ◆ Mon. Feb. 11 & 14 - 12:30pm - *Lucian Freud: The Painting Etchings*
- ◆ Wed. Feb. 20— 6:30pm-Concerts, Readings and Performances  
found Poetry: *Retelling Word and Image.*

(For more information: [www.moma.org](http://www.moma.org); (212) 708-9400)

Enjoy Hip Hop and /or theater? Check out the Hip Hop Theater Festival February events. Performances tend to be limited. Get tickets as soon as possible.

- ◆ February 1- March 8: 8pm Thursday & Friday  
3pm and 8pm Saturday

Baruch Performing Arts Center is holding The Actors Rap, a comedy performance about a group of actors frustrated by all the "rappers turned actors" who shamelessly steal there roles. The actors in turn kidnaps today's hottest rapper in order to secure a coveted role in upcoming film.-[www.hiphoptheaterfestival.org](http://www.hiphoptheaterfestival.org)

May the New Year bring you luck and happiness. Enjoy!

# Get Up, Get Out, & Experience the City





# Democratic or Republican—Does It Matter?

## *A Glance Into Hillary Clinton’s Presidential Campaign*

**Melissa Vitiello**  
Staff Writer

First Lady Hillary Clinton once said "Our lives are a mixture of different roles. Most of us are doing the best we can to find whatever the right balance is . . . For me, that balance is family, work, and service."

On January 8<sup>th</sup> 2007, at the New Hampshire Primary, Clinton proved that her battle to become president is far from over, with a slight victory over greatly favored opponent Barack Obama, Clinton received 39% of the vote, with Obama not far behind with 37%. Furthermore, Senator Clinton finishes this 2007 pre-campaign year in an exceptional spot in New York. She gets 53 - 34 percent advantageous rating from New York State voters, including 59 - 28 ratio in New York City. Evidently, Clinton has established a distinct lead upon her Democratic rivals in the early U.S. primary states. Hillary is intending on addressing many of the issues currently going on in America. Let's take a look . . .

First off, we all know how stressful and overwhelming it is paying for college. As a matter of fact, did you know that only 7% of students from low-income communities get a B.A. by age 26? College continues to be out of reach for many students from middle class and low-income families. Clinton has created a plan that will make college affordable as well as attainable.

This strategy includes reducing the charge of college through a \$3,500 tuition tax credit, which will cover more than 50% of the price of tuition for many families. "I believe that college shouldn't just be a privilege for the wealthy – but an opportunity for anyone with the talent, determination and ambition to learn. And I believe that every American should have access to lifelong learning opportunities – from apprenticeships, to community college, to the most select four-year institutions," Clinton said. That is to say, that a higher education is very essential today and no obstacle, including money, should prevent a student from receiving the chance to pursue a college career.

Furthermore, Clinton intends to eliminate the student aid process. Everyone knows how difficult and time - consuming it is filling out a FAFSA form. Who needs the extra stress? A majority of the information that FAFSA forms require is already on record with the federal government. Therefore, the complicated forms and overlong procedures are not crucial nor necessary. Clinton is going to make it possible in which the only thing students have to do to apply for student aid is check a box on their income tax return. Then students will receive a letter from the Department of Education with a coupon displaying the amount of federal aid – grants and loans – to which they are qualified. They include their eligibility figures on their college applications, and the schools will access the Department of Education to gather the funds.

Not only will this system be much easier as well as less stressful, but the college - going rate is expected to increase by 5 - 7 percent. Hillary is determined to eliminate this oppressive process which discourages students from applying for college.

Society's middle class is in need of assistance and restoration. Because of all the Bush Administration policies that America's middle class dealt with, they have been struggling to succeed and sometimes even survive in this economy. Over the previous years, income disparity has gone very high. Wages have made no progress in increasing the amount. Amongst these issues, health care premiums as well as college tuition has shockingly increased, causing more American families to struggle and delay time on pursuing a college career. To restore opportunity for Americans, Hillary has planned a set of policies. Here's a glimpse of a few:

Clinton is determined to make sure all Americans are entitled to affordable and good quality health care. After all, did you know that there are nearly 47 million Americans, including 9 million children, who do not have health insurance? Clinton has created a proposal called American Health Choices Plan, which is aimed towards refining health care by decreasing costs and improving the service and quality that is being offered.

*(Story continued on page 9)*

# Waiting and Hoping: The Most Anticipated Albums of 2008

**Kaitlyn Giroux**  
Staff Writer

Millions of people wake up each morning to greet a new day and most likely the first thing they do is turn on the radio, pop in a CD, or listen to their iPods in order to get pumped for their long day. To many, music is an escape and a lot of people may agree that without music their day would be impossible to survive. So as we greet a new year, let's ring in 2008 with the top albums to be on the look out for.

On February 26, 2008, it is anticipated that Janet Jackson's new album 'Discipline' will hit the shelves for all of her fans to enjoy. With ten #1 pop singles already under her belt and with the last 2 albums not living up to their expectations, this new album has already received outstanding reviews from its critics.

'Detours', the new album from Sheryl Crow is expected to hit stores this February. Many people realized that her last album Wildflower failed to make the top 20 hit list, so as a result, Crow has finally made it back to her rock roots with her new album. Listeners will surely not be disappointed.

When asked about her upcoming album due out this February, Mariah Carey said that she looks "at the last album as the main course and this one as the dessert." With the album title still under works, and with the positive attitude towards her new CD, listeners will have to remain at the edge of their seats for this release.

For fans of Pop Punk, Rock and Dance music, the release of Panic! At the Disco's new album due out on March 25th, can not come soon enough. Their first album 'A Fever You Can't Sweat Out' has sold well over 1.6 million copies since its debut and even skyrocketed to #13 on the US Billboard 200. With the audience's likes and wants in mind, Panic! At the Disco shows no signs in disappointing their fans with their upcoming release. The title however, is still under construction so make sure to keep an eye open for the release.

With a newly presented "mainstream power pop oriented sound" Simple Plan's three year lull will come to an end on February 12 with the release of their self titled album. Their last album 'Still Not Getting Any' went double platinum and with high hopes for their new album, they hope they can do it one more time.

For real fans of rock, boy oh boy, does 2008 hold a real treat for you! R.E.M.'s new album 'Accelerate' was produced by the same man who worked with bands such as the infamous U2 and Snow Patrol. 'Accelerate' is already expected to be R.E.M.'s ticket return to stardom and with their last album failing to appear on the Billboard album chart, their new album will hopefully bring them back to the billboard chart glory.

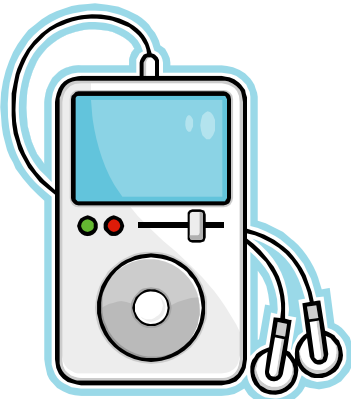
Natasha Bedingfield's sophomore album 'Pocketful of Sunshine' is due to release on January 15. With the debut of her second album in the U.K and with the results not so positive, the American version has been revamped with even more new songs to try to get the optimistic feedback she so rightfully deserves.

The very controversial musical genius Michael Jackson's new album 'Thriller 25' is anticipated to be released on February 12. Jackson's Thriller which was originally released in 1982 was the "biggest selling album of all time." This new album includes unreleased tracks and remixes of the classic Thriller songs with the help from the big artists of today such as Akon and Fergie. Michael Jackson as usual, cannot be stopped and will continue his path of greatness with this new album. Fans, as usual, will certainly not be disappointed.

Many may know her from the talent television show the X factor, but Leona Lewis has earned the title of "the biggest new pop artist of 2007" in the UK. Her album Spirit is expected to be released on March 18 and with this album she could only hope that her title will be carried over to the states.

Jack Johnson's 'Sleep Through the Static' is anticipated to hit stores on February 5. His last album, Brushfire Fairytales continued to develop attention and his success started being noticed after his last album pinnacled to number one with his soundtrack for the film Curious George.

For these artists, their dedicated fans have followed them since the very beginning and have waited patiently for the upcoming releases of the newest and hottest albums of 2008. Some of these artists are hoping to enter back into stardom after years of silence; others are trying to rekindle the magic after a lackluster preceding album, while additional artists are trying to keep the momentum of their success alive. Together, all these artists are working towards giving their fans exactly what they have so long waited for. These artists all have the most anticipated albums of 2008 and with the enthusiasm being so overwhelming; these artists don't so any signs of seizing anytime soon.





REMEMBER NEW ORLEANS?

Vanessa Vargas Santana  
Staff Writer

Most people have forgotten about the number of lives that were lost and uprooted by Hurricane Katrina. It is hard to believe that it has been over two years. What is even more amazing is the fact that there is still so much to do in New Orleans. You can still see the damage that Katrina caused and the lives it scarred. I know this not because I read some article. I know it because I saw it myself in New Orleans. Just before the Fall Semester ended, I found out that Campus Ministry was offering students the opportunity to go to New Orleans for a week during the winter break and I jumped on it right away.

I did not really have much of an idea about what sort of work I would be doing. I just knew that I was going as a volunteer. I, like many of the students I was working with, believed that New Orleans was somewhat past Katrina. It was not until I got there that I found out I would be interacting with people that survived Katrina and see for myself the work that there is still to do. Seeing remains and more houses than I can count, most of which are marked with a spray painted X, the letters TFW (meaning Toxic Flood Water) and the number of dead people and animals found in the house, can easily make words useless. As I write this, reflecting on my personal experience, I am not sure I could ever find the words to fully express to you what I saw.

I listened to people’s first hand experiences and their struggles to rebuild their lives with one heartache after another. I walked into neighborhoods where I could have swore you would not find a person living in the mist of so much rumble and in the fragments of what used to be a home. I stood on graveyards of memories only to see what people left behind without a choice. I saw where levee broke and the water overflowed to then realize that where I was standing had been covered with dead bodies just two years ago. Two years are nothing compared to a lifetime, which many will never know because much more than houses were lost.

I found myself speechless seeing the water line on buildings. Some of the lines were above my head and I am 5’2. Now I know I am not very tall. Nevertheless, can you image a street let alone an entire town flooded with over five feet of water? And then still two years later see the water line that will not allow you to think it was dream; can you image it? Standing in where it happened can give you chills. I cannot forget the deserted houses and buildings. Some areas are almost like ghost towns. Can you picture an abandoned elementary school that still says, “Registration for 2005” while the paint continues to pile and the walls continue to crack?

It makes you think, or at least makes me think. If given the chance to go back, I would go in a heartbeat. If there is that I learned from this trip is that as much as the people of New Orleans need help and encouragement to continue to walk their path in life, we need them as well. It is in them needing our help that we find humanity and compassion within ourselves. We find ourselves in them.

There are certain experiences that make you reflect on what you call life, why do things happen as they do. Moreover, it makes you question who is really being tested. Is it the people of New Orleans; can they get restore their homes and souls? Or is it a test for you and me; can we step away from what society values and truly look at man as our brother? I found my answer and now it your turn to find yours. And you do not have to New Orleans to find it. You could if you wanted to (there will be other opportunities for student to go New Orleans) but you do not have to. You just have to step back a moment and take a good at what is rounds you without judgment. You maybe surprised. New Orleans has not forgotten about us so let us not forget about them.



Photo Courtesy of z.about.com

A Message from Loughheed Library

Through The Thoma on a monthly basis, Loughheed Library will offer web sites for students and teachers in each academic division.

BUSINESS

**Business Plans & Profiles Index**  
[www.carnegielibrary.org/subject/business/bplansindex.html](http://www.carnegielibrary.org/subject/business/bplansindex.html)  
The Carnegie Library in Pittsburgh has created an extensive site for developing business plans for new and small business owners. There is a large alphabetical subject index of business types with links to online publications, the Small Business Administration (SBA), and additional sites such as Bplans.com. A bibliography is provided for materials that are available at the Carnegie Library.

**TradeAgreements.gov**  
[www.tradeagreements.gov](http://www.tradeagreements.gov)  
An interagency effort among the Departments of Agriculture, Commerce, State, Treasury, and the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative to provide the public with the latest information on America’s trade agreements. There are links to those departments as well as press releases, fact sheets, pending and existing Foreign Trade Agreements (FTAs). A state-by-state link will show the user how much exporting one of our states does with a country who has signed a FTA.

HUMANITIES

**Geoffrey Chaucer**  
[www.courses.fas.harvard.edu/~chaucer](http://www.courses.fas.harvard.edu/~chaucer)  
This site is used in Harvard’s Chaucer classes. It is updated on an on-going basis and permission for its use (non-commercial) is encouraged. Subjects covered are Life and Manners, Medieval Science, Literary Subjects, Middle English, Translations, and of course, The Canterbury Tales.

**Papal Encyclicals Online**  
[www.papalencyclicals.net](http://www.papalencyclicals.net)  
This is not a Vatican site. The author describes himself as “a Catholic layman...trying to keep these Church documents widely available.” The encyclicals were scanned from a five-volume work covering 1740-1981. Additional church documents have been added with on-going solicitations for more. Among the documents are Bulls and Briefs beginning with Honorius III (1216-1227) through the current Pope.

NATURAL SCIENCES AND MATHEMATICS

**BioEd Online: Biology Teacher Resources**  
[www.bioedonline.org](http://www.bioedonline.org)  
The Baylor College of Medicine produces this highly regarded resource site for science teachers K-16 and science teacher educators. There are lesson plans, links to referenced articles that can be copied for class distribution, and a collection of peer-reviewed, annotated PowerPoint slide sets on a wide range of topics.

**Climate Change: The Discovery of Global Warming**  
[www.aip.org/history/climate](http://www.aip.org/history/climate)  
A series of linked essays covering the history of the discovery of climate change from the late 19<sup>th</sup> century to the present. It was last updated in July 2007. Theories of climate change, influences on climate, public opinion, government involvement, and international cooperation are among the topics discussed.

EDUCATION

**National Council of Teachers of Mathematics**  
[www.nctm.org](http://www.nctm.org)  
A site for future and current teachers of mathematics at all levels the NCTM has links to over 500 lesson plans for preK-12. News on grants, conferences, jobs, and other math sites can be found. Three features are a Family Resources section which offers advice to parents helping their children in Spanish, French and English; Illuminations describes real-life situations where mathematics can be used; Curriculum Focal Points lists the most important math topics and skills for each grade level.

**Child Welfare Information Gateway**  
[www.childwelfare.gov](http://www.childwelfare.gov)  
This is a clearinghouse for topical information on family services with an emphasis on child welfare. The subjects covered are child abuse (preventing, reporting, responding) adoption, child care, laws, cultural diversity, statistics and more. There are links to state-by-state information, conferences, a library, and organizations all pertaining to the welfare of children.

SOCIAL SCIENCE

**PsychScholar**  
<http://psych.hanover.edu/Krantz>  
Its subtitle is A Collection of Web Resources for Psychological Scholars and Budding Psychological Scholars. The site is the creation of Dr. John Krantz of the Psychology Department of Hanover College in Ohio. For the Psychological Scholars (faculty) are links to research resources, teaching resources, general psychology links, conferences, and other academic psychology departments. For the Budding Scholar, the user will find tutorials, study aids, reference resources, and links to psychological career resources.

**METAVID**  
<http://metavid.ucsc.edu>  
Created by graduate students and supported by UC Santa Cruz, METAVID is an archived collection of televised proceedings of the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives. Video footage is provided by C-Span. The archive starts in 2005. Searches can be limited to a particular legislative day or subjects such as “people.” There is a METAVID wiki or blog at the site which can help researchers.



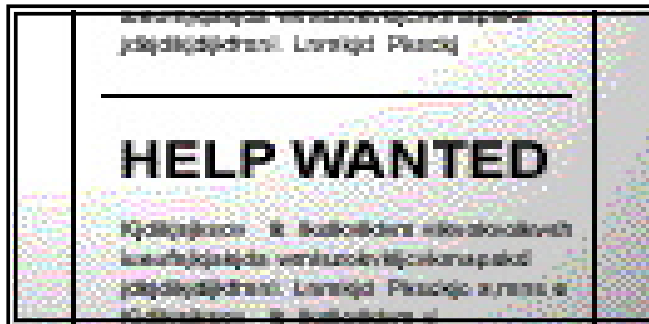




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## The Annual Career Fair 2008



**Wednesday, April 2, 2008**  
**10:00am – 1:30pm**  
**RSAC: Lower Level**

Professional Dress and Resumes are required to attend.  
 Hosted by the Office of Career Services  
 845.398.4065

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**Come spend a day at the fair and we promise to provide you  
 with a day filled with the following:**

- A chance to conduct some informational interviewing
  - Priceless networking opportunities with alumni and employer representatives
    - Opportunities to research full-time, part-time, and internship positions
    - A time to explore various career options and career paths.
- 

**Some participating employers include:**

Active International  
 Canon Business Solutions  
 ERE Accountants and Advisors  
 Criminal Investigations Division of the IRS  
 New York State Courts  
 North East Westchester Special Recreation  
 Provident Bank  
 Simon and Schuster  
 Social Security Administration  
 South Orangetown Central School District  
 Takasago International Corporation  
 The Rockland Journal News  
 Verizon Wireless

**For a complete listing of employers participating in the job fair please contact:**  
**Rachel M. Jackiewicz, Director of Career Services**  
[rjackiew@stac.edu](mailto:rjackiew@stac.edu)

*(Hillary Clinton, Continued from p. 7)*

Another essential issue Clinton plans on addressing is to help children and families affected by Autism. It has been noted that each year, about 25,000 children are diagnosed with Autism, and 1.5 million Americans and their families are affected by Autism today. Therefore, Clinton is demanding an increase in research funding and assisting services for such families. "Driven by their love and devotion to their children, mothers and fathers across the country have raised awareness, demanded funding, and opened our eyes to the needs of so many of our children living with autism," Clinton said. "It's time we had a government and a President that recognized the seriousness of autism and addressed it head-on. It's up to us to reclaim the future for our children, and ensure that every child can live up to his or her God-given potential." Clinton plans to give \$700 million a year to the Combating Autism Act, which will enhance the efforts in recognizing the causes of Autism, as well as increase the research in finding the connection between Autism and environmental factors. Additionally, she will grant funding for school districts to make certain that teachers dealing with Autistic children receive specialized teacher training as well as ways to become involved in interventions.

Your decision of who will become the next President of the United States should not be based on whether they are Democratic or Republican. Or whether the President is going to be a man or a woman ... this is about what the people in this country need and who has the power to make it happen.



# Baseball and his Bitter-Sweet Memory

**Amanda Nasca**  
Contributing Writer

It was a dream that took so long to achieve, yet ended so fast. A bittersweet memory that Michael Sharpe, right fielder for the Brooklyn Cyclones, will never forget. Not everyone gets to experience the powerful feeling of standing in the batters box, thousands of screaming fans, bases loaded, all eyes on him, his eyes on the ball, and here it comes! With all his might he swung the bat forcefully through the air, the ball and bat make crashing contact, Michael just made the game-winning hit! "The feeling when I made that hit, in only the third game of my minor league career, was indescribable," explained Michael. Not many have what it takes to make it to minor league baseball, especially for a New York organization such as the Mets. However, this young man, had what it took.

Michael attended Kellenberg High School, where he played, and was captain for, both their football and baseball team. When he graduated in 2001 at age 18, he was offered various scholarships from many different colleges to play both baseball and football. He decided to attend St. Thomas Aquinas College, where he would continue his baseball career, playing center field. He was the captain of the baseball team his sophomore year through his senior year. "He was always a star in any sport he ever played, but baseball was his number one, because his drive and need for the sport itself brought him to the top", said his brother Kevin.

In June 2005, during the end of his senior year at age 22, Mike was drafted by the New York Mets to play baseball for their minor league team entitled, the "Brooklyn Cyclones". According to Mike, it took a lot of endurance and hard work to make it to this level that he achieved. However the work didn't stop there. Once he made the team he was still pushing himself to be the best, and his work ethics and endurance only grew stronger and stronger. "On this team, I wasn't the best anymore, like I was always so used to being, instead I was one of many who were also the best," said Michael.

During the season, the team had a game every single day at 7:15 pm and practice as well. From eleven to five, at practice everyday they would do field work, batting practice, and different skill training. They had an hour to eat and shower. During the other little free time they had they would sign autographs and do charity work. Followed shortly by warm-ups, stretching, and then game time. He had a thirteen hour day everyday.

"We never got to see Michael, so we tried our best to attend as many of his games as we could because that's the only time we got to see him," his mother Deborah stated.

"He led a very busy, fast paced lifestyle during this period in his life," said his father Jack Sharpe.

Spring training always starts March 5<sup>th</sup>. During this time, Michael was obligated to fly with the team, and the rest of the Mets organization, to Florida for a month. There, they would practice even harder, seven days a week, almost non-stop, with twelve hour days from 5:30 am to 5:30 pm. Michael and the rest of his team all bared minor injuries during spring training, but they would have to suck it up, and continue to play it off. It took about a week for the team members to get used to practicing in the humidity because the air was thick, and it was hard to breathe. "My body was in so much pain, especially for the first week. The air was too thick and I couldn't feel my legs from all the work. I did enjoy being there though, I got to meet a lot of the major leaguers and trained with some of them like, David Wright and John Maine and several others. As well as getting to meet and spend time with hall-of-fame catcher Gary Carter," said Michael.

Michael's baseball statistics and records changed somewhat from college to the minor leagues. In college he held records such as the best average four year starter, most hits per game and least amount of strike outs ever in St. Thomas Aquinas College. He had only seven strike outs his whole senior year, and didn't strike out his first 87 at bats during his senior year. His overall batting average was a .383 for all four years of college, and he was the only person in the history of STAC baseball to ever hold a captain position for three consecutive years. "He was the best at his college, the best to ever play the game there; but in the minor's he was one of many who came from the same mind-set of being the best and now having to compete for that title", stated by his younger brother Kevin. When he played for the Cyclones he only had a .260 batting average, compared to his outstanding .383 he had in college. Yet he did play a solid first year with 1.000 fielding percentage with six assists. He also made a game winning walk off hit during his first year towards the end of the season; however that was nothing compared to all of his accomplishments during his college baseball performance. Mike told us, "When it comes to playing in the minor leagues, statistics are a huge part in having a career in baseball, baseball is a business and always will be." Michael used words like dedication, sacrifice, work ethic, drive, competitiveness, and extreme amounts of skill when describing what it took to play this game professionally. "I have three sons, Michael being my second oldest. They are all into working out and looking good and eating well, but still Mike trained his body and himself differently then both of my other sons while he was playing baseball at this level," according to Michael's father Jack Sharpe.

The percentage of people in the world that have the opportunity to get drafted and play minor league baseball is a proven .004 percent. This is an extremely small number, and the skill, drive, endurance, and commitment required to make it to this level is extremely high. "These men endure so much physical and mental strain in this specific career at this level, that many people wouldn't even be able to handle and cope with", according to Michael's mother. In order to play this sport in the minor leagues, it takes a lot of power both mentally and physically from any human, and the chances of actually making it there are so slim.



During Michael's second year at spring training in 2006, something happened that would change his career, and life forever. While playing a game during spring training, Michael was up at bat. "I took my usual hitting stance, nothing fancy or out of the ordinary. The bases were loaded, and I was feeling good, lots of energy and ready to play," Mike stated. Pitcher, Carlos Delgado, was on the mound about to throw one down the line to Mike. As the ball came at him at 96 miles per hour, it was just a few inches off, and snap! That fast ball went head on into Michael's left wrist and broke it in half.

After the incident Mike had to stay in extended spring training until June, to rehab his wrist. He flew back and fourth from NY to Florida a variety of times, seeing different doctor's in the process of trying to heal his wrist so he could play again. His wrist never fully healed, and because of this he wasn't able to play at the level he needed to in order to play for the minor leagues anymore.

In July 2006, Michael was released from the Mets. "I was depressed for months after that, it took me a while to get back into the swing of things. The one thing that I worked so hard for, that made me the most happy, was now not a part of my life anymore; and there was nothing I could do to get it back, it was beyond my control," stated Michael. "It takes a lot to get Michael down, he is always happy and confident, and almost nothing gets to him, but this, this was the one time I've seen him so upset since he was just a little boy," said Mike's father. Although he was only in the minor's for two years, he said it felt like much longer because it took him years of training and hard work to get there. His baseball career was over now, the only thing he once knew and loved was lost in his past, and the time came for him to start over with something totally new. Michael replied, "It's time for a new beginning, and a fresh slate for a new climb to the top."

## MITCHELL REPORT RELEASED

**Danielle Connolly**  
Staff Writer

players and steroid use. Mitchell was asked to look into steroid use among MLB players by Commissioner Bud Selig. The over 400 page report was released on December 13 and named 88 current and former MLB players and their connection to steroids. The report comes after a 20 month long investigation by Mitchell that began in March of 2006.

Some players named came at no surprise since they had already been connected to steroid use including Barry Bonds, Jason Giambi, and Miguel Tejada.

Two of the more surprising names in the report were New York Yankees pitchers Andy Pettitte and Roger Clemens. Trainer Brian McNamee said that he supplied both Pettitte and Clemens with steroids. Both players had previously stated that they had not used steroids. After the report was released though Pettite said that he had used steroids twice after an injury. Clemens is still denying using steroids. He spoke to Mike Wallace on CBS's 60 Minutes on January 6<sup>th</sup> and continued to deny ever using steroids.

Congressional hearings are now taking place to question players based on the findings in the Mitchell Report. Players mentioned in the report may be subpoenaed to testify before Congress concerning their roles according to what was written in the report.



SPARTAN SCORES

Men’s Basketball

1-2-08 L to Nyack College, 59-47  
1-5-08 W to University of Bridgeport, 61-56 in 2 OT  
1-9-08 L to Dowling College, 60-56  
1-12-08 L to CW Post, 75-56

Women’s Basketball

1-2-08 L to Nyack College, 66-56  
1-5-08 W to University of Bridgeport, 74-66  
1-9-08 W to Dowling College, 63-40  
1-12-08 L to CW Post, 58-50

UPCOMING GAMES

Men’s Basketball

Date	Opponent	Time
1-30-08	Concordia College	7:30pm
2-2-08	Queens College	3:00pm
2-6-08	at NYIT	7:00pm
2-9-08	Adelphi University	3:00pm
2-13-08	University of Bridgeport	7:30pm

Women’s Basketball

Date	Opponent	Time
1-30-08	Concordia College	5:30pm
2-2-08	Queens College	1:00pm
2-6-08	at NYIT	5:00pm
2-9-08	Adelphi University	1:00pm
2-13-08	University of Bridgeport	5:30pm

Patriots’ Complete Perfect Season

Danielle Connolly  
Staff Writer

The New England Patriots concluded the regular season with a perfect 16-0 record. The final win of the season for the Patriots was on December 29<sup>th</sup> when they defeated the New York Giants, 38-35, at Giant Stadium.

Although the Patriots and the Giants do not usually face each other because they are in different conferences the Patriots are no strangers to Giant Stadium. They won the first game of the season there against Division rival New York Jets.

Prior to the game media attention focused on the Giants and whether or not they would play their first string team since they had already secured a playoff spot the week before after a win against the Buffalo Bills. There was nothing on the line for the Giants because even with a loss they were still in the playoffs. The only thing that the Giants could gain from beating the Patriots would have been to be spoilers and ruin the chances for an undefeated season. New York ended up playing their starters and was leading the Patriots right up until the fourth quarter. Giants Quarterback Eli Manning threw an interception, the only one of the game, giving the Patriots the chance to widen the score against the Giants. New England Quarterback Tom Brady connected with Laurence Maroney giving the Patriots a 10 point lead. Though heavily favored, the Patriots did not have an easy time against the Giants. They gave up more points then they had in any other game all season long.

The New England Patriots are the first team to go undefeated since the 1972 Miami Dolphins. They also are the first team in NFL history to be 16-0 since the 1972 season was only 14 games long. The New England Patriots have faced the San Diego Chargers in the AFC Championship and the New York Giants have faced the Green Bay Packers in the NFC Championship. After the results of the games, The Patriots will be playing against the Giants in the 2008 Super Bowl.

ATTENTION SENIORS – MARK YOU CALENDARS!  
IMPORTANT CAREER INFORMATION!

SPRING 2008 RESUME BOOK DEADLINE DATES:

ALL RESUMES MUST BE PRE-APPROVED AND PRINTED ON RESUME PAPER.  
ALL COPIES MUST BE SUBMITTED ON OR BEFORE THE DEADLINE DATE!

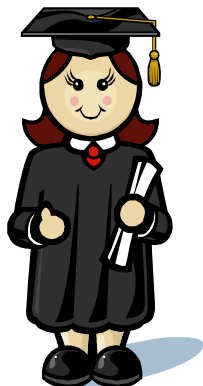
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For more information please contact:  
Rachel M. Jackiewicz, Director of Career Services  
[rjackiew@stac.edu](mailto:rjackiew@stac.edu)  
845.398.4067





# WHAT'S GOING ON IN JANUARY & FEBRUARY 2008

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 6TH

SENIOR PORTRAITS  
ROMANO CENTER LOWER LEVEL  
(IN FRONT OF THE MAILBOXES)  
9AM UNTIL 7PM

SGA INAUGURATION CEREMONY

TUESDAY, JANUARY 29 @ 3PM

PDR

GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETINGS:

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 5TH @ 2:35PM

COSTELLO 103

STUDENT ACTIVITIES:

FRIDAY, FEB. 8TH

TRIP TO THE METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF  
ART AKA THE MET  
BUS LEAVES THE RSAC @ 12NOON  
TICKETS ARE \$7 PER PERSON  
PLEASE SIGN-UP IN THE OFFICE OF STUDENT  
LIFE

THURSDAY, JAN. 24TH

MOVIE NIGHT  
SULLIVAN THEATER  
8PM - UNTIL  
THE FALL'S HOTTEST TITLES

MONDAY, FEB. 11TH

NATIONAL SOCIETY OF LEADERSHIP AND  
SUCCESS SEMINAR  
COSTELLO 103 7PM

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 30TH

BINGO NIGHT  
RSAC LOWER LEVEL @ 8PM  
PLAY FOR FREE AND WIN TONS OF PRIZES

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 13TH

NATIONAL SOCIETY OF LEADERSHIP AND  
SUCCESS SEMINAR  
COSTELLO 103 7PM

FRIDAY, FEB. 1ST

SKI TRIP TO MOUNTAIN CREEK  
BUS LEAVES @ 12NOON  
TICKETS ARE \$30, SKI RENTAL, LIFT  
TICKET AND LESSON INCLUDED  
SIGN-UP IN STUDENT LIFE OFFICE

FRIDAY, FEB. 15TH

SKI TRIP TO MOUNTAIN CREEK  
BUS LEAVES @ 12NOON  
TICKETS ARE \$30, SKI RENTAL, LIFT  
TICKET AND LESSON INCLUDED  
SIGN-UP IN STUDENT LIFE OFFICE

TUESDAY, FEB. 5TH

NATIONAL SOCIETY OF LEADERSHIP &  
SUCCESS SEMINAR (LIVE BROADCAST)  
COSTELLO 103 7PM  
SPEAKER LOU HOLTZ - FORMER NOTRE  
DAME HEAD COACH

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 20TH

BLACK HISTORY MONTH PROGRAM  
SHOWING OF THE MOVIE  
"TALK TO ME" STARING DON CHEADLE  
AT RIVERSPACE (FORMERLY THE HELEN  
HAYES THEATER) @ 8PM  
ADMISSION IS FREE WITH STAC STUDENT  
ID

NEW JERSEY NETS VS. LA LAKERS  
BUS LEAVES FROM OF RSAC @ 5:30PM  
TICKETS ARE \$25  
SIGN-UP IN THE OFFICE OF STUDENT LIFE

THURSDAY, FEB. 21ST

THE WRITERS @ WORK SERIES PRESENTS  
"NATON LESLIE"  
LIBRARY @ 2:35PM

TUESDAY, FEB. 26TH

NATIONAL SOCIETY OF LEADERSHIP  
AND SUCCESS SEMINAR (LIVE  
BROADCAST)  
COSTELLO 103 7PM  
SPEAKER RANDY HELVERSON - ONE  
OF THE NATION'S LEADING SPEAKER ON  
LEADERSHIP AND SELF-ESTEEM

FRIDAY, FEB. 29TH

## THE 4TH ANNUAL COLLEGE RELAY FOR LIFE

STAC GYM  
OPENING CEREMONY BEGINS AT 6PM.  
WALK BEGINS AT 6:30PM.  
PRIZES AND GAMES THROUGH OUT  
THE NIGHT.

FOR MORE DETAILS, PLEASE CONTACT THE  
OFFICE OF STUDENT ACTIVITIES

## LOOK FOR CALENDAR UPDATES THROUGHOUT CAMPUS:

DISCOUNTED MOVIE TICKETS FOR THE  
AMC/LOEWS THEATER ARE AVAILABLE AT ALL  
TIMES IN THE

STUDENT LIFE OFFICE UPPER LEVEL OF RSAC  
TICKETS ARE \$5.50 A PIECE!

