

Did You Know: Information for International Students

by Tammie Key



What are the responsibilities of F-1 Students?

International Students must keep passports and immigration documents valid at all times. International students are responsible for observing the regulations of the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) and the Internal Revenue Service (IRS).

Any international student attending school for the first time or any continuing student who has been absent for a semester or more should show his/her passport, visa stamp, and visa documents to the International Student Advisor within his/her first two weeks of class. Any international student who does not attend the International Student Orientation must see

the International Student Advisor as soon as possible after arriving on campus in order to complete visa formalities. This process is to help avoid students overlooking any procedures that could cause them to be in violation of their status. Students with F-1 visa status must take a full course load (at least eighteen clock hours of attendance a week if the dominant part of the course of study consists of classroom instruction or at least twenty-two clock hours a week if the dominant part of the course of study consists of laboratory work or 12 credit/ semester hours at college/ university) at all times during their academic stay. Students taking less than a full time course load without authorization are considered in violation of their F-1 visa

status. Students who have been suspended or dismissed from the college for academic or disciplinary reasons may not remain in the US on the F1 visa.

What does "duration of status" mean?

Duration of status is defined as the time during which an F-1 student is pursuing a full course of study at an educational institution approved by the Service for attendance by foreign students or engaging in authorized practical training following completion of studies, plus 60 days to prepare for departure from the United States. The student is considered to be maintaining status if he or she is making normal progress toward completing a course of study.

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February 2006 Writing Contest Winners

Topic: Write about a person that means a lot to you.

1st place – Togookhuu Chuluun (WR100)



Excerpt: First of all, what is love, and what's the meaning of it? Everyone has his own definition of love. In the world there are so many kinds of love, such as parents' love, siblings' love, friends' love, and the love you give to the person you choose to be with you for your entire life. From these different kinds of love, mother's love is the greatest and most beautiful. It is the first love you feel when you come to the Earth. Unfortunately, people realize it after their mothers are gone. I don't want people to make this big mistake, and I want them to realize how much their mothers love them and how unique and individual this love is. So, if your mother is still alive, you should feel you're the luckiest person in the world.



Second Place - Ullisses Capistano (WR400)



Third Place - Eriko Sawada (WR300)

Honorable Mentions:

**Dong Yul Yoo (WR200),
Julija Salajeva (WR300),
Francisco Rocha (WR100)**

STUDENTS WRITING CORNER



A Little Bit of What I Like...

by Denise Donahue



There are different theories describing the origins of the word tattoo. The Polynesian word "tatao" means "to tap". Some researchers say that it could be the originate of the word tattoo. Other scientists suggest a Tahitian word "tatu" which means to mark something. They state it could be a distant ancestor of the modern word "tattoo."

Many different cavitations in the past and few in the current world have been performing the practice of coloring their body parts for different reasons. In a few groups or religions tattoo is an integral part of their religion, and each person following the religion is required to have that tattoo mark on his/her body. It symbolizes a person's authority as a group member. In modern days gangs are seen to have a particular mark on their shoulders signifying their group name. Sometimes tattoos can be just a memory or symbolization of person's character.

The birthplace of the American style tattoo was Chatham Square in New York City. At the turn of the century it was a seaport and entertainment center attracting working-class people with money. Samuel O'Riely came from Boston and set up a shop there. He took on an apprentice named Charlie Wagner.

After O'Reiliy's death in 1908, Wagner opened a supply business with Lew Alberts. Alberts had trained as a wallpaper designer and he transferred those skills to the design of tattoos. He is noted for redesigning a large portion of early tattoo flash art.

There are a lot of interesting things about different cultures and religions involving tattoos. In the end, what matters is not what you got inked in your skin but what it means to you. Remember: if you laugh at me for being a little

crazy, I laugh at you for being the same and please... don't call me white, yellow, black or blue. I have all colors.:)

International Women's Day

by Helen Lokhmanenko



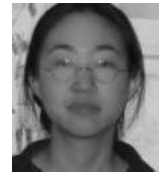
The 8th of March is a special day in Russia, Belarus, Ukraine and many other European and eastern-European countries. This day is considered to be an International Women's Day. History of this holiday has deep roots. It started when women in the US demonstrated on March 8th in 1857 against the low wages and poor working conditions they experienced. 51 years later on the 8th of March in 1908, thousands of people marched to commemorate the 1857 demonstration. But the first International Women's Day was celebrated on the 23rd of February, 1909. This holiday was first celebrated in Russia in 1913. The most famous year was 1917, when the women's march in St. Petersburg sparked Russia's February revolution which overthrew the Russian monarchy. The march was held on the 23rd of February according to the Julian calendar. When the calendar was changed to the western Georgian one, in 1918, the date fell on 8 March. This date was established as the International Women's Day.

Now the history of the International Women's Day is forgotten. The date, on which women first protested against bad working conditions a long time ago, then against the First World War and then showed their happiness, that revolution occurred, has a different meaning nowadays. It's the day when all men show their respect and honor to all women. It's very important for husbands, sons and fathers to say a lot of warm and pleasant words and to give presents to their wives, mothers and daughters. Pre-

sents may be different, but flowers are a must. It's started to be a tradition, that all women receive flowers on this holiday. Bouquets of flowers remain that cold winter is finished and spring which brings warmth, light, and renovation of the nature, starts. And it's also necessary for men to congratulate not only members of their family, but all women they know. The 8th of March is the day, when all women should feel, that they are loved and honored.

On the Train

by Hongsun Yoon



The doors are closing. It's just another day, another moment on the train. I manage to lean on the bar, starting to look at what's around me. Suddenly, I notice music coming from the ceiling. It turns out that a very tall guy is listening to his iPod. No, the iPod is rather banging his eardrums and the drumbeat seems to dominate the vicinity. I worry about this guy when he enters his senior years. Hmm, it's Hotel California. I wish he would turn up the volume a bit more. The tune rocks through the next stop. The doors open and a woman steps into the train with her four-legged friend. Everybody around the door makes room for the duo. A young boy gets up and gives up his seat to the lady. She says thanks to the kid, but her glasses are toward Luciana in the ad. Luciana would do the same as the boy did. She is so kind.

At the moment, the seeing-eye dog is the center of attention. The retriever gives a slight jerk as the boy tries to pat her on the back. I silently tell the boy to not bother the loyal servant. They say that seeing-eye dogs are not supposed to be touched. Hmm, I wonder why I've never seen a male seeing-eye dog. Such dogs must be aerodynamic in the groin area? Perhaps they shouldn't be distracted by their basic instinct? I don't know.

The doors are opening. It's my stop. I am approaching Approach.





The 1999 Ryder Cup, Brookline, Massachusetts

by Brian Smith

Much has been said about the recent success of the Boston Red Sox (2004 champions), but for those of you who are relatively new to the Boston area, there have been some of the magical moments in sports around here that I think you should know about. The following is the final part of a four part series.

Many of you may find the sport of golf to be quite boring, and as a spectator, I have to agree with you. If I want to take a nap on a Saturday afternoon, all I have to do is plop myself down on my living room sofa, click on the TV, and turn it to the Golf Channel. Five minutes later I'm sleeping like a baby. But from the perspective of a player, golf can be as exhilarating as any athletic event out there.

If you are interested in learning to play golf, don't try to learn on a championship course right away. Go to a golf driving range to perfect your swing and measure your shots. But once you actually set foot on a real golf course (the best man-made natural setting money can buy), you'll soon realize that golf is not just a sport, but a way to stay in touch with "nature" - a landscape architect's

version of nature, that is. The air is fresh, the grass is abundant, and the ponds are strategically placed to attract as many balls as possible.

With the exception of missing the entire goal on a penalty kick in soccer, there's nothing more humiliating in sports than slicing or hooking the ball as you tee off in golf (See me if you need a definition of "hooking", "slicing" or "teeing off").

Missing a two-foot putt is also embarrassing. However, it's an especially rewarding sensation when you tee off and the ball blasts off your driver like a rocket straight down the fairway and floats in the air as if it were traveling in slow motion. Contradictory yes, but it's a feeling many golfers get just the same. Or if you attempt a 30-foot putt and your friends have promised you lunch if you get it in, the concentra-



tion level rivals that of a doctor performing open-heart surgery - well, not exactly, but you can get really hungry out there. But I digress. The purpose of this article is to tell you about one of the most exciting events in Boston sports history. I just wanted to warm you up to the sport of golf if, by chance, you're not a golfer at this time.

Ninety-nine percent of the time, golf at the professional level is an individual sport. But every two years it becomes a team event as the top 12 American golfers compete against the top 12 European golfers in a three-day tournament called the Ryder Cup. In 1999 the Ryder Cup was held right down the street in Brookline, Massachusetts. Even though they had lost the previous cup, the Americans were the oddsmakers' favorites going into the tournament. In the first two days, though, the Europeans dominated and built up an enormous lead with Jesper Parnevik and Sergio Garcia playing exceptionally well. No team in Ryder Cup history had ever come back from being so far behind. But on day three, Americans Phil Mickelson, Tiger Woods, David Duval and most of their teammates rallied and outplayed their opponents. Having lost all three of his matches in the first two days, Justin Leonard of the United States needed a great game to keep his team in the running. Matched up against Jose Maria Olazabal of Spain, he sunk a 30-foot putt on the 15th hole to tie the game. At the 17th hole they both put the ball on the green on their second shots. Since Leonard was the furthest from the hole (45 feet uphill), he had to putt first. Even with no pressure a shot like this is almost impossible, but should he make it, the American team could do no worse than tie and force a playoff. If Leonard missed and Olazabal got his in, it would most surely give the Europeans the win. But if Leonard got it in and Olazabal missed, the Ryder Cup would belong to the Americans. The pressure was incredible. Leonard eyed the ball, checked the slope of the green, and took a few prac-

tice strokes. As he approached the ball one last time, the gallery (audience) grew quiet with anticipation. Leonard, leaning over the ball, struck the ball with controlled authority. As the ball rolled closer to the hole, the fans began clapping and shouting comments at it as if to will the ball into the hole. And as it dropped into the hole, making that unique sound it always does, the jubilant crowd as well as the ecstatic American team spontaneously stormed the green in wild celebration - uncharacteristically unsportsmanlike for golfers at any level. They were so excited about Leonard's miraculous shot they'd forgotten that Olazabal still hadn't made his putt yet, which, if successful, would tie the match again. After the green was cleared, the Spaniard took his best shot but missed. The Ryder Cup was going back to the Americans, and now they could really celebrate. If you never played golf in your own country and you want to learn how to play, I strongly recommend that you take it up here in the States because you'll never find it any less expensive anywhere else in the world. At a public golf course you can play 18 holes for as little as \$18 - \$25.



Your homework for this month is to find out what the following golf expressions mean. See me if you have any questions.

Address	Fore!
Back Nine	Hook
Birdie	Irons
Bogey	Mulligan
Bunker	Par
Caddie	Pin
Divot	Putt
Driver	Fairway
Eagle	Round
Play Through	Slice
Tee	Tee Off

Ryder Cup Ryder Cup Ryder Cup Ryder Cup Ryder Cup



Jokes

by Nadia

From www.ahajokes.com



An Irish priest and a Rabbi get into a car accident. They both get out of their cars and stumble over to the side of the road. The Rabbi says, "Oy vey! What a wreck!" The priest asks him, "Are you all right, Rabbi?" The Rabbi responds, "Just a little shaken." The priest pulls a flask of whiskey from his coat and says, "Here, drink some of this; it will calm your nerves." The Rabbi takes the flask and drinks it down and says, "Well, what are we going to tell the police?" "Well," the priest says, "I don't know what your aft' to be tellin' them. But I'll be tellin' them I wasn't the one drinkin'."

In West Kerry, the wife commented, "When we were first married, you took the small piece of steak and gave me the larger. You don't love me any more..."

"Nonsense, darling," replied the husband, "you cook better now."

He said, "If you continue drinking as you do, you'll gradually get smaller and smaller, and eventually you'll turn into a mouse."

This frightened the life out of Paddy. He went home that night, and said to his wife, "Bridget....if you should notice me getting smaller and smaller, will ye kill that blasted cat?"

"Didja hear the news?" asked Keenan of his pal at the saloon. "Harrigan drank so much, his wife left him!"

"Bartender! Give me six boilermakers!!"



Poems of the Month

Leprechauns

Unknown Master

Five little leprechauns
Scurrying by my door,
One jumped away,
Then there were four.
Four little leprechauns
Climbing in my tree,
One hid in the green leaves,
Then there were three.
Three little leprechauns,
Just a busy few,
One went for a pot of gold,
Then there were two.
Two little leprechauns,
Having lots of fun,
One hopped over the rainbow,
Then there was one.
One little leprechaun,
With all his work done.
He slipped off for a nap,
Then there were none.

Ireland

Unknown Master

Near a misty stream
In Ireland
In the hollow of a tree
Live mystical,
Magical leprechauns
Who are clever
As can be
With their pointed ears,
And turned up toes
And little coats of green,
The leprechauns
busily make their shoes
And try hard not to be seen.
Only those who really believe
Have seen these little elves
And if we are all believers
We can surely see for ourselves.



March Birthdays

- 1 Kengo Sugimoto
- 5 Hongsun Yoon
- 6 Monica Martinez
- 7 Chang Sob Kwon
- 7 Lucas Ramos
- 9 Aparecida Maria Santos
- 9 Isis Freire
- 10 Juan Pablo Bernal
- 11 Fabiola Freitas
- 12 Helen Sinzker
- 13 Vinicius Moller
- 14 Debora Coivo
- 14 Denise Donahue
- 14 Maria do Carmo Teixeira
- 15 Ekaterina Avdeeva
- 15 Jorge Robledo
- 16 Sun Young Park
- 19 Hyun Sook Park
- 19 Nadia Moraes
- 25 Chang-Yeol Yoo
- 28 Ronaldo de Souza
- 29 Alexandre Gomes
- 29 Marlene Espejel
- 31 Marilene do Amaral
- 31 Seo Young Park

January Activities Scrapbook



Eddie, Armi, and Talia share a moment during International Lunch before heading back to observe the intense ping-pong tournament.



Jennifer, Nancy, and Debbie show their intense spirit during an Uno match. Debbie is determined to win, but Jennifer and Nancy won't let the victory



Debbie is more than a great teacher and fierce Uno player; she is also a skilled fiddler. She entertained the entire school with a performance.

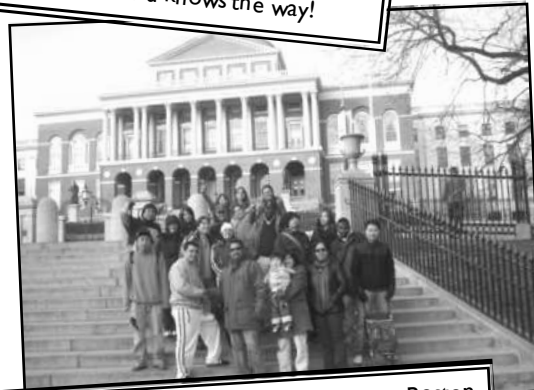


Daianne, Tatiane, Seo Young Erica, and Mitsuru get in line for food during International Lunch. Mitsuru knows the way!

March is also a great time to have fun. Look at the Activities Calendar for more things to do. At Approach, students learn while enjoying



Lucas, winner of the ping pong competition, shows off his prize, a brand new hat!!! The emotion is overwhelming.



The students enjoy a historic tour of downtown Boston. Here they pose in front of the State House by the Common.



Nadia feeds Nancy a little bite during International Lunch. Lucas looks on, waiting for his chance to eat.



Ulysses receives his prize as a writing contest winner. He courageously wrote a poem, a difficult task in one's native language, never mind one's second!!!



Everyone is Irish on St. Patrick's Day

by Debbie Billmers



Get ready for Saint Patrick's Day in Boston - a day of green beer, clovers, silly hats, and festivities! Boston is home to many Irish-Americans, and for this reason it's one of the most fun places to be on March 17th. Every year there is a huge parade with music, dancing, and bagpipes! Happy people from all around the world come together to enjoy the Irish culture on the streets and in the bars, even if it's cold outside! On St. Patrick's Day, you only need to wear a green plastic hat or a shirt that reads "Kiss Me, I'm Irish" to celebrate in Boston, because in Boston on St. Patrick's Day, everyone is Irish! But what is St. Patrick's Day? Who was this famous saint? Many people believe that he chased all the snakes out of Ireland, but that's not true!

St. Patrick was a man born in Britain (not Ireland, which is a separate country) around 400 A.D. He was born to a rich family which wasn't especially religious. When he was sixteen, Irish raiders attacked his house and he was taken prisoner in Ireland where he mainly herded sheep, outdoors and alone. He became afraid and lonely and turned to Christianity for comfort. This is when he decided to start converting the Irish to Christianity. After six years, he believed that God spoke to him, telling him it was time to leave, so he escaped from Ireland and fled back to Britain. He walked over 200 miles to the sea! Once in Britain, he again heard a voice from heaven tell him to go back to Ireland to convert people to Christianity. He trained for fifteen years to become a priest and went back to Ireland. He wanted to make Christianity easy for the Irish to relate to, so he took the traditional cross and combined it with the image of the sun (a very strong symbol to Irish people). This was the first Celtic cross, which is a cross with a circle. Christianity spread throughout Ireland, and St. Patrick became known as the patron saint of Ireland. The Irish are great storytellers but are known for exaggerating, and eventually the story was changed to the idea that St. Patrick chased out the snakes! St. Patrick died on March 17th, 460 A.D., which is the day on which we now celebrate Ireland and Irish culture, especially in Boston!



Evacuation Day

by Brian Smith

Around the country and in many parts of the world, March 17th is best known as the date of Saint Patrick's Day. But in Boston, March 17th is also Evacuation Day.

At one point at the beginning of the Revolutionary War, British forces were unable to move beyond the city of Boston. They were cornered by the Continental Army (Colonial American troops) who were surrounding the city. For nine months the occupying Redcoats failed to launch an offensive outside the city limits.

During the winter, Colonel Henry Knox and his men captured powerful cannons from the British at Ticonderoga in upstate New York and by March had hauled them all the way to the outskirts of Boston. General George Washington, who was commanding the army from Boston, strategically placed the cannons on top of Dorchester Heights, which overlooked Boston Harbor, and

aimed them directly at the British ships anchored below. Immediately, a deal was struck between Washington and British General William Howe. Washington promised that the British fleet could leave Boston Harbor unmolested if Howe promised that Boston would not be burned to the ground by the exiting British soldiers. In all, 9000 officers and troops and over 1000 American colonists loyal to the King of England evacuated Boston never to return. All of this was accomplished without firing a single shot. Happy Evacuation Day!

According to the American Red Cross, if a disaster ever forces you to evacuate your home, you should try to take with you the following supplies:

A flashlight with plenty of extra batteries; a battery-powered radio with extra batteries, a first aid kit; prescription medica-

tions in their original bottles plus copies of the prescriptions; eyeglasses (with a copy of the prescription); water (at least one gallon per person is recommended; more is better); foods that do not require refrigeration or cooking; items that infants and elderly household members may require; medical equipment and devices, such as dentures, crutches, prostheses, etc. ; a change of clothes for each household member; a sleeping bag or bedroll and pillow for each household member; your checkbook, cash, and credit cards; and a map of the area.

Important papers to take with you:

Driver's license or personal identification; Social Security card; proof of residence (deed or lease); insurance policies; birth and marriage certificates; stocks, bonds, and other negotiable certificates; wills; deeds; and copies of recent tax returns.

Personally, if I had enough time I'd also take irreplaceable photographs.

Tips of the Month from Our Teachers

Reading Recommendation

by Alison MacAdams



The Constant Gardener

by John le Carré

Every once in a while a great book is made into a good movie. This is the case with le Carré's thriller **The Constant Gardener**, which has been made into an Oscar-nominated film starring Ralph Fiennes and Rachel Weisz. The novel is about Justin Quayle, an English bureaucrat in Kenya, who tries to understand and solve the puzzle that is his beautiful wife Tessa's murder. As he begins to unravel the mystery, he realizes that he is putting himself in great danger. This is a captivating novel from beginning to finish and it deals with current themes, such as globalization. Le Carré is a talented storyteller; you will enjoy his style even if you don't normally read mysteries and thrillers.

Movie Recommendation

by Brian Smith



The Third Man (1949)
Starring: Joseph Cotton,
Orson Welles, Trevor Howard

American writer Holly Martins (Cotton) arrives in post WWII Vienna expecting a job promised to him by his old friend Harry Lime (Welles) only to discover that Lime has just died in an "accident." Martins is tenacious in his pursuit of the truth about his friend's mysterious death but the deeper he digs, the more he finds out about his friend's sordid life. This film is on almost every all-time top 100 movie list.

Trivia: Writer Graham Greene, based the character Harry Lime on Kim Philby, one of Britain's most notorious traitors who also happened to be Greene's supervisor in the British Intelligence Service during World War II. After the war, Philby defected to the Soviet Union.

Idiom

by Debbie Billmers



There are many idioms which talk about your head – the most important part of your body! For example, we say "use your head" when we want to tell someone to think (because our brains are in our heads). We say "she has a good head on her shoulders" when we talk about someone who is smart and makes good decisions. We say "I'm head over heels for him!" usually when we are completely in love with someone or something. We say "don't lose your head" when we want to tell someone to stay calm and keep thinking about what he's doing. So, use your head and practice these idioms because you'll hear them all the time!



Test Preparation Recommendations

by Peter Keshavan



The March of the Penguins is one of the best test preparation movies to come out in recent years. If you didn't have the good fortune to see it in the theater, the DVD version was recently released. I highly recommend it. See me if you want to borrow my copy.

Students are still reporting some difficulties in getting TOEFL appointments, although ETS has claimed to be offering a greater number of test dates. So if you know you're going to need to take the test, make your reservation early.

Activity Tips

by Andrew Haynes



Don't forget to check out the school's activities calendar to see what's happening this month. In addition to the scheduled activities, here are some exciting events happening this month:

Tues., March 14
6:30pm-9:00pm Taste of the South End (fundraiser for the AIDS Action Committee of Massachusetts)

The Taste of the South End brings together over 40 South End restaurants for one spectacular evening of food, wine and fun!
<http://www.aac.org/taste> 617-450-1526

March 16, 17, 18, 23, 24, 25
8:00 pm King Lear (theatre)
The MIT Shakespeare Ensemble presents King Lear. Some call it Shakespeare's greatest work. Some call it the darkest, most compelling tragedy ever written. Power. Rage. Blindness. Madness. Transformation. An almighty king has reached the twilight of his life and decides to divide his kingdom. Three daughters - three parts. It is a fight between soulless power... and powerless wisdom. Watch our set be torn apart as King Lear's world shatters in this epic and chilling tragedy of... chaos.
<http://web.mit.edu/ensemble/www>
617.253.2903 ensemble-tickets@mit.edu
La Sala de Puerto Rico

Common Mistake

by Luciana Sarra



As you know, the past form of regular verbs is the base of that verb with an ED ending. Examples: **Walked**, **visited**, **called**. Did you know that the pronunciation of the ED ending is not always the same? In fact, there are three different ways to pronounce the ED ending, depending on the last letter of the verb you're using. The ED in **WALKED**, **VISITED**, and **CALLED** is not pronounced the same. What are the rules? Find out during pronunciation class or speak with a tutor for more details.

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