



All Abroad Newsletter

Spring 2008

Volume 1, Issue 5

Super Tuesday/Primary News

On Super Tuesday (February 5th) much of the nation voted in primaries and caucuses, in hopes that fore-runners would emerge in each party's race for a presidential nominee.

The democratic nomination is still hotly contested between two strong candidates. Hillary Clinton won 782 delegates on Super Tuesday, and Barack Obama won 757. Overall, as of now, Clinton leads Obama 1045 delegates to 960 delegates.

In the republican camp, John McCain, Mitt Romney,

and Mike Huckabee divided the Super Tuesday delegates, with Ron Paul making a little noise as well. McCain won 605 delegates on Super Tues-



Photo from smh.com

day, becoming the clear republican forerunner over Romney (201 delegates) and Huckabee (152 delegates).

Mitt Romney dropped out of the race on Thursday,

February 7th, stating that "in this time of war, I simply cannot let my campaign be a part of aiding the surrender to terror," implying that staying in the race would make it easier for Clinton or Obama to win. Although Huckabee and Paul are technically still in the race, Romney's departure almost guaranteed McCain's candidacy

in the general election in November. Whether he can unite the divided republican party remains to be seen.

Washington Post and New York Times referenced

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Site Visit: Dijon

Study Abroad director Adriane van Gils, along with Catherine Spingler of the French department, visited Dijon during the week of January 21st. They met with arriving studiers abroad in Paris, and traveled to Dijon via TGV train, where they

helped orient the students. In recent years, French department chair Michael Spingler would lead the Dijon orientations, but this duty will be taken over by Catherine Spingler for the next few years.

Spingler and van Gils

met with the new French faculty advisor Christelle Serée-Chaussinaud, (who has recently replaced Bernard Cheignard) as well as various other staff and faculty of the Université de Bourgogne and it's CIEF branch.

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The orientation week included walking tours of the city and campus, lunches and dinners at various eateries, as well as a theater performance put on by CIEF classmates of the previous semester (in France, the fall semester ends after the winter holidays).

Jake Kovach, who is studying in Dijon for the whole 2007-2008 aca-

demical year, took part in the orientation, helping to organize tours and give advice to Clarkies new to France.

Clarkies lived in an international dormitory through-

out the orientation week, but many moved in with host families soon after van Gils and Spingler came back to Clark. As they adjust to life with their host families, the students will tackle placement

exams that will determine their classes, and classmates, for the rest of the semester.



Adriane van Gils, Catherine Spingler, and Christelle Serée-Chaussinaud

Attention Science Majors—SFS Highlight



Many who come to the study abroad office do not realize that we have programs specifically for students interested in environmental science. Clark University Study Abroad works with the School for Field Studies (SFS) to send students to Australia, Costa Rica, Mexico, and the Turks and Caicos Islands,

According to their website, the "School for Field Studies (SFS), an international non-profit academic institution, provides environmental education and conducts research through its field-based programs. SFS is committed to providing hands-on, interdisciplinary education, and environmental research in partnership with natural resource dependent communities. Our goals are to provide students with a unique and challenging educational and life experience that assists them in successfully advancing their careers as skilled professionals and globally aware citizens; [and to] work with local community stakeholders to develop models for the sustainable management of their natural resources."

The SFS uses an interdisciplinary, experimental approach to education,

We believe that everyone has a valuable role to play in helping to protect our environment for future generations. As environmental problems become increasingly more urgent, so must our commitment to finding solutions. SFS students work together with host communities around the world to learn real environmental problem-solving skills.

-SFS

stress learning by doing. "As students engage in high-quality field research, they learn the value of experiencing another culture, of collaborating with their fellow students, and with the local community to develop workable solutions. They are also given the rare opportunity to work side-by-side with an international research team and learn state-of-the-art field research skills."

In Australia, students share eight-

person cabins at the end of the Atherton Tablelands. The site includes a computer lab, science library, student common room, shower, bathroom, and kitchen.

Students abroad in Costa Rica stay in a dormitory overlooking the Rio Grande River. All amenities are included, in addition to an organic garden, patio, and pool.

In Mexico students and faculty live in cabins all over Bahia Magdalena. There is access to all facilities, including a computer room and bath/shower house, serviced by the artificial wetland waste water treatment system.

Turks & Caicos, adjacent to Cockburn Harbour, houses students in one of two residence wings in a facility fully equipped for marine operations.

If any of these opportunities are of interest, come to the Study Abroad office for more information.



Clark Labs ‘Early Warning System’ funded

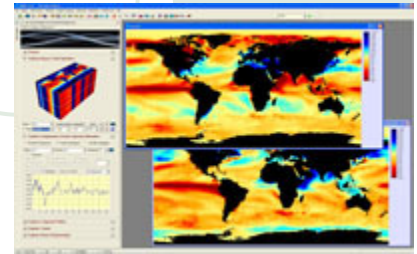
Excerpts from University Communications article (January 30, 2008)

Clark Labs, a world leader in GIS and image processing software, has received a grant of over \$1.2 million to research the potential for a climate teleconnection-based early warning system for food, health and ecosystem security.

Jointly funded by the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation (www.moore.org) and Google.org, Google’s philanthropic arm, (www.google.org), the project will investigate the relationship between climate teleconnections and problematic climatic episodes that lead to crop failures, infectious disease outbreaks and ecosystem

disruptions such as fire. Teleconnections refer to a linkage between climate changes over widely separated regions of the earth.

The Early Warning System project will focus on the geography of teleconnection impacts, their tendency to follow prototypical patterns and the degree to which leading indicators (precursor patterns) exist that will allow a short term (3- to 6-month) warning of their likely impact pattern. Integration with numerical climate teleconnection forecasts will also be explored, as will the ability to serve this information publicly in an ongoing and timely manner.



Two geographic modes of the El Niño phenomenon as revealed in an analysis of anomalies in sea surface temperature. The analysis was done using a new image time series analysis suite currently being developed by Clark Labs

Clintons at Clark

Two generations of Clintons visited Clark about a week apart in preparation for the Massachusetts democratic primary. Chelsea Clinton spoke in Tilton Hall on Tuesday, January 29th, campaigning for her mother Hillary, who, unexpected by most, held a campaign rally in the Kneller gymnasium on Monday, February 4th.

Doors opened for the rally at 11:30 on Monday, at

an estimated 3,500 people filed into the Kneller to attend the event.

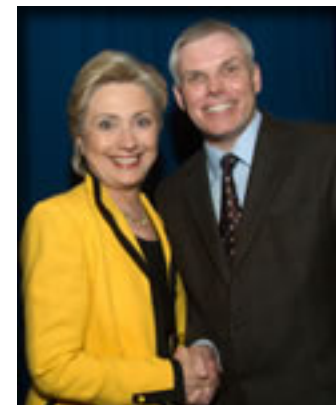
The senator took the stage at 2pm, after several other supporters rallied for her, including Representative Jim McGovern and Congressman Richard E. Neal. The a capella group Clark Bars performed as well, helping to entertain the waiting crowd.

Senator Clinton’s speech lasted about 50 minutes and

image abroad, taxation, the economy, and education. There was much cheering when she spoke of the plight of the college student, and her plans to help make college affordable.

The crowd also went wild each time she spoke of President Bush’s failures. Representative McGovern also spoke of Bush “driving the country into a ditch,” and suggested that we needed “an experienced driver to get us out,” to much applause.

Although there was much fanfare and pro-Clinton sign-waving, it is unclear whether the rally changed the minds of many voters. To a number of attendees, the event was a fairly standard stump speech, with little to draw voters from the Obama camp.



Senator Clinton shakes hands with an enthusiastic David Angel, Clark’s provost (photo by University Communications)

“Tomorrow [super Tuesday] is another super contest, and tomorrow, people of New York and of Massachusetts can be on the same team!”

—Senator Clinton, after consoling Patriots fans in the wake of the previous day’s Super Bowl lose to the NY Giants

which point the line had snaked all the way down Downing Street, and onto Main Street, even reaching Clark’s main gate. Even so, nobody was turned away, as

covered many of the issues important to this election, including her plan for universal healthcare, ending the war in Iraq, the United States’



Patriots Lose Super Bowl

Excerpts from “Giants Stun Patriots in Super Bowl XLII” by Judy Battista, 2/4/08

GLENDALE, Ariz. — The Giants were not even supposed to be here, taking an unlikely playoff path through the behemoths of their conference and regarded, once they alighted on Super Bowl XLII, as little more than charming foils for the New England Patriots’ assault on immortality. But with their defense battering this season’s National Football

League’s most valuable player, Tom Brady, and Giants quarterback Eli Manning playing more like Brady than Brady himself, the Giants produced one of the greatest upsets in Super Bowl history Sunday night, beating the previously undefeated Patriots, 17-14...“We usually are on the better side of those 3-point wins,” Brady said, referring to the Patriots’ three Super Bowl victories, all by 3 points. But at this Super Bowl, another quarterback played the leading man. Manning has been criticized and scrutinized since the Giants pulled off a draft-day trade for him

four seasons ago. Last year, he cheered for his brother as the Colts won the Super Bowl. On Sunday, Peyton Manning stood in a luxury box, anxiously watching his little brother complete 19 of 34 passes for two touchdowns. Across the field, Brady, who was 29 of 48 for 266 yards and a touchdown, watched as his season, and history, were buried under the red and blue confetti that rained down on the Giants. “Every team is beatable, you never know,” Coughlin said. “The right moment, the right time, every team is beatable.”

Featured E-Clark Diary: Angie Woodmansee

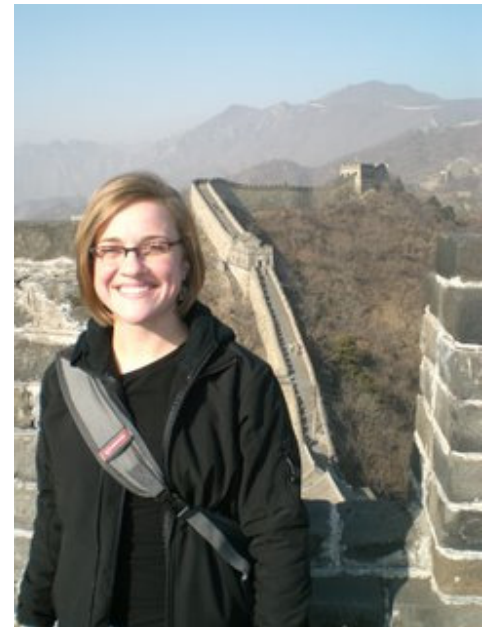
Sunday [Dec. 3] marked the beginning of our language pledge. In this program, all of the students have to sign a paper agreeing to only speak Chinese (if you get multiple official warnings, they can actually send you home). This has made for really interesting conversations, seeing as some of us (me included) don't speak that much Chinese. Even though it's difficult, speaking Chinese all day every day is incredibly helpful; even in five days, I can speak much better, since I absolutely have to use Chinese...and not even that can shut me up for too long...

I have yet to get over how delicious and cheap Chinese food is. Every night we eat at restaurants, and I have yet to pay over \$2 for a meal that includes at least three dishes, tea, and rice...

Last weekend CET took us on a trip to see the Great Wall of China! It was a really great trip, and the best part was

that we went to a part of the wall that isn't visited as often. It's called Mutianyu, and even though we had to take a two hour bus ride, it was completely worth it because there was barely anyone else on the wall (or at least less than I expected)...

We still have a few days of classes left, and then we have our final on Friday. After this weekend, we have a two week break that we're all in need of. I'm planning to go with a few people to Lhasa, Tibet, but we're still in the process of getting our tickets. We decided to take the train from Beijing to Lhasa, which is around 50 hours. It's going to be a long ride, but I'm really excited because we'll basically be crossing the entire country, and will get to see a lot of really beautiful scenery.



For more e-Clark diaries, go to <http://www.clarku.edu/offices/studyabroad/ediaries/>

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Photo by Angie Woodmansee

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