

11-3-2003

## Hawks' Herald-- November 3, 2003

Roger Williams University

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# HAWK'S HERALD

Volume 14, Issue 5

Roger Williams University

Monday, November 3, 2003

## RI students *Chase the Vote* to make a difference

By Aubrey Joyce

Staff Writer

One of the greatest liberties of the American democratic process is the voting right granted to all United States citizens, who are over the age of eighteen and registered. It is the participation of voting individuals that allows the general American population to make a difference and decide the issues that will affect all of America.

Unfortunately, many Americans do not utilize their rights to vote and will never appear at the polls and lack the experience of what it is like to feel truly a part of the Democratic process. This lack of interest is regrettably evident among the youth population. According to the Center for Information and Research on Civic Learning and Engagement, the vot-

ing turnout among Americans age 18 - 24, has declined 13% over the last twenty-five years.

Students scattered throughout Rhode Island have banded together to change the apathy apparent among youth by developing a not-for-profit organization called CHASE the Vote. This organization, an acronym for Creating Hope Among Students Everywhere, currently consists of approximately 35 students from Universities across RI and holds the philosophy that youths can make a difference, and the vote of each youngster is imperative to the democratic way.

CHASE, founded by Adam Maust, a junior at Roger Williams University, encourages students throughout RI to get involved in the political process, whether it be through exercising their

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Photo by Allisyn Deyo  
Brandon Glasgow and Allison Belanger, 2003 Homecoming King and Queen share a dance at the ball.

Homecoming, Pages 4-5

## Senators weigh free speech and obscenity issues

By Allisyn Deyo

Staff Writer

Roger Williams University made headlines in the Providence Journal last week in response to the College Republicans latest issue of their newsletter, the Hawk's Right Eye. Three weeks ago, the Hawk's Right Eye published a contentious issue that caused President Nirschel to condemn it and freeze the funding. Student Senate President Erin Bedell corrected that last week after meeting with President Nirschel. President Bedell pointed out that as stated in their constitution, this was a Student Senate decision, and not a decision for the senior administration.

Sen. Wynter Lavier had submitted a bill, tabled at last week's meeting, which

would censure the College Republicans and withdraw their funding for the Hawk's Right Eye. In response, an unprecedented number of students attended the Student Senate meeting Monday. In addition to several College Republicans, who were there in support of the Hawk's Right Eye and Sen. Jason Mattera, there were also three members from the American Civil Liberties Union chapter on campus.

Daryl Finizio, a second year law student at the Ralph R. Papitto School of Law, addressed the senate as a member of the ACLU. He stressed the legalities that would arise if the Student Senate ceased funding the Hawk's Right Eye and encouraged the senate to seek professional

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## I am Brockovich; Hear me roar

By Blaine Moffa

News Editor

As 1,800 sat in a packed Rec Center gym, elbowing for personal space and squinting through heads to get a better glimpse, one thought ran through everyone's mind: What can't Erin Brockovich do?

The guest speaker for the 2003 Homecoming Weekend at RWU, Brockovich talked to parents, students and administration about her empowering career. Her highly motivational lecture discussed her now infamous environmental lawsuit against Pacific Gas and Electric Company in 1996. But she also divulged into what makes her such a strong female journalist, including

her family's roots, her struggling life as a single mother, and the personal challenge to keep moving.

"Every day I fight the bury-your-head-in-the-sand philosophy," she said.

Brockovich's life-changing investigation about polluted water in Hinkley, California was highlighted in the 2000 release of "Erin Brockovich," starring Julia Roberts. Brockovich made no qualms about the accuracy the movie; in fact, she validated numerous times how Robert's performance dutifully mirrored her physical image, challenging relationships, her children's roles, and her dedication as a reporter.

She emphasized the need to persist a fight, and encouraged each individual to stand up for what

they believe in. "I am an advocate for awareness and the right to know," she said. "You can choose to care and believe that you can do something."

Brockovich talked in depth about her ultimate hero, her father; An ex-military man who gave Erin the confidence to be an honest, admirable woman. Brockovich even carries a letter her father wrote to her after a harsh punishment when she was in high school. The letter gives her courage and reminds her exactly why she is so successful.

For anyone who desires to be triumphant in life; it is hard not to admire Brockovich's courage. She gave the audience a grocery

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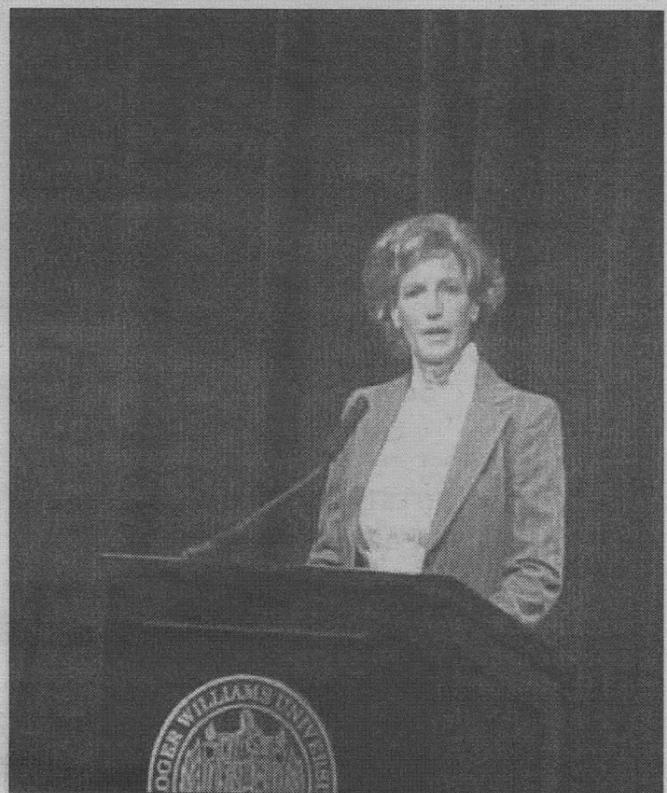
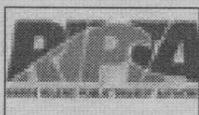


Photo by Blaine Moffa

The "real" Erin Brockovich, seen above, gave students and parents a warming speech about succeeding in life.



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# EDITORIAL

Volume 14, Issue 5

Monday, November 3, 2003

## Seasons change with rhythm of the universe

By Garry Dow

Science Editor

I've got to be honest. This cold snap has got me wondering if global warming could be a blessing in disguise. Fall used to be my favorite season, that is, before it renounced its role as an actual season in favor of becoming a segue to winter.

In my view, looking forward to fall is a lot like waiting for a rollercoaster ride to begin. When you buy your ticket in late August you're thinking, "Hey, I've got all the time in the world." But by the time you finally get in line, and make it to the front, you've wasted most of September, but that's OK because the best is yet to come, right?

Midway through October, the gates finally open and you step into the car, your heart pounding with antici-

pation—fasten your seat-belt, this is going to be good. Forty-five seconds and a few unexpected drops later, the ride is over and you're back to where you started: out in the cold, at the end of line, waiting for next year.

Human beings are inextricably bound to the Earth and its cycles, but often we get so bogged down in the details that we miss the big picture. And all the while we go about our lives, oblivious to the universe expanding around us.

Still, we travel through each day with confidence—our vehicle, a massive chunk of rock spinning round a bubbling cauldron of gas at the edge of the Milky Way.

Round and round we go. Together, we are privy to a cosmological dance of sorts, nine planets tiptoeing around a mid-sized sun.

Roughly 4.5 billion years

ago, when these heavenly bodies were still in dress rehearsal, our galaxy was relatively static. Then suddenly, for a reason still not fully understood, vast clouds of cold gas and dust began to condense and spin slowly.

Along the way, atoms and molecules began to clump together to form larger particles called planetesimals. Eventually, these macro-particles began to combine and stratify. This process led to the formation of the planets as we know them today.

Conventional astronomy counts nine in all—although many cosmologists have seriously questioned Pluto's rightful place among the planets in recent years. Regardless, the planets generally accepted are: Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Saturn, Jupiter, Neptune, Uranus, and Pluto.

These planets all share a

similarly shaped orbit, yet the length and temperature range of their seasons are markedly different. It is a common misconception to suppose that a planet's orbit is solely responsible for its seasons. In reality, the tilt of the planet's axis plays a far greater role.

When sunlight hits the part of a planet angled towards the sun, most of the energy is absorbed. We call this summer. When sunlight hits the part of a planet angled away from it, the energy skips off the atmosphere and into space.

We call this winter.

### Upcoming Events

**Rhode Island Natural History Survey Seminar**  
Wednesday 7:30 p.m.  
MNS 200

**November 5**—Dr. Marcie Marston (RWU) The spread and ecological impact of an invasive red alga (*Grateloupta turuturu*) along the southern New England coast.

**BIO 310- Tropical Ecology** (3 credits) Winter Intersession in Belize January 8th - 17th  
Travel to ancient ruins, rain-forests, and tropical reefs. Informational Meeting—Nov. 5, 2003 at 5 p.m. in MNS 200  
There will be slideshow presentation.

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## Police Beat

### Arrests

10/25 at 7:39 p.m. Matthew R. LePage, 20, of 3 Grove Ave. Warren, was arrested by Bristol Police on charges of bomb threats and similar false reports.

10/26 at 12:55 a.m. James F. Christino, 22, of 45 Bay view Ave. Bristol, was arrested by Bristol Police at Topside Lounge on a charge of disorderly conduct.

10/26 at 12:55 a.m. Daniel P. Rohme, 22, of 42-23 205 St. Bayside, NY was arrested by Bristol Police at Topside Lounge on a charge of disorderly conduct.

### Sneak preview

10/23 at 3:29 a.m. RWU Public Safety reported a "peeping Tom" by the window of a female student's room. It appears the peeper had tried to break into the room, as damage to the window was observed.

### Dangerous time for meal transfers

10/25 at 7:39 p.m. RWU Public Safety advised of a bomb threat to the Student Union. The suspect, a Dining Services employee, was arrested, arraigned and released from Bristol Police.

### Lifestyles of the rich and the reckless

10/26 at 1:57 a.m. RWU Public Safety reported a possible drunk driver operating a silver SUV heading north on Metacom Avenue. Bristol Police located the vehicle minutes later, unattended at Almeida apartments.

### Isn't the Sox series over?

10/26 at 3:38 a.m. RWU Public Safety reported a large disturbance in Seabreeze apartments. A baseball bat was believed to be involved.

### Not your typical science lecture

10/27 at 2:58 p.m. Bristol Fire and Haz-Mat responded to a chemical spill in the Marine and Natural Science building, of a substance deemed hazardous.

Police Beat information courtesy of Bristol Police Department which reminds you to buckle up for safety. Edited by Jason Turcotte.

# NEWS

Volume 14, Issue 5

Monday, November 3, 2003

## CHASE

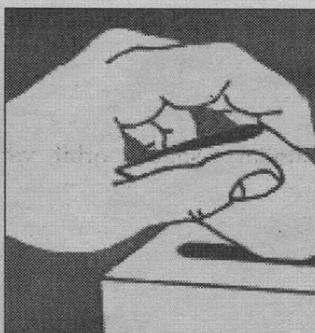
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voting rights, running polls, advocating peer voting, or even recognizing the possibility of running in an election.

When asked about the biggest goals of CHASE, Maust said, "The youth aren't involved, and they should be. CHASE the Vote is set to take action to change that."

CHASE is currently in the process of organizing a youth rally called CHASE Fest, which will feature music, entertainment, and a lot of enthusiasm. Also, CHASE is about one and a half months away from debuting an hour-long television program featuring various high positioned political figures. One future goal of CHASE is to actually front youth candidates to run for different offices in political facets in Rhode Island, something that has never been done before.

CHASE meets every Wednesday night at 9:00 PM in the boardroom on the third floor of the library. Maust hopes that students everywhere will be encouraged to get involved in the goals of CHASE and vote to make a difference.



### YOUNG VOTERS

Here are some statistics about young American voters, as surveyed by the National Association of Secretaries of State:

- There are 70.2 million Americans age 20 or younger, the largest generation of young people in the nation's history.
- Less than one in five 18- to 24-year-olds voted in 1998, a record low in American voting history.
- The single factor that most determines whether a young person will vote is whether his or her parents vote. Education also plays a role.
- Sixty-four percent are white, 16 percent black and 16 percent Hispanic.
- Thirty-eight percent of young people surveyed said they "didn't have time" to vote.
- Half the young people surveyed said they never or almost never talk about politics, government or current events with their parents.

## Honor code explored as means of reducing cheating; Administration dissatisfied with existing policy

Mark Walerysiak

Contributing Writer

Plagiarism and cheating exist in virtually every educational institution, including Roger Williams University. RWU Provost, Edward Kavanagh, aware that faculty have expressed concern working with prior plagiarism policies due to their "cloudiness", has opted to investigate an avenue that would hopefully bring plagiarism and cheating to an abrupt halt, utilizing what is known as an honor code. Kavanagh's exploration into an honor code is part of an ongoing attempt to elevate integrity in every aspect of RWU's environment.

An honor code is a system that allows plagiarists and cheaters no escape. Resolute punishments, and expulsions, more the latter, are given to first time offenders. If a friend is cheating in the classroom during a test, or in a dorm on a term paper, and it is known that someone is aware of it and it goes unreported, then that person becomes subject to severe

repercussions.

The honor code is quite the departure from the existing policy, where convicted plagiarists are taken through a "chutes and ladders" enforcement system. "It doesn't have a tracking system. How do you know

*"...You never could tell if someone's telling you the truth," said Blackburn. The students shown to be most guilty of cheating were failed in the course.*

who cheats multiple times?" questioned Kavanagh of the current policy.

However, an honor code would bring an end to the existence of severe offenders still getting by on the coattails of others. It is a system built on a high quality of trust and respect between students, as well as student-professor relationships.

According to USNews.com, there are "more than 1,400 colleges and universities" in the United States. Out of 1,400, The Center for Academic Integrity website

(www.academicintegrity.org) lists only 99 that employ the use of an honor code. This means that just seven percent of colleges and universities implement the honor code as policy.

The plagiarism/cheating policy, as it stands today, was cleaned up by Kavanagh and the administration last year, and reintroduced in an effort to further enforce justice. The policy, which reads like a list of steps, is called the Procedure for Dealing with a Possible Breach of Academic Integrity. It is an intricate listing of what should be done by those involved, whom to report to, who makes the decisions, student's rights, and the appeals process.

Provost Kavanagh and the rest of the administration have put forth a concerted effort to raise the integrity of RWU, ensuring that all steps are clear to the student, faculty, and administration, which is a clarity they believe was lacking in the previous policy.

The administration is focused on trying to explore the best scenarios for combating cheating.



## Brockovich

continued from front page

list of lessons she has learned; listening to both your heart and your mind, looking carefully at your errors, finding solutions and sticking to your beliefs.

"I am living proof that you can dive headlong into the waters of adversity, and begin to change things for yourself and others," she said. "You must believe in you, and you must believe in your case."

## Free speech

continued from front page  
counsel. "As a co-chair of the Alliance [a gay and lesbian group] on campus, I would condemn the article," he stated, "but it is within their first amendment rights to print," said Finizio.

Due to unrelated matters, Sen. Jason Mattera was asked to resign as chairman of the Finance committee. President Bedell requested his resignation after discovering a misappropriation of funding. Mattera appealed the request at the meeting, but after a majority vote agreed with the president's decision, a resignation soon followed.

A bill was submitted, and passed, by Vice President Lonergan to appoint Sen. Lavier to chair the Finance

committee, and Sen. Adam Noska to fill her seat as chairman of the Student Affairs committee. Lonergan also submitted another bill, which passed, entitled "Reaffirming the Nature of the Relationship between the Administration and Student Organizations." This bill was in response to President Nirschel's attempt to freeze the funding of the Hawk's Right Eye earlier that week. The bill is designed to send a message to the administration regarding the ability of the senate to deal with the issues that arise in a "fair and timely matter."

In other business, Sen. Erin Hughes submitted a bill, to be voted on next week, calling for the appointment of William Leaver IV to the Public Relations committee.

## RIPTA faces budget crisis

By Jared Lindh

Staff Writer

The Rhode Island Public Transit Authority, RIPTA, will soon face its biggest service cut in 20 years, due to increasing budget problems. In an attempt to remedy the problem, RIPTA officials have proposed a preliminary measure that would cancel bus service on Saturday and Sunday after 7:00 p.m., on weekdays after 9:00 p.m., and on holidays.

Also on the chopping blocks would be city-to-beach service in the summer, along with trolley service throughout Providence. Earlier this semester, students at the University of Rhode Island were incon-

venienced with cutbacks made by RIPTA in response to rowdy behavior caused by intoxicated students during the evening routes.

RIPTA's bus no. 60 serves Roger Williams University as a stop between

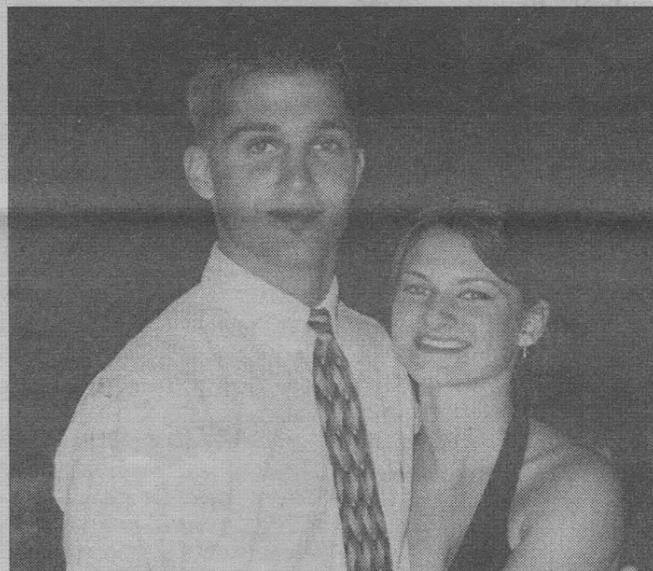


Providence and Newport. The stop is a popular method of travel for students, especially those without vehicles on campus. RIPTA patrons need not worry immediately though; any changes to RIPTA's scheduling would not take effect until the next fiscal year begins, in July of 2004.

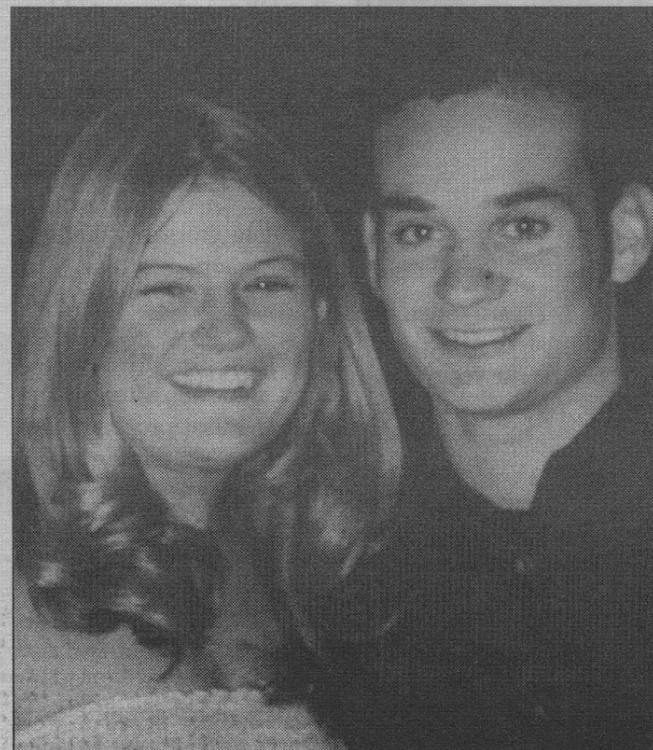
# HOMECOMING

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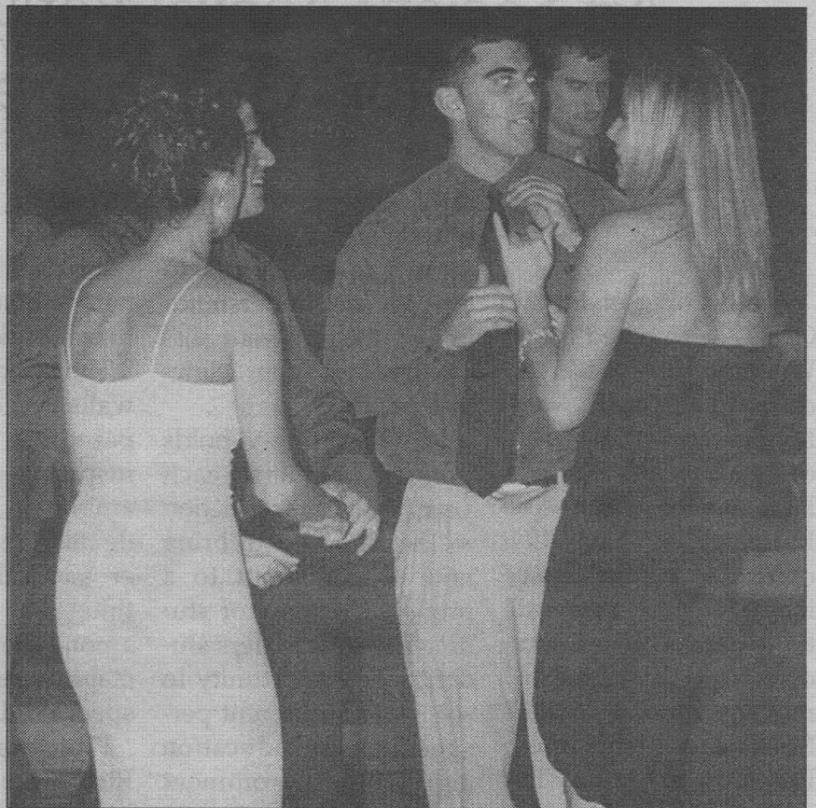
Allisyn Deyo & Blaine Moffa  
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# WEEKEND 2003

Volume 14, Issue 5

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# LIFESTYLES

Volume 14, Issue 5

Monday, November 3, 2003

## Art Society Annual Potluck Dinner an Opportunity for Inspiration and Conversation

By Laurie Schorr

Lifestyles Editor

The evening of Friday, Oct. 17, welcomed Roger Williams University students to the dark, warehouse-decorated streets of Pawtucket, Rhode Island, where Visual Arts Professor Michael Rich owns a studio space inside a converted mill building. Thirteen students traveled to the old mill and joined Professors Michael Rich, Rob Rustermeir, Anne Tait and Assistant Dean of Architecture Alberto Balistrieri for some decadent food and delicious conversation.

"I had a great time and am so glad that I could make it," said Junior Alex Bolzak, an architecture student and newcomer to the Art Society. "The chance to talk to students who are artisti-

cally driven, in fields other than architecture, is always fantastic, just to broaden my understanding of the different disciplines and other viewpoints."

The Art Society holds potluck dinners each year, as an introduction to the club and to bring new students out to a professor's home or studio. The event offers students the opportunity to see, from a different perspective, the education and talent prominent within the Visual Arts Department.

"There were all new students from last time," said Junior Katy Lennahan, a Visual Arts major who has been a member of the Art Society and had shared in previous potluck dinners. Lennahan was also impressed with the location of the dinner. "For a studio space it's

awesome, it's huge, it's cool that Michael Rich offered to have [the dinner] in a studio, with all his artwork up."

The background studio walls and Michael Rich's paintings provided an inspiring and unique ambiance for the students to meet one another and talk about anything that came to mind among the hummus vegetable spreads and olive-speckled dipping breads.

Professors Tait and Rich were accompanied by their young painters-in-training: Tess, Rich's baby daughter, and Roma, Tait's little girl. Balistrieri kept the two young ladies well entertained with facial expressions that only an imaginative Assistant Dean of Architecture could create.

While professors brought their wives or children,

students brought outside friends and generous amounts of food. There was an assortment of homemade breads, crackers and hummus dip, fresh vegetables, candy corn, apple pie, apple cider, Portuguese bread, bakery cookies, homemade pasta salad and gourmet dipping bread.

"I really enjoyed the art society dinner," said Junior Tara O'Neil, a Creative Writing and Sociology major. "The atmosphere was perfect; it was great to look at Michael's work while we ate. I met a few new people and everyone brought awesome food. It was definitely a good experience- we should do it again."

Throughout the night, Professors took plenty of time to indulge in a slice of apple pie and discuss students' plans for

current projects and future goals. At one point, Professor Rustermeir cleared off a space on the studio table, which had been converted into a buffet table, to draw in full detail the concepts behind a student's final sculpture piece.

"Talking to the professors in a casual atmosphere was great, it was so much more personal than in class or on campus," Bolzak adds.

Overall the evening was a successful collaboration of great food, great art, and even better company. The Art Society will be hosting an annual trip to New York City on Saturday, November 1, and is collecting student work for a public, juried exhibition. For more information, contact Michael Rich at [mrich@rwu.edu](mailto:mrich@rwu.edu) or Laurie Schorr at [Sunsetta16@aol.com](mailto:Sunsetta16@aol.com).



Photo by Natasha Sotomayor

5,031 pumpkins were present and on display for the crowds at Roger Williams Park Zoo. The annual Spectacular ended Sunday.

## "It's time to see 5,013 pumpkins!"

By Maura Wolk

Staff Writer

For a limited time only, Roger Williams Park Zoo proudly boasts its third annual presentation of the Jack-O-Lantern Spectacular, featuring over five thousand intricately hand-carved pumpkins over a three acre woodland trail. The Spectacular, named "a top 100 event" by the American Bus Association, promises something for all ages, including a new display of pumpkins that span the decades and turning points in history. In addition, familiar features such as the 'Tree of Light' and 'The Laughing Place' have returned bigger and better than ever before.

Through the diligent efforts of over thirty

professional pumpkin carvers along with creative supplemental lighting and music, the trail transports people of all ages through time to experience the highlights of music, television, and politics, not to mention the animals and environments spanning across the globe. Among hundreds of others, the pumpkins include "Old MacDonald"; Frank Sinatra; *Star Wars*; and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and this year's Spectacular also contributes a three-pumpkin memorial to the victims of the Station Nightclub fire.

Though only three years old, the Spectacular has become a fast-growing family tradition, attracting over eighty thousand visitors during the last year alone. In

addition to providing a fun, safe family outing, the Spectacular also serves as a fundraiser for Roger Williams Park Zoo, with the proceeds being used to support environmental education and zoo conservation efforts both locally and around the globe, as well as the construction of new exhibits and the improvement of old ones.

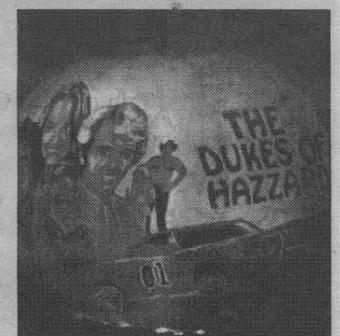


Photo by Natasha Sotomayor

It's a Hazzard Halloween at Roger Williams Park Zoo.

# LIFESTYLES

Volume 14, Issue 5

Monday, November 3, 2003

## Tides of applause roll in for "Sea Marks"

By Joshua Raymond

Staff Writer

As the unforgiving sea crashes against the rocks, a middle-aged Irish fisherman warms himself by his fireplace. He passionately writes to an unwary woman, who he has only seen once and has never formally met.

Overwhelmed by the vivid imagery and warm-hearted style sealed within the letters, his potential companion reluctantly writes back. The subtle conversations ensued for a year and a half, when finally Colm Primrose the easy-going fisherman wants to convene with his justification of beauty, Timothea Stiles. With little hesitation, Timothea agrees to Colm's request to journey from Liverpool to Ireland to attend a cousin's wedding.

At the wedding Colm's memory fails him because Timothea's beauty was more resilient than the first time he remembered her. At first glance, Timothea recognizes Colm and the memory of him submerging his arm in a punch bowl at previous wedding. Their endearing first impressions was that of a starry-eyed teenage boy and girl.

Inevitably, the particulars of the conversation ended and the underlying theme was what was to happen next. Taking the initiative, Timothea asked Colm to return with her to Liverpool.

Colm and Timothea, experienced many new feelings together in the weeks they shared. Love, uncertainty, and sorrow are just a few of the emotions that ran rampant through their veins. But, in the end Colm's yearning to hear the waves roll in, feel the cool ocean mist, and taste the sea's anguish, he inescapably returns to the ocean.

Gardner McKay's profound love story was wonderfully written and strategically casted. Colm Primrose's character, played by the artistically gifted actor Mike Healy will grab your attention from start to finish. The dazzling, Geri Sereno who plays Timothea Stiles, will have you wanting to write her letters of your own.

Sea Marks is currently running at Firehouse Theater in Newport. The tickets are \$10 and the show can be seen from October 24-November 23 on Friday and Saturday nights at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m.

## What's happening around the world?

### Baghdad terrorist strike warning

The U.S. Consulate has urged precautions amid rumors of a "day of resistance" with terrorist strikes in and around Baghdad this weekend by anti-U.S. guerrillas against police stations, mosques and other civilian targets.

### U.S. \$87bn for Iraq, Afghanistan

On a 298-to-121 vote, the House early Friday approved the \$87 billion Iraq and Afghanistan spending bill, clearing the way for final Senate approval and a presidential signature in the coming days.

### Gruesome video shows Iraqi brutality

A gruesome videotape found in April by U.S. troops in Iraq allegedly shows the brutal punishment administered by the Fedayeen Saddam to enforce discipline under the regime of Saddam Hussein.

### Somber end to Mahathir era in Malaysia

An era has ended in Malaysia with the formal departure from office of Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad after 22 years in power.

### Russian PM 'worried' by Yukos investigation

Investors took a deep breath after the tumultuous events of Thursday tied to the ongoing investigation of Yukos Oil Company and its head, Mikhail Khodorkovsky.

### Iran stands by its nuclear list

Iran's declaration of its nuclear activities to the U.N. nuclear watchdog was "transparent and comprehensive," an Iranian official said Friday, the day a key international deadline for the Islamic Republic expires.

### Sri Lanka Tigers unveil power plan

Indicating their willingness to resume stalled peace talks, Tamil Tiger rebels in Sri Lanka have unveiled proposals for a power-sharing arrangement with the government.

### Davis: Fires could be tamed in a week

With the humidity and winds finally on their side, firefighters Friday took on the front line of the Old Fire north of San Bernardino, California.

### Andreotti cleared over murder

Italy's highest court Thursday cleared former prime minister Giulio Andreotti of charges that he had ordered the Mafia murder of a journalist in 1979.

### Pope weighs in on crucifixes in schools

Pope John Paul on Friday forcefully weighed in on a national controversy in Italy over crucifixes in schools, saying it was undemocratic and dangerous to try to erase a country's religious symbols.

### Political prisons

Hidden in the northern provinces of North Korea lies a government's dirty secret.

Source: www.cnn.com, World News

<http://www.cnn.com/2003/WORLD/europe/10/31/crucifix.pope.reut/index.html>

### CORRECTIONS

All corrections concern the 10/28 Issue of the Herald.

-The Hawk's Herald would like to apologize to Provost Edward Kavanagh and to professor Omo Omoruyi for our crucial error in the 'faculty diversity' story, which ran on Page 1. A photo caption inadvertently identified Omoruyi as the Provost. As he is not a full-time professor, Omoruyi is not a 'diversity hire,' but rather an adjunct professor. In addition, photo credits for Omoruyi's pictures should be credited to Allisyn Deyo.

-The story "Tale of Two Cities: Bronx vs. Beantown," was written by staff sports writer Alex DaLuz.

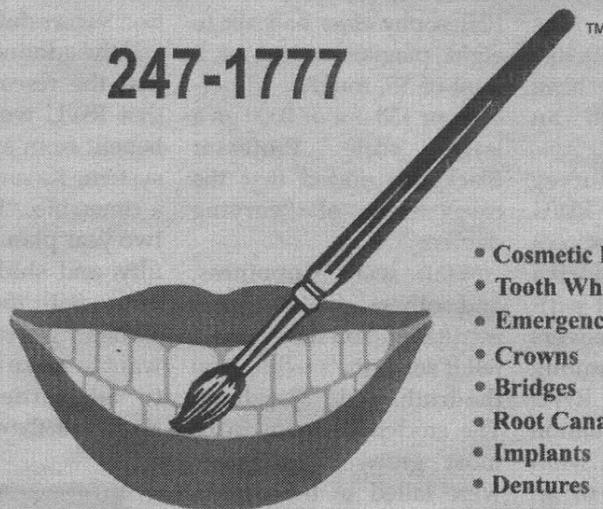
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# CAMPUS LIFE

Volume 14, Issue 5

Monday, November 3, 2003

## Plagiarism

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Therefore, they promise not rest on their laurels if there is a superior option available. Therefore, the concept of an honor code is being explored. Kavanagh says an honor code offers a few interesting contributions: attracting a more distinguished, serious type of student, drawing good publicity for the school, and creating a defining image of integrity of social and educational standards.

An RWU senior, Dan Rohme, retells an experience he once had in which he diligently studied for hours in order to prepare

left during a test since," said the student.

Recently, aside from the interest in the honor code, the RWU administration took its first steps toward becoming serious about the issue of integrity by joining The Center for Academic Integrity, which is a group of over 320 institutions, and is affiliated with the Kenan Institute for Ethics at Duke University. The center provides ideas and suggestions based on experience and creativity of the institutions and persons involved to promote the quality of the integrity of life and education at the participating institutions.

With the ascent of the Internet and access to infor-

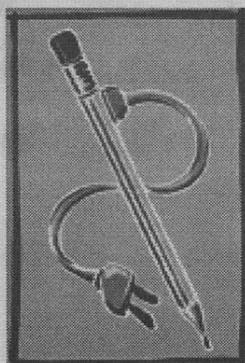
deal in ethical behavior." Kavanagh said he eventually wishes to get the students involved as well, and floated the idea that "students should be on a group or committee so they could have cheating hearings." Nevertheless, plans for an honor code are still in a pre-blueprint phase.

When asked about the possibility of an honor code backfire Kavanagh responded, "Different things work for different institutions." He then spoke adamantly about the need to launch a third party research survey(s) directed to students, administrators, and faculty. The survey(s) would hopefully report the frequency of cheating, and other factors required in order to determine the prospects of an honor code effectively working at RWU.

History Professor Dr. Josh Stein has experience working with an honor code system years ago while he was the director of the honors program. "On the whole, as far as I could tell, if you gained the respect of

the students, it works," said Stein. On the other hand, Dr. Stein said, "they didn't like the reporting of others cheating." Dr. Stein believes that if teacher-student respect, student integrity, and self-interest exist, then an honor code would function successfully at RWU.

If the administration feels that the research supports that RWU would properly benefit from an honor code system, Kavanagh foresees a timetable. "For me, it's a two year plan. Educate faculty, and students, and sit down with the faculty and student government. We want to make it fair enough to all parties and raise integrity in the environment."



### What is Plagiarism and Why is it Important?

In college courses, we are continually engaged with other people's ideas: we read them in texts, hear them in lecture, discuss them in class, and incorporate them into our own writing. As a result, it is very important that we give credit where it is due. Plagiarism is using others' ideas and words without clearly acknowledging the source of that information.

### How Can Students Avoid Plagiarism?

To avoid plagiarism, you must give credit whenever you use

- \* another person's idea, opinion, or theory;
- \* any facts, statistics, graphs, drawings—any pieces of information—that are not common knowledge;
- \* quotations of another person's actual spoken or written words; or
- \* paraphrase of another person's spoken or written words.

Source: University of Indiana

for a test. Little did he know that when he was to take his test, the professor would leave the room for approximately 10 minutes as the other students proceeded to exchange answers. "I'm just sitting there thinking, I studied all night for this?" said Rohme. The unfairness of situations like these could possibly have been avoided with an honor code.

Furthermore, in a survey conducted among 20 RWU students, 16 recalled instances where a professor had left a classroom for a short period of time and answers were exchanged among some students. One RWU student recalled a situation that exemplifies what should be required of an honor code. During a test, a professor left the room for a very brief period. Meanwhile, a few students opened up their notebooks and tried to cheat, but were later told on by fellow classmates. "I didn't see what happened, but the professor addressed it in the next class, and he hasn't

mation being easier than ever, students are finding more ways to cheat and plagiarize, and growing trends seem to echo that sentiment. During the fall semester of 2002, two sections of Professor Robert Blackburn's core Literature/Philosophy class had six to eight plagiarists out of a total of 55, roughly 13 percent, or 130 out of 1000 on a larger scale. Professor Blackburn added that the cases were of "varying degrees."

"Half were sloppiness, and others, blatant, premeditated. You never could tell if someone's telling you the truth," said Blackburn. The students shown to be most guilty of cheating were failed in the course. However, beyond that, Professor Blackburn does not know what has become of them. The same students, and those of their type, could still be attending RWU and continuing their ill-advised habits.

With an honor code, Kavanagh explained, "It's everyone's expectation to

## Second wave: Meet more of your Student Senators

By Allisyn Deyo

Staff Writer



Senior Erin Hughes is eager to serve the Student Senate.

Hughes, an English major, plans to work in Student Affairs after graduate school. Hughes is on the Clubs and Organizations committee, and is the chairman of the Public Relations committee, promoting Senate throughout campus. Former co-chair of CEN, Hughes is fervent about "discussing issues that the students are talking about, and reacting with them."



This will be the fourth term for Morgan Hutchison, senior. Double majoring in marine biology and political science, Hutchison is planning to continue her education, and receive a Masters degree in Environmental Policy. A member of the Finance committee and the Public Relations committee, Hutchison is also the founder and chairman of her pilot program, H2O, a standing council that seeks to give freshmen leadership experience and introduce them to the administration.



Junior Dan Boyea holds the only non-elected seat with the Student

Senate. His job, as parliamentarian, is to ensure that the meetings are run in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order, and that the Senate Constitution and Bylaws are obeyed. Boyea is a political science major, and is looking forward to his term on the senate.



Mona Hatoum, junior, is excited to be involved with the Student Senate. Hatoum was on CEN as a comedy commentator before being elected to senate. A political science major and RA, Hatoum plans to attend law school. Hatoum is a member of the Finance committee and the Public Relations committee. Energized about senate, Hatoum stated, "I love being involved! I would go crazy if I wasn't."



Jason Mattera, junior, is serving his third term on the Student Senate. Double majoring in business management and communications, Mattera intends to study constitutional law after graduation. In addition to sitting on the Clubs and Organizations committee, Mattera is the co-founder and President of the College Republicans on campus, and the editor of their newsletter, the Hawk's Right Eye.



A four-term senator, Wynter Lavier, senior, is a strong voice on the Student Senate double majoring in political science and French, Lavier plans on attending law school after graduation. Lavier is chairman of the Finance committee, which designates the funding for the clubs and organizations recognized by the senate, and is a member of the Clubs and Organizations committee. Additionally, Lavier is captain of the cheerleading team, and instructs students, "If you want to see change, get involved."