

11-10-2003

Hawks' Herald- November, 10, 2003

Roger Williams University

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HAWK'S HERALD

Volume 14, Issue 6

Roger Williams University

Monday, November 10, 2003

MNS evacuated after chemical spill

By Garry Dow

Science Editor

Outside, swirling red lights from a fire truck—engine number 4—illuminated the clouded night. Red caution tape lined the pathway connecting Bayside to the Student Union. Curious onlookers stopped to catch a glimpse of something, anything, as they passed.

The commotion stemmed from the evacuation of the Marine and Natural Science building, which occurred on Monday Oct. 12, 2003, following a chemical spill in one of the second floor laboratories. In total, four chemicals were released: Amyl acetate (nail polish remover), pyridine, Dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO), and Ruthenium trichloride.

As a result, the building was closed and classes were cancelled for the

remainder of the evening.

While chemical crews worked to determine the severity of the spill inside, professors and administrators, including Cliff Timpson, the Coordinator of the Department of Chemistry, gathered by a side entryway, waiting for news of the crew's findings.

In an e-mail to the campus community, Allison Chase Padula's office alerted students to the situation: Due to a chemical spill, "All Day and Evening Classes for Monday, Oct. 27 (from this point on) are cancelled in the Marine and Natural Science Building only. Building is closed."

Earlier that day, at about 2:30 p.m., several students in Nancy Breen's physical chemistry laboratory had noticed a pungent odor in the room. They quickly traced the smell to a

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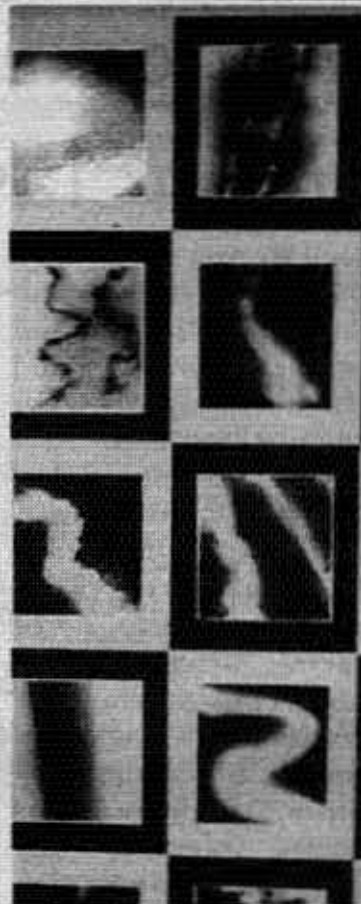


Photo by Laine Schorr

Rachel Fusco, a senior at RWU, displayed her images in the art gallery on Metro Campus.

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"Institutional zone," paving way for RWU expansion

By Jared Lindh

Staff Writer

As if the new Recreation Center wasn't enough, now more noteworthy additions are on the horizon for Roger Williams University, according to President Roy J. Nischel. In the culmination of a decade long effort, RWU has gained recognition from the town of Bristol and the state of Rhode Island as an "institutional zone," a first for the school, and for Bristol.

In previous years, whenever any campus additions were desired, no matter how mundane, the school had to appeal to the town in a long and tedious process of meetings with planning boards, public hearings, and so forth. Now, after years of effort, the school will have a far

easier time expanding its learning environment.

By being named an institutional zone, the school simply presents the town with a long term building plan, and waits for the town to approve or deny it. This saves the school and town the time of going through the lengthy process of meetings and forums for each individual project, instead they can be viewed all at once.

There are four significant changes the school will have undergone by the fall of 2004. Starting in the spring of 2004 Public Safety and Maintenance will have a new home of their own. A building for their offices will be constructed in the lot next to the Maher Center, a town owned facility for the mentally disabled, located behind North Campus and J-lot.

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Conservative paper fights for funding

By Mark Walerysiak

Staff Writer

The only difference between Roger Williams University's President and Provost and the book-burning, newspaper-closing Nazis? The Nazis wore swastika armbands," reads an e-mail sent to the College Republican's adviser, professor June Speakman, following the backlash of the administration's temporary suspension of the *Hawk's Right Eye* printing order, blocking the College Republicans from publishing under RWU funding.

The Oct. 7 edition of the *Hawk's Right Eye* became a lightning rod for controversy and created a shockwave of publicity. A letter released on Oct. 9 by

President Roy Nirschel called the paper "pornographic in nature, puerile, mean spirited, and stereotypes gay individuals as child molesters, criminals or deviants."

The papers printing order was frozen, but *Hawk's Right Eye* Editor and Chairman of the RWU College Republicans, Jason Mattera, was not silenced. Mattera published an article on Frontpagemagazine.com that discussed his side of the story and how "the university forcibly shut down its only conservative publication."

The controversy stems mostly from two articles—one titled "Judy Shepard Indoctrinates RWU," where mother of slain homosexual

Matthew Shepard spoke at RWU Freshmen Welcome Week. Mattera, the author of the article, felt she blasted those who do not accept homosexuality, criticized organized religion, and promoted uniformity of thought—basically trying to use her son's death as a platform to promote her political agenda.

The other article, entitled "Banana-Rama," was posted from World Net Daily's website and is about a tragic incident that took place on Sept. 26, 1999 in Rogers, Arkansas. The article reads: "Seventh grader Jesse Dirkhising was brutally raped and sodomized by Joshua McCabe Brown," using among other things, a

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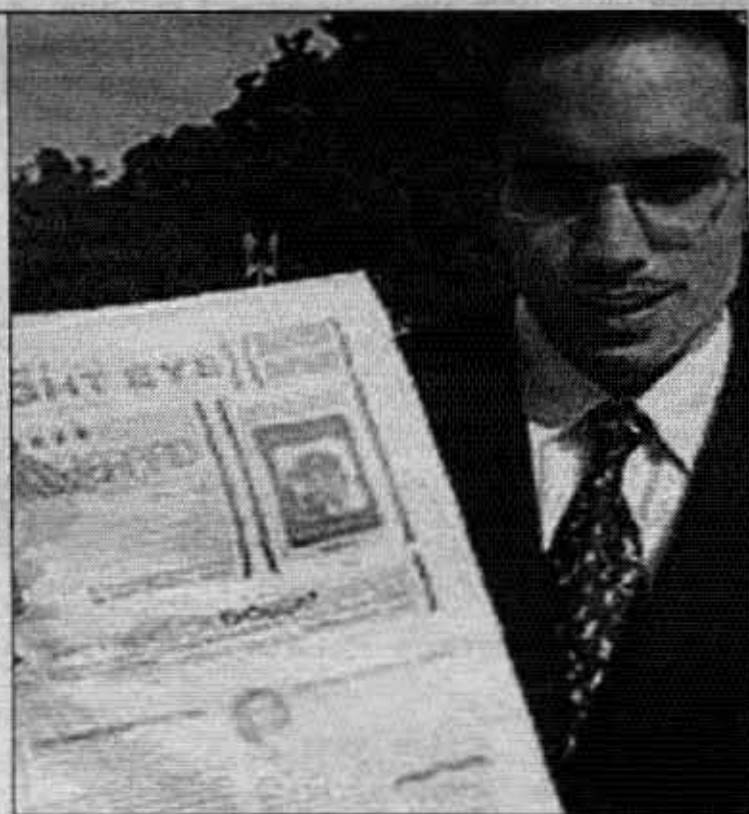


Photo courtesy of USA Today

Jason Mattera, pictured above, is holding a copy of the *Hawk's Right Eye* which he is editor-in-chief.



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NEWS

Volume 14, Issue 6

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Courts unconvinced by Sodexho petition to review class action suits

By Jason Turcotte

Co-Editor

The Supreme Court denied a petition presented by Sodexho Marriott Services, Inc. that urged the courts to re-evaluate the technical standards used in reviewing class action lawsuits. The petition came in response to both former and current black Sodexho employees who launched a civil suit claiming employment discrimination. A Washington Court certified the suit as a class action in June 2002. Sodexho Marriott boasts more food con-

tracts with colleges than any other company worldwide and is also contracted to run Dining Services at Roger Williams University.

More than 2600 black Sodexho employees launched the suit citing that the company violated their civil rights by failing to promote them to upper level management positions on the basis of race. The plaintiffs also charge that Sodexho salaries are determined by race. As part of the suit, the workers emphasize the need for Sodexho to amend its promotion procedures, claiming a violation of

civil rights.

But Sodexho explained that federal regulators investigated these claims deeming them unfounded. In a press release dated October 7, the company said, "Sodexho firmly denies the plaintiff's allegations of racial discrimination and considers this case is entirely without merit. Since its creation, Sodexho has never tolerated any form of discrimination and has always been vigilant in offering each of its employees and equal opportunity."

The Supreme Court allowed the workers to proceed with the suit in

a decision made October 6, but company officials fear the suit could reach the amount of \$1 billion. However, Congress is considering industry legislation that urges the largest of class action cases to be moved from state to federal courts. Lawyer Kerry Alan Scanlon of Washington represents the some 2600 employees and Sodexho Marriott has sought the legal aid of Baltimore lawyer Todd J. Horn.

This is not the first time the food service provider has had troubles with civil rights issues. Sodexho, a com-

pany with approximately 400 food contracts with colleges, is part of the Sodexho Alliance Corporation whose largest shareholder owns stock in the Corrections Corporation of America, a company that manages private prisons. Corrections Corporation has been investigated by the American Civil Liberties Union, who believes the company violates the civil rights of its employees. A trial date for the case, Sodexho Marriott Services v. McReynolds, has yet to be set.

HAWK'S HERALD

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POLICE BEAT

Under the bridge

10/28 at 9:39 p.m. Bristol Police moved along a male subject loitering under the Mt. Hope Bridge.

Signed, sealed and delivered

10/29 at 1:29 p.m. RWU reported the larceny of an envelope to Bristol Police.

Halloween fire

10/31 at 7:31 p.m. Bristol Fire and Rescue responded to a dorm fire in Willow 23. Three engines arrived on the scene and brought the fire under control within minutes.

More than holiday candy?

10/31 at 11:40 p.m. A caller from RWU advised Bristol Police of a party on campus with narcotics. The complaint was investigated but no arrests were made.

Pass the joint

11/1 at 6:16 p.m. RWU reported found marijuana to the Bristol Police.

Vandals unite!

11/2 at 3:15 a.m. RWU reported vandalism to a gate. Both video tape and the vehicle involved were held by Public Safety.

11/2 at 3:43 a.m. While out on a vandalism report at RWU, Bristol Police witnessed another vandalism in progress on Lower Ferry by Willow Hall. The suspects were released by Bristol Police to RWU Public Safety.

11/2 at 10:16 a.m. Vandalism to a campus gate discovered. Involved subject ordered to pay for the damage.

Sex offense

11/2 at 7:44 p.m. Newport Hospital notified Bristol Police of a sex offense that occurred at Roger Williams University.

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

NEWS

Volume 14, Issue 6

Right Eye

continued from front page

frozen banana, as another man masturbated while watching. The article is graphic, but Mattera says he attempted to give an alternate viewpoint that the death of Jesse Dirkhising occurred in the same time frame as Matthew Shepard's murder.

Mattera wrote in his Judy Shepard article, "Most RWU students believe that beating someone to death, regardless of their sexuality, is wrong and prohibited by law." Then the point is cross-referenced to the "Banana-Rama" article in which it states: "Homophobic stories are always dwelt upon, elongated and forced on the U.S. But, when homosexuals are the culprits the news is swept under the rug," as the College Republicans perceived that the death of Jesse Dirkhising was.

The main issue to some still remains that the point may have crossed the lines of obscenity, and the descriptive, graphic nature of the "Banana-Rama" article seemed inappropriate

graphic" material. The administration sought a quick counter to the *Hawk's Right Eye* and immediately tried to condemn its content, a maneuver that arguably blew up in their faces.

Mattera explains, "Many people don't read the paper, and he was able to reach 3,000 students with that mail. We probably reach 700 to 800 students. Now those who didn't read our paper are predisposed to think our views are hateful and intolerant. He wants tolerance and propriety according to his liking."

Kavanagh, who is a registered Independent, but voted for President Bush in the previous election, claims that he holds conservative views and feels that debate and opinion is fine within a certain limit. "If someone wants to write an article protesting whether or not we should have Martin Luther King Day as a holiday, or a Christopher Columbus Day, they should have the right to do that." Conversely, the Provost believes that the content and tone was too extreme in the *Hawk's Right Eye*, and therefore inappropriate.

current advisor to the College Democrats as well. She is a self-described liberal, but stands for the representation of all viewpoints. Her e-mail address and phone number, as well as President Nirschel's and Provost Kavanagh's, were put beneath the article Mattera had written on Frontpagemagazine.com.

Nirschel and Kavanagh received numerous messages calling them fascist, and Nazis, among other less-than-desirable names. There also were e-mails asking for their resignation, and a wide spectrum that condemned the stoppage of liberty and freedom of thought at the University.

On the other hand, Dr. Speakman received tons of praise for sticking up for diverse viewpoints. But she did talk about being frustrated. She says, "It is taking up way more time, more energy than I wanted it to. I assumed when I signed on that these were mainstream Republicans similar to what you would see on evening news or newspapers. I didn't know just how conservative they were."

But Dr. Speakman reiter-

party, as some in the administration did not believe that the views expressed in the *Hawk's Right Eye* accurately represented those of the Republican Party.

Mattera says, "He did not call those who supported us, he just called those who he can get to oppose us and say they're Republican. He never went to the Republicans in Rhode Island who were in the National Federation of Republican Assemblies who agreed with us, or to the College Republican National Committee. Their Chairman, Eric Hoplin, sent a letter to Nirschel supporting the *Hawk's Right Eye*. They actually named the *Hawk's Right Eye* the second best conservative student paper in the entire country. We only trailed Berkeley, which is an Ivy League-type school."

Mattera continued, "Saying we don't represent the Republican Party is an absurd charge to me. President Bush won over 30 states. To say they know the Republicans in each of those 30 plus states is a hard case to make."

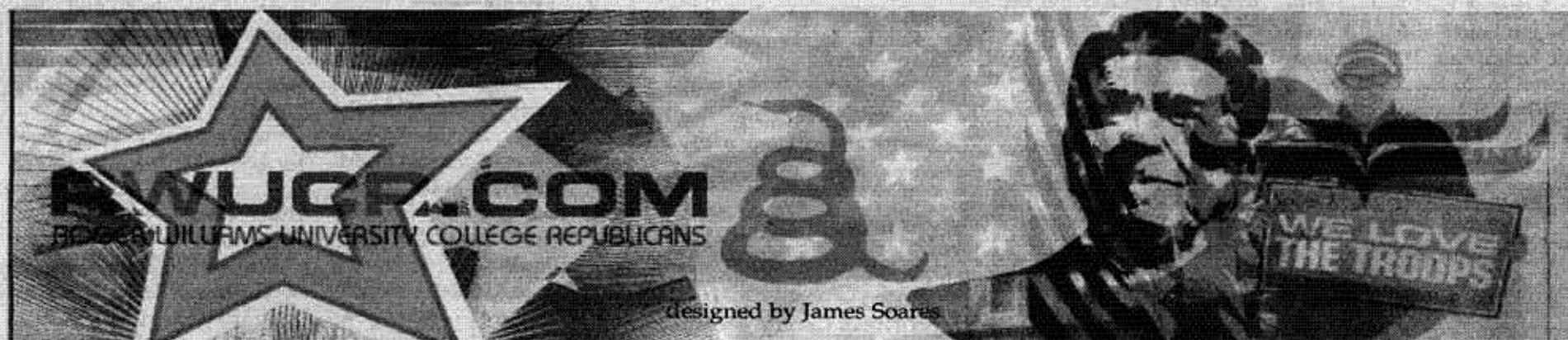
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were formal hearings held last year to cut their funding off. Absolutely not."

Mattera says, "I do not sensationalize anything I write. [The publicity] is good for us and bad for them."

The heated topic became front-page stories in *The Providence Journal*, and *Bristol Phoenix*. It also appeared on Joe Scarborough's show on MSNBC. USA Today has written a front page story accompanied by Mattera's picture discussing the debacle as part of a series of similar situations around the country. Ronald Reagan's son, Michael Reagan, had Mattera on his nationally syndicated radio show, and Brian Bishop's radio show out of Providence had Mattera on also. Mattera is continually approached by the media to speak on the subject.

"I spoke at a press conference with Representative Jack Kingston of Georgia. They are using the(our) situation before Congress as to why an academic bill of rights needs to be passed. So the President is going to be recorded for what he said in Congressional



designed by James Soares

and unwarranted, especially if its point was not visibly clear. Mattera says of the *Hawk's Right Eye*, "Nowhere are we hateful. Nowhere do we incite violence. We were just expressing our views. If they (administration) don't think it's decorum then that's their personal value judgment, and they cannot stipulate their own value judgments on the whole community."

Provost Edward Kavanagh and others in the administration maintain that there are certain moral and ethical standards that need to be followed without using "mean spirited", "porno-

Mattera rebuts by saying, "It's abuse of power. He (Kavanagh) should have said self-described totalitarian and not self-described conservative." Mattera indicated that in the past, President Nirschel has always been fair to the College Republicans, and he seems to think the Provost has been in his ear. "The *Hawk's Right Eye* comes out and he's ready to fight. They are just targeting the College Republicans. They are just taking their narrow-minded agenda and trying to label and stigmatize us."

Dr. June Speakman is the former advisor to the College Republicans, and

ated that she applauds the fact they take politics seriously, they study politics, and she is pleased they reinvigorated political opinions. Dr. Speakman believed that, "The escalation of the situation could have been avoided if the administration took a few more days to consult me and the College Republicans."

E-mails sent to Nirschel, Kavanagh, and Speakman originated from California, Tennessee, Texas, Maryland, Florida, North Carolina, Minnesota, New York, and even Spain, to name a few.

Provost Kavanagh even called the RI Republican

The Provost and some in the administration believe that the College Republicans have an agenda to stir controversy in attempt to garner publicity in unethical manners. Provost Kavanagh says, "If I want to scream the 'N' word, could I get publicity? Are there unethical ways to get publicity? Sure. I think one unethical way to get publicity is to put false material on the Web, I don't agree with it. Someone has written that Jedediah Jones (a pen name) is a real student. He's not. There's someone on the Web that wrote that we forced their advisor to resign. We didn't. Someone said there

debate."

But Mattera feels differently. He says, "President Nirschel got some horrible advice, and he should really look into the employment of whoever gave him their advice."

But Kavanagh feels differently and says, "Some people find that if someone says something objectionable, that if you don't respond to it you quote unquote give credence to it. If something is unethical it's your obligation, if you truly feel that something's wrong, it's your obligation to respond."

Look for more information on *The Hawk's Right Eye* in upcoming issues.

SCIENCE

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Chemical Spill

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cracked, two-liter glass flask, leaking in the corner.

The flask is believed to have been damaged when it was struck by a student as he or she closed the door to a cabinet earlier in the period.

Slowly, chemicals began to trickle out. As they did, some expanded into a gas, filling the room.

"The pyridine was what the students smelled," said Cliff Timpson, who was in the building that afternoon. "It's pretty hard stuff to miss."

By the time anyone noticed, the spill had leaked under the wall, down a pipe chase (a small shaft in the wall that runs vertically through the building), and straight into the Wet Lab storage room located on the first floor.

Three days later, Timpson looked over the stained remains of the floor where the spill started. "The initial spill in the lab upstairs wasn't a very big problem," he said. "The fact that it had leaked into the lab below meant it wasn't contained. It's not supposed to do that."

When it became clear the spill was no longer local-



Photo by Jason Turcotte

Fire crews responded to the scene where four chemicals spilled inside the MNS building on Oct. 27, forcing it to close for the evening.

ized, Dan Von Riesen, another RWU chemistry professor working nearby, notified public safety.

Within minutes, the Bristol Fire Department, along with an ambulance and a hazardous materials unit, arrived on the scene.

Under a darkened sky, with the wind howling, the hazmat team donned chemical suits and respirators and entered the building.

Provost Edward Kavanagh, one of the administrators among the crowd of faces that evening, indicated, "Right

now we are going through the proper channels just to make sure everything is accounted for."

Using a special instrument designed to measure air quality, the hazmat team determined that the gas levels inside the building were such that it was safe for the Department of Environmental Management to enter and determine the necessary steps that needed to be taken to safely remove the spill.

"Federal law requires anyone working with chemicals to keep a log of

all the chemicals that are used in the labs each day," said Timpson. "So, it was easy for the DEM to see what they were dealing with because we had all the chemicals recorded."

The law also requires chemical manufacturers to generate chemical information sheets, called MSDS reports, which contain, among other things, an overall safety rating for each of the chemicals the company manufactures.

In the case of an emergency, such as a chemical spill, these MSDS reports provide access to information that allows officials to quickly determine what precautions, if any, need to be taken.

After viewing both the logs from the lab and the MSDS sheets from the manufacturer, the DEM gave RWU the go-ahead to clean up the spill.

A cleaning crew from Triumverate Environmentalist

Incorporated used giant fans to force residual gas fumes up into the ventilation system and out of the building.

In addition, they used a vacuum to remove the remainder of the spill from parts of the lab floor, pipe chase, and storage room.

By 8:00 p.m. the fire trucks had vanished and the rain turned to a light mist. In the corner of the physical chemistry lab, a dozen white tiles seemed slightly out of place, stained yellow—evidence of the first chemical spill at RWU in more than six years.

"In chemistry, accidents are inevitable," said Timpson. "It is not a question of if, but when. The important thing is that we were prepared. Had we not kept a log of all the chemicals, we would have had to assume the worst. And this could have been a very different story."

Former professor honored at dedication ceremony

By Andy Millett

Staff Writer

On Saturday, Oct. 25, 2003, Roger Williams University dedicated the boardroom in the Marine and Natural Sciences building to Mark Gould, a former RWU biology professor. Approximately 60 people attended the ceremony including Gould's family, RWU faculty, alumni, as well as current students.

Gould died of a heart attack four years ago. During his time at RWU, Gould made a profound

impact on the science community of which he was a part. This included his efforts in the construction of the Marine and Natural Science Building (formally CEED).

"Mark enriched everyone he knew with his presence and attitude," said Dean Ruth Koelle, who hosted the event.

Grayson Murphy, another former RWU professor, was invited to say a few words about Gould's career. "This building stands as a testimony to

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If you have any information on science events, please feel free to contact Garry Dow, science editor for the Hawk's Herald at: Gdow072@rwu.edu

Date	Day	High Tide		Low Tide		Sun					
		AM	hgt	PM hgt	AM hgt	PM hgt	rise	set			
9	Sun	7:47	4.7	8:10	3.9	12:31	0	1:24	0.2	6:27	4:31
10	Mon	8:21	4.6	8:46	3.8	1:08	0	2:00	0.2	6:28	4:30
11	Tue	8:54	4.4	9:24	3.6	1:45	0.1	2:37	0.4	6:29	4:29
12	Wed	9:30	4.2	10:05	3.4	2:23	0.2	3:14	0.5	6:30	4:28
13	Thu	10:10	4	10:50	3.3	3:01	0.4	3:53	0.7	6:31	4:27
14	Fri	10:55	3.8	11:40	3.2	3:41	0.6	4:36	0.8	6:33	4:26
15	Sat	11:45	3.7	-	-	4:25	0.7	5:29	0.9	6:34	4:25

SCIENCE

Volume 14, Issue 6

Monday, November 10, 2003

Seasons march to the rhythm of the universe

By Garry Dow

Science Editor

I've got to be honest. This last cold snap has 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, heart pounding with anticipation—fasten your seatbelt, 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. 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. 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 status in recent years. Regardless, the generally accepted planets are: Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Saturn, Jupiter, Neptune, Uranus, and Pluto.

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.

This seemingly trivial distinction, along with Earth's orbit around the sun, accounts for Earth's four seasons: spring, summer, fall and winter.

Mars also has four seasons, but since Mars is further away from the sun, one year on Mars is equal to two years on Earth; therefore, the seasons are longer on Mars.

Mars is also much colder, barely reaching freezing even on its "hot" days. At night, temperatures can fall to as low as 70 degrees below zero. In the winter, it

gets even colder.

Mercury has two seasons: summer and winter. Because the planet spins very, very slowly, Mercury's entire year is only a day-and-a-half long. That is to say, in the time it takes Mercury to circle the sun, it makes just one-and-a-half revolutions around its own axis.

Uranus' orbit, however, is by far the strangest. Since it spins on its side, rather than vertically, its axis is tilted much more than the Earth's. As a result, its summer and winter seasons each last the equivalent of 42 Earth years.

As I sit here writing, I can see the trees outside my window. They have already started to shed their leaves. Autumn is fading quickly. Winter is undoubtedly upon us. Like clockwork, the seasons continually shift—one into another, into another, into another—until we find ourselves back at the front of the line ready to begin the ride again.

For me, fall always seems too short and winter too long. Still, it is comforting to know that spring will come soon enough. And I suppose it could be worse. I could live on Uranus.

For me, fall always seems too short and winter too long. Still, it is comforting to know that spring will come soon enough. And I suppose it could be worse. I could live on Uranus.

Upcoming Events

Science Math Seminar Series
Wednesday
4:30-5:30 p.m.
MNS 200

Nov. 12—
Undergraduate Student Research Presentations

Nov 19—
Dr. Nathalia Glickman (NYU School of Medicine, Skirball Institute of Biomolecular Medicine)

Transgenic analysis of zebrafish heart development
BIO 310 Tropical Ecology Winter Intercursion in Belize
January 8th-17th

Travel to ancient ruins, rainforests, and tropical reefs.

Contact Skip Pomeroy at hpomeroy@rwu.edu for more information

Dedication

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Mark's imagination and dedication," said Murphy. "One of the greatest things about Mark is that he always put the students first and he could always relate to them. My hope is that a little bit of Mark would rub off on his colleagues and his students."

Among several other speakers, a seventh grade

science teacher and former student of Gould, spoke fondly of his legacy.

"Not a day goes by that I don't think of Mark. He is the biggest influence in my teaching methods. It's because of Mark that I am who I am today," he said.

The large audience and the heart-felt, emotional stories told by those who knew him best was a touching tribute to a man who spent many of his own years making RWU a better place to live and to learn.

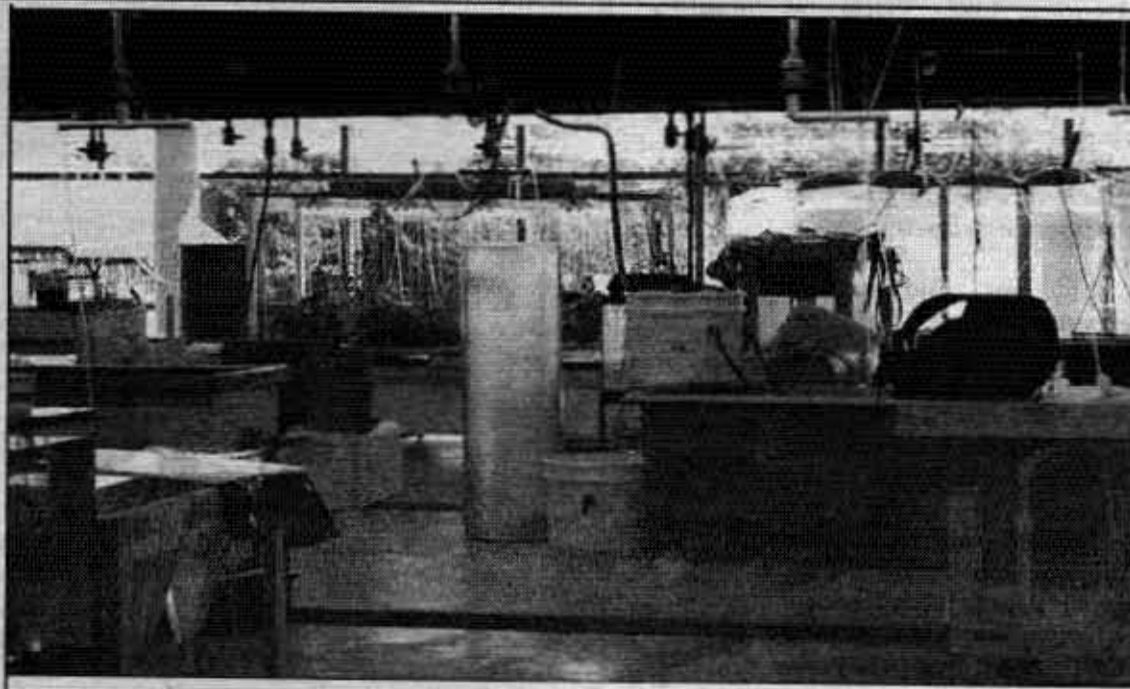


Photo by Garry Dow

Above, the RWU wet lab. The chemical spill which occurred in a second floor chemical lab, quickly spread into the wet lab below.

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LIFESTYLES

Volume 14, Issue 6

Monday, November 10, 2003

Visiting photographer brings samples of her work and bits of inspiration

By Laurie Schorr

Lifestyles Editor

While thunder rumbled above the Roger Williams University campus, lightning bolts flashed in the creative minds of curious students seeking shelter under the roof of CAS 121. On Monday, Oct. 27, nearly thirty photo students gathered to listen to young photographer and teacher Cindy Petrucillo speak about her work.

As the rain poured down in cool Autumn sheets, Petrucillo presented slides of her early photographs, work she had completed as a student at the University of Rhode Island.

"I was impressed by the attendance, and I liked her historical references to other photographs and things that influenced her," comments Meriah Burman, a junior photography student. "It wasn't just about her work, it was also about all the other people that influenced her creative process."

Initially, Petrucillo had wanted to attend the Fashion Institute of Technology, however, "like many of us, I was not able to afford it," so instead, the native Rhode Islander attended URI. While at URI, Petrucillo first indulged in the art of printmaking, and later fell into photography, creating oversized installations that reflected her command and confidence with the medium.

She was unafraid to experiment with different printing techniques and styles, ranging from using ortho-litho film and liquid light on glass and mirrors to sinking her photographs in plaster and letting it dry to heavily weighted forms. She made her own paper, toned prints with tea and coffee, and used an etching needle from her printmaking kit to write over and through her images of twisting nude bodies.

"I used myself in my photographs because it was

easy," Petrucillo told the students. "I knew what I wanted. I just didn't like getting my face in the shots." Petrucillo also mentioned how her work reflects different emotional aspects of her life at the time. She used her photographs and their ultimate presentation to challenge the morals, values and relationships with family and others in her life.

"I was doing unconventional things," she says. "I was raised both very Italian and Irish Catholic, so for me to be using nude bodies and enormous blocks of plaster was unheard of. Obviously, I wanted to be noticed."

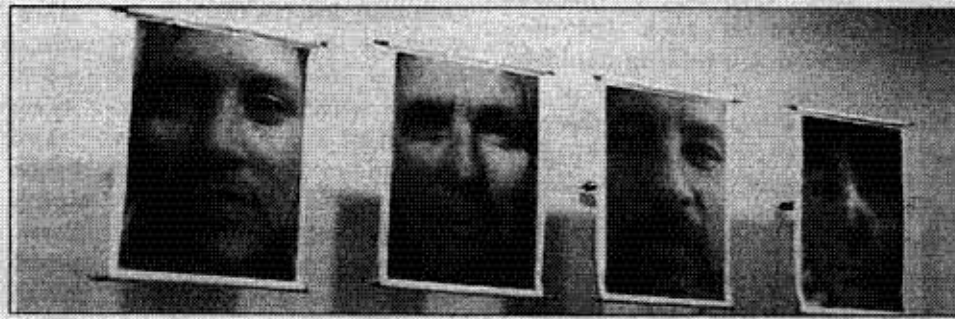
Petrucillo also wanted to allow and observe the interaction of nature with her work, so she set her plaster-enrobed pieces outside in the URI courtyard to see what would happen when they were soaked with rain, bleached by the sunlight, touched by curious hands and blanketed with ice and snow.

"Among the themes of relationships," she told the students, "my work was also about change and interaction, and I wanted to see what would happen."

Petrucillo also recalls a time when a professor at URI told her about a set of rusted windows that had been removed from one of the

campus buildings and left to be dumped outside the building. She used the rusted frames, removing only parts of the remaining

feel her images completely. "I really wanted the texture, to be able to touch and feel the pieces," she explains.



glass, to house some mural-sized prints of intertwined nude bodies, entitled "The Sacrifice."

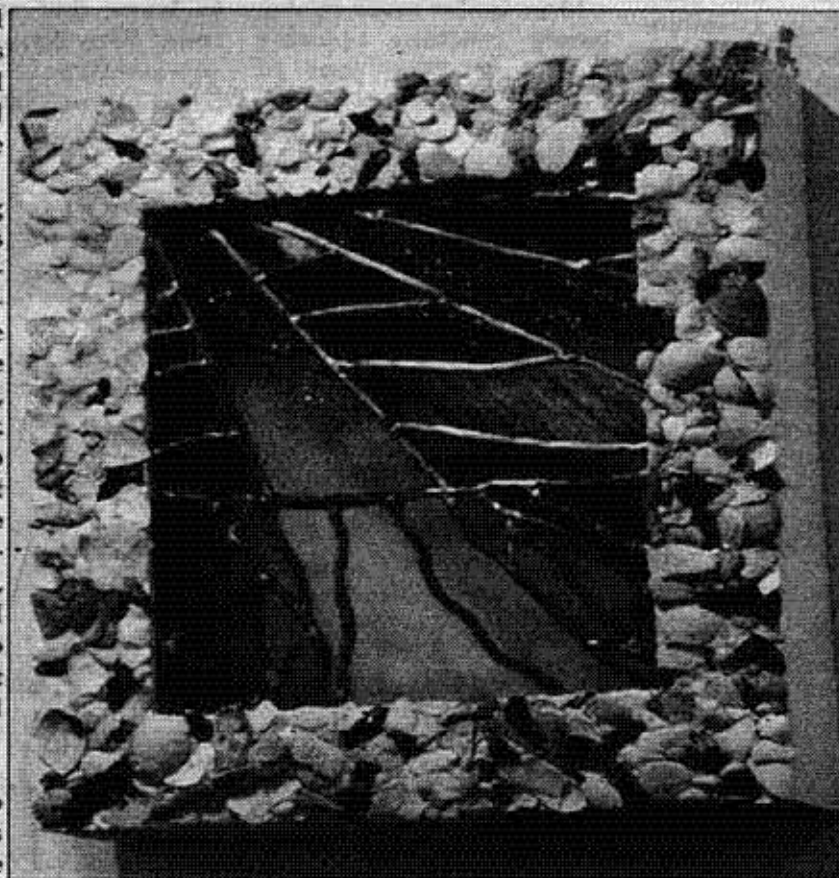
Besides plaster and discarded windows, Petrucillo also used the wooden planks and iron ties of old railroad tracks. She mentioned her interest in the age and history of the railroad nails, of their strength and the way they were used to get "from here to there."

Each of Petrucillo's pieces were woven with strong sculptural elements that

Meriah Burman, whose own work for her recent Intermedia class also touches upon the elements of size, texture and the results of alternative printing processes, was very impressed with Petrucillo's presentation.

"I really enjoyed the fact that she actually brought in a few of her pieces, since they were such sculptural media," she says. "Her use of many mediums inspired me to expand my viewpoints on a usual photograph."

Petrucillo brought in many of her pieces to share with the students, as well as several books of the work produced by artists, such as the Starn Twins, Barbara Blondoe, Francesca Woodman and Todd Margolis, whose work and processes influenced her own work since college.



reflected her own interaction with nature, historical reference, organic essentials important to her desire to

Currently, Petrucillo teaches a class at Rhode Island College and works with adolescent and teenage stu-

dents at Island Arts in Newport, where she influences the work and inspires the minds of children before they enter college.

Besides teaching, Petrucillo is also working on a new phase in her photography. She is beginning to experiment with Polaroid prints and the themes of personal evolution and accepting the

newly developed self.

"These images are a bit more scary than my previous work," she explains. "I just held the Polaroid camera in front of me and posed, and I realized that I could play with multiple exposures with the Polaroids too." The images Petrucillo produced were eerily thin, veil-like ghosts of her face and hands, her face interacting with another exposure of her face, as if she was emerging from herself.

Cindy Petrucillo has emerged and evolved as an influential artist and dedicated photographer, a woman surfacing from personal challenges to find solace and satisfaction through the exploration and development of her thoroughly recognized medium. Her ability to create images of multiple dimensions and inspire the minds of many individuals is a work of art in itself.

Think your friend needs to be profiled in artist of the issue? Send us information on why you think they should be profiled in an issue of the Hawk's Herald. Send us an e-mail at Hawksherald@yahoo.com

LIFESTYLES

Volume 14, Issue 6

Monday, November 10, 2003

RWU expansion

continued from front page

When returning for the fall semester next year, students will drive onto campus via a brand new entrance. The university's current driveway will be eliminated, and the new version moved slightly south towards the Mount Hope Bridge. The new entrance will capitalize on Bristol's nickname of "Tree City USA," featuring more trees and vegetation.

Beginning next fall, more students should have the opportunity to live across the bay at the Baypoint Residence Hall. Jeff Gillooly, the Presidents Executive Assistant, said that pending approval by the Department of Environmental Management, a third wing will be built in the back of the current building, creating a courtyard in the process. The new wing will

allow for seventy extra beds. The school is looking into expanding the Baypoint parking lot as well.

The architecture building will also undergo construction next year. An addition will be placed on the front side of the current building, extending out to the sidewalk. The new section will have 50 additional studio seats, new gallery space and offices. Gillooly said there is also the possibility of a 90-seat, 11,000 square-foot mini-auditorium being built in place of the current galleries.

In the school's not-so-immediate future, fall 2005-spring 2006, a new Student Union will boast a "state of the art" cafeteria, a larger bookstore, a copy center, a new mailroom, and a new academic building (what the current student union will be converted to), new residence halls, and a pedestrian-only center are also anticipated on campus over the next few years.

Spice up your dinners with the "Food Line Guy"

By Tracey Lemle

Staff Writer

"Good afternoon ladies and gentleman and thank you for calling the food line," is the message students are greeted with when dialing FOOD (3663) on their room phone. The "food line guy," otherwise known as Chris Johnson, has been recording dinner selections each night for the last 15 years. Although the food line is not well advertised or known, each night when calling FOOD, entertaining messages of the night's menu await you as your mouth begins to water.

Johnson has been working at Roger Williams University since "before I could legally drink." Now 37, Johnson is the receiver; the person who ensures that all of the food is deliv-

ered to the kitchen and properly put away. Since he started here, the amount of students being fed each night has risen from about 500 per night to around 1,000.

"It's me on oxygen," Johnson said when asked how he gets so hyped up each day for the recording. It almost seems impossible to avoid laughing when listening to the "food line guy" describing the night's selections. Johnson says his enthusiasm is a way for him to vent his frustrations, and he claims his worst days are usually his funniest.

The next time you're wondering, "what's for dinner?" call extension 3663 and the "food line guy" will answer all of your queries all while providing a little laughter for dessert.

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CAMPUS LIFE

Volume 14, Issue 6

Monday, November 10, 2003

Socrates' Café - is it ever okay to lie?

By Aubrey Joyce
Staff Writer

□ Therefore I lie with her,
and she with me,
And in our faults by lies
we flattered be. □
~Sonnet 138~

Is it ever okay to lie? When? Is withholding the truth a mistruth? If, for instance, your six year-old child was dying of cancer, would you tell them the whole truth, or might you just not tell them anything at all? What about in the case of politics - does the end justify the means? Are "white lies" any better than "black lies"? These were just some of the questions posed on Wednesday night at the Socrates Café,

held in the Other Place at 7:00 PM.

Mediator Jeffrey Martin led the discussion between a number of students, faculty, and visitors.

Although there were diverse opinions as to when, if ever, it is acceptable to lie, there was very little debate of the notion that people generally lie every day. Sometimes the lie might be as small as telling a friend you enjoyed the dinner they prepared for you, even though you were sickened by each bite. Other times, the lie might be greater, such as lying to a professor to get excused from an exam. Certain lies, such as

affirming the existence of Santa Clause, the Easter Bunny, and the Tooth Fairy to a young child seem essential for a parent.

The question then becomes whether all lies are bad or if some are acceptable or even expected, and where the line should be drawn and the distinction made. Lies have become accepted as a part of life - everyone is doing it, but when is it okay and when is it wrong?

Americans are fascinated with lying. It is apparent with television programs, such as Joe Millionaire, whose high ratings are based on the lies that it reveals. For some it can be thrilling to watch deception unfold, but why has America become so caught up with living lies, that the bigger and more shocking the lie, the greater the enjoyment and excitement for onlookers?

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RWU crowns first king and queen

By Maura Wolk
Staff Writer

Twenty-one year old Brandon Glasgow, from Bristol, CT, was shocked to be named Roger Williams University's first ever homecoming king during halftime of the October 25 men's soccer game. "I was more excited that they announced my town before my name, because I felt like I was representing my roots," said an ecstatic Glasgow.

A double major in Elementary Education and Dance Performance, Glasgow is no stranger to the limelight. He has performed since the age of eight, won myriad awards including DMA's "Mr. Dance", ADA's "Male Dancer of CT and MA", and America's Male Dancer of the Year, and recently even placed highly in ABC Family's summer reality show, "Dance Fever."

Nevertheless, the 4th year RA remains humble and true to his character, and eagerly talks about the year ahead as RWU's first homecoming king: "I'm not really sure what we're going to be doing," admits Glasgow, "but we've already appeared at the Deans'

Brunch and will most likely be involved with the Mr. RWU Pageant (this November). Basically, Allison and I will also serve as ambassadors to the school and try and show parents and future students the great things that RWU has to offer. Also, I would love to be Swoop for a day!" When asked how he felt regarding his role as RWU's student representative, Glasgow noted: "I feel honored. It's good to know that I've made great connections with students here and that they thought I was the best one for the job."

RWU students also thought that homecoming queen Allison Belanger was the best one for the job, and Glasgow was in full agreement. "I thought [her coronation] was the coolest thing! We had already planned on attending the Homecoming Ball together, and it made the experience truly incredible." However, Glasgow admitted that the two did not savor each second, for they were "too caught up in not stepping on each other's toes."

After graduation, Glasgow has big plans for himself, including performing in one of Las Vegas' prestigious Bally's or Tropicana hotels. He

admits that performance will come first on his agenda for now, but he certainly won't dismiss his teaching certification. As far as leaving RWU goes, Glasgow asserts: "I'm really excited. I'm ready to go do other things and end this chapter of my life." That chapter, which came packed with Glasgow's favorite memories of his dance friends, living on the water and the campus sense of community, will not officially close until next October, when he will return to crown RWU's second Homecoming King. "Hopefully they'll let me sit on the panel," Glasgow says with a grin, "I want to make the contestants sweat a little!"

Allison Belanger, of Deerfield, MA, had already ruled herself out as Roger Williams University's first Homecoming Queen when her name was announced during the October 25th men's soccer game. "I was really surprised! I do the things I do here at RWU because I love them; I don't see it as anything extraordinary, so it was fun to be recognized and praised for them." Among the "things" that twenty-one year old communications major refers to are Team C.A.R.E., triathlons, and any other activity that

keeps her outdoors.

Having been satisfied with being a member of Homecoming Court at all, Belanger further commented on her shock, and the fact that it was RWU votes that put the crown on her head: "Coming in freshman year, I never thought that this is how I would have turned out. I've grown so much, and a lot more people than I realized have recognized the person that I've grown into."

Though technically her stay at RWU does not end this coming spring, as she will return for one more semester next fall, Belanger still admits that this last year with her classmates is bittersweet, and she will miss her interactions with the campus community, the love and support of everyone around her and the "experience" as a whole.

It is these very factors that Belanger plans to set as the precedent for all future homecoming queens, asserting emphatically that she does "not want the selection [for Homecoming Court] to become a popularity contest in the future. I believe that it should be genuinely based around people with the most involvement who demonstrate the qualities that RWU tries to instill within its students. It should always be a special honor to those who deserve it, not

those who knew the most people."

After suffering the tragic loss of her brother recently in Iraq, Belanger admits that she was most proud of being able to bring honor and joy to her family during this difficult time. "They were all right there on the field when it happened, and I could see their giant smiles and tears. That made me the happiest of all, that I could put smiles like those onto their faces." Being crowned alongside Brandon Glasgow completed the experience for Belanger. "It was so great! Our personalities play off of each other, and since he was escorting me to the Homecoming Ball anyway, it worked out perfectly!"

When Belanger finishes her tenure at RWU next fall, she hopes to work on the next Olympic campaign, putting her communications degree together with her love of athletics, and also plans to "see what opportunities come about." She does know for certain, however, that she will be here when the next homecoming queen is crowned. "It won't be sad to pass the crown because it's exciting to be a part of this tradition," says Belanger, "Being the first of anything makes the experience unique, and I've made a small name in Roger Williams University history."