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Democrats push to stop LNG plan

Phil Devitt
News Editor

An energy company that spent millions of dollars campaigning to bring a liquefied natural gas terminal to Fall River might be forced out of the city when the Democrats take Congress in January. But the company is stepping up its fight this month with a request for a permit that could give it the advantage if approved.

Democrats have blasted Weaver's Cove Energy and Hess LNG since 2003 for proposing to build the gas terminal in the heavily populated city, citing concerns that an accident or terrorist attack either at the terminal or on tankers passing through Mount Hope Bay could endanger thousands of lives.

"If I were holding stock in Hess LNG today, I would be selling it off as quickly as I could," US Representative James McGovern said shortly after last month's election. "That project is not going to happen now. We didn't roll over on this when we were in the minority party. We are now in the majority and have the power to halt this project in a

variety of ways."

Rhode Island Representative Raymond Gallison Junior has repeatedly slammed the proposed facility, saying it jeopardizes the safety and economic stability of Fall River, along with East Bay towns such as Bristol and Portsmouth.

"It would have a devastating impact on the entire Aquidneck Island and the surrounding area," Gallison said. "Any time a cruise ship docks in the bay when LNG tankers are coming through, they will have to weigh anchor and leave."

Gallison introduced legislation earlier this year that prohibits LNG tankers from entering Mount Hope Bay. The bill established a security zone that makes it impossible for tankers to pass through the more narrow parts of the bay without breaching the zone.

Gallison said the upcoming shift in power will give Democrats the opportunity to develop an energy policy, which would ease the demand for natural gas in New England.

Massachusetts Governor Mitt Romney could stop the Weaver's Cove project before

Democrat Governor-elect Deval Patrick takes over in January. Romney is considering construction on two offshore LNG facilities near Gloucester that, if approved, would meet growing New England gas demands and eliminate the need for the Fall River terminal.

Joseph Carvalho, president of the Coalition for Responsible Siting of LNG, said he trusts that Patrick will continue the fight against the Fall River facility

when he steps into office.

"I think the Democrats will be much more receptive to us," Carvalho said. "Now we have a Democratic governor who pledged at a public forum at UMass Dartmouth that an LNG facility won't happen on his watch."

Carvalho said that while the Democratic victory bodes well for LNG opponents, it does not mean the fight is over.

"There is no margin for error

in this fight and there is no margin for complacency," Carvalho said. "Can you imagine if you're on the board of Hess LNG and you see a Democratic Congress coming? Between now and January, they are going to be at it to get this thing done."

"Now more than ever is when we need to be the most vigilant on this issue and the most committed to stopping it because all hell is going to break loose."

See PLANT: p. 4



If construction on a Fall River LNG plant were approved, tankers would regularly pass under the Mt. Hope Bridge, shutting down traffic in both directions for about 45 minutes.

Spotlight on professor and writer Tynes

Amanda Ciccatelli
Herald Staff

"When I was in third grade I had a teacher who overheard me reading a poem I'd written out loud to some friends. I'd made up a word in the poem, and when I got to it, my friends laughed and said it wasn't a word; I laughed and agreed with them and tossed the poem in the trash. Later, my teacher called me aside and told me all about poetry, explained that writers can make words up, that 'true' stories aren't always factual."

At 27, the poet, teacher, author and wife, Jennifer Tynes has been influenced by several things in her life "but that was a really great moment for me," she said.

Her Roger Williams office is just how her students might imagine it. Piled up papers. Pens strewn about. There are picture frames of family and friends and of course the classic black rolling chair where there sits a young, spunky brunette typing vigorously on her lap top.

She was born and raised a southern girl in Kentucky until at 17 her parents divorced so she bounced from Georgia to Texas. Eventually she got a college degree at Knox College in Illinois where she met her husband. Tynes received her BA in Creative Writing at this small liberal arts school and took a few years off to work on her writing while working a waitressing job.

Tynes lives in East Providence with her husband of less than a year and their cat Hadley, named after Ernest Hemingway's first wife. Tynes is a writing professor at RWU and the author of books including *The End of Rude Handles*, *The Ohio System*, and *See Also Electric Light*. She also runs a small press to make handmade books of other peoples' poems and edits an online literary journal which publishes experimental poetry and fiction.

"Well, I always loved reading and writing, and when I was a kid I really loved performing for or being up in front of people, organizing and leading things," she

See TYNES: p. 6.

WQRI mulls over big change

Theodore Applebaum
Herald Staff

She moves slowly back and forth in her swivel chair, silhouetted against the shelves of CDs that rise from floor to ceiling covering the wall behind her. The small WQRI office, located within the mammoth Recreation Center, is comfortably cluttered, reminding anyone who enters it that it is a place in constant use.

Senior Keri LeComte, WQRI General Manager, remembers a time not so long ago when the station was not as well established, nestled away in the bowels of the old student union.

"No one could see you in the basement, there was no window," LeComte said.

Two years ago the station relocated to its current space.

LeComte says she didn't realize at the time how big a move that was.

Much has been made about WQRI's rapid growth in recent years. This fall swept in a fresh batch of eager DJs and vibrant new shows. With the growth comes the opportunity for change and no possibility has been more pivotal in the station's evolution

See WQRI: p. 3



Angela Ostrowski and Alex Nicholl sit in the WQRI radio station during their Thursday evening broadcast slot.

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"The Holidays are Here!" Who has been naughty or nice?

Every year Forbes releases its list of the wealthiest people in America and the world. Lesser known is the fact that they also release a far more important list of the 15 wealthiest fictional people, which includes C. Montgomery Burns, Scrooge McDuck, and of course, Mr. Monopoly (I'm not making this up, I swear).



Jim Dugan
Herald Staff

For the first time ever, however, one man did not make this list. That man is none other than Santa Claus. While Forbes still values Claus as being infinitely rich, he was taken off the list despite the evidence that Santa 'accidentally' left one of my brother's presents in the garage or how some poor little kid has been asking for his front teeth without getting them since I was born, due to the complaints of many, many children, Claus is no longer considered a fictional character.

Reading this article made me realize something: "Holy crap, the freaking holiday season is finally here. I need to write an article on it!"

But there in lies my problem. There are so many holidays during our break and I only have one article before then. I could go all sorts of ways with this.

Christmas would be fun to cover, and then I could ask for a PS3 so that I could sell it on E-Bay.

I also love Hanukkah because it's really the only holiday that you gambling is tied into. If you have never played high stakes Dreidel before, you should.

Plus, it's hard to not enjoy it. Plus, it's nice to talk about since our campus really is soooooo diverse....

Instead, I went for something we all celebrate: New Years. And I didn't pick it because New Years means partying until you can no longer stand and making out with someone you've never even seen before at the stroke of midnight.

No, New Years also means New Years' resolutions, even if they may all be broken within 2 hours of when they are

made (especially if you resolve not to throw up for the year).

For me, my resolutions will be simple; to actually graduate college, find someone, and basically figure out what the heck I'm doing with my life. And oh yeah; to sign a NBA contract, marry one of the Olsen twins (or both), and move into the Playboy mansion.

But enough about me, it's time for more random celebrity insights. Here's what they are resolving to do this year.

Pamela Anderson and Tommy Lee resolve to only get remarried and divorced 3 times during the next year. No more, no less.

Danny DeVito, who during his appearance on 'The View' on Wednesday morning was clearly wasted out of his mind, resolves that after this experience he will never again be sober around Barbra Walters.

Michael Richards (aka Kramer from Seinfeld) resolves that after getting into it at two different comedy clubs, first for anti-Semitic remarks and then racist remarks, that before the year ends he will offend every other human being in America, and certain animals, too.

Kelly Ripa, who recently got in trouble for a possible gay reference to Clay Aiken, resolves to never again insult him, nor his boyfriend Rosie O'Donnell.

J.D. Drew resolves to try and single handedly destroy the Red Sox after signing with the team by suffering a season ending tear walking out of the dugout in his first game.

Kevin Federline resolves to become the biggest example of white trash in the world. He is already jumping the gun, however, as Britney Spears reportedly divorced him because he was having sex with an ex-porn star and current stripper.

Well, this is the last paper of 2006, so thanks to all my readers out there, hope you've had fun reading my stuff this semester. Also thanks to Chris Parish for all the help he's given me during the year since I don't actually know how to write, and thanks to my editors since I don't believe I've made a single deadline yet. Anyways, have a great break everyone.

Letter to the Editor: Non-traditional students desperate for housing

Thelma Baddoo

As students, faculty, and workers of Roger Williams University, we can all agree the university has come a long way in its achievements as being one of the top ten universities in New England. The school has attempted to meet the needs of students and faculty while re-inventing itself and its image. But at the same time other important issues need to be considered such as a new residence hall for non traditional students.

Non-traditional students are often defined as older, more matured college students, who are not the typical college age of 18 to 22 as most college kids are. The majority of the time, these non-traditional college students are either training for a career change, continuing their education, married, have kids, or are pursuing an education for other reasons. The term excludes secondary students who have been left back, and graduate students who often are workers who have taken time off from work and are returning for further education in a particular field.

Regardless of the reasons for returning to school to finish a degree, non-traditional students have similar needs, which are often more than the average traditional college student. That is why it's important for colleges such as RWU to make provisions in accommodations that adapt to the needs of its non-traditional students. Schools such as Wellesley College, Smith College, Mount Holyoke College, Agnes Scott College, Spellman University, Harvard, Yale, Rice University, and Vassar College are just some of the schools that have sufficiently met the needs of their non-traditional student who, in turn, contribute to the knowledge and enrichment of school campuses through their experiences and maturity.

Being a non-traditional student, attending a school that has no special residence housing makes it tremendously difficult to live and enjoy campus completely. As a non-traditional student who lives out of state, I find that living on campus is a better option because it cuts commuting

time to school every morning and night. As a non-traditional student, I pay a lot more to have my own room and privacy. My hall is designated primarily for seniors and graduate students and is supposed to be quiet and peaceful. However, it's a far cry from that. The housing shortage on campus has changed these expectations. The increases in student population and lack of enough residence halls to accommodate all the incoming students has meant more and more freshmen, sophomores and juniors have been placed in these halls for seniors. As a result, hallways are as noisy as ever with student's running back and forth, loud stereo music, very dirty bathrooms, toilets, sinks, hallways, and the destruction of shared hall property all the time.

How then, should a non-traditional student, who is no longer a teenager, or even a young adult, and has experienced life on a whole different level, relate and share a hall with young teenage kids who act differently, and speak and hear a whole different language? This very issue is the reason why Roger Williams University has fewer non-traditional students living on campus and majority of them commuting to school or changing to other colleges that caters for their needs of having nontraditional campus housing solely for them.

Non-traditional students have a lot to share and teach other through their rich experiences. They can be mentors to younger students who feel lost and depressed with life, they can impart wisdom in the Student Senate Council, be counselors, and play a role in many other things. If there is no accommodation for these students that meets their needs, many non-traditional students may choose to live elsewhere and attend other colleges such as Wellesley College or Harvard University who cater for their needs.

I believe it would be in the university's interest to build more residence halls that cater to its non-traditional students, since non-traditional students play a vital role in the college and it's a pathway for more diversity on campus.

THE RWU WOMEN'S CENTER PROUDLY ANNOUNCES....

DIRECTOR'S APPLICATIONS

and

OPEN CASTING CALL

Eve Ensler's

The Vagina Monologues

Stop by the Women's Center or the Department of Residence Life and Housing to pick up a Director's application or to sign up for the Casting Call.

Director's applications are due on Thursday, Dec. 7th and interviews will be held on Friday, Dec. 8th.

The Casting Call will take place from 1-4 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 11th in the East Conference Room.

*Please note that any RWU student (male or female) is eligible to direct, stage manage, or work with any other logistical aspect of the show.

ALL actresses must be female RWU students.

All who are interested are invited to participate and will be guaranteed a role with the production.

Questions - call the Women's Center x3294 or The Department of Residence Life & Housing at x3161

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Editor's Note: This is the last issue of the semester. Thank you for reading the *Hawk's Herald* throughout the semester. Look for the first issue of 2007 on February 2. Have a safe and happy holiday.

WQRI: NPR makes tough offer

Continued from p.1

than the one facing them right now.

Sometime over the next few months LeComte and the rest of the station's ten member 'e-board' will vote on whether to collaborate with Rhode Island's National Public Radio (NPR) member station WRNI and share use of RWU's radio signal.

The possible five-year deal would allow WRNI to broadcast using WQRI's signal from 7:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. in exchange for a number of tentatively agreed on services and opportunities.

In exchange for the NPR broadcasting, WRNI would crank up the power of WQRI's signal so that it could reach clearly as far away as Newport and Providence.

WRNI would increase the bandwidth of the station's online feed as well as enable the ability for WQRI to engage in podcasting. WQRI would receive general station maintenance and engineering. WRNI would create internships at its Providence studios, as well as mentoring opportunities for Communications majors focusing in Journalism.

WRNI would also temporarily take over FCC related tasks, such as station relicensing and the filing of other paperwork, something LeComte described as difficult to get good at because with the constant turnover in WQRI staff and advisors, the training process never ends.

While WRNI would use WQRI's signal for 10 hours a day, RWU DJs would still be broadcasting during this time on the web from the current booth. The possibility of podcasting means that these shows might eventually be available for download by students who want to listen to them.

According to LeComte, the idea for sharing the signal originated a few years ago when WRNI approached RWU while

searching for ways to strengthen their signal in the less populated center of Rhode Island. They believed that the central location of the campus and the already established station made it the most promising way to achieve their goals. While WRNI has approached other colleges and even commercial stations, RWU remains their most coveted opportunity.

Sitting on the shelf until last spring, the idea was rehearsed by Vice President of Student Affairs John King. King contacted LeComte and WQRI program director, Mike Martelli last summer to talk about the possibility.

"My initial reaction was like, 'No way,' this is not a good idea, we do not want to give up our signal," LeComte said of the encounter.

She was not alone in her feelings.

When the NPR deal was discussed mid-fall at an e-board meeting, it was met with general disdain.

"At that meeting most of us decided that we really didn't want this, but some people were still unsure, so that's why we went to visit the NPR studios," LeComte said.

The tour of WRNI's studio opened some members up to the idea. Meetings with Joe O'Conner, NPR's general manager, by LeComte and the rest of the E-board followed the visit.

"[O'Conner] let us ask as many questions as we liked, and afterwards, I told him that it all sounded good, but the one thing holding us back was that we didn't want to give up our signal because of the culture of the radio station," LeComte said.

This culture, one of independence and continuous RWU student broadcasting, is something that has developed as the station has developed.

Some of the older e-board members do not embrace the NPR deal with open

arms based on this idea of a lost culture.

"A lot of it has to do with how long people have been on the radio staff," LeComte said. "It seems as though people that have been here for a while don't want it to happen. I guess those of us who have been here for a while are pretty jaded and are like 'No, keep the college radio aesthetic, don't give that up.'"

LeComte concedes, however, that the deal has many good aspects to it as well.

"The stuff they're offering would be beneficial, internships would be awesome, and maintenance would be wonderful," LeComte said.

The station has had some technical issues over the years: recently it had its delay button replaced, which serves as a protective measure that can be used to block out sound in case somebody says something that violates FCC policies.

Along with the material offerings that WRNI would provide RWU, the school would also gain some residual benefits. The larger audience, and more varied demographics that will be drawn in by the NPR feed, would hear the school's call letters many times a day. This equates to free advertising directly to a largely academically-minded audience. Students may also benefit from the influx of NPR's news coverage.

"When you talk to [NPR], you're like, 'Yeah this could be really cool,' but then afterwards you think about it and you're like, 'Do I really want to give up all that I've worked for these last four years?'" LeComte said.

This is a big decision for the 10 member e-board, but their advisors believe WQRI is handling the issue with the utmost responsibility.

"The students on the executive board are being very careful about reaching to get feedback from the campus community. The process that we see now is really very

well reasoned," WQRI advisor Josh Hiscock said.

However, figuring out how to get input from students who are not part of the radio station staff has been one of the board's biggest issues. A survey was recently circulated on the WRNI deal, but it sampled a small portion of the campus population and the information it collected was muddled and of little use.

Part of the problem may be that students, for the most part, are uninformed about the NPR decision. While the subject has received some airplay on WQRI itself, much of the campus remains in the dark.

The decision, however, is making an impact on at least some students.

"I would be disappointed if they took it over for that many hours a day," junior Darren Costello said while shooting pool in the Hawk's Hangout.

Costello, like many of the more dedicated WQRI audience, is a commuter and listens to the station while in his car.

"It keeps you up to date on what the campus buzz is," Costello said.

He says he likes the classic rock the station sometimes plays and DJ Jill Curran hosts his favorite show at 1:00 p.m. on Saturdays. Under the possible signal sharing arrangement, Curran's show would be affected.

LeComte and the e-board hope to set a date for a definitive vote on the issue. She said she would like to have a decision made before the end of the semester. When they do vote, chances are it is going to be anything but a unanimous decision.

"It's going to be very divided. I've heard both sides from several different people, but that's why our executive board was voted in, to make these kinds of decisions," LeComte said. "This could be good for us, but we have a lot to lose."

Roger Williams University Community Standards Brief Fairness • Honesty • Integrity

In an effort to proactively communicate with the community, the Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards highlights selected student discipline cases and statistics. For this particular report, we focused only on the outcomes of cases during spring and summer 2006 resulting in suspension or expulsion from Roger Williams University. Please note that a suspension from the University, as detailed in the Student Handbook, typically is minimally for 1 semester up to an indefinite time and begins immediately. When a student is suspended, they have to complete educational sanctions such as counseling to be eligible to return. Expulsion is permanent and once found responsible, students are immediately withdrawn from their classes. Both disciplinary suspension and expulsion are listed on the student's academic transcript and students are responsible for financial obligations for the semester when the sanction occurred. During suspensions and expulsions, responsible individuals are banned from University property. In accordance with state and federal laws protecting the privacy of student records, identifying information in the following report, such as names and genders, is excluded.

Spring 2006 Student Disciplinary Suspensions

- 1 suspension for theft of vehicle while under the influence of alcohol and leaving the scene of an accident. Student was arrested.
- 2 suspensions for activation of a false fire alarm in a residence hall while under the influence of alcohol. The alarms required hall evacuation as well as University personnel, Police, and Fire Department response.
- 4 suspensions for fighting and engaging in disorderly conduct under the influence of alcohol.

Spring 2006 Student Disciplinary Expulsions

- 1 expulsion for distribution and possession of drugs. The student was found responsible for selling marijuana. The student was arrested.
- 1 expulsion for theft of other students' property. The student was arrested.

We hope to continue to create an awareness of response to community disruptions as well as to educate students to *think before you act, to please make good decisions that will benefit the community*. Fairness, honesty, and integrity are our primary values. Education, restoration, and protection are the intended outcomes of the student conduct system. We seek to enhance the educational missions of the University and the Division of Student Affairs by setting and promoting high standards while treating each student with dignity and respect. As always, if there are questions about the process or behavioral concerns, please contact us at 254-3042 or contact an RA, Core, and Public Safety.

Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards
Roger Williams University

PLANT: Dredging up controversy in East Bay

Continued from p.1

This election has upped the ante and they are not going to stop until we put the stake through their heart."

Dredging Mount Hope Bay

Weaver's Cove is trying to get a permit from the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management that would allow them to dredge Mount Hope Bay, one of several aggressive measures Carvalho expects the company to take over the next few months.

Weaver's Cove said in a written proposal that dredging the bay would "satisfy the navigational requirements" of the massive LNG tankers that would pass through both Rhode Island and Massachusetts waters to reach the terminal up the Taunton River.

If the DEM rejects the dredging proposal, Weaver's Cove essentially would be finished in Fall River, according to Gallison.

"Weaver's Cove could not continue if they didn't get the permit, but in looking at the way the federal government is bending over to accommodate them, they probably will get it," Gallison said, referring to a letter written last month by US Representative Barney Frank in which he accused Weaver's Cove and the Department of Interior of collusion.

Many people opposed to the facility have said they hope a denial for a dredging permit will put an end to the project immediately. Carvalho has argued that Weaver's Cove has not considered the full impact dredging would have on the bay.

"Weaver's Cove is really going to try to ram this permit through and that's why we want to support the DEM, which questions a lot of the science they claim to have done," Carvalho said. "They are going to get their comeuppance when the scientists really weigh in on that stuff."

Local leaders have slammed the pro-

posal, claiming that dredging would damage an already polluted bay. The Brayton Point and Montaup Electric power plants in Somerset also have been heavily criticized for contaminating the environment.

"Mount Hope Bay is a very fragile piece of water and its ecosystem has been under attack for years," Gallison said. "It's in everyone's best interest to let the bay heal itself."

A Pandora's Box of problems

It is not just the sediment that has people worried, but what is in the sediment. When Fall River was a major industrial city in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, heavy metals and other toxins from the mills were dumped into the bay where they sunk to the bottom and settled. Bringing them up into the water could prove disastrous for marine life.

"I'm concerned that when they start digging this material up, they are going to disturb a lot of things that have been encased down there and it's going to cause a major problem," Gallison said.

Save the Bay Representative John Torgan echoed Gallison's concerns, saying that the dredging threatens 29 native fish species, including endangered sturgeon and wild brook trout.

"I recognize Rhode Island's portion of the dredging is small, but we look at Narragansett Bay, Mount Hope Bay and the Taunton River as a single estuary," he said.

Weaver's Cove said in its proposal that the sediment is not contaminated and poses no threat to the quality of the water or the air. The company said it was cleared by the US Environmental Protection Agency to move the sediment to the terminal site.

The proposed dredging has rattled citizens who live near the bay. Somerset resident Lillian Goldsmith, who was diagnosed with lung cancer earlier this year,

blames her illness on the two power plants. She said many of her neighbors are also suffering with cancer and expressed concern that the dredging would only add to the pollution.

"It would open up a Pandora's Box of problems," Goldsmith said. "What is it going to do to our environment? All the stuff that's down there, they are going to stir up. I know too many people who are sick."

A Controversial Plan

The terminal site is situated near a residential neighborhood in Fall River, a city of about 90,000 people. Weaver's Cove has claimed its main goal is to ensure New England homes stay heated, but critics have said it's all about greed.

"This company has said that they don't want Fall River to freeze to death, but they know they can't have gas in the pipelines until 2012," Carvalho said. "If they're that concerned about the people in this city freezing to death, why don't they pack up and work with Canada to bring gas here much sooner?"

The idea of putting an LNG terminal in Fall River has unnerved residents who fear an accident or attack on the facility could ignite a massive fire that would burn everyone and everything in its path.

According to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, a pipeline leak at an Algerian LNG plant in 2004 resulted in an explosion that killed 27 people. Another LNG tank explosion at an Ohio plant in 1944 killed 128 people.

Weaver's Cove maintains those incidents are the exceptions to an otherwise clean track record. The company claims that LNG does not explode or burn because it contains no oxygen to mix with the fuel and is not under pressure when transported or stored.

During a 2004 meeting with Fall River residents, Weaver's Cove CEO

Gordon Shearer explained what would happen if the LNG tanks he described as failsafe were to explode. "It would be the world's largest Roman candle," he said.

Shearer tried to assure residents that the radiation from a blast would be limited to the 68-acre Weaver's Cove property, but others have argued the damage would be much worse. Flammable vapor from an explosion or spill could create a danger zone of five square miles, burning everyone in its path, according to a report written by MIT professor James Fay.

The Fall River terminal was approved by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), which said the project meets safety requirements, but residents have fired back with requests for public hearings and independent investigations.

"They speak about the safeties they have, but the fact is there are human errors and mechanical errors," Fall River City Councilor Pat Casey said. "All we need is one error and that error is going to cost this city so many lives."

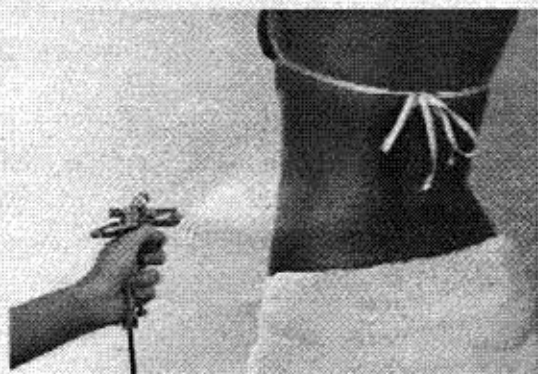
Roger Williams University President Roy J. Nirschel has also spoken out against the facility, expressing concern that it would put at risk the safety of students, staff and faculty.

"We've been opposed to it from the start," Nirschel said. "The idea of liquefied natural gas itself is not a terrible idea, but the idea of it coming under the bridge through an area that's very narrow and wasn't designed for those vessels poses a potential hazard. They could have done a better job of figuring out where to site this."

Carvalho, who has frequently accused Weaver's Cove of blatantly lying to the public, said the research the company claims it has done could be its undoing.

"It's hooey, it's crap science and it's going to be exposed soon enough," he said.

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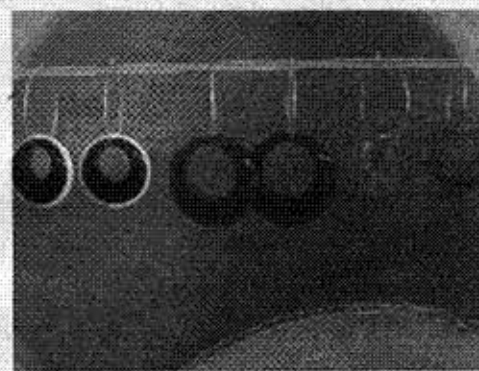
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Holiday television specials

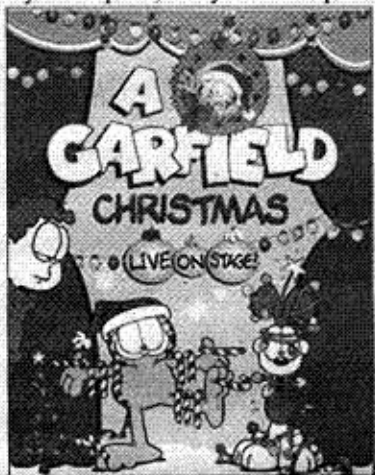
Will Grapentine
Herald Staff

With the Christmas season well underway, America can finally get in the swing of celebrating one of its favorite holidays. Although baking cookies or hanging the holly rank high on the list of holiday traditions, no Christmas would be complete without the inclusion of the TV special.

A custom in the electronic age, the American Christmas special is a yearly treat for kids and adults alike. Whether it be "Rudolph," "The Grinch," or "Merry Christmas Charlie Brown," many of these animated antics are etched into people's minds with the synonymy of fruit cake or candy canes.

But although there are many well-known characters related to the Christmas season, many have gone unnoticed into the realm of Christmas special obscurity. These specials, some formed recently and others from the past, have gone on to build an "underground" of holiday specials known only to the Santa-like connoisseurs.

By no surprise, many of these specials



come from Rankin-Bass. The animation studio known for bringing "Rudolph," "Frosty" and "The Miser Brothers" to the small screen, the mid-20th century animation house is also responsible for the lesser known specials many baby boomers grew to love.

One of those specials is "Nestor, the Long-Eared Christmas Donkey." This '77 special featured Nestor, a misfit donkey known for his long ears who, like Rudolph, was an outcast to his peers. The storyline, taking place in Biblical settings, finds Nestor rivaling the one with the shiny nose as it is he who delivers Mary and Joseph to the manger on Christmas eve. The special, one of three that feature Biblical offshoots, also adds star power to the special by having '60s country crooner Roger Miller perform as narrator.

Another Rankin-Bass special all known and loved by many is that of "Frosty the Snowman." But although the character has gone mainstream in recent years, many don't know of the first sequel to "Frosty," '76 "Frosty's Winter Wonderland." This underground special, narrated by Matlock himself Andy Griffith, finds Frosty taking the plunge and finding a female snow girl to marry.

The Story of the First Christmas Snow is another Rankin-Bass classic that has sadly gone unnoticed. This '75 feature, toplined by *Murder She Wrote* star Angela Lansbury, finds a young shepherd, Lucas, is blinded by lightning and taken in by a kindly Nun and her orphanage. A simple story, the U-G classic retains the true meaning of Christmas as the boys put together a pageant for Sister Theresa and get a small miracle in return.

When it comes to Disney classics,

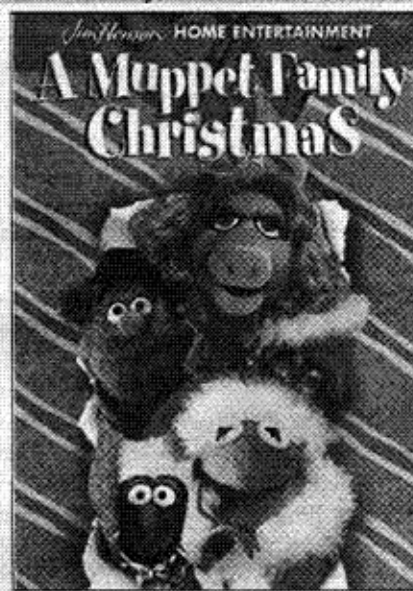
many people remember "Pinocchio." But to no surprise, many cannot recall Rankin Bass' take, "Pinocchio's Christmas." This later special, a treat for fans of the Disney classic, finds a similar storyline to the Disney counterpart but with a few new characters and the whole special taking place during Christmas.

For the fans of Christmas fantasy, one U-G hit by Rankin-Bass is the tale of "Jack Frost." This '79 special, which bears no relation to the '98 Michael Keaton film, finds a humble winter deity wish to become normal in order to find true love. Narrated by comedian Buddy Hackett, this special makes no mention of Christmas but fits the bill for a good December viewing.

Although many of the U-G Christmas specials are from Rankin-Bass, there are others that are a little more known than most expect. In 1987's "A Garfield Christmas Special," the famous cartoon cat accompanies Jon and Odie as they head up to his families' for Christmas. But unlike the usual Lasagna-eating title character, we see Garfield light up the holidays for ill-tempered Grandma Arbuckle.

Another Christmas U-G hit includes the famous group of Henson hilarities, The Muppets. In '87 "Muppet Family Christmas," we see comedian/bear Fozzie take the whole gang to his mothers far, unbeknownst to her as she is about to leave for Malibu. The special also gives a plug to the other Henson creations as the Fraggles and Sesame Street gang also join in the fun.

Many comic book characters also share in the Christmas festivities. In "Batman: The Animated Series" episode entitled "Christmas with the Joker," we see Joker escape from Arkham just in time to



have a Bing Crosby-style Christmas show with kidnapped Commissioner Gordon, the mayor, and a reporter among others. (Fun Fact: this episode also had 'jingle bells' being sung with the famed "Batman" lyrics).

The X-Men also had a run-in with Christmas. In the '95 episode "Have Yourself a Morlock Little X-Mas," the X-men come to the aid of a sick mutant looking for a miracle on Christmas eve. Another recent classic still going strong, the "Power Rangers" have also had an ode to the holidays. In the '95 episode "I'm Dreaming of a White Ranger," the Rangers (founding members formed in the 90s) find themselves powerless having to save Santa and the North Pole from villains plot to deliver brain-washing toys.

So as you curl up to the couch and prepare for the yuletide season, don't forget about the underground Christmas classics. Whether they be airing on marathons on ABC Family or stuck in a corner at your neighborhood video store, you will be sure to find these misfit specials as well deserving of cult status for the Christmas season.

reason & RESPECT

A JOURNAL OF CIVIL DISCOURSE AT ROGER WILLIAMS UNIVERSITY

DO YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY ABOUT SERVICE?

We are pleased to announce a student writing contest.
A \$100 prize will be awarded to the best essay published by a student in the Winter 2007 issue of *Reason & Respect*.

Essays should be a maximum of 3,000 words.
Reviews should be a maximum of 1,500 words.

Call for Submissions

Deadline: December 15, 2006

During this academic year, we are taking the opportunity to explore some of the questions concerning service—to come together in this issue of our journal as a community and exchange ideas about community service, civic engagement, and service learning.

The editors invite submissions on the topic of service:

- Are there differences between community service, civic engagement, and service learning?
- Should institutions of higher education make service a graduation requirement?
- Should service be education-based or extracurricular?
- Should students participate in the planning of service projects and/or service requirements?
- Does community service as time served for a crime undermine the idea of service?

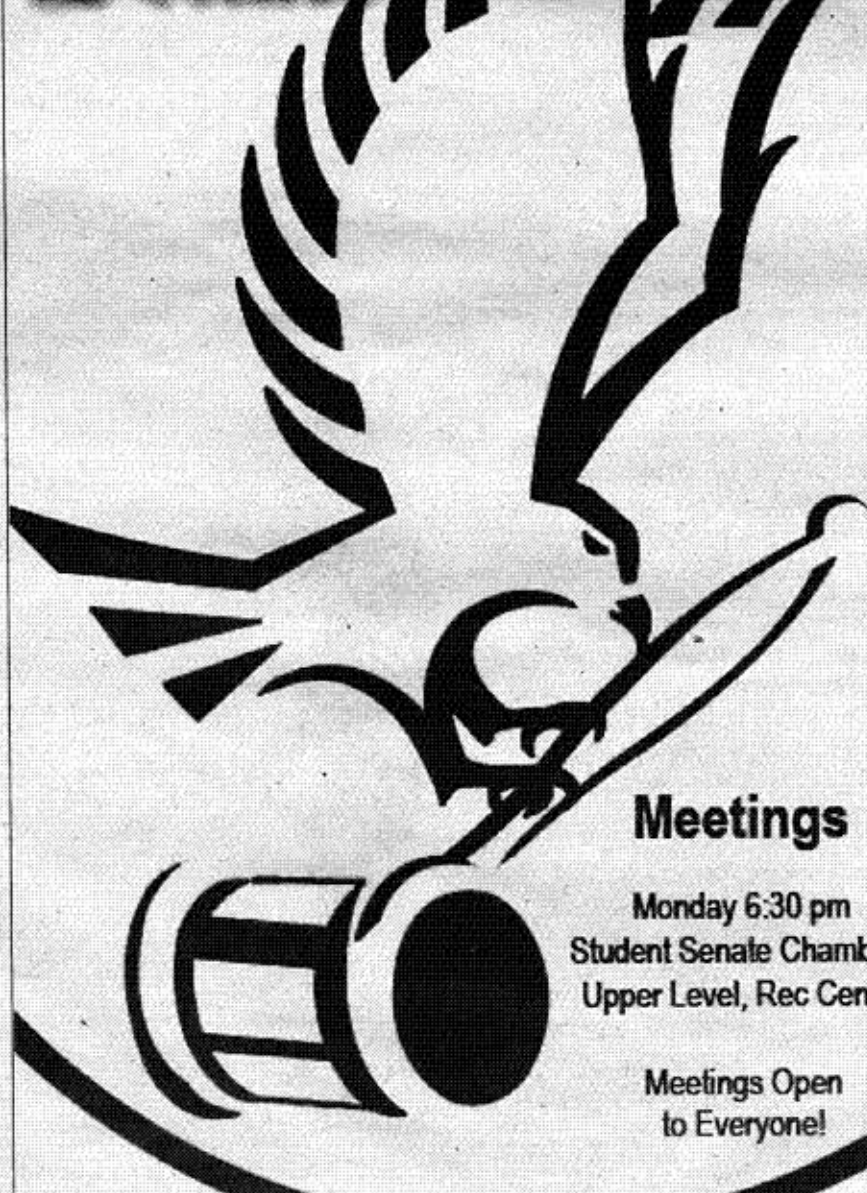
Also of interest are essays about service experiences.

Please see the entire Call at:

<http://civildiscourse.rwu.edu/journal/>

Please send manuscripts electronically in Microsoft Word format to either Prof. Kate Mele at kmele@rwu.edu or Prof. Robert Engvall at rengvall@rwu.edu. Include your name, department or major, e-mail address, and local phone number. Do not forget to attach the .DOC file extension to the file name!

RWU Student Senate



Meetings

Monday 6:30 pm
Student Senate Chambers
Upper Level, Rec Center

Meetings Open
to Everyone!

TYNES: On writing and publishing

Continued from p.1
explains.

But Tynes does admit that with age she became more shy and it was more of a challenge to stand up in front of a group and lead a conversation. Growing up, Tynes was the center of attention being the only little girl in a big family of aunts and uncles. "People were always reading to me, trying to teach me new things — my aunt taught me how to take photos and develop film, and another aunt taught me to read and write, and another taught me to dance and sing — all at a really young age, way before I started school. So I think I grew up thinking that learning was fun," she says.

Tynes's interest in reading and literature has driven her throughout life. "I enjoy TV and movies and messing around on the internet as much as the next person, but I'm sad that people seem to have started doing these things instead of reading," she said.

She was lucky to be brought up in a wholesome country setting with loved ones always willing to teach her new things and help her grow. "I also think that learning to write well means learning to think well and vice versa, and our world and our country and our families and friends definitely needs us to improve our thinking skills," she says.

When asked where she sees herself in five years, Jennifer says, "I'm not sure. I would like to think that, in five years, I will still be doing and thereby better at all the things I do now that are important to me — teaching, writing, being a good and worthwhile person in general." She also would like to become a more balanced person and take a break once in a while instead of getting caught up in her busy life. She wants to become a better teacher a better writer as well as maintaining a balanced and happy life.

"I love that, as a teacher, I can share ideas with my students, but I can also learn from my students," she said about her love for teaching.

According to Tynes, she is always learning new things which is a passion that has made her who she is and she has thrived from that to become so involved in writing and literature and the meaning of it all. She made a point to say she disliked enforcing rules about behavior and penalizing people who don't show up to class. She doesn't want to have to be bothered with checking that everyone has done the reading and with reminding people to not talk during class.

"Everyone makes a mistake or has a problem now and then," she said. Tynes wants to focus on the creativity and depth of the literature in class and help students

to improve their writing ability rather than spend time and energy on maturity issues that should have been dealt with in high school.

Tynes says RWU is very much similar to her own school in Illinois, so naturally she feels at home. "It reminds me a little of the college I attended and it is a really nice drive even at 7 in the morning, especially in autumn."

Tynes loves writing and has thought about a possible alternate career. "Well, I could easily write full-time, but you don't exactly earn a living writing experimental poetry. I've worked as an editor before, which is interesting in its own way, but I like the way that teaching allows me to interact with people and their ideas."

Although she never became a full time writer, Tynes has some side projects that she works on in her free time. "Right now I'm revising a draft of a book — it's about 60 pages of poetry, and I've got it all taped up, page by page, on the French doors to our bedroom, so I can see what it looks like, think about how it flows. I'm pretty visual regarding my writing."

This draft isn't the only writing Tynes has going on. She has already completed a book of poetry called *The End of Rude Handles* which deals with notions of self-sustainability (how do we live and work together as a community), and it plays with

language and dialect of Appalachia and collage (taking language from other sources) to create an interesting book.

She also has two shorter books coming out this winter, *The Ohio System*, a collaborative work written with a friend and Howsare, a prose poem that traces the landscape of the Ohio River considering she grew up in Pennsylvania. "It's 'about' being female, being American, living in a small town, all kinds of things," she said.

Another book Tynes wrote, *See Also Electric Light* is a collection of poems about "energy" and "power." "Half the poems are very narrative, about a character called 'the boy electrician.' The other half are in a voice that's much closer to mine, and I guess they're about domesticity, how to live in cities, depending on 'power' you don't make yourself," Tynes explains.

Tynes is an accomplished and aspiring writer which allows her to spread her education to her students. Since she is not too much older than most of the students here, "She is able to make a connection to college students and get on our level," says Courtney Montinari, one of Tynes' writing students.

"Students are always surprised when I walk into a room for the first time and say 'I'm the teacher,'" Tynes says with a smile. "Maybe I need to start wearing heels."

Couple of the Moment:

Molly Anderson & Scott Hudson-Bryant

Reporting by: Courtney Nugent

Scott Hudson-Bryant

1) Where did you meet each other?

We actually met back in the day freshman year at the Halloween Chameleon Club, but didn't talk at all, really, again until last year about a week before we left for Christmas break at an 80s party.

2) What attracted you to Molly?

Sarcasm; she's hilarious, and I mean, I guess she's gorgeous ... her eyes kill me.

3) Where did you go/ what did you do on your first date?

Our first legit date was I think Valentine's Day last spring semester? Yeah. It was fun. And expensive ... jokes!

4) What do you like to do for fun?

Honestly? Hang out and make noises and make fun of each other. It's the funnest time ever. We always joke about how funny it would be if someone witnessed our shenanigans that they would get sick and throw up.

5) What do you like most about her?

She's a lot like me, so usually she understand me and my ridiculous humor. She's also ridiculous, so it's pretty rad.

6) What is the one thing you would change about your relationship?

Obviously, I gotta say "absolutely nothing!" Actually, I wish we didn't live so far away from each other, but, as long as I'm still with her, it doesn't matter.

7) What is the cutest thing you have done for her/ she has done for you?

Cutest/bestest thing she's ever done for me was surprising me with a weekend visit while I was working Orientation. That was the sickest weekend ever. Have I ever done anything cute?

8) Do you have nicknames for each other?

If so, what are they?

Oh man, are my friends going to see this? I'll give you one. We call each other "Khearnper." Don't ask.

9) What is her favorite band? Color? Food?

I'm pretty sure her favorite band/artist would be Tom Petty; favorite color is green or blue; favorite food ... I really am not even sure. She thinks spaghetti rocks. We eat that a lot. And sushi, too.

Molly Anderson

1) How did you meet Scott?

Through mutual friends, and my roommate Amy.

2) What is your favorite thing about him?

How he can always get me to laugh no matter what, and brings out the best in me. I always can be myself around him!

3) If you could change one thing about your relationship, what would it be?

Hands down, the distance.

4) Since you live in Texas, how do you deal with being away from him for so long (during breaks)?

Well, since living in Texas, we recently moved to Florida. Not that it's any better, it still is really hard. We managed to get through this past summer talking every day and just staying involved. Not to mention trips to visit each other helped a lot!

5) What are some cute things Scott has done for you?

He and I both share a love for music, and I love it when he shares songs with me that he thinks I'll like. He also has written me a song, which I love! Not to mention this cute little cartoon he drew of us!

6) What is your favorite thing to do when you are together?

Anything! But my all time favorite is when we plan, and then cook a meal together.

7) If you could describe your relationship in one word, what would that word be?

Exceptional.

8) What is your favorite band? Color? Food?

Answering what my favorite band is tricky... but I have to say probably Jimmy Eat World. My favorite color is probably blue, and my favorite food is Thai food - hands down!



Changing the face of Windows

Michael Daly
Herald Staff

Microsoft plans to release their newest operating system dubbed Windows Vista on January 30 and looks to be very interesting, not just to geeks but to the general public.

Most people don't really seem to know or care what operating system they are running as many believe it is a very trivial thing to be aware of. Mostly only tech enthusiasts and geeks get excited about something as boring as an operating system being released.

Normally, a new operating system would not be something to write about in a newspaper but this is different; the new operating system, Vista, is revolutionary and will change the way consumers use their computers.

Vista has a troubled history as it has been delayed time and time again. It has become something of a joke within the tech community. Just to put this in perspective, they started developing this operating system before the 9/11 terrorist attacks. It is generally considered that Microsoft reached too high with Vista and towards the end of its development cycle they started to jettison features (much to the chagrin of geeks everywhere). But, at last, Microsoft has finished this much belabored OS and it's very impressive, even in its stripped down form.

Most people will encounter this operating system when they buy a new PC but some will actually build their own computer and install it on their own; this is when

the OS comes into its own. Microsoft has worked on a new install routine that installs the OS in less than 30 minutes (I averaged 22 minutes on my install). This may seem inconsequential but it is truly impressive when you compare it to Microsoft's last OS, which installed in about 45 minutes if you were lucky.

But beyond actually installing the OS you will encounter something entirely different than what you are used to. The first thing you will notice is the user interface (UI). Microsoft took the 'windows' metaphor to its bitter end and all the windows are actually panes of glass that you can see through. It's very easy on the eyes. The second thing you will probably notice is this odd black bar on the right of your screen; they are calling this the sidebar (creative name). This sidebar is there to hold mini-applications called gadgets (first developed in DesktopX by Stardock) that serve a very direct purpose such as weather or local headlines.

Overall the UI is very simplified as it was previously very cryptic and to do anything beyond changing your wallpaper you'd have to be an expert to know what you are doing, now that's all in the past. Everything has been simplified to the point of it being insulting to anyone who knows what they are doing. Most people will find this simplification useful as they will find functionality they never knew existed but techies will go nuts as the computer assumes they do not know what they are doing.

The UI Vista is revolutionary in the fact that it takes advantage of modern tech-

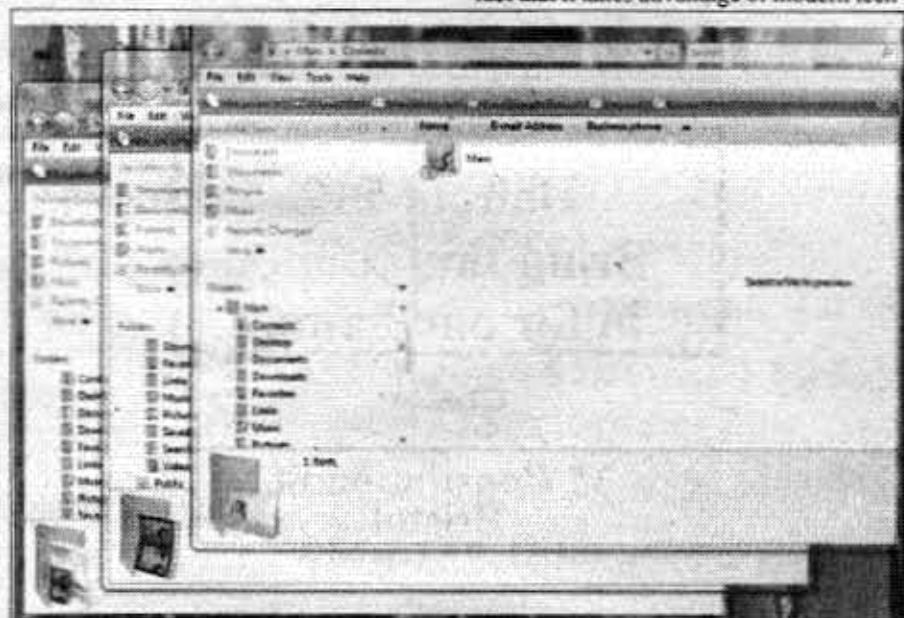
nologies that will increase productivity. Microsoft seems to have developed a searching obsession as their new search functionality pervasive throughout the entire system. For example they built search right into the start menu so now instead of trying to navigate through menu after menu to just get to a simple program you simply search for it. This may seem trivial but after you accumulate several hundred programs you start to beg for this sort of functionality.

Also, Microsoft has developed this OS with new technologies in mind (in fact some of them aren't necessarily available quite yet) and the system actually runs faster on newer system (built in the past two years) than the current operating system runs. Also, on a side note, they're shipping this OS with something called DirectX 10 which is an entirely new gaming technology which will allow for a new level of complexity in PC gaming that should put modern consoles like the Playstation or Xbox to shame.

But, to be fair, this OS is far from perfect and there are some problems with it. As I said before, they threw out features left and right in order to meet their deadline and what we're getting on January is something of a shadow of its former self.

Also, as Microsoft's Windows OS over the years has become infamous when it comes to security threats and viruses over the years and the developers at Microsoft have become rather paranoid with this new version of their OS. They've included something called UAC (User Account Control) that will nag you and ask permission if anything tries to change your system. It's a good idea in theory as it would prevent viruses installing themselves on your system without your permission but many will get annoyed with this 'feature' as it turns your entire screen gray and demands your attention when anything tries to change anything (you can't run a maintenance cycle on your computer without it annoying you).

This OS is going to be the next big thing and all the major computer manufacturers are going to make it their default OS on their machines soon. I would suggest that if you're going to buy a new computer soon make sure it has Vista on it, you may be pleasantly surprised. I was and I personally do not use Microsoft products (Linux).

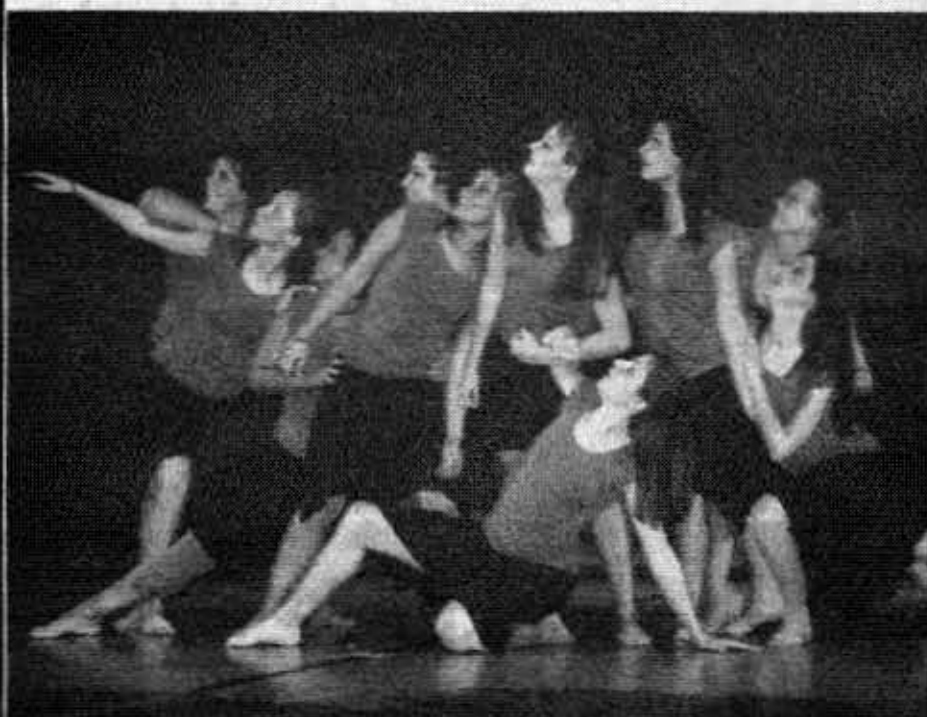


Screen shots of the new Windows Vista.

Michael Daly



Dance club show



The annual dance show took place on Wednesday, November 29.

Lauren Matthei



Spring break without breaking your wallet

Florentine Lehar
Herald Staff

You've decided that you want to go somewhere for Spring Break 2007. Staying at home just is too boring. Alternative Spring Break just is not for you, and staying in Rhode Island is not even an option. You want to party, and somehow you have either saved up enough money or tricked your parents into thinking you will not be obliterated the entire time you are gone. You can now begin looking into trips to take.

You've got a few options, but you do not know where to begin. First, let's go through the different places you may be thinking about. There is Florida, with Miami South Beach and Panama City Beach. Warm, sunny, full of parties, and still in the U.S. However, if you are under 21, the "still in the U.S." part is probably not very appealing.

Now you are on to discover the world, and more specifically, Mexico. There is Cancun and Acapulco in Mexico. Cancun is party central, and you also might get to show the world your foolish side if you get caught on MTV. Acapulco is on the Pacific coast (as opposed to Cancun, which is on the Yucatan Peninsula that stretches into the Caribbean) with beautiful beaches and an amazing nightlife.

Another option that I do not hear of much is Jamaica. Negril and Montego Bay offer amazing beaches, some of the best in the Caribbean, as well as a hip party scene. There is also the Bahamas, but this is just for those who do not mind spending the extra buck, as the Bahamas are definitely more expensive than other vacation destinations. Being that Spring Break is for mostly broke college students, I do not advise even trying to plan a trip to the Bahamas.

There are also a number of other places including Costa Rica and the

Dominican, but all in all, Cancun remains the most popular.

Many students book their vacations online through either online travel sites like Orbitz or Travelocity, or through Spring Break-specific offer sites such as studentcity.com.

These sites can be good for some things and not so good for others, and some have better features than others. To begin, Spring Break-specific sites should only be used in comparison to other travel deals, never exclusively. Even though they claim the best price, the only way to really find the best price is to do your research.

The sites also promote things besides travel and this makes them harder to navigate. These sites also promote "party packages" that offer a certain amount of hours of drinks, usually during the day. The good thing about these sites is that they offer Spring Break friendly hotels, and so even those under 21 can book a hotel without a problem. However, although they may seem like good deals, it is definitely worth it to check regular travel sites.

Other popular travel sites, along with Travelocity and Orbitz, include Expedia and Apple Vacations. These sites also have their ups and downs. The good thing on these sites is that they are easy to navigate. You just put in your travel information and the sites give you tons of good deals. They also allow you to choose your airline, which is good for those students with frequent flier accounts.

Travelocity and Apple Vacations are probably a better bet. Orbitz is decent, but Travelocity usually beats it in both search results and final price. Apple Vacations specializes in the Caribbean and usually has some of the best prices. Expedia lacks what the other sites have in ease of navigation, hotel information, and all over aesthetics.

No matter where you book your hotel

and flight, there are a few things that are very important to know when booking a Spring Break trip:

Use tripadvisor.com. It offers customer reviews and even customer candid photos of almost every hotel.

Getting a passport for international travel is highly recommended, it's much faster and good for 10 years. If not, for travel to Mexico (if U.S. citizen) you need a state-issued photo ID and an original copy of your birth certificate with the raised seal.

Book your trip far enough in advance. Over Winter Break is probably a good time. (During my research lots of hotels were already full during our Spring Break, which is March 9 to March 18).

If you really like to eat, drink and enjoy yourself rather than party and dance nonstop, try an all-inclusive resort where all drinks and meals are included in the hotel price.

If you are not a partier, destinations like Mexico or Florida may still be for you. Try to stay further from the central party cities. It is quieter, cheaper, and usually nicer (for Mexico I suggest the Riviera Maya

Resorts, which are gorgeous and about 1 hr south of Cancun).

Book 4 people or more to a room; it will lower the price. If under 21, always check that you can book a room at your age because many hotels have "spring break rules" during the months of February, March, and April that require that one person in each room be at least 21 years of age or older.

If you want to go on vacation, but are low on funds, try going in late May or early June instead. It is cheaper then than during the high-season time of Spring Break or mid-summer.

Be patient and compare prices. Know if you want to relax or party and how much you can spend. Then search different sites.



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Radisson Hotel Hacienda Cancun

\$801 per person

Located between downtown Cancun and the Cancun resort zone

Free transportation to exclusive beach club

Pool

Health club

Only 15 minutes from Cancun International Airport

Acapulco, Mexico

Crowne Plaza Acapulco

\$907 per person

In the heart of the Golden Zone, walking distance to shopping & nightlife

6 pools, two tennis courts, basketball court

Overlooks Acapulco Bay

35 minutes from Juan N Alvarez International Airport

Ocho Rios, Jamaica

The Wexford Hotel

\$766 per person

Located on Montego Bay's hip strip Gloucester Avenue

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South Beach Miami, Florida

Seacoast Suites

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WQRI's top CDs of the year

Sean Moran
Herald Staff

One of the things I look forward to as music director is the end of year. It's the time when the College Music Journal (CMJ) asks for every music director's top ten albums of the year and though it's pretty hard, it's also a lot of fun to sit back and think about all the good music that has come through the office.

I don't know about anyone else but I thought 2006 was a satisfying year for music. All the albums I was looking forward to either met or exceeded expectations. So for those who are curious here are my Top 10 Albums of 2006:

10. The Hope Conspiracy
Death Knows Your Name
Deathwish Inc.
9. M. Ward
Post-War
Merge



Amazon.com
(Above) Mogwai album cover (Above right)
Dead Legends album cover.



8. Harder the Fight
Dead Legends
Sink or Swim Records
7. Owen
At Home With Owen
Polyvinyl Records
6. The First Annual
Mornings
Self-Released
5. The Thermals
Body, The Blood, The Machine
Sub-Pop
4. Aloha
Some Echoes
Polyvinyl Records
3. Cursive
Happy Hollow
Saddle Creek
2. Mogwai
Mr. Beast
Matador
1. Murder by Death
In Bocca Al Lupo
Tent Show

Editor's Pick: Most underrated holiday music

If you stop by the Hawk's Herald, you may hear some music reminiscent from when we were younger. We all remember the claimed to be "fake" band 2gether which happens to be our personal favorite.

So if you are like us, here are some great holiday singles that you may have never heard before but should definitely check out.

Simple Plan "Christmas List"
Adam Sandler "Bum Biddy" from "8 Crazy Nights"
Hanson "Little Saint Nick"
Hanson "Run Rudolph Run"
N Sync "Kiss Me at Midnight"
N Sync "Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays"
98 Degrees "This Gift"
Cheetah Girls "Cheetah-licious Christmas"
The Chipmunks "The Chipmunk Song (Christmas Don't be Late)"
Spice Girls "Sleigh Ride"
Hilary Duff "Santa Claus Lane (North Pole Mix)"
Christie Carlson Romano "Toy Town"
Blink 182 - "Happy Holidays, You Bastard"
Trans-Siberian Orchestra "Carol of the Bells"
Crazy Drunk Lady "12 Days of Christmas"



Check out the local upcoming events

Campus Events

Friday, December 1
Robert Channing: World's Foremost Mind Reader
9 p.m. Commons

Senior Portraits
\$10 sitting fee
Recreation Center Senate chambers

World AIDS Day
Wear red in support of those with AIDS

December 1, 2, 7, 8, 9
Roger Williams University Theater
Department presents
The Children's Hour
Tickets \$5 for students, \$10 for general admission
8:00 p.m. Performing Arts Center

Saturday, December 2
CEN film: *Jackass Number Two*
8 p.m. and 11 p.m. Upper Commons

December 2, 3
Many Moods of Christmas concert feat. RWU Chorus
7 p.m. St. Mary's Church, Wood Street, Bristol

Tuesday, December 5
Penny Arcade Film: *He Got Game*
7 p.m. CAS 157

Wednesday, December 6
Daytime Program: "Snowflake Scenes"

Fourth Annual Winter Illumination
5 p.m. New quad

Local Shows

Friday, December 1
Redman, Raekon, Ghostface,
Supernatural and DJ Kool
Lupo's Heartbreak Hotel
9 p.m.
Monday, December 4
Bayside, The Junior Varsity, Melee and Bombers
The Living Room
8 p.m.
Wednesday, December 6
Matt Costa
Lupo's Heartbreak Hotel
9 p.m.

New Theater Releases

Friday, December 1
The Nativity Story
Keisha Castle- Hughes, Shohreh Aghdashloo and Oscar Issac
Rated PG

10 Items or Less
Morgan Freeman, Paz Vega, Anne Dudek and Jonah Hill
Rated R

Van Wilder 2: The Rise of Taj
Kal Penn, Lauren Cohan and Daniel Percival
Rated R

Friday, December 8
The Holiday
Cameron Diaz, Kate Winslet, Jude Law and Jack Black
Rated PG-13

Apocalypto
Rudy Youngblood, Dalia Hernandez and Jonathan Brewer
Rated R

Blood Diamond
Leonardo DiCaprio, Jennifer Connelly and Djimon Hounsou
Rated R

Unaccompanied Minors
Lewis Black, Wilmer Valderrama and Tyler James Williams
Rated PG

Friday, December 15
The Pursuit of Happyness
Will Smith, Jaden Smith and Thandie Newton
Rated PG-13

Charlotte's Web
Dakota Fanning, voices of Julia Roberts, Oprah Winfrey, Steve Buscemi and Kathy Bates
Rated G

Eragon
Edward Speleers, Sienna Guillory, Garrett Hedlund, Djimon Hounsou and John Malkovich
Not Rated



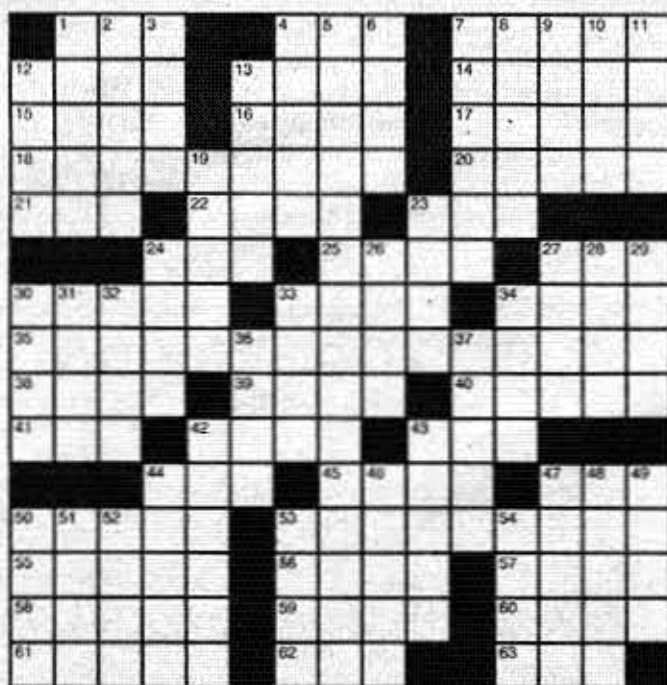
imdb.com

ROGER'S FUN CORNER

Last week's solutions

Across

- 1 Flying mammal
4 Biz supervision (Abbr.)
7 Senegal capital
12 mater
13 Center
14 Thrill
15 Impartial
16 Toward shelter
17 Quoted
18 Dutch capital
20 Levels
21 Thing, in law
22 Catch one's breath
23 Gaming cube
24 Owes
25 Legal document
27 Time zone
30 Anticipate
33 Buckeye State
34 Card game
35 Solid; unwavering
38 Large and scholarly book
39 Morsels
40 Aeries
41 Fruit drink
42 Mirth
43 Mature
44 Noah's creation
45 Replete
47 Used to be
50 Netherlands Antilles island
53 Coolest
55 Common grape vine
56 Byron poem
57 Contest
58 Oil source
59 Greek god of war
60 Swear

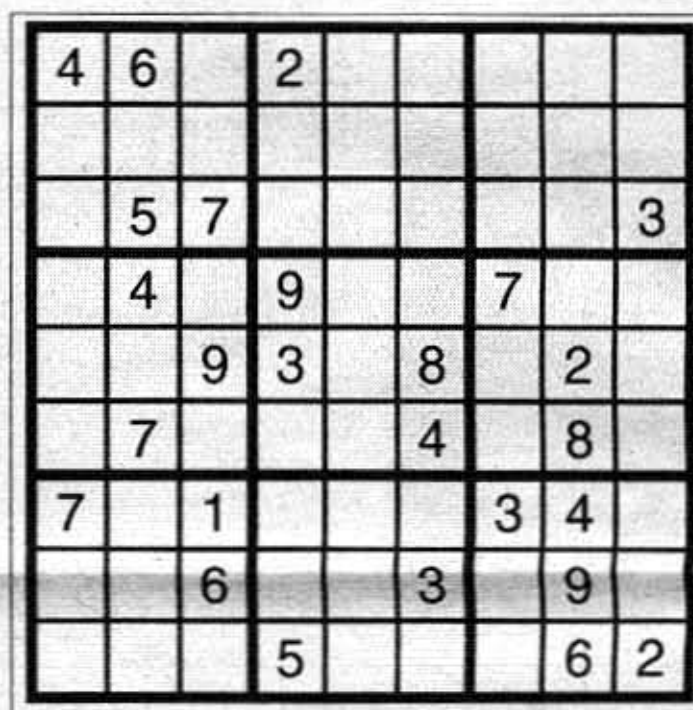


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- 61 Discourage
62 Time periods (Abbr.)
63 Fish catcher

Down

- 1 Find fault
2 Haywire
3 Sharp
4 Forms
5 Man-eater
6 Swarm
7 Duplicitous
8 Existing
9 Actress Capshaw
10 Solar disk
11 Scarlet and orange
12 Distant
13 Anxious feelings
19 Muse of poetry
23 Designer name
24 Boost
26 BBQ choice
27 After place and door
28 Mild oath
29 High rocky hills
30 Ionian gulf
31 Golf club
32 Pinnacle
33 Demon
34 Escape
36 People in general
37 Wing bearer
42 Kitchen utensil
43 Gazetteer
44 Higher up
46 Eng. river
47 Interlace
48 Cravat
49 Goulash
50 Footless
51 Upset
52 Building block
53 Talon
54 Persia



Part VI: Curses, Sideshows, and the Brothers Grimm

Heather Klink
Herald Staff

I don't know what made me do it. I suppose I'd have to sum it up to the nearing holiday season. We'd always celebrated Christmas as a family, right up until last year. Now, I was in the middle of Pennsylvania, touring with a group of people, half of whom I loved, half of whom I hated, my brother was gone, my parents were thousands of miles away, and nothing was familiar. I kept feeling these little waves of nostalgia wash over me every time I'd hear a Christmas song. I would have given just about anything to be back at home a year ago, warm by the fireplace, my brother running around driving everyone crazy. Every family has their own rituals for Christmas (if they celebrate Christmas), but my family was actually happy during the holidays. We had fun together and I wished profusely that I was with them on their first Christmas without Ty. I wondered what they were doing this year.

The sideshow business, as I was learning, gets very tricky during the cold months. A troupe really only has two options. Either they can venture down to the warmer states for the off-season where boardwalks and carnivals operate year-round, or else they can close up shop and go into hibernation for the winter, reconvening when the spring rolls around. Our

troupe, as it turns out, did a little bit of both.

We booked a lot of private tours that December. We did the occasional birthday party, but mostly we trailed behind some of the lesser known circuses, gathering their audiences and enticing them with promises of having our very own "Smallest Man on Earth," "Three Headed Dog," or "Very Hairy Lady!" It was getting harder and harder to draw in customers. It seemed that few people wanted to sit inside an unheated tent and listen to a shivering lecturer show them illusions of extinct animals or hyperbolized anomalies: go figure.

But we kept up our acts, regardless of the crowd that varied depending on the day. We entertained whiny kids at birthday parties, answered all sorts of ridiculous questions asked to us by people pretending to be observing our show purely for research purposes and not to sate their own curiosity, and we stayed busy. Maybe everyone else wanted to be home and with their families as much as I did, or maybe everyone else was running from their families, just like I was. I didn't know, and we didn't really discuss it.

As much as I would have loved to go back home where everything was safe and familiar, I knew that I couldn't. I had actually been thinking a lot about it. It'd been months since I joined, and since then, I

hadn't had any disasters. I began to wonder if I'd maybe made the whole idea of a curse up. Maybe it was really just bad luck. Maybe I wasn't any different from anyone else. I was just beginning to doubt the power of my curse when there was a terrible event at the sideshow.

We have specific people to do every job imaginable. We have men to hammer in the ground poles, men to string up the tent, men to move in cages and the stage pieces, and so on. The men required to do heavy lifting are hired because they are capable of the work. That was why it was so unexpected when Avery, one of the crew, dropped a pole he'd been carrying. It happened so quickly, it was almost like watching a scene unfolding in slow motion. His pole knocked over another, which ripped the canvas overhead before collapsing the tent and slicing down, shattering the Mermaid tank. The glass shards landed in Milky's eyes, who needed them removed. She had to wear patches over them for two weeks afterwards.

We found Avery unconscious. He was already dead when we got him to the hospital. He apparently had a heart attack, which forced him to drop the pole. We were somber for weeks afterwards, wishing Avery hadn't been killed, but understanding that any disaster that could happen in or around a sideshow could end up being a devastation. The area is too cluttered

to be properly fire-safe, and evacuations often take more time than is available. We were as thankful as possible while also holding a grudge against the unseen fates who determined Avery's untimely death. I was the only one who blamed myself.

So I knew that I couldn't go home just yet, but that didn't mean that I didn't want to. On Christmas Eve, after my work was done, I found myself reminiscing again. I didn't have a cell phone or any way to even wish my parents "Merry Christmas," it took me awhile to figure out what to do. I figured that if I were a parent, the best gift I could get would be to know that my child is healthy and happy, wherever they are. I picked up a pen and pad.

"Dear Mom and Dad," I wrote.

Editor's Note: This is the sixth installment of a short story composed by creative writing major Heather Klink. Check the next issue for another installment.

Winter Sports Schedules

Men's Basketball

Date	Opponent	Time
Sat. Dec. 2	Colby-Sawyer*	3 p.m.
Tue. Dec. 5	Curry	8 p.m.
Thu. Dec. 7	UM Dartmouth	TBA
Wed. Jan. 3	Conn. College	7 p.m.
Sat. Jan. 6	Gordon*	3 p.m.
Tue. Jan. 9	Nichols*	8 p.m.
Thu. Jan. 11	East Nazarene*	8 p.m.
Sat. Jan. 13	Anna Maria*	3 p.m.
Mon. Jan. 15	Wesleyan	7 p.m.
Thu. Jan. 18	Curry*	8 p.m.
Sat. Jan. 20	UNE*	3 p.m.
Thu. Jan. 25	Salve Regina*	8 p.m.
Sat. Jan. 27	NEC*	3 p.m.
Sat. Feb. 3	Endicott	3 p.m.
Tue. Feb. 6	Wentworth	7:30 p.m.
Thu. Feb. 8	Anna Maria*	8 p.m.
Sat. Feb. 10	East Nazarene*	3 p.m.
Thu. Feb. 15	Nichols*	8 p.m.
Sat. Feb. 17	Wheaton*	TBA

Tue. Feb. 20 - CCC Quarterfinals
 Thu. Feb. 22 - CCC Semifinals
 Sat. Feb. 24 - CCC Finals

Bold indicates Home Game
 * indicates CCC opponent

Current Record: 3-1 (as of 11/30/06)

Women's Basketball

Date	Opponent	Time
Sat. Dec. 2	Colby-Sawyer*	1 p.m.
Tue. Dec. 5	Curry	6 p.m.
Sat. Dec. 9	Johnson/Wales	1 p.m.
Tue. Dec. 19	Master College	11 a.m.
Fri. Dec. 20	Westminster	11 a.m.
Thu. Jan. 4	Simmons	7 p.m.
Sat. Jan. 6	Gordon*	1 p.m.
Thu. Jan. 11	East Nazarene*	6 p.m.
Sat. Jan. 13	Anna Maria*	1 p.m.
Thu. Jan. 18	Curry*	6 p.m.
Sat. Jan. 20	UNE*	1 p.m.
Thu. Jan. 25	Salve Regina*	6 p.m.
Sat. Jan. 27	NEC*	1 p.m.
Tue. Jan. 30	Salve Regina*	6 p.m.
Sat. Feb. 3	Endicott*	7 p.m.
Tue. Feb. 6	Wentworth	5:30 p.m.
Thu. Feb. 8	Anna Maria*	6 p.m.
Sat. Feb. 10	East Nazarene*	1 p.m.
Thu. Feb. 15	Nichols	6 p.m.
Sat. Feb. 17	Rogis*	1 p.m.

Wed. Feb. 21 - CCC Quarterfinals
 Fri. Feb. 23 - CCC Semifinals
 Sun. Feb. 25 - CCC Finals

Bold indicates Home Game
 * indicates CCC opponent
Italics indicate Bahamas Sunshine Shootout Tournament

Current Record: 0-2 (as of 11/30/06)

Men and Women's Swimming and Diving

Fri. Dec. 1 - 4 p.m.
 CCC Invitational

Sat. Dec. 2 - 9 a.m.
 CCC Invitational

Sat. Dec. 9 - 12 p.m.
 Bridgewater State

Fri. Jan. 19 - 7 p.m.
 RPI

Sat. Jan. 27 - 1 p.m.
 UNE

Fri. Feb. 2 - 5 p.m.
 Gordon

Sat. Feb. 3 - 1 p.m.
 E. Conn. State
 1 p.m.

Fri. Feb. 16 - Sun. Feb. 18
 New England Championships @ UNH

Bold indicates home meet

Current records as of 11/30/06:

Men - 3-1
 Women - 2-2

Wrestling

Sat. Dec. 2 - 12 p.m.
 Williams, Trinity, NEC, NYM, NYU

Wed. Dec. 6 - 7:30 p.m.
 US Coast Guard Academy*

Sat. Dec. 9 - 12 p.m.
 Plymouth State, WNEC, S. Maine

Sat. Jan. 6 - 10 a.m.
 RWU Mid-Winter Classic

Fri. Jan. 12 - 9 a.m.
 Virginia Duals Invitational

Sat. Jan. 13 - 2 p.m.
 Virginia Duals Invitational

Wed. Jan. 17 - 4 p.m.
 Wesleyan, Springfield

Sun. Jan. 21 - 10 a.m.
 New England D3 Dual Meet
 Championship @ Bridgewater State

Wed. Jan. 24 - 7 p.m.
 Johnson & Wales*

Sat. Jan. 27 - 12 p.m.
 NECCWA-Metro Conference Challenge
 @ TCNJ

Wed. Jan. 31 - 5 p.m.
 @ Bridgewater State*, with MIT*

Sat. Feb. 3
 @ Southern Maine*, with RIC
 2 p.m.

Wed. Feb. 7
 @ WPI, with Bryant
 6 p.m.

Sat. Feb. 17 - 10:30 a.m.
 New England D3 Championships

Sun. Feb. 18
 New England D3 Championships
 9:30 a.m.

Bold indicates home meet
 * indicates conference opponent

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Sports: The Wussification

Jim Dugan
Herald Staff

Athletes have always been expected to play all of their games with passion, fire and desire to give everything they have to help their team win.

Modern athletes are still expected to do just the same, just as long as they don't play with too much passion, too much fire or too much desire. If a player does do such a thing, he is immediately met with penalty, fines, or even suspension.

"Why is this happening?" you may ask. It is simple. Modern athletes make so much money that each is a huge investment to their team. They simply cannot afford to let a star player go down from an injury. However, as a result of this, sports continue to be watered down as players are not allowed to play with everything they have.

Take for instance a play that just happened this past weekend. On a pivotal fourth-and-10 in the Giants-Titans game, defensive end Mathias Kiwanuka wrapped up quarterback Vince Young for what was going to be a game clinching sack.

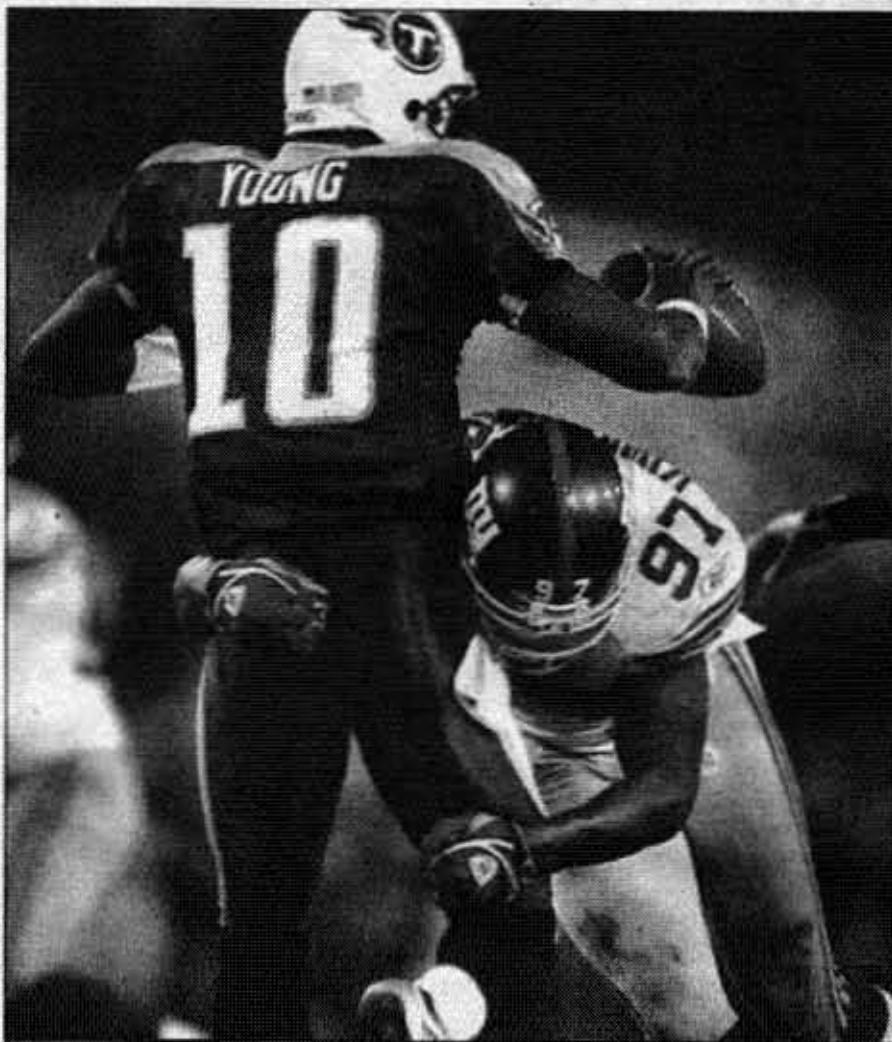
Kiwanuka, however, had been fined and penalized earlier in the year for a late hit on another quarterback and thus, fearing that it could happen again, Kiwanuka let go of Young early. Young then ran off for a 19-yard gain. The Titans wound up winning the game, due in large part to the fear players now have of giving everything they have in a game.

Football maybe the most violent of the four major sports, but it is not the only one to feel the suffocation that the new rules bring.

In the past, baseball pitchers would hit a player on another team if the batter had done something unsportsmanlike or the other team's pitcher had gone after someone on their team. In modern baseball, however, umpires warn players and immediately throw pitchers out if they bean someone. No longer can a pitcher protect his fellow players.

The only exceptions to this rule are pitchers for the Chicago White Sox, who are *required* to bean opposing players. Manager Ozzie Guillen actually yelled at one of his relievers, Sean Tracey, for not being able to hit a batter and even had him demoted to Triple-A. This, however, is only a rare case.

Basketball players are no longer allowed to show passion after they are called for fouls due to new rules in NBA this year. Or at least certain players are not allowed, as officials will allow it from some players but not others. There have



Rules are taking the physicality out of sports. Above, Vince Young takes advantage of Mathias Kiwanuka's inability to tear his head off. The play cost the Giants a victory.

been so many more technicals given out this year that Billy Hunter, head of the NBA Players Association, has considered suing the league over it.

Finally, hockey may be the sport most losing its physical nature. Wayne Gretzky, arguably the greatest hockey player of all time, acknowledges this. He admits, "The reality is the game is not as physical as it was five years ago."

Not only is the game less physical, but it may be losing my favorite element of the game — fighting. Enforcer Georges Laraque of the Phoenix Coyotes recognizes that he will soon be without a job: "I know that within two years there won't be any fighters in the league anymore," Laraque predicted, and he's probably right.

Thus, the question becomes, "What does all this actually mean?"

I think the basic answer to this question is that, in a sense, all of our sports are going to turn into soccer.

First, let me just say that I love soccer and have nothing against it. I actually won a state championship back in the day, and I watched most of the World Cup this past summer.

Soccer, however, is a sport that attempts to avoid injuries and increase free play by penalizing for all sorts of contact. Players can be thrown out of games far easier than in any of the other sports as well. As a result of this, soccer players often flop to the ground and fake injuries to try and draw free kicks.

Some of this can already be seen in the other professional sports. Kickers and punters will often hit the ground on purpose if the slightest contact happens (ironically, most kickers are former soccer players).

If something is not done soon, then in the future, we may soon have basketball players falling after every contested lay-up, running backs jerking their heads like their facemask was grabbed, and batters hitting off tees so that they cannot be hit by pitchers.

But we need a return of the physicality that made sports great. Referees need to stop babying quarterbacks and other athletes and just let them play.

Now excuse me — I need to go hide before Zinedine Zidane headbutts me to death.

Women start season without win

Courtesy of RWU Athletics

The women's basketball team finished in fourth place at the Eastern Connecticut State Tip-Off Tournament after losing 66-52 to Fitchburg State on Sunday, November 19.

Caitlyn Leone was 4-4 from three-point land and finished with 20 points to lead the Hawks. Katie Toye grabbed a team-high 10 rebounds and added six points. Caitlin Elnitsky had four points, also grabbing eight rebounds and dishing out six assists.

The teams were tied 32-32 at half-time, but Fitchburg State outscored the Hawks 34-20 in the second half. D'Yana Delpero, who had a game high 24 points, and Stephanie Payette who added 12 points and 10 rebounds, led Fitchburg State.

Toye was named to the All-Tournament team after tallying 16 points and 17 rebounds in the tournament.

Sunday's loss leaves the Hawks with an overall season record of 0-2. The Hawks started their season on Saturday November 18 with a 66-52 defeat by Eastern Connecticut State University.

In that game, Casey Anderson led the Hawks with 13 points as she went 5-6 from the floor. Toye added 11 points and grabbed a team high eight rebounds, while Leone put up 10 points and seven rebounds. Elnitsky added a game high six assists. The Hawks led 34-31 at the half and led by as many as seven points in the early minutes of the game, but a second-half surge by the hosts would leave the Hawks on the losing end.

Though the Hawks (41.7%) outshot the Warriors (35.5%) from the field, the game was decided at the free throw line. While the Hawks made nine free throws out of a mere 17 attempts, the Warriors tallied on 23 of 31 chances. In fact, an 11-0 run by the Warriors in the second half was fueled by nine free throws. Sandy Mosley led ECSU with a game high 25 points, while teammate Ashley McFetridge added 19.

Bell named to All-Regional Team

Courtesy of RWU Athletics

Roger Williams University men's soccer junior forward Antoine Bell of Bordeaux, France was named last week to the D3Kicks.com All-Regional First Team.

Bell led the Commonwealth Coast Conference with 16 goals in 21 games this season. He also ranked second in the conference with six assists and 38 points. He was also named CCC Player of the Year and to the All-CCC First Team for his efforts.

This is the first year D3Kicks.com has named all-region teams. The players were nominated by sports information directors from around the country. Each region consists of three teams: a first, second, and third team. Each team is made up of a goalkeeper, three defenders, four midfielders, and three forwards.

Bell scored 16 times for the Hawks this season, including six game-winners. Bell added six assists for a 38-point season total. Earlier in the month, he was named CCC Player of the Year, and also a member of the first all-conference team.

Men's early win streak snapped

Courtesy of RWU Athletics

The Roger Williams University men's basketball team suffered its first loss of the season, 68-57, at the U.S. Coast Guard Academy Tuesday night. Sophomore Bill Barrett led the Hawks in scoring with 22 points in the contest.

The Hawks began the game strong, jumping out to a 21-13 lead behind two three-pointers by junior Dan Gumb. RWU extended the lead to 28-17 before forcing the Bears to call a timeout with 5:15 left in the half.

Coast Guard came out of the timeout on a 16-0 run, reclaiming the lead, 33-28. The teams traded baskets before entering the locker rooms, 35-30, at halftime.

In the second half the Bears continued

their strong shooting, slowly extending their lead to 45-39 with 12:30 remaining. Draining shots from the outside, the Bears recorded nearly half their points from behind the arc, finishing the game with 10 three-pointers. Junior Al Sowers finished the game as the Bears' leading scorer with 18 points.

The Hawks started their season on Friday, November 17 with an 82-43 win over Maine at Fort Kent. The men then went on to win 85-73 over Salem State College the next day to win the Courtyard by Marriott RWU Tip-Off Tournament.

The dominating win by the Hawks in the opening round featured four players scoring in the double-digits, including Seattle-native Mike Woolley, who posted a team-high 14 points.

Junior Geoff Baranger posted a dou-

ble-double, scoring 13 points, collecting a team-high 10 rebounds, and delivering a dunk that got a huge response from the capacity crowd.

Baranger posted another double-double in the championship game and was named Tournament MVP.

The Hawks followed the tournament win by adding another on Tuesday, November 21 over Johnson and Wales University, 92-78.

With the win, Coast Guard earns its third consecutive victory, moving to 3-1 on the season, while Roger Williams falls to 3-1. The Hawks return to action Saturday, as they host Colby-Sawyer College in their first Commonwealth Coast Conference game of the season. Game time is set for 3 p.m., immediately following the RWU women's basketball game at 1 p.m.