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The student newspaper of Roger Williams University

Sept. 11, 2008

Bristol, RI

THE HAWK'S HERALD

Vol. 19
Issue 2

'NO ONE SHOULD FORGET'



MARK FUSCO/THE HAWK'S HERALD

Nearly 3,000 flags on D'Angelo Common represent the lives lost in the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks. The memorial was set up Monday night by students from dozens of campus clubs and organizations. A memorial service will be held on the Common at 7 p.m. tonight, the seventh anniversary of the attacks. For more 9/11 coverage, see pages 4 and 6.

Student finds swastika on car

Dee DeQuattro
News Editor

On the afternoon of Sept. 5, a Roger Williams sophomore arrived at his car to find that it had racist and offensive 'graffiti' on it.

The car was parked in the handicapped parking space by Willow Hall and Stonewall. The owner had a temporary handicapped parking pass due to a medical reason. The slurs were written in the pollen that accumulated on his car over the period of the day, however, there was no permanent damage done to the vehicle. The graffiti included a swastika, the terms, f*gg*t and p*ssy, among others, as well as a graphic picture of a penis.

The student alerted Public Safety immediately, but said

the response was not prompt.

"When I saw the car, I called Public Safety, then waited 10 minutes, no one showed up, so I called again. Once again, I waited about 10 minutes and then I called again and finally someone showed up. It took 25 minutes," said the sophomore engineering major who chose not to be identified due to safety concerns.

Officer Robert Cruz responded to the scene and documented the incident.

"They looked at the car and they told me that it was more emotional damage and not physical damage. They said since it was an isolated incident and the first incident of the year, there was nothing they could do about it," said

See GRAFFITI p. 3



ARIELLE MILSTEIN/FOR THE HAWK'S HERALD

This swastika was found on a car parked between Willow Hall and Stonewall on Sept. 5.

WQRI plays the blues

Courtney Nugent
Features Editor

Beginning in September of last year, decisions to move the radio antenna for WQRI, the student-run radio station, were discussed. Although the station was originally supposed to be back on air Aug. 20, the

date was pushed back again to Monday, Sept. 15.

Due to problems in the galvanization of the new radio mast, as well as a number of miscommunications between WQRI, RWU, the administration and TechNet, a company based in New Hampshire, many problems have arisen, re-

sulting in WQRI delaying going back on air, as well as a number of disgruntled DJs.

For a radio station to go off-air and for the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to approve their new location, the station's new contour maps must be

See WQRI p. 3

Caught on tape

Surveillance images helped police arrest student senator who wrote threatening letters.
Contents of letters released.

Allison Collins
Asst News Editor

The student senator who was expelled and arrested this summer for allegedly sending anonymous threatening letters to himself and another senator was caught with the help of surveillance cameras, according to new information released this week by the Bristol Police Department.

Police also released the contents of the letters, which contained threats, obscenities and racist language directed toward Senate President Alicia Merschen-Perez and then-treasurer Shashwat Baxi, who police said wrote the letters.

Baxi, 21, of Southington,

Conn., was charged with falsely reporting a crime and disorderly conduct. The charges were dismissed Aug. 6.

The acting director of Public Safety at the end of last year, Dan Gough, suggested to the police that Baxi might be behind the notes on May 3.

Surveillance cameras caught Baxi twice, both times holding papers that looked like the notes Senate received shortly after.

Then Baxi confessed that he had written the notes, according to police.

The police report included the contents of one of the letters.

See BAXI p. 2

Deston bids farewell

Sarah Cournoyer
Managing Editor

Scheduling meetings, getting John King where he needs to go, fielding phone calls, responding to e-mails and helping students with a myriad of problems including deaths, illnesses and academic issues were just a few of Peggy Deston's responsibilities. However, after 18 years with Roger Williams University, she retired Sept. 5.

"I was going to leave here quietly," Deston said. "Somehow, word got out and I have been getting e-mails from everyone."

See DESTON p. 2



COURTNEY NUGENT/THE HAWK'S HERALD

Peggy Deston, administrative assistant to the dean of students, spends time at her desk in the Center for Student Development before her Sept. 5 retirement.

BAXI: Police release new information about former senator

Cont'd from page 1

"I am not messing around this time. I was playing nice before, but this time I'm not kidding! Get that evil sp*ck b*tch and the arrogant d*t-head m*therf*cker off of the Student Senate and out of RWU. They don't represent me or anyone else here. Tell the w*tb*ck girl to go pick some fruit or run back across the border with the rest of them. Tell wannabe t*wel-h**d b*st*rd to stay away from our white girls and go back to kwik-E-mart where he belongs. This is the last warning. Don't let me catch them around campus alone. I know where they both live. It won't be pretty. White Pride."

On May 1 at 11:34 p.m. a patrolman responded to a racial slur complaint at the RWU Recreation Center. He met with Public Safety officers who presented him with the typed letter, which contained the above statements.

This was the second letter found. The first incident was reported to Public Safety, not the Bristol Police.

The Bristol Police returned to RWU to speak with Public Safety on May 2. They also spoke with Baxi. He said that he was shaken up about the notes but that Merschen-Perez was more nervous than he was.

Baxi and Merschen-Perez went to police headquarters at 11:55 a.m. and provided the police with statements.

That same day, police responded to Baxi's dorm room, Stonewall 1235. Baxi said that when he returned to his room he found another note that was slipped under his door.

The note read, "Be afraid, be very afraid," and on the bottom of the note, "White Pride" was written. The other side of the paper said, "We know where you live f*cker."

On May 3, the Bristol Police spoke with Dan Gough, the acting director of Public Safety. Gough told the police that he thought Baxi might be responsible for the notes because Baxi kept finding them. He also said that Public Safety provided periodic surveillance of Baxi. Gough informed the police that he and others at RWU thought Baxi had been acting strangely.

Baxi found a fourth letter in the Student Senate mailbox on May 5. He told police the letter was folded in half and stapled on three sides and appeared to be similar to the other letters. The note advised Merschen-Perez and Baxi not to accept their positions on the Student Senate.

The letter read that if Baxi and Merschen-Perez accepted their positions, they would be sorry.

Gough told the police that Baxi was recorded at the scene by a surveillance camera installed on May 1. The tape showed Baxi with a folded piece of paper in the Student Senate office that was similar to the one found in the mailbox.

On May 7, Baxi found the fifth letter in the Student Senate mailbox. Senator Ashley Saunders had checked the mailbox five minutes earlier and reported there was no letter there.

On May 8, Gough advised the police that Baxi was recorded at the scene hiding an unfolded piece of paper similar to the one found in the mailbox. The Bristol police obtained all records pertaining to the case. John King, Vice President of Student Affairs, told the police Baxi had admitted to writing the racially motivated letters.

Baxi was arrested on June 4 at 1:25 p.m. Bristol police responded to RWU to pick up Baxi on an arrest warrant. He was at the Student Affairs building having a meeting regarding his expulsion and was taken into custody without incident. He was processed and then taken to district court.

DESTON: Retires after 18 years at RWU

Cont'd from page 1

Although students at RWU look to Deston as a kind of grandmother figure, she has her own grandbabies to spend time with after retirement. She has two grandchildren and another one on the way in January.

"It has been a wonderful ride and I thoroughly enjoy higher education," Deston said. "I always work commencements to see the students after they have matured as they go off into the world."

Many come back and visit, and she even has gone to a few students' weddings.

Although Deston plans to remain at her position until she has trained the new person, she remarked that she built the position from scratch and that the new person will have to as well.

"It just takes time to establish relationships and patterns for doing things," Deston said. "I spent my time building relationships with faculty, administration and of course students. Whenever there is a problem to call, I have a host of people I know to call. My head is full of four digit numbers."

Although Deston admits that her career at RWU has been quite the journey, her highlight was commencement of 2001, which was the year she herself graduated from RWU. After her father died when she was 16, Deston took on stenography so she had a

marketable skill to support herself and her mother.

"Mom always taught me the value of knowledge though," Deston said. "So after I put the children through college I said 'It's Mama's turn.'"

"It took nine years of taking classes during my lunch hour and one night a week, but I was the proudest person to walk across the stage that day," Deston said.

Yogi Berra spoke at the commencement that year and got an honorary degree, and when Deston saw her son after the ceremony, he remarked, "You got more applause than Yogi Berra, mom!"

"I knew everyone when I walked across that stage from the custodians to the president," Deston said. "As I walked across the stage, I heard a swelling of noise and applause." But, as Deston recalled, she didn't get a handshake and a diploma like the other graduates. The president gave her a hug and then professor Loretta Shelton gave her a big hug.

"All the while, Scott Yonan (ombudsman to the president) was hurrying me along to keep things moving, but I couldn't see where I was going because there were tears in my eyes."

During her retirement, Deston plans to join an organization that teaches children in inner city schools to read and continue being active in her church. She already is involved with fundraising and behind

the scenes work at The Little Theatre of Fall River.

Deston's major at RWU was Communications but her main interest was creative writing and poetry and she hopes to continue writing when she retires.

"Maybe I will write the great American novel that we all have in us," Deston said.

Deston planned to leave behind her sand collection that began in 1997 when students brought her sand from a vacation over break. Since the first donation, word has spread and Deston now has over 180 bottles of sand categorized in a database.

"You name the country. I have the dirt," Deston said. "It belongs here even though it probably has more meaning to me. I just can't believe the people who take the time to bring back sand."

She has sand from cities in Italy, a 15th century abbey, the Great Pyramids of Egypt, to the sand from Fenway Park on opening day.

"I wish I had done all that traveling," Deston reflected. "I hope I will."

As a former employee and an alumna, Deston says she will always feel very attached to this school.

"I will miss a lot of people," Deston said. "But I think I have done a good job and I think I have been a valuable employee. No regrets. I don't believe I've wasted the past 18 years at all."

Come join The Hawk's Herald

Meetings Mon. 7 p.m. SE 132

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WQRI: Station struggles to get back on the airwaves

Cont'd from page 1

submitted so the FCC can make sure the new location of the antenna will not interfere with any other station's airwaves.

According to General Manager Dominic Lombardi, if WQRI had filed with the FCC in early January, a permit for a new antenna could have been granted by April.

"[WQRI] did not receive a permit until the second week in May, and we were scheduled to go off air following commencement," Lombardi said.

Lombardi also said that although WQRI was approved by the FCC quicker than expected, he received few updates about the status of the project throughout the months of June and July. He cited a lack of enthusiasm for the project as a whole as a reason delays occurred so frequently.

"Dave Odeh [the engineer who designed the mast for the WQRI radio antenna] is getting paid to work on this project," Lombardi said. "He should have worked harder to specify the project to the FCC regulations."

When the antenna for the radio tower was first galvanized to prevent corrosion, it was done incorrectly. According to Lombardi, the antenna was rushed to be re-galvanized, resulting in more setbacks for the station.

On Sept. 4, when Steve Vanni, the Chief Radio Engineer with the project, and his team started to work on installing the radio mast, they were greeted with more issues.

In order to install the radio transmitter in the bottom of the Intercultural Center, holes needed to be drilled to run the lines from the transmitter to the antenna.

"The holes were not drilled all the way through so the transmission lines had interference with the telephone lines," Lombardi said.

With a lack of guidance in the past, WQRI never rectified any of the wiring problems found within the antenna and radio transmitter.

According to Vice President and Chief Information Officer Joseph Pangborn, however, the project did not hit any setbacks from a construction standpoint.

"The only time consuming items during constructions were waiting for an analysis and approval of the FCC, design of a mast by the licensed structural engineer, and the decision of what direction to point the antennas."

Pangborn said the project will cost somewhere close to \$90,000.

Not only have the DJs been unable to play shows on-air, the setbacks have also limited their ability to do underwriting which could potentially cost the station between \$5,000 to \$25,000 in sponsorship.

While expressing concerns for these setbacks, Lombardi and other DJs echoed the concern that with an on-air delay, new students interested in the radio might become aggravated.

"It's frustrating because students have worked really hard to get the station back on air, but it's out of our hands," Lombardi said. "They are dedicated to keeping the station alive through Musical Munchies [during meals in the Upper Commons] and events like the Foliage Fest."

GRAFFITI: Student offended

Cont'd from page 1

the student. "He told me he recommends moving my car to a regular parking spot so it blends in. When he said that I felt like he was judging me because I don't look handicapped." The director of public safety refused comment on the issue.

Following the Public Safety report, Stonewall resident assistant Meredith Bergen documented and photographed the incident.

Vice President John King said, "Students and residence life staff members followed our protocol by reporting the incident and completing a bias incident report form. The matter was immediately discussed with the student and from what we have learned, the graffiti isn't personally connected or directed to the student who owns the vehicle."

A few days after the incident, the student was contacted by Dean of Students Kathleen McMahon. "We are all offended that someone in our community did that and I just wanted to let him know he is not alone," said McMahon.

"She reassured me that Public

Safety would keep an eye on my car while I am here. She said they are working on it and doing everything they can to help. She made me feel a lot better about the situation," said the student.

The student said that Public Safety mentioned a new surveillance system is in place, however, since the system was so new, it was not clear if the camera was recording.

Despite the racist nature of the symbols on the car, the student said "I have a feeling it is something against the handicap parking pass. I don't think it had anything to do with me or any other race."

"I don't know if it was that or because it was the closest to the building. I don't know why that particular car was targeted. I don't know why any car is targeted," said King.

These incidents are common at most college campuses and in most communities, King said.

"We have to challenge each other to interrupt this behavior and report it immediately."

The student said he "hopes this can be a wake up call for the school."

Come on and take a free ride on RIPTA

Carolyn Reid
Herald Staff

Don't have the money to waste on gas or car insurance? Don't have a car that will make the trip to college, or you just don't have a car at all? Well, you're in luck, because starting this school year, all upperclassmen and graduate students have access to free bus passes from the Rhode Island Public Transit Authority.

This is in addition to the freshmen who were able to get free RIPTA passes last year. These passes, which include the student's picture, are non-transferable, so if lost RWU, won't be losing money by having someone else use it.

The 2007-2008

school year was the first year that free RIPTA passes were given to all freshmen. Subsidized multi-pass books were available for upperclassmen to buy. These books were 50 percent of the retail value and available on a first come, first serve basis. Student Senate and Student Affairs helped make those books available.

Thanks to positive student feedback last school year and the efforts of John King, vice president of Student Affairs, senior Juan Escoriza, Tim McCormick, manager of RIPTA's planning department, and many others, this was all possible.

The program was "approved by President (Roy) Nirschel in support of sustainability efforts, in recognition of the high cost of operating a car for students and to reduce the demand for parking," King said. "The university believes that using public transportation helps the environment, traffic and parking."

Escoriza said, "When I first found out about the freshmen getting the RIPTA pass for free, it made me wonder, why do they get it and not the rest of the school? More than the majority of the students here on campus don't own a car, which is why I thought it was unfair that only freshmen got this pass. I believe that students will take advantage of riding the RIPTA."

RWU has entered into a negotiable rate with RIPTA for each transaction and receives a discount because of the number of students who take advantage of its passes.

"Our core mission is to get people out of their cars and onto buses to help with air quality and congestion," McCormick said. "Our relationship with RWU directly impacts our achieving that goal."

Cash boarding time takes 20 seconds to board each person, whereas boarding RWU students only takes three seconds. This means that boarding a bus of all people paying cash would take 15 minutes, yet boarding a bus of students would only take three minutes, and the less boarding time, the faster the bus gets to its destination.

McCormick said some people have the mistaken perception that most college students are rowdy, but claimed RIPTA has never had a problem with RWU students.

"A bus can get dominated by a few people behaving badly. We find that the addition of RWU students, faculty, and staff are a stabilizing force on the bus system, raising the bar on how to behave, and generally keeping the peace on the 60 line."

The program is being expanded to all students on a one-year trial basis to assess the total cost of involvement and then assessing whether it will remain of value and service in light of fare increase and service cuts.

"Service cuts will most certainly affect RWU students, faculty, and staff," McCormick said.

"Approximately 20 percent of RIPTA service is slated to go away. This includes night service to the Bristol campus which is perhaps the widest used by students." Hopefully these service cuts won't happen so students will still have a free and easy way to get around.

Information about student use on the RIPTA is being sent to a database that tracks utilization by class year so that RWU can learn who is utilizing the service. According to McCormick there were 39,197 rides taken by RWU students in the past 12 months. In August alone, there were already 1,844 rides.



Endowment decreases by \$10 M

Allison Collins
Asst News Editor

The university's endowment lost more than \$10 million from 2007 to 2008, decreasing from more than \$114 million to \$103 million.

"This particular year going from June 07 to June 08 is a year when the entire financial market deteriorated," said James Noonan, Vice President of Finance and Chief Financial Officer.

The decline will not directly affect students.

"Our endowment in terms of scholarship opportunities for our students spins off maybe \$50,000 a year," said Lynn Fawthrop, Vice Pres-

ident for Enrollment Management and Retention.

"It's not like we're going to lose significant money as it relates to helping fund students' financial aid," said Fawthrop.

This year, Fawthrop estimates the university will spend more than \$27 million on financial aid.

The term 'endowment' is used loosely and actually refers to a university's investment portfolio and endowed funds, said Noonan.

Only about \$10 million of RWU's endowment is restricted, according to Noonan. The earnings from that money can only be used for purposes defined by the donor.

The investment portfolio makes up a large portion of the endowment. It went down 11.25 percent since 2007, according to Noonan.

"We're allowed by the Board of Trustees to use a certain percentage of this investment portfolio to fund operations," said Noonan.

Operations range from construction to paying teachers.

"The higher this goes, the more we can use earnings from this to fund operating expenses," said Noonan.

Even with that decline, the endowment has increased 53.93 percent since 2002, according to Noonan.

"The effect on a student is there because if you go back six years ago,

we have \$40 million in our investment portfolio, which provided us with about \$2 million of funding source to pay our expenses.

"Now that it's up over \$100 million, we're getting 4.5 to \$5 million, which means that's \$2.5 to \$3 million that we don't have to charge the students in tuition, room and board in order to fund the operations here."

"To the extent that it grows, it benefits the students now and in the future by providing an alternate source of revenue to the university other than tuition and room and board," he said.

Buena 'Vistas'

Campus volunteerism a full-time job for pair

Sarah Beron
Herald Staff

Roger Williams University holds roughly 3,800 undergraduate students. If that number was multiplied by about 9,736, it would roughly equal the 37 million people in this country who are forced to live in poverty.

On campus, two people are willing to fight for change. Kristen Read and Joshua-Michael Corrente are members of a nationally recognized volunteer organization and are committing to a full year of volunteer work at RWU.

President John F. Kennedy first came up with the idea for VISTA (Volunteers in Service to America). The program was designed specifically to fight poverty, and has been doing so for more than 40 years. Members of this AmeriCorps national service program serve full-time for an entire year at a non-profit organization. They help to build networks and the capacity to change the community.

Both Read and Corrente are serving through Campus Compact in Rhode Island. Outside the state, only 10 other states in the nation are involved in this organization. It is a statewide coalition of higher education institutions.

"Each school's president makes a commitment to use their resources for the good of the community," Read said.

Read grew up in Warren, R.I. and then moved down to Miami where she received an education degree. She previously worked as both a museum educator and administrator. She said she wanted to experience the field of community service firsthand, not just through computers and numbers.

"What better way to understand the needs of this community?" she said. Now she is back up north to help out.

Read said she is extremely busy all day trying to build community activism on campus. She supports the expansion of service opportunities through the Federal Work-Study program and promotes the importance of service at RWU. She also works closely with the Bristol/Warren school system to help them with their needs, such as finding tutors, supports faculty who want to do service learning projects and is working on setting up next year's Community Connections.

Read has only been on campus for one month and already is able to recognize the positive attitude RWU has toward community service. She claimed to be very impressed by the school's 11 clubs and organizations

that are service-oriented because "other places have nothing," she explained.

Read also witnessed the strong bond the campus experienced during Community Connections. She said, "For me, wow, it was a huge, positive reinforcement about what this university is all about."

She said she hopes that in one year, her work will have had an impact on the community in a way that it will last long after she leaves.

Also hoping to make change is Corrente, a local Rhode Island College graduate. He will volunteer with VISTA for the rest of the school year to serve the community, something that makes him feel great, he said. Corrente's passion for helping people is truly shown by his dedication to his work. He turned down a career opportunity to volunteer at RWU.

"How I'm spending my time is the most important thing, I wanted to take a year to work for a purpose," he said.

Corrente is working directly with the Bristol Good Neighbors (BGN) soup kitchen and pantry. He is trying to connect RWU with BGN through students interested in community service opportunities. The soup kitchen serves 20 to 45 people daily for both breakfast and lunch. Corrente is always looking for volunteers,

and not necessarily to serve directly at Bristol Good Neighbors, he said. He is looking to do a great deal of fundraising that will help the soup kitchen create sustainability.

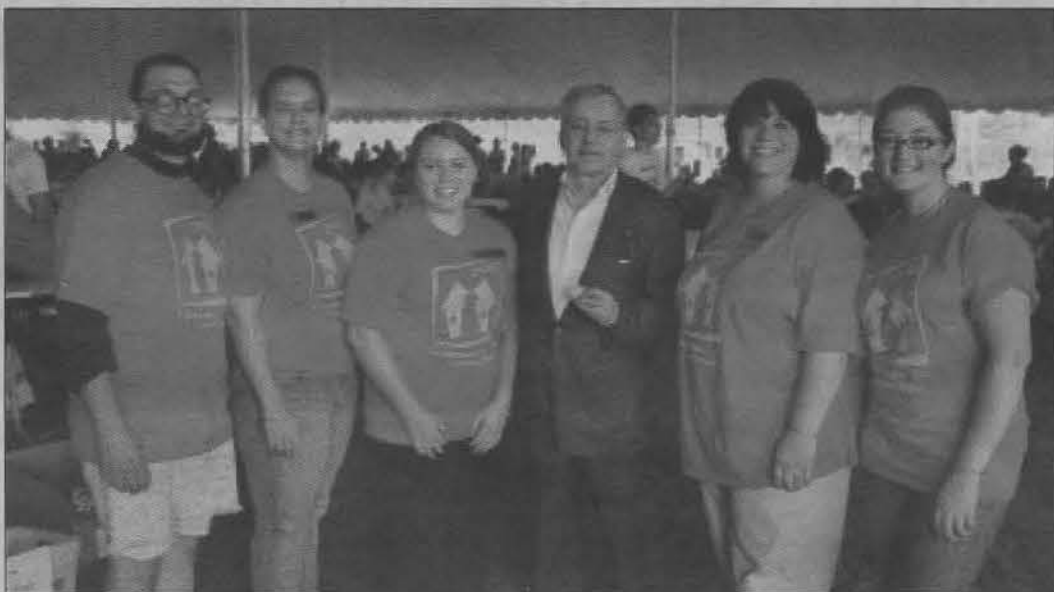
Like Read, Corrente also got a chance to witness the bond RWU shared during Community Connections.

"Roger Williams University has service as a core value... that's something that is really unheard of," he said. "This school honestly puts its money where its mouth is. They really dedicate themselves to service." The university has donated a computer to help with the work Corrente and others are doing here on campus.

With the assistance of local grocery stores, pharmacies, and farmers, BGN is able to provide hearty, nutritious meals every day. Bristol Good Neighbors is located at 278 Hope St. in Bristol across from St. Michael's Church. Corrente can be found back and forth between campus and the kitchen, following a very hectic schedule.

"I try and take this one day at a time. I love it, I couldn't be happier."

If you would like to help Read and Corrente, visit the Center for Student Development.



JOHN CORBETT/FOR THE HAWK'S HERALD

New VISTAs Joshua-Michael Corrente and Kristen Read stand with Community Connections coordinators Emily Chappell and Roey Brocuglio, Alan Shawn Feinstein and K.C. Ferrara on Community Connections day.

On seventh anniversary, community remembers 9/11



In one way or another, the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001 touched every American life.

Television screens across the country broadcast the horrifying images out of New York City, Washington, D.C. and Pennsylvania on that sunny Tuesday morning.

Whether they were in school, at work or on their living room couches, people stopped their daily routines and watched. They watched and they waited for answers.

Other people are closer to the tragedy. Some lived through the attacks, know people who survived or know people who died.

On the seventh anniversary of the tragedy, students came together to honor the memory of the victims. A weeklong tribute sponsored by the College Republicans and College Democrats kicked off Monday night. Students gathered on D'Angelo Common behind the Roger Williams statue, where they planted 2,977 flags, each one representing a life lost.

"The attacks affected so many people, especially in this community," Barry Lucier, chairman of the College Republicans said, noting the large number of RWU students from New York, New Jersey and Connecticut who lived close to the attacks on the World Trade Center.

"No one should ever forget."

Lucier said he hoped that the flags would demonstrate the magnitude of the attacks in ways a written number cannot.

"They can be a part of this display," he said.

On Tuesday and Wednesday, students watched "The Path to 9/11," a two-part ABC miniseries that chronicles the 1993 bombing of the World Trade Center and the events leading up to the 2001 attacks.

The weeklong remembrance concludes on D'Angelo Common, with a memorial service scheduled for 7 p.m. tonight.

Phil Devitt, Editor



Campus welcomes high school students

Lorin Richardson
Asst. Features Editor

You might have noticed that every other Wednesday afternoon, 60 high school students from Providence and Newport come into the dining hall in the Commons. But the question is why? Knowing that Roger

Williams is becoming a more diverse campus, a lot of people do not know about the Bridge To Success program at RWU that has been going on since 1993.

Bridge to Success is bringing students from local high schools and 25 mentors from RWU together. RWU students tutor and mentor between

seven schools every week, helping students with their classes and being there to talk. While mentoring a couple of days a week, BTS mentors aim to show students that college is a possibility and to aim at any future goals they might want to pursue.

Activities such as hosting this are regular events for the mentors. The high school students are taught in workshops on topics such as time management, money managing, murder mysteries, and mock trials. And the connections students make with their BTS mentors can last many years through their decisions in high school. Nicole DesRoches, a junior mentor, says that one of her favorite parts about the program is getting to do something different. "I like being a leader. It was nice to have a chance doing something different with the kids. You also make a lot of connections."

Don Mays, director of Bridge to Success, says the experience is unforgettable. "It gives you a better understanding of communities that are very different from the RWU community," he says.

These 25 RWU students not only mentor the high school students, but over the summer are involved in a program called Summer Institute where they live with them for 10 days. Jen Duprey, a junior mentor, talked about how close she became with many of her mentees: "There are

so many connections you make. We did summer institute and I still have kids texting me. Knowing that I made a difference in their lives and that kids still think about the program is really amazing."

From the time they enter high school, any student in participating high schools are applicable for the program. Freshmen year they are known to get help with just looking at colleges, or thinking about what they might want to go into, while Senior year they will get help going through their application process.

Meaghan Smith, Mentor, says she would find herself thinking about her mentees in the middle of classes. "I would leave when they called me," she said, explaining that the job is very personable and that mentors can become an outlet for the students to discuss their lives. A lot of the students come from low-income families and family issues.

Mays says that it is not only rewarding for him to see the students grow but the mentees grow as well.

"The cool thing about the program is that it is a two-way street. It is also great to see what the undergrad reactions are and their educational experience with the program. They learn about students' schools, their families- they really build relationships not just with the students but with their world."



Michael Hurley

The sign for the proposed athletic fields stands above an empty field on Tuesday. Two lacrosse games were supposed to be held, but the games were postponed due to field

Waiting on the world to change

Students demonstrate for change in front of the Recreation Center Sept. 10 at 4:30. The underlying theme of the rally, led by Students for Change, was "Not on Our Campus." Students took turns voicing their opinions on offensive behavior on campus.

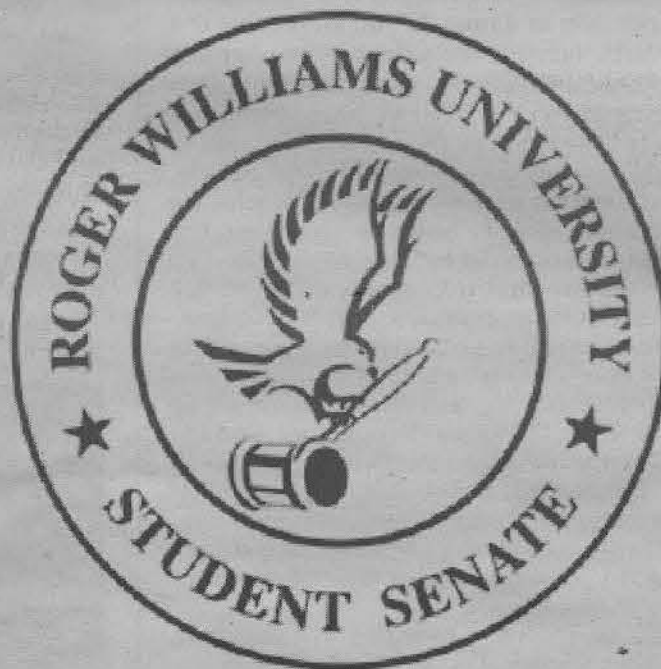
COURTNEY NUGENT/THE HAWK'S HERALD



RWU STUDENT SENATE

Senate "Did You Know?" of the Week

Did you know that student senate president Alicia Merschen Perez is from San Francisco?



Check us out at:

<http://studentsenate.rwu.edu>

or IM us at:

SenateRWU

Come see the softer side of Senate . . .

Mondays at 6:30 p.m.
in the Senate Chambers

IN OUR OPINION

9/11: You are not alone

American flags flutter around the brick path near D'Angelo Common as people hurry by. They stand as a reminder to the upcoming anniversary of Sept. 11.

But has anyone forgotten yet? Show me one person that walked by those flags and felt nothing. Our campus has many students that have been directly affected by the events on that day. As a campus, we observe Sept. 11 reminding ourselves of that day and respectfully observe a day of tragedy.

As each year passes and a new class is ushered into the campus community, we become one year further away from the actual events. This freshman class was in sixth grade when the attacks happened, yet our memories from that day and that time is still fresh. We are in no way forgetting.

Every year, we recognize this day and every year as a nation we heal. It sounds so cliché, but it is true.

When talking or writing about Sept. 11, it is hard not to be cliché. Everything it seems has already been said about Sept. 11 but that doesn't mean that we shouldn't still talk about the event. What we shouldn't do is sensationalize or desensitize ourselves to the event itself.

For each person, the day was different and it is important to remember to listen to the different experiences. While some people suffered greater losses than others, everyone lived the nightmare alongside their neighbors, relatives and friends.

In years to come, we must remember that day because our memories will live on in future generations. There will be documentaries, stories and other forms of information but personal memories will be valuable beyond measure. It will be our memories that make the day real for future generations.

Those of us alive that remember Sept. 11 need to make it our responsibility to never forget the way that we felt on that day and every anniversary still.

So we face this day with varying emotions but it is comforting to think that we in no way face them alone.

YOUR VOICE

Senate ready to move forward

Welcome back to campus, we hope your summer was relaxing and fun. As you know, this is a new year with a chance for a fresh start after the events that occurred at the end of last semester.

As many of you know, there were several attacks toward the Student Senate with regards to race, religion and ethnicity. As a Student Senate, we bonded together to overcome the obstacles we faced as a body, and are ready to serve you, the student body, better than before.

We are aware that it is common knowledge that a former Senator committed these acts, however we want you all to know that we were just as shocked as everyone else when we found out who was the perpetrator. As a Student Senate, we do not condone what the former Senator did, and the Student Senate does not support any act of hate in any way. The Student Senate fully supports all of the student groups that have been created to combat all of the -isms that are present in our society today, and we are very proud of their efforts to silence hate on our campus.

Moving on, we know that you will maintain your trust in us, as we are your elected governing body. If you ever have any questions or concerns, feel free to attend any of our meetings, which are every Monday night at 6:30 p.m. in the Senate Chambers in the Rec Center, or stop by our office any time. Also, feel free to contact us via e-mail at senate@hawks.rwu.edu, or via telephone at (401) 254-3312. Best of luck in the coming year, and we hope to see you soon!

The Student Senate, Sept. 2

Letters to the Editor

opinion.hawksherald@gmail.com

Letters submitted to The Hawk's Herald for publication must include the writer's name, e-mail address and phone number. Contact information will be used to verify the writer and will not be published. Letters should be typed and no more than 400 words. Letters should not be libelous and should have relevance to other readers. Letters may be edited for space and grammar.

'It's a whole new world'

Since the start of my travels to Italy, a quote by Mark Twain continuously pops into my head. "Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things you didn't do than by the ones you did do. So throw off the bowlines, sail away from the safe harbor. Catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover."



Kelleigh Welch
Lessons From Abroad

The idea of experience is something that I have always cherished, and I feel that in order to grow and learn about yourself, you must be able to go out and experience everything you can. Sometimes this means stepping out of your comfort zone and doing things you normally would never do. Speaking from my own experiences, whenever I break that comfort level, I always have the time of my life.

This past weekend was one of those moments.

North of Florence is a national park known as Cinque Terre (translated to Five Towns), and it offers a hiking trail and train route along the western coast of Italy that connects the five small coastal towns. These towns are set upon the high cliffs overlooking the Mediterranean, and some go farther down to the coastal edge and offer rocky beaches for hikers to cool off. It's a great spot to visit in Italy, and for students, it is fairly inexpensive and worth trying.

When I first heard about Cinque Terre, I wasn't sure if it would be worth going. Originally, I was going to make a day trip out of it, however, when an opportunity to hike for two days and camp overnight came into play, the mountaineer in me couldn't resist. So, needless to say, myself and three friends packed our bags with clothes for two days, some trail mix, and plenty of water, and caught the 6:10 a.m. train out to Cinque Terre.

The initial reaction to the view is simply awe. I was, as usual, sitting on the train telling a long and pointless story, when our train pulled out of a dark tunnel to reveal a sight that made me gasp into silence. We were traveling along the edge of a cliff, and the view below us was an ocean more blue than I've ever seen before.

When we reached the first town of Riomaggiore, we began our hike, which was fairly easy, and gave us many opportunities to stop and take pictures. The second town, Manarola, was set a bit higher into the cliffs, but hiking between that and Corniglia (the third town) was just as easy. However, the final stretch to Corniglia required a climb of 382 steps, which was tiring in the 97 degree sun. When we reached the top, we were even welcomed to the town with a sign giving you the exact number of steps and congratulating you for making it. Little did we know, we

had about another million (I'm guessing) steps to go before we reached our destination.

We sped through the first three towns, but by 1 p.m., we were hot, and ready for a swim. According to our travel book, there was a path that led down to a beach between Corniglia and our fourth town, Vernazza. We found the path, which was a quick descent down a cliff, followed by curved paths the width of a book looking down to the bottom, where if you slipped, you would fall to your death. OK, maybe I'm exaggerating a little, but what I'm trying to say is that the hike was not easy.

It took us about 20 minutes to reach the beach, which turned out to be a nude beach, but that did not stop us. I can now say that I've been to a nude beach and seen enough naked bodies to last me a lifetime. We swam in the Mediterranean, an experience I will never forget, and relaxed for an hour or so before packing up and hiking back up the steep cliffs to our fourth stop, Vernazza.

To summarize the rest of our night, we hiked to Vernazza, ate dinner, and then headed back to the nude beach, and scaled the same cliffs in order to camp there for the night. We watched the sunset over the Mediterranean, sharing a bottle of wine amongst the four of us, and around 10 p.m., we headed off to bed. If you can imagine, sleeping on a rocky beach is not very comfortable, and overall, I think I slept for about four hours.

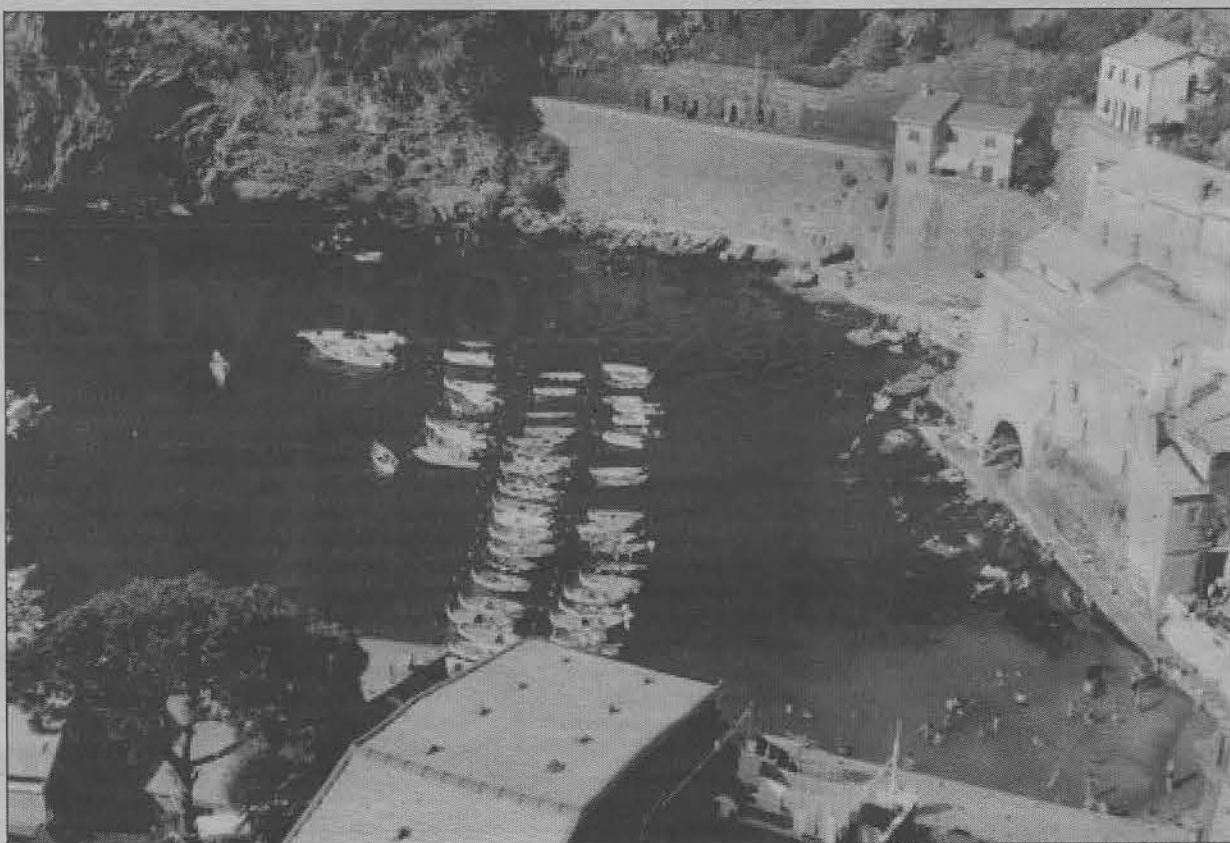
Around 3:15 a.m., one of my friends woke me by pushing me onto my stomach (I was trying to sleep on my side) because the tide had come in and was going to wash our campsite away. By 6, the tide had fully come in, and we were forced to begin our day in order to avoid getting washed away.

The second day of hiking was more difficult, and after scaling the cliffs again and hiking to Vernazza, we ate breakfast, then headed to the final town. By lunchtime, we were exhausted and ready to head home.

Reflecting on our two day experience in Cinque Terre, I have to say that it was one of the best weekends of my life. Never before had I slept on a beach, especially when I was unsure as to how safe it really was. I went out on a limb, and took a chance, and I am so glad I did. I now realize that I am capable of doing the things I've always dreamed of doing, and I look forward to the experiences that lie ahead.

My suggestion to everyone out there is to never turn down an experience of a lifetime. Although it may seem a little scary or may be outside of your comfort zone, it is always worth trying. You learn about yourself and what you are capable of, and you can leave your experiences with stories that will last forever. As Mark Twain once said, "Explore, Dream, Discover."

Ciao,
Kelleigh



BENJAMIN LEFEBVRE/FOR THE HAWK'S HERALD

VOLLEYBALL: Improves record to 7-2

Cont'd from page 1

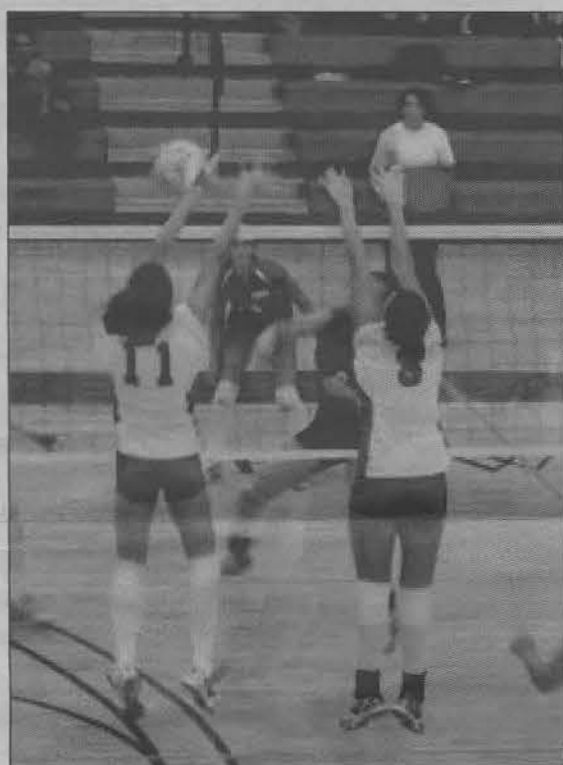
two solo blocks and two block assists.

The Hawks were able to finish off the day strong though with a win against a conference opponent, the Pilgrims of the University of New England. RWU rolled over their opponent winning in three straight sets 25-15, 25-15, and 25-23. Junior Kristina Dolan led the team with seven kill in 13 tries and sophomore Jill Hurd had eight digs and was very efficient committing zero reception errors.

Dion and Bosworth were both selected to the All-Tournament Team for the outstanding play in their three games.

RWU, now 7-2 overall, opens conference play this weekend when they host the Golden Bears of Western New England on Saturday at 11 a.m. and Colby-Sawyer College at 3 p.m.

Roger Williams has the week off, before beginning conference play Saturday, Sept. 13, by hosting Western New England College at 11 a.m. and Colby-Sawyer College at 3 p.m.



Courtesy of RWU Athletics

Women's Volleyball finished in second in the RWU Invitational Tournament this weekend.

Men's soccer kicks off CCC play with late win

Dan DeBlasio
Sports Editor

The Roger Williams University men's soccer team won a late game thriller in their Commonwealth Coast Conference opener on Tuesday when they defeated Eastern Nazarene 1-0 on a goal in the last 10 minutes of the match.

The Hawks controlled the tempo for most of the game, moving the ball as well as possible on the wet and soggy surface, and

staying physical throughout.

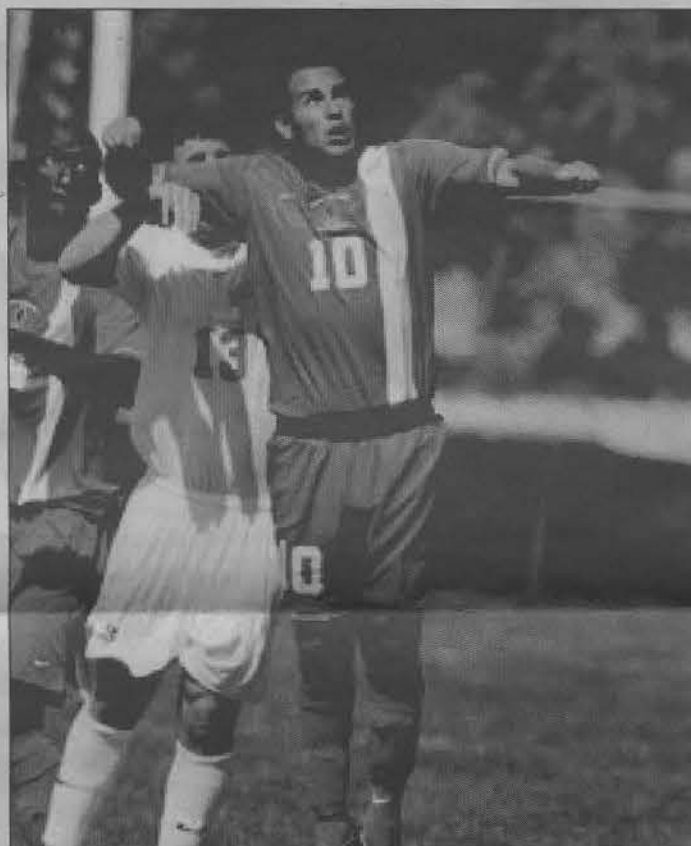
Their goalkeeper Andrew Trice was able to keep Eastern Nazarene in the game coming up huge and shutting down RWU at the doorstep time and time again. The Hawks fired 13 shots in the first half but all of them either were denied by Trice or nearly evaded the goal.

The second half was no different. The Hawks continued to put pressure on the Eastern Nazarene defense but Trice relentlessly continued to deny anything from crossing the goal line, recording eight saves in the last 40 minutes of the game.

In the 84th minute the Hawks were awarded a free kick in a dangerous area outside the 18-yard box. Senior Dan Saccoccio stepped up to take the kick and struck the ball past the defenders as well as Trice and found the net breaking the scoreless tie with just minutes to play.

RWU was able to close out the game and protect the lead for their second win of the season. Sophomore goalkeeper Peter Plate recorded three saves, all of which came in the first half, earning him his first shutout of the season.

The Hawks return to the field when they travel to Commonwealth Coast Conference opponent Wentworth Institute of Technology on Saturday at 3:00 p.m.



Courtesy of RWU Athletics

Senior Dan Saccoccio scored on a free kick in the 84th minute to give the RWU Men's soccer team a 1-0 win

News & Notes

The Roger Williams University Women's Tennis team lost the opening match of their season last week against Babson College 9-0. The Hawks were postponed due to rain this past weekend but have a match Saturday at 1:00 p.m. against Wentworth Institute of Technology.

Game Results:

Singles competition:

1. Courtney Farrell (BAB) def. Leah Ribchinsky (RWU) 6-0, 6-1
2. Jes Huang (BAB) def. Lily Osowski (RWU) 6-0, 6-0
3. Heather Walsh (BAB) def. Katie Wilmes (RWU) 6-0, 6-1
4. Kali Hogan (BAB) def. Amanda Wolfe (RWU) 6-3, 6-3
5. Becca Stone (BAB) def. Caitlin Osepchuk (RWU) 6-1, 6-2
6. Liz Sheerin (BAB) def. Melissa Perry (RWU) 6-1, 6-0

Doubles competition:

1. Heather Walsh/Jes Huang (BAB) def. Lily Osowski/Leah Ribchinsky (RWU) 8-2
2. Courtney Farrell/Kali Hogan (BAB) def. Caitlin Osepchuk/Katie Wilmes (RWU) 8-2
3. Brittany Whitenack/Ashley Lake (BAB) def. Amanda Wolfe/Kristin Dono (RWU) 8-1



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Women's soccer posts back to back wins

Dan DeBlasio
Sports Editor

The Roger Williams University women's soccer team faced up against the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth last Thursday, beating the visitors 3-0 and earning their first victory of the season.

All three goals in the match were scored by freshman forward Laurin Pendleton who fired shots from all over the field and found the back of the net in a variety of different ways.

Pendleton's first goal came of a rebound given up Corsair goalkeeper Tanya Braga in the 23rd minute. Pendleton delivered the shot and when the ball was not handled by the keeper she made her way to the loose ball and scored from close range.

The second goal of the match came with just seconds remaining in the first half when Freshman Katie Fusaro delivered a pass in front of the goal to Pendleton where she was able to beat Braga again. This put the Hawks up 2-0 going into the break.

The game was capped off in the 75th minute when a foul was called in the box and a penalty kick was issued to the Hawks. Pendleton stepped up and buried the kick completing the hat trick, all

but sending the Corsairs home.

Junior goalkeeper Jen Garside was strong in net recording seven saves and her tenth career shutout. Braga stopped seven shots on goal for UMass-Dartmouth as well.

The Hawks were back in action again Monday when they took on in state rival Rhode Island College. It was a very close battle the whole way through, but RWU was able to scratch out a 1-0 victory on a goal in the 80th minute.

Each team's goalkeepers kept them in the game and turned away a strong barrage of shots, with RWU putting up 20 shots and Rhode Island College with 11.

It was not until late in the match when, on a corner kick taken by junior Amanda daCunha, Katie Fusaro got a handle on the ball after it was headed down by sophomore Taryn Mancarella and slipped it past RIC goalie Maddie Perri.

The goal would hold up and prove to be the game winner for the Hawks. With the victory RWU has now won two consecutive and improved to 2-1 on the year. Garside has also posted two straight shutouts.

The Hawks will travel to Wentworth Institute of Technology in Boston, Mass. where they will hope to keep the streak going in their Commonwealth Coast Conference opener.

2008 Women's Soccer

Date	Opponent	Result
8/29	Wheaton College	L 0-1
9/4	UMass Dartmouth	W 3-0
9/8	Rhode Island College	W 1-0

Upcoming Games

Date	Opponent	Location/Time
9/13	WIT	Away 12:00 p.m.
9/17	Endicott College	Away 6:00 p.m.
9/20	Curry College	Away 6:30 p.m.



Courtesy of RWU Athletics

Junior Amanda daCunha sends in a corner kick

Women's volleyball hosts invitational tournament

Dan DeBlasio
Sports Editor

The Roger Williams University women's volleyball team hosted the 2008 RWU Invitational Tournament this past weekend. The invited teams included Amherst College, Rivier, and the University of New England.

Amherst College won the tournament crown for the third year in a row in impressive fashion, by not dropping a single set in their three games played.

RWU finished second in the competition with a 2-1 record and was able to record victories over Rivier 3-2, and shutout UNE 3-0.

The Hawks faced up against Rivier College in the tournament opener. Rivier was the only team that RWU had lost to coming in so the will to win was high from start to finish. In the first set though the Hawks could not get things together posting only a .138 hitting percentage and dropping the match. Fortunately RWU was able to rebound from the rough start and win a close second set 25-22, improving their hitting percentage by nearly one hundred points. The third set was also taken by the Hawks, 25-20, but they lost the clinching fourth set 25-21 sending the game into a 5th set tiebreaker where they won and took the game 15-12.

The team was led by junior Erica DeVale and sophomore Bekah Dion who recorded 14 and 12 kills respectively. Senior Kirsten Bosworth also contributed, handing out 38 assists.

In the second game the Hawks were overpowered by last year's elite-eight finisher Amherst College. The Lord Jeffs held RWU to just 13 points in the first game and won all three games 25-13, 25-17, and 25-19. Freshman Natasha Sopchack did her best to try to slow down Amherst contributing

See VOLLEYBALL p. 7

Changing of the guards: Cassel to lead Patriots rest of the way

Dan DeBlasio
Sports Editor

Eight minutes and 22 seconds. That's all it took to cripple the hopes of a team, the hearts of their fans and the left knee of a star quarterback.

It was a day that was supposed to be filled with new life, optimism and excitement in New England. A day every Patriots supporter had been waiting for, a chance to regroup and redeem.

That eagerly anticipated day took a turn for the very worst Sunday when Tom Brady, the 2007 Most Valuable Player, three-time Super Bowl Champion and poster boy of the Pats collapsed to the turf in evident and immense pain.

We've all seen it before; Brady takes the snap drops back and finds a streaking Randy Moss down the sideline for a big game. It happened 98 times last year, 23 times for scores, but it won't be repeated a single time in the 2008-2009 campaign.

The injury was caused when Kansas City Chiefs safety Bernard Pollard came on a blitz and fell into Brady's front leg just as it was planted in the turf set to deliver the pass. The extent of the injury was not revealed but sources around the team have reported it to be a torn ACL yielding surgery and months of rehabilitation.

There is now an apparent black cloud that has formed in Foxborough, Massachusetts over One Patriot Place, and reasonably so. Losing a quarterback, especially when he is arguably the best player in the league,

is a tough obstacle to overcome. This shouldn't be reason for players or fans to pack up and go home, however. Let's keep the white flags in the closet for the time being.

After the dust settles and the days of mourning come to an end it will be evident that even with out number twelve on the field, the show must go on. So after 128 straight weeks of seeing Brady behind center, it is time for Patriots fans to acknowledge a different quarterback as their leader, and that man is Matt Cassel.

Some may cringe at this pronouncement, while others may shrug and ask the question, "Who?" So first some background on the player everyone will be watching the next 16 weeks of the season.

Cassel grew up playing baseball and football in Northridge, California where his little league team made it all the way to the 1994 Little League World Series championship game.

He continued to excel as a two-sport athlete in high school and in his senior year was ranked the number eight quarterback in the country in ESPN's

Top 100 of high school football players.

Cassel decided upon the University of Southern California for his collegiate career, although the success he found was not in the sport he was most interested in. He played a year

of baseball at USC and was drafted by the Oakland Athletics in the 36th round of the 2004 MLB Draft. Although Cassel has two brothers who play baseball, an older brother Jack who is currently pitching for the Houston Astros and a younger brother Justin who is pitching in AA for the Chicago White Sox, he passed up the offer and chose not to pursue a career in baseball.

Instead Cassel wanted to focus on perfecting his football skills, although he found himself, for the most part, watching the Trojans from the sideline. Call it bad timing or just bad luck, but not only has Cassel been sitting behind Tom Brady for three years, he sat behind two of the greatest quarterbacks in USC history - Heisman Trophy winners Carson Palmer and Matt Leinart.

So yes, it's true. Matt Cassel has

not started a game behind center since he was in high school, which means when Cassel takes the field at the Meadowlands Sunday it will be his first start in over seven years.

There are many questions that are yet to be answered. How will the team react without Brady at the helm? Can Cassel adjust to the spotlight after being in the background for so long? Can Lawrence Maroney step up and handle what will certainly be an increased workload? No one can know any of this for sure and only time can tell.

What is known is the Patriots are not a one man team. Sure, Brady was their best player and their MVP, but the team overall is still strong and the fans and media who say otherwise are mistaken. No one knows what Cassel can do and a solid team like the Patriots with a strong coach like Bill Belichick can turn this unfortunate event into a rallying cry that propels them to success.

After all, and not to compare the two, but once upon a time Tom Brady was a late round draft pick and a back up at Michigan who came in when Drew Bledsoe was the leader of the team. Brady sat behind Bledsoe and was suddenly cast in the starter's role when Bledsoe was injured.

Not many knew who the kid named Tom Brady was when he saw his first action against none other than Sunday's opponent, the New York Jets, but I think we all know how it turned out.



Courtesy of Yahoo Sports