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Roger Williams University

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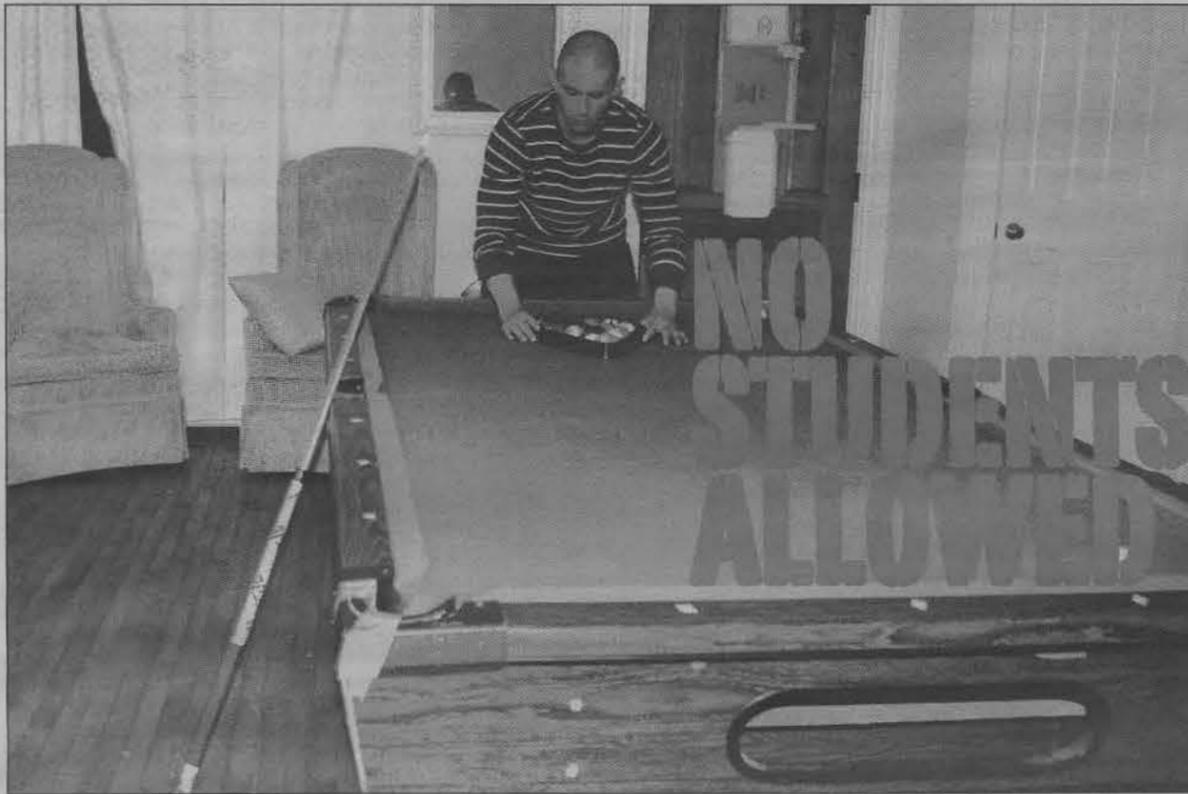
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THE HAWK'S HERALD

Bristol, RI

Vol. 19
Issue 11



ALYSSA PERSINGER/THE HAWK'S HERALD

Junior Deven Iannone gets ready for a pool game in his off-campus, waterfront apartment. Some students say it is getting harder to find off-campus housing because landlords fear they will be noisy, disruptive tenants.

Campus installs alarms

\$100 K system to warn of bad weather, chemical spills

Dee DeQuattro
News Editor

A new emergency alarm system, including four alarms and an intercom system, has been installed on campus. The system is meant to alert students who are outside to potential hazards, according to Public Safety.

"It is not made to be heard inside," said John Blessing, Public Safety director. According to Blessing, the new alarm system cost just under \$100,000.

"The system provides another layer of safety and communication for our campus community," said John King, Vice President of Student Affairs.

The system installed over winter break has four strategically placed speakers located on top of the Recreation Center, Cedar, Bayside and the parking garage.

There are four types of alarms featured in the system: one for weather emergencies, one for lightning storms, one for chemical spills and one for acts of violence. Each of these alarms has been designed to address issues that the campus may face or has already faced.

According to Blessing, there have been instances in the past when an alarm system such as the one installed would have been useful. For instance, during the spring 2007 semester, a Fed-Ex truck caught on fire next to the mailroom as a result of a chemical spill. And over the summer, tornadoes struck in Bristol and Barrington and a man was struck and killed by lightning while fishing on the outskirts of campus near the Mount Hope

See ALARM p. 2

Students told "no" to off-campus housing

Alyssa Persinger
Asst. Web editor

It became one of her "tool-bar favorites." Searching Craigslist for off-campus housing became a morning ritual. For months, she looked at tons of houses, and in each search found the perfect home. Unfortunately, it came with a minor snag:

No students allowed.

"I understand why [homeowners] have prejudices against college students," Katie Heuston, 21, a senior, said. "But there are good people in college, too, and if you're going to live in a college town you have to assume you're going to be renting to college stu-

dents."

Although she moved into the house in August, Heuston has been paying for the house since May to ensure that she had a place to live come the beginning of the semester.

"I basically used it as really expensive storage over the summer," Heuston said.

Unlike at the stereotypical college party house, Heuston lives with two other girls in a quiet part of Bristol. The white house comes equipped with a canopy of grape vines to the left of the driveway. With the exception of the clucking chickens from the coup in the backyard, the house is quiet.

"We like having an apartment where we can come back and work, but you go out to parties," Heuston said. "We have friends over, but we're quiet here."

According to Mary Tavares, Century21 employee of 18 years, about 90 percent of rentals say no to students, and usually only take one if they're a law student. Legally, homeowners can say they don't want students and it's not considered discriminatory.

Homeowner Nicole Sowning, of Bristol, has her reasons not to rent to RWU undergraduate students.

See HOUSING p. 9

Herald hits Web with 'more' of everything

Phil Devitt
Editor

No, the Web address at the top and bottom of this page isn't a typo.

The Hawk's Herald is online.

Really. Type it into your browser.

The newspaper today launches a Web site — hawksherald.com — an ambitious effort to expand coverage, reach more readers and make content more interactive.

And the key word here is

"more."

Hawksherald.com is your home for more of the great stories and photos you get every Friday in print. It's your destination for more information on the people, places and things you read about. It's a wonderful showcase for quality reporting that doesn't make the 12-page edition.

The site also is a forum for this newspaper to explore journalism beyond ink and paper. Soon, you'll find video and audio clips that take you

inside the stories you see in print. The editors and reporters who put the paper together each week will take you behind the scenes from time to time with video blogs, or "vlogs," as the tech-savvy call them.

More importantly, the site also is a place for you to connect and have your voice heard. Leave comments on stories. Type a letter to the editor. Take our weekly poll or analyze poll



results as they pour in. And if that isn't enough, continue the conversation on our message boards.

The Web site, months in the making, is powered by College Media Network, a New York-based online publishing company owned by mtvU. The company serves nearly 600 student-run publications throughout the country.

The birth of the Web site by no means signals the

See WEB SITE p. 2

ALARM: System to be used 'rarely,' officials say

Cont'd from page 1

Bridge.

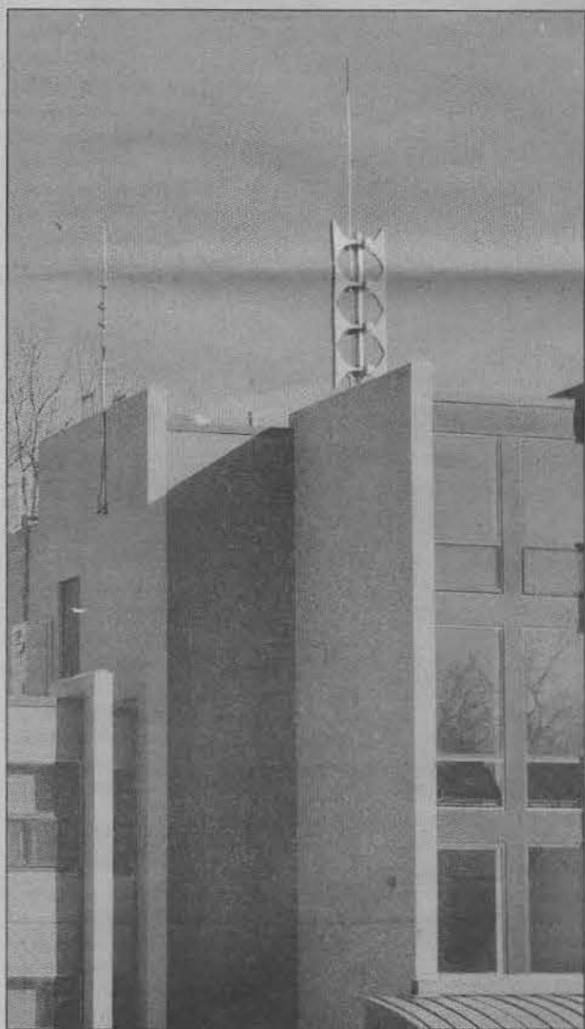
Campus officials speculate that the alarm will seldom be used.

"It is only for very serious emergencies and is expected to be used rarely," said Blessing. Although the alarm may not sound often, Blessing said routine tests of the system will be conducted to make sure it is in working order.

According to King, the idea for the alarm was introduced during a meeting of the crisis management committee. "This system has been in the planning stage for over a year," he said.

The alarm system was developed by a company called Cooper Notification and has been used on military bases across the country. As for college campuses, Roger Williams is one of those "leading the way" with the installation of the alarm system, King said.

In the coming weeks, students can expect to see educational messages in e-mail and on the Roger Williams Web site regarding the alarm system. According to Blessing, info sessions for students and faculty will be offered as another tool to raise awareness about the system.



THEODORE APPLEBAUM/ THE HAWK'S HERALD

An emergency alarm sits atop Cedar.

New classes take shape

Allison Collins
Asst. News Editor

During his first semester as a transfer student, Omar Reyes noticed that the English curriculum seemed to be lacking something.

It focused mainly on American, French and British literature, he said.

"I didn't think it was right," he said.

Reyes thought new classes would benefit the school, so he began working on getting a Latina/o literature class.

This class is one of many new things happening at RWU. Other projects include new majors and minors, among other things.

"There's always lots of changes in the curriculum," said Provost Laura DeAbruna.

Some are necessary, some are new and some are very exciting, she said.

Since DeAbruna came to RWU, she said the school has developed a master's program in creative writing and a minor in sustainability. For the first time, RWU also has a music major (see page 8).

It's a "really old curriculum and we're just getting around to it," she said.

"What we're looking for is what are the things people think should be a part of a student's education," DeAbruna said.

Students have told university officials that they are looking for things like multicultural education, study abroad opportunities, writing, civil engagement and sustainability, according to DeAbruna.

The English Department, for example, is in the planning stages of changing its course offerings, according to department chair Dianne Comiskey.

"We are working on a series of courses that we might identify as something like Global Literary Studies," Comiskey said.

"Those courses will endeavor to expose students to as many areas of literature as we have faculty to teach them," she said.

So far, the Latina/o class is going well, said Professor Sandra Schreffler, who teaches the course.

"The students are enthusiastic regarding the subject and eager to participate in class discussions," she said.

Schreffler normally teaches Spanish and Linguistics courses for the Department of Modern Languages, but she is also teaching a Latin American History course for the History Department.

"I volunteered to teach this course because it was created just prior to the enrollment period and there was no one on campus in the English department that was able to teach it," Schreffler said.

She said she had taught similar courses in Spanish at an advanced level before.

If students are unsatisfied with their curriculum, they can try to do something about it.

Reyes suggests approaching a professor to see what they think of the idea. Then he says students should organize other students who are interested in taking the proposed class.

"Talk to them about why we need a more diverse curriculum," he said.

DeAbruna suggests students approach the chair of the department to suggest any new ideas.

The more thought out and researched the proposal is, "the more convincing they would be," DeAbruna said.

Reyes said he hopes to help create an African American Literature class for next semester. He said he wants to put up flyers advertising the class soon.

"It's very ethnocentric, our curriculum. I don't like it sometimes," he said.

"It's important to offer literature of all cultures at RWU, and the English Literature Department is making every effort to expand its offerings to do so," said Comiskey.

"The campus is in dire need of diversification, in its student body as well as in the courses we offer if we are to meet the global goals set by President (Roy) Nirschel," said Schreffler.



WEB SITE: Herald goes online

Cont'd from page 1

death of the newspaper. Think of the site as a supplement to each print copy of *The Hawk's Herald*. If you see an icon that reads "Online Extra" next to a story in print, log on to the site to find more coverage and interact.

The site will be updated with a slew of fresh content every Friday, just as the print edition hits stands, but some content, including puzzles and other fun features and contests, will remain exclusive to print.

After the newspaper goes to print, check the site daily for updates on stories and breaking news. If something big happens on campus, you can now turn to us for the rundown instantly, rather than wait several days for the print edition. When the paper hits stands, expect to find a thorough story on the breaking news you followed online.

The site allows us to communicate better with our readers. We are compiling a list of "frequently asked questions" and clear, comprehensive answers. We know many of you have questions about advertising, which is why we are building a page

devoted entirely to advertising information.

The launch of the Web site is an exciting leap forward for your student newspaper. Staff writers and editors alike are excited to explore our new home's capabilities and are committed to solidifying the reputation for accuracy and fairness that shine through in our stories.

As we move ahead, we keep in mind the famous saying, "Slow and steady wins the race." In this case, those are words to live by.

It's important to remember that the Web site and paper rely on people to run efficiently, and people are imperfect. Not everything on the Web site will work at once. We're still tweaking some features that will not be up and running for several weeks. You likely will see some design changes as we move things around to better suit the needs of visitors, so excuse our appearance.

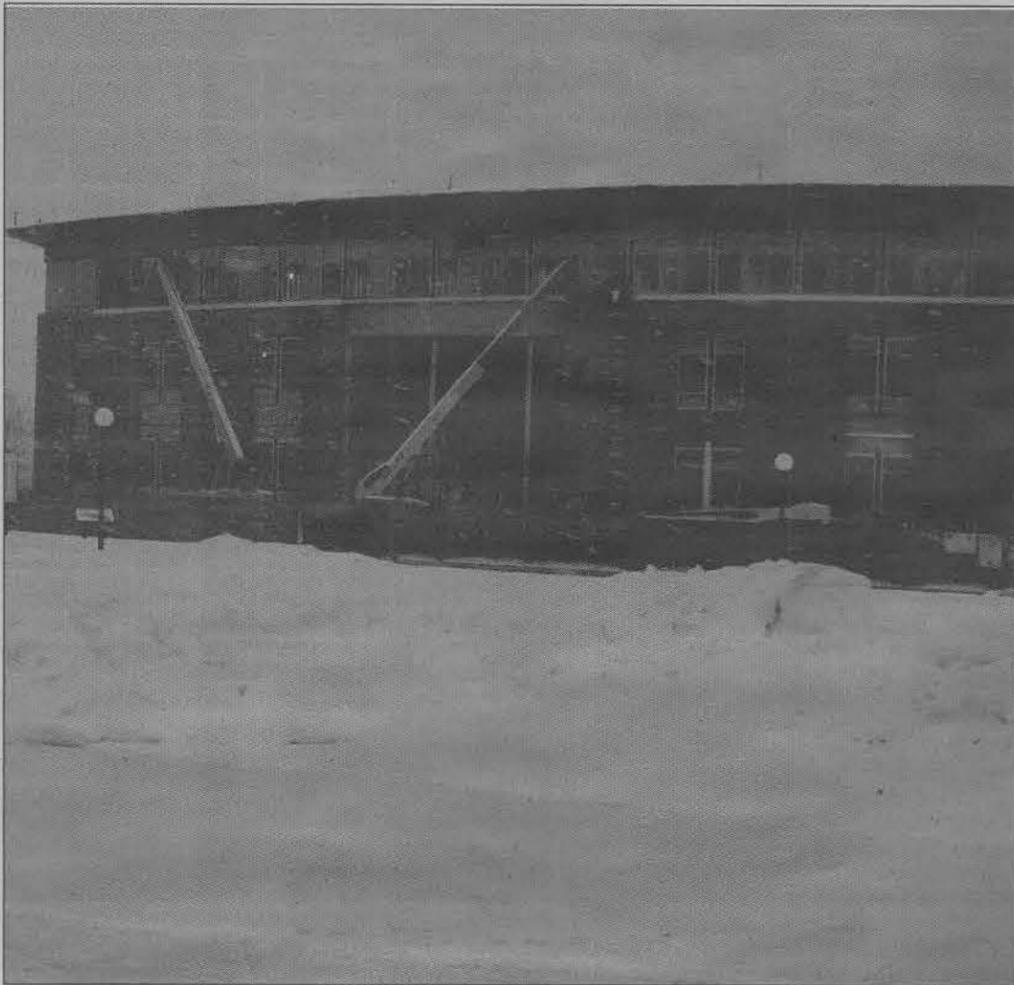
Definitely tell us what you think. Log on, send a letter to the editor and take our poll, which this week simply asks, "How do you like the new site?"

Bookmark it today, explore and enjoy.

<p>THE HAWK'S HERALD SUITE 202, RECREATION CENTER ROGER WILLIAMS UNIVERSITY 1 OLD FERRY ROAD, BRISTOL, RI 02809 PHONE: 401-254-3229 HAWKSHERALD@GMAIL.COM</p>	<p>EDITOR-IN-CHIEF PHIL DEVITT</p>	<p>NEWS EDITOR DEE DEQUATTRO</p>	<p>ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR ALLISON COLLINS</p>	<p>STAFF WRITERS KYLE P. TOOMEY</p>
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Coming together



ARIELLE MILSTEIN/THE HAWK'S HERALD

Construction crews continue work on Global Heritage Hall against a gloomy backdrop recently, even as snow pummels the campus. One of several major construction projects that commenced last fall, the hall is scheduled to be completed later this year and is expected to be a fully functioning academic building by the 2009-2010 school year.

Senate appoints new members

Kyle P. Toomey
Senate correspondent

Student Senate appointed new senators to fill the three open seats on the Senate board Monday night. Sophomores Adam Ogram, Omar Reyes and Ziad Achkar became senators at the meeting.

After last semester's elections, the Senate voted this week to have the election results ratified. The new appointments were sworn in and a brief recess was implemented, allowing the gentlemen to officially participate in the remainder of the meeting.

Joe Carney of Bon Appetit also spoke to the Senate. First, he said, there are food waste collection containers in the dining commons which are being used to measure the amount of food that is discarded during business hours.

The project is intended to raise awareness on food waste as well as encourage students to control their portions. Carney said that food which is thrown away at the commons will sit in a landfill. During this time, the food will continue to decompose, releasing carbon. Ultimately, the goal is to reduce the RWU carbon footprint by throwing away less food.

Carney also reported that the commons has developed a new catering guide which has



SENATE REPORT

more competitive prices as well as a more sensible format.

Also on the guest list at this week's meeting was the Ice Hockey Club.

Joe Dellamura and two other members of the club came to request that the school's club sports cap be upped so that when the time comes, ice hockey can become a full club sport.

Last weekend, the Senate and members of several campus organizations, including The Hawk's Herald, attended an annual winter retreat in Providence. These retreats serve as a way for groups to strategize on better methods of operation, exercise team building and integrate new members into their "families."

Per Senate bylaws, the meeting scheduled for Monday, Feb. 9 will be held in the Mary Tefft White Cultural Center in the library.

Roger Williams University Student Conduct Brief Spring 2009

Fairness • Honesty • Integrity

In proactive communication, the Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards highlights selected student discipline statistics. The outcomes of cases during fall 2008 resulting in suspension or expulsion from RWU are listed below. Suspension from the University is for 1 semester up to an indefinite time and usually begins immediately. Expulsion is permanent and once found responsible, students are immediately withdrawn from their classes. Suspensions and expulsions are listed on students' academic transcripts. Students are responsible for all 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.

Last semester, in addition to the below information, 2 students were removed and banned from housing for 1 semester due to tampering with fire safety equipment. Another 9 students were removed and banned from housing for 1 semester for alcohol related violations.

Fall 2008 Student Disciplinary Suspensions (5)

- 2 suspensions for multiple violations of the Conduct Code, alcohol use, violation of probation and failing to complete educational sanctions.
- 1 suspension for falsifying University documents, verbal threats, and disorderly conduct.
- 1 suspension for an off-campus assault under the influence of alcohol; the student was arrested.
- 1 suspension for participation in a fight and assault on campus under the influence of alcohol.

Fall 2008 Student Disciplinary Expulsions (1)

- 1 expulsion for possession of a large quantity of drugs off campus; the student was arrested.

We often find that a number of students lose housing privileges during spring semester due to probation violations and/or third alcohol violations. We hope to create an awareness of response to community disruptions as well as to educate students to think before you act and please make good decisions that will benefit the community. 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. If there are questions about the process or behavioral concerns, please contact us at 254-3042 or contact an RA, Core, or Public Safety.

Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards • Roger Williams University

COMMENTARY

Women as leaders

Kelcie Sweeney
Editorial Editor

At a recent retreat for campus organizations, one of the breakout sessions was about women as leaders. It was an interesting topic to talk about because it was something I didn't ever really think about. I thought that women had found equality. Didn't women get the right to vote in 1920? And wasn't there another female revolution in the 1960s and 1970s with women burning bras declaring freedom from oppression?

Yes on both counts, but we find ourselves now on potentially the final frontier of equality, management positions and other high-ranking offices in the job force today. Considering all of this, gender still plays a huge role in the way that women and men lead.

If you look around our campus quickly, you may think that leadership roles are just the opposite; there are more women in leadership positions than men. And you would be correct. Around 60 to 70 percent of the leadership positions on campus are filled by women, and in fact, this is the case on practically every college campus around the United States. So, then doesn't it look like women have finally gained the power that they wanted?

In this case, you would be wrong. When these college graduates hit the work force, less of these women with leadership roles in college actually have a management job or higher. These jobs still fall squarely to the males.

So you may ask, where do all the women go? One simple answer is what is known as the "mommy track," which basically means that a woman enters a company and is kept in a lower position to see if she will stick around or if she in fact will leave the work force, even temporarily, to have a family. But I find it hard to believe that all women fit into this ever convenient mold.

But I bet that you think you know where this is going, right? Is it time to male bash? Blame them for not being able to have children and not have the challenges that women face. No. If women choose to have a family, that is their choice. And if women choose not to, that is also their choice. I find the concept noble and admirable on both sides and it is a choice that women will be continuing to make forever.

Yet if we want to play the blame game, I would have to blame women, themselves, for the heartache and trouble that they face. Women often are the first people to turn against each other in leadership positions. Highly emotional and highly competitive does not usually translate into cooperative environments. Not that every woman fits into this mold either.

However, when discussing leadership, the concept of sexuality is always something that seems to be mentioned for one reason or another. Often, women who are too opinionated and bossy are labeled a "bitch" while those who use charm and persuasion are "nice" and often more effective.

Because of this perceived notion of how things are best done, often, the use of sexuality is used in order to be affective in a situation. Now do not mistake sexuality for sex. I am not saying that women in leadership roles have to sleep their way to the top. They all earned it, but sexuality is a useful tool.

Use the word sexuality, and my mind goes to power and superiority. The subjects are practically synonymous. No wonder that women often use this "gift" of sexuality as a tool. It is just one of the many ways they can gain power.

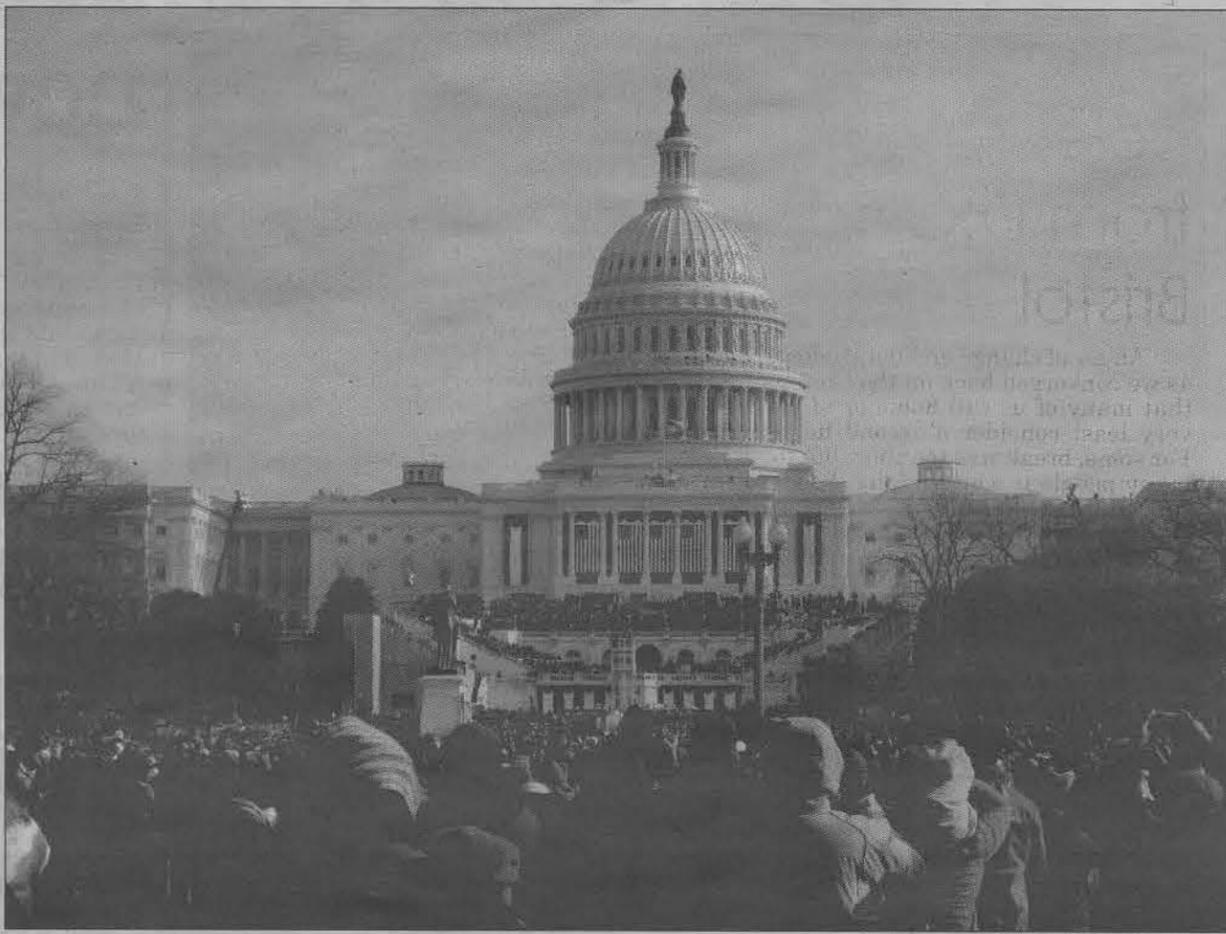
It is also important to note that men use their sexuality to often get something done. And from both men and women there is always a way of being smart enough to get something done in the most effective manner. In my estimation, the whole notion of power and leadership is a game. Those who play it well are the best.

Is this something that should continue? It definitely is not helping the cause of women leadership, so should women do something about it? Is there in truth anything that we can do about it? Do we need to fix it? What can Roger Williams do to facilitate the discussion and bring a greater understanding of gender-based leadership?

These are the questions I was faced with when I thought about the concept of gender based leadership. So now I share them with you and challenge you to think about what we should do about it.

Disclaimer: Admittedly, the conversation about women leadership was held at the Org Retreat, but the opinion above is entirely my own and is in no way the opinion of other women at the retreat. Those who participated in the conversation are not quoted or represented in this article.

'ABSOLUTELY WORTH IT'



BEN WHITMORE/THE HAWK'S HERALD

A snapshot of what it looked like to be watching the inauguration in Washington DC on Jan. 20. More than one million people flocked to Washington, D.C. and braved the bitter cold for hours to see Barack Obama be sworn in as president.

'Proud' reporter witnesses inauguration

Ben Whitmore
Herald Staff

After telling them that I went to President Obama's inauguration, my friends ask me how it was. The question leaves me tongue-tied. How can I describe within one's attention span what it was like to stand in a crowd of over one million freezing yet elated people? Thus, eyes and minds wander as I launch into the story of my misadventures as an inauguration ticket-holder standing in unimaginably long lines. Telling my audience that the crowd's breath produced summer asphalt-like heat radiation reels them back in, though.

I feel that the people asking me, "So, how was it?" are asking the wrong question, because to answer that question, I have to jump straight to the "how did things go?" checklist of potential accomplishments from the trip. And unfortunately, grading the trip objectively emphasizes the negatives, which were numerous.

The weather was cold. Our printed driving directions were misleading, literally. We were pulled over for a traffic violation at 5 a.m. while being one of the only cars on the road. We completely missed the "We Are One" concert, which we woke up before the sun that day in order to see. We were stuck waiting for two hours for the last Amtrak train of the night, which was temporarily put out of commission due to a 10-minute speech being given by the then President-Elect at the train station before ours.

Most importantly, we did not even get to see the inauguration with our naked eyes. After flying, driving, and train riding for hundreds of miles, we ended up not being able to make it through the enormous lines, and having to resort to watching the inauguration on one of the many Jumbotron screens on the National Mall.

Yet, what the trip meant to me was not how disappointing it was to not make it through the lines to validate our tickets. What stays with me is the feeling of patriotism I had by merely standing as one of the crowd and staring up at the image of President

COMMENTARY

Obama being sworn in, surrounded by monuments dedicated to our nation's greatest men.

Patriotism used to be a dirty word with me. It used to conjure up images of over-sized pickup trucks with "these colors don't run" bumper stickers or a football stadium teeming with intoxicated men chanting "U! S! A!" Post-Sept. 11, anti-foreign sentiments had rewritten what it meant to be a "true" American. Yet the crowd of nearly two million chanting but positive and hopeful people undid the tarnishing of patriotism caused by the past eight years.

There were no arrests of inauguration-watchers on Jan. 20. Every single person I bumped into or stood in line next to was pleasant and optimistic.

Even when it was clear that my line mates and I were not going to make it into the inauguration's seating area, not a single person dealt with their disappointment by anger or malevolence. Red Sox World Series championship rallies invite more violence and ill will than the largest, most pivotal political ceremony of the new millennium did.

I was proud. My faith in my fellow Americans was restored. Standing among all those people as I watched our new leader get sworn in, I actually felt proud to be an American. Every war ever fought was a battle over who got to be in charge.

On Jan. 20, one of the most unpopular leaders in recent memory gave up his power. No blood was shed; no animosity manifested itself in violence. I experienced firsthand what all of my history teachers have lauded as America's greatest quality: its ability to accomplish a peaceful transition of power.

If I had never woken up at un-godly hours, waited in mammoth lines, and endured bitter disappointments, I would never have been able to restore my faith in my country and what it stands for. So when my friends sympa-

thize with my frustrations about the trip, I quickly assure them that "Yes, the trip was absolutely worth it."

"I experienced firsthand what all of my history teachers have lauded as America's best quality: its ability to accomplish a peaceful transition of power."



Barack Obama addresses the crowd following his inauguration last month.

IN OUR OPINION

Plenty of change to celebrate, from D.C. to Bristol

An air of change greeted students as we converged back on the campus that many of us call home or at the very least consider a second home. For some, break was too short but for many people it was too long. People settled quickly into rooms and went back to their old routines so flawlessly it was easy to forget how long we had all been gone.

But while catching up with friends, classmates, faculty and of course, staff, the change on this campus and in the world could not be ignored. We celebrated a new year cheering in what many perceive to be a year better than the one past. A historic moment for the United States took place when Barack Obama became the first African-American president as people from all over the world watched.

And yet, as change on the outside of the campus continues, it is perhaps within our own campus that we can identify the most change. We greet new transfer students to our campus in the hope that they feel at home. We say goodbye to some students and hello again to others as they travel to and back from studying abroad. We welcome some new staff members to the community and also acknowledge those who have changed positions. We also see new resident assistants within some of our dorms and congratulate them on their new jobs.

While it is the people of this community that define it, we cannot ignore the aesthetic changes to our campus. We return to find new buildings with siding and windows. We continue to get a better feel of what the campus will look like with its new face and this is exciting. As these buildings continue to be completed, talk about what our campus will be like with the use of the buildings is swirling around like snowflakes.

With these new buildings and additions, one cannot help but look at the future of the school with enthusiasm. As they are completed, the look of the campus will change forever and slowly, as some graduate and move on to careers across the country, this "new" look will become the face of the campus while the old memories melt away with the snow.

And as we look forward, we cannot help but be full of hope and pride at what this campus is and is becoming. At the beginning of every year, people make New Year's resolutions and try to better themselves in one way or another.

With the change occurring on this campus, we cannot help but see the parallel between New Year's resolutions and the abundance of construction outside our windows.

Be on the watch for the completion of the new buildings on campus, welcome all those who are new to campus and be careful of the snow.

Welcome back. Enjoy your semester.

YOUR VOICE - send letters to the editor at hawksherald.com

What's the harm in owning animals when there are bigger concerns?

9:30 a.m.— A knock at the door. I get off the couch, where I had been sleeping with my boyfriend, and peer out the door to see who had come to see me this fine, snowy morning. I was presented to two short women, who promptly took the initiative to allow themselves into my apartment. My hair disheveled, I put the hood of my sweatshirt up and stared at these women.

"Hi, I'm the Core," she said.

"OK."

"Someone in housing tells me you have two rabbits and a ferret."

"Yeah."

"They need to be out by tomorrow."

After persuading her that she should at least give me and my roommate until the weekend to bring our animals home, I began thinking about the disrespect which I had completely neglected to address considering my dreamy state this morning. While I understand that animals are prohibited in university housing, I would like to address the harassment that the administration of housing subjects each student to daily.

First of all, I was woken up and talked to like either a child or a criminal (I can't figure out which one yet). I am a very involved senior at this university with a high GPA, so don't talk to me like I'm an idiot; it's disrespectful. I have never been "written-up" and while I like to go out and have a good time, I am very respectful to those around me, especially to those who live in the same housing unit as me.

My roommates and I are quiet, we rarely ever make any noise, yet we are being punished \$50 per day, per animal, for having pets who we care for and love with all our hearts. It would be one thing if we have feces all over the place and our apartment smelled strange, but it doesn't because we are responsible people who genuinely love our animals.

But wait, let's rewind a bit here to see what kind of people we're dealing with in the housing department.

Having gone through meetings with the Core last semester due to a particular room in my unit, where the residents were fighting, throwing mirrors, glass bottles and even targeting people with their glass bottles. We were getting absolutely nowhere. I'm just a little upset. When my roommates and I approached the Core last semester to express our concerns she told us we should do the following:

Talk to the people who live in that room and tell them they're being disrespectful

Talk to our RA's (who are never here or completely ignore the situations going on)

Take pictures of them doing dangerous things

Take videos of them doing dangerous things

And THEN action could be taken, but because there was no documentation of the dangerous and destructive behavior, the entire community was going to be charged for over \$1,000 in excessive cleanup and damages fines, and would have to deal with disgust-

ing, violent behavior of the residents until we did the RAs' jobs for them.

Look, I know that we shouldn't have animals, but is it really at the top of the administration's concerns?

--Michelle Grimaldi, '09

Alcohol task force encourages feedback

Greetings RWU community members!

As co-chairs of the Alcohol and Other Drug Task Force (AOD), we wanted to update students, faculty and staff on our progress so far this academic year. Over the past three years, the task force has implemented policy changes (i.e. developed the 12 month three strike housing removal policy) and worked diligently on continuing educational efforts. This fall we completed our third year of having every first year student complete the on-line alcohol education program AlcoholEdu. This primary prevention tool has become a national best practice for educating an entire community about the risks of alcohol abuse and in helping to curb binge drinking among college students.

This year we have selected seven targeted and strategic focus areas related to prevention, education, and environmental management. Our seven sub committees comprised of students, faculty and staff include: the freshman year experience, enforcement and access, policy, messaging and marketing, social programming and space, academic partnerships, and external relations. It is interesting to note that an overwhelming number of student leaders wanted to be involved in the process this year (over 50 were nominated for 25 committee spots). We had a kick off meeting in early November and then held a five hour in-service program in December with a national expert. Brandon Busted, Founder and CEO of Outside the Classroom, spoke to the group about alcohol use and abuse on college campuses and the most promising practices available for addressing this complex, national issue. This training truly jump started a community dialogue on our own alcohol culture on campus and suggested some strategies that we expect will assist us in achieving measurable improvement. We have also booked Mr. Busted to speak at RWU on February 11 at a program for both the local and campus community titled, "High-risk drinking: moving from individual action to institutional action."

In January we started off 2009 by sending six professional staff from the

offices of student affairs, health education, counseling, student programs and leadership, and public safety to attend a national conference on alcohol prevention. The NASPA Alcohol Abuse Prevention and Intervention Conference provided a forum to learn about the latest national research and what our colleagues are finding to be successful practices in alcohol prevention. We gleaned some important strategies regarding strategic planning, how to align AOD efforts with institutional mission, and some of the bold steps colleges and universities have taken to create lasting cultural change on their campuses.

The conference affirmed for us that the environmental strategy approach used as the foundation of our alcohol prevention and education efforts continues to reflect national best practices. This approach involves changing the living/learning environment through education, policy and enforcement. At Roger Williams we will continue to apply comprehensive environmental strategies to reduce high-risk drinking by providing consistent messages about alcohol and university policy, reducing high risk traditions, limiting access and availability to alcohol, educating about policies and consequences, and through community standards demonstrating clear integration of policy and consistent enforcement.

During spring semester our sub committees will intensely focus on their respective areas of exploration, analyze relevant data, benchmark other peer institutions and best practices and then make recommendations. We plan to involve the entire student body in open student forums and focus groups to get their feedback on areas of change. Before the semester ends we expect to forward final recommendations to President Nirschel and Vice President of Student Affairs John King for review. We are committed to careful communication of any and all resulting changes over the summer to students and parents.

The AOD task force is always open to feedback on our education and prevention efforts and we encourage students and community members to email us directly with suggestions. Roger Williams University is committed to the safety and well-being of all students and values the help of students, faculty and staff as we continue to improve our alcohol-prevention efforts and total student experience.

Best regards,
Kathleen McMahon, Ed. D., Dean of Students
James Azar, Ph.D., Director of Counseling

Letters to the Editor opinion.hawksherald@gmail.com

Letters submitted to The Hawk's Herald for publication must include the the writer's name, e-mail address and phone number. Contact information will be used to confirm the writer's identity and will not be published. Letters should be typed and no more than 400 words. Libelous letters will not be printed. Letters may be edited for space and grammar. All letters must be submitted no later than Tuesday at 5 p.m. to be considered for publication in the next issue.

WANTED: A FEW GOOD CARTOONISTS

Are you a talented artist? Do you like to stay on top of what's happening on campus? Do you want to see your name in lights (and by lights, we mean the Opinion section of your favorite student newspaper)? If so, you could be an editorial cartoonist for The Hawk's Herald.

We're looking for people to draw editorial cartoons about campus life and the big stories that affect our readers' lives. Cartoons would run on this page every week. If interested, send a letter with your information and at least one sample of your work to opinion.hawksherald@gmail.com.

Afghani adjusts to American life

Alyssa Persinger
Asst. Web editor

They don't have Monopoly in his home country of Afghanistan. Until three years ago, Sayed Hemat Raz hadn't even heard of the game and now he never loses.

Its 1:00 a.m. on a school night and three college students are sitting around the game board dolling out an array of multicolored bills.

In Afghanistan, \$1 is worth over 50 Afghanis (the nation's currency). By that exchange rate, Hemat has just been handed over \$75,000 in cold hard cash. He doesn't flinch; his killer instinct is setting in. Hemat has come to play.

Before rolling the dice to see who starts first, there's only one other concern: which game piece to choose.

"My favorite piece is the car," said Hemat, 19, a junior. "It gives the meaning of going faster."

Winning Monopoly games that have lasted only 30 minutes, Hemat may be on to something by using the car; or it could be that he's had years of experience playing a similar game, "Lado", in Afghanistan.

Sayed Hemat Raz, known as Hemat to his friends, is an international student from Kabul, Afghanistan. Hemat prefers to go by his middle name because Sayed is a

tribe name describing him a Muslim under Mohammad, meaning that many others have Sayed as a first name, too.

Hemat is one of six Afghani students attending RWU, of the 103 international students currently enrolled at the college; about 3,840 undergraduate students are enrolled all together. More than 40 countries are represented by international students, including Afghanistan, Brazil, Bulgaria, China, France, India and Vietnam, according to Maria Adkins, 30, Assistant Director of the RWU Intercultural Center.

Coming to RWU on a scholarship without ever visiting America and only Googling the university, Hemat was drawn to the school's location near the water; in Afghanistan, he is landlocked. Taking a chance to pursue a double major in Economics and CIS (computer information systems), Hemat traveled to America alone, but has made many friends since.

"I met Hemat my sophomore year; we lived on the same floor in Stonewall Two and became roommates second semester," said Sid Chanthavong, a senior. "I saw his nametag on his door and realized he wasn't from around here and wanted to talk to him. It was his first year away from home and I wanted him to feel comfortable. We've played a lot of Monopoly games since."

Having a social and easy-going personality, Hemat has found it easy to make tons of friends, play a lot of games and sports, and join different clubs, including MSA (Muslim Student Association), AE club (Alternative Entertainment), and Delta Sigma Pi (the business fraternity). He also works in the Admissions Building.

Already knowing English before coming to America was also an advantage for Hemat. Taking an English class in Afghanistan with friends just for fun, it was almost an accident that two years later, Hemat was prac-

tically fluent.

Although the RWU community has more than welcomed Hemat, the rest of America hasn't been as warm. Losing his luggage twice on his stays in the country doesn't feel like an accident to Hemat.

"I get in a lot of trouble coming here because I'm a Muslim," said Hemat. "I get the highest level of security check and usually miss my flight because of it. When I go back home, it's easy; they look at me and know who I am."

Besides adjusting to some of the injustices of America, Hemat is also adapting to other differences between Afghanistan and the United States. In Afghanistan, people respect their elders and their parents more, says Hemat. The people of Afghanistan also put friends before themselves, and never think twice about lending money or helping out someone in need.

"[Once] I bought food for a friend and he tried to pay me back but I didn't let him," said Hemat. "They got really upset. [At home] nothing is yours or mine—it's ours."

The community as a whole in Afghanistan is joined together like one family, according to Hemat. In Mosques, everyone prays shoulder to shoulder, wanting to be one community not separated. Hemat also feels that families are more respected and valued in Afghanistan. In America, children tend to put parents in retirement homes.

In Afghanistan, however, after the parents are done raising and taking care of their children, it's the children's turns to help their parents, depending on and loving each other, something Hemat sees as his "two stages in life."

Having an older sister, 23, older brother, 21, younger brother, 14, and mother, 36, (his dad died seven years ago), family is one of the most important parts of Hemat's life.

"If given the same school system back home, I wouldn't stay here," said Hemat. "I like it here but not for liv-

ing; I can't live without the love and respect we get from friends and family at home."

Adjusting to the many cultural differences would probably have been a harder task for Hemat if he hadn't already been getting used to differences in his own country. While the American government remains in Afghanistan, it may be hurting the country more than helping, he said.

Drinking has always been illegal in Afghanistan. The punishment before the American government interfered was being hit with a stick; an egg would be placed under the arm of the punisher, so as not to hit the person hard enough to actually hurt. The punishment was embarrassing and made the offender think the next time they went to act.

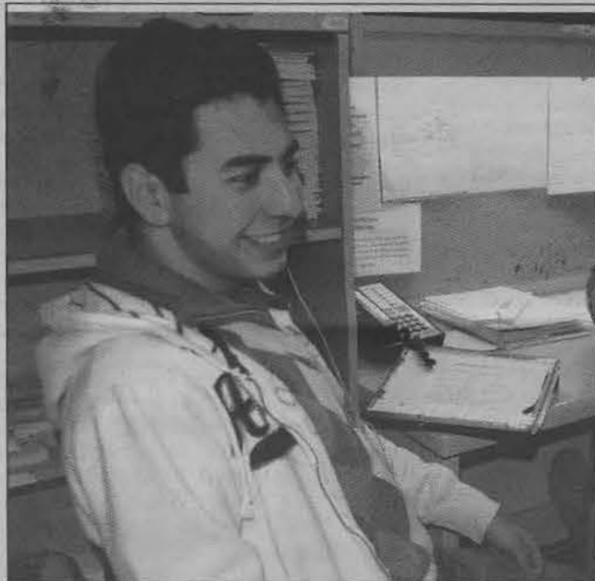
Now, however, the punishment is a simple fine. Drinking has increased since the American government has interfered; the rich think nothing of drinking and paying off their actions, according to Hemat.

Not only has the drinking increased, but an entire culture is being lost by American influence, whether by alcohol consumption, punishments and laws, or clothing.

Yet despite all this, Hemat holds no grudge against Americans, and does like many aspects of the United States. Besides his new friends, Hemat feels safer in America, likes the ocean, the school system and the fact that teachers will go out of their way to help a student in need.

"Afghanis don't dislike the people—just the government. Just like Americans don't like our government," said Hemat. "Saddam has killed about 2,000 people, but how many has [America] lost and killed?"

Did [America] make it better or worse? It's like Monopoly: you're making your trade, giving one thing for another thing. Sometimes it's bad, sometimes it's good."



ALYSSA PERSINGER/THE HAWK'S HERALD

Sayed Hemat Raz, a transfer student from Afghanistan, works in the Admissions Building.

"I like it here, but not for living. I can't live without the love and respect we get from friends and family at home."

- Sayed Hemat Raz, on life as a college student in America

HE KNEW TOO MUCH



ARIELLE MILSTEIN/THE HAWK'S HERALD

A giant snowman that stood outside the Commons for several days appears fatally wounded on a recent snowy afternoon. He held out longer than expected, though, eventually succumbing to warm temperatures.

Top Ten Things to Do When Classes are Cancelled Due to Snow:

1. Build a snowman.
2. Eat lots of junk food: oreos, twizzlers, chocolate covered pretzels, Doritos, cheese balls and goldfish.
3. Stay indoors and play your favorite board game: Cranium, The Office Trivia Game, Scrabble, Scategories, and Apples to Apples
4. Catch up on the reading you haven't completed for class.
5. Watch a good movie like "Jack Frost II: Revenge of the Mutant Killer Snowman" or something tropical like "Blue Crush."
6. Buy a pair of snowshoes and make cool tennis racket footprints all over campus.
7. Go tubing/sledding on the soccer fields.
8. Soup sampling party! Take out all the cans of soup you have and determine which flavor is best!
9. Because you can't get to the gym, do Richard Simmons workout videos in your room.
10. Read *The Hawk's Herald* and take the weekly poll on hawksherald.com!

Theodore Applebaum
Web editor

One student recalls seeing cheat sheets pasted on the back of a Dasani water bottle; another admits to programming chemistry formulas into his calculator; a third says he has actually heard a student listening to tape recorded notes in the back of an exam.

"We could all hear him playing it," says Joe, who asked that his full name not be used. "He spent the entire exam fast forwarding and rewinding the tape."

Though these methods may be somewhat extreme, they are evidence of a pervasive cheating problem at Roger Williams University. A survey of 330 students, conducted by The Hawk's Herald in early December, found that 53 percent admitted to cheating while at RWU.

The survey, which defined cheating as "anything your professors wouldn't condone," found that of those 53 percent, 67 percent said they cheat rarely, 25 percent said they "sometimes" cheat, and 8 percent admitted to cheating frequently.

"There's a lot of pressure to do well in school," said Marian Extejt, Associate Dean of the School of Business. "I think much of what happens is desperation: 'I chose to go out with my friends instead of studying and now I'm up against the fence and I got to do something, I can't flunk this class.'"

RWU's student handbook calls academic dishonesty "the most serious academic crime there is," and lays out the conceivable penalties for cheating: "A first offense may result in failure of the course involved; the ultimate sanction is suspension or dismissal from the university."

Although the student handbook states that instances of cheating are to be reported to the Office of Academic Affairs, students are rarely caught, and when they are, many professors often choose to deal with the matter internally, handing out light punishments that entice students to cheat over and over again.

"I allow for a certain amount of weakness in the face of temptation," said philosophy professor Michael Wright, who prefers to keep instances of cheating between the student and himself. "It's got to be mighty severe for me to take it to the point where the student runs the risk of expulsion."

Wright said that when he was a college student, administrators relied on the honor system to keep students from cheating, something he still believes in today.

"I've left my philosophy classes to take exams by themselves and I've never had any trouble with them," said Wright.

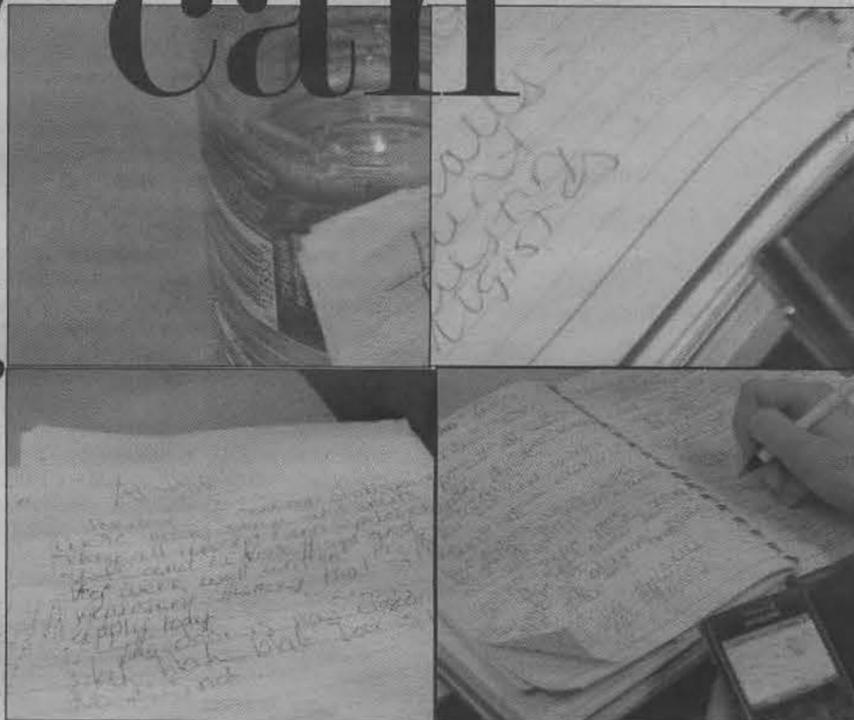
"When you ask a given professor, 'Do the students cheat in your class?' they will tell you no, but when you ask them, 'Do they cheat in the university?' they will tell you yes," said Professor Robert Engvall, who received a presidential fellowship to examine cheating at RWU in 2004. "It's a kind of moral myopia... It allows me the comfort of saying, 'I know there's a problem out there but I'm not a part of it.'"

Engvall said it became obvious to him that cheating was a problem at RWU after he caught a few students doing it during his first five years here. And it wasn't just at RWU; everything he read told him that the cheating problem in the U.S. was widespread. According to a national survey conducted by The Center for Academic Integrity, 50 percent of students were sure that another student had cheated in the past year. The survey he conducted in conjunction with the CAI found that RWU's numbers were higher than the national average, with 65 percent of students saying they knew a peer had cheated in the past year.

"What I found is that we're a little better at cheating than the typical university, but only marginally," said

because they can

Despite consequences, cheating is common on campus, survey shows



Engvall, who wasn't surprised by the results.

There are a number of reasons why cheating occurs so often at RWU, including light punishments and the ease of getting away with it.

"I've gotten through an entire semester cheating," said Joe. "You take a risk and if you get away with it, you keep going with it."

Like many students, Joe, a senior, didn't cheat when he first came to RWU, expecting that the school cracked down hard on those who attempted it.

"My freshman year, I was a saint when it came to that thing, but by sophomore year you kind of get a feel about who's paying attention and who's not paying attention."

The Hawk's Herald survey found that only 49 percent of freshmen cheated compared to 58 percent of sophomores and 67 percent of juniors.

Many faculty members say they do what they can to stop perennial cheaters like Joe. Robert Potter, the Dean of the School of Engineering, Computing & Construction Management, said the professors in his departments make students spread out for exams, frequently write fresh tests, stay with their students while they take the exam, and tend to devise questions that require problem solving so as to reduce a copy and paste mentality.

"Our examinations don't lend themselves to the type of sophomoric cheating that some people envision as cheating," he said.

"Some faculty in the School of Business, especially during exams, will say you can't wear a cap because people write answers on the brim," said Extejt. "I think as you learn that these things are possible, there are faculty who have the initiative to put in the preventive measures."

A few years ago, the university invested in Turnitin, a computer program that analyzes papers for plagiarism, in an attempt to curb cheating.

Extejt said a student recently passed in a paper that the program realized was identical to one passed in two years earlier.

"Before the technology, the faculty member would never have remembered those answers two years later,

and I'm sure that's what the student was counting on."

But some faculty members remain undereducated about the use of such technology. While Wright said he had seen programs like Turnitin used in New Zealand when he was on sabbatical there, he didn't know we had it here.

And many students say that their professors are not doing all they can to make cheating difficult.

"Lots of professors are very into something else while they're proctoring an exam, like grading other papers, or reading a magazine or newspaper, and not really paying attention to what's going on in the classroom," said a student who asked to remain anonymous. "It's pretty obvious if you are looking around and there are a lot of kids looking down at the floor, or looking at their crotches."

And then of course there is the innovation of cheating: notes stuffed in socks or written on the soles of shoes and hat brims; iPod playlists of recorded information stealthily listened to through headphones taped inside shirt sleeves; and more recently text message-filled trips to the bathroom.

The battle between cheaters and those who try to stop them is in constant evolution. Websites dedicated to cheating, like rajuabju.com, boast "detailed instructions on how to cheat in school, no matter the grade level," and a search of "how to cheat on tests" on Youtube.com turns up 2,840 results.

Engvall said that even in the rare cases in which faculty do catch students cheating, the punishment system is set up in a way that places the burden of proof on professors who often don't want the guilt that comes with confronting a potential cheater.

"We have the interaction with them and say: 'Hey, I caught you cheating in class, this is what I'm going to do,' and often that's met with tears, or met with a story legitimate, or otherwise talking about how their life is going to be ruined," said Engvall. "That changes things for a lot of professors."

"You want to give somebody a break," said Extejt. "You want to say, 'OK, you made a terrible, poor choice

in this class and you've learned from it, I'm not going to negatively influence other faculty in some future semester.'"

Wright agreed. Though he said he has never suspected a philosophy student of cheating, he has on occasion encountered cheating in his core classes.

"In the very few cases in which people have actually copied, or worked together, I call them in, and if they 'fess up to it I'll give them an F, and that's it."

It is also common, Engvall said, for students to lie about their cheating habits when confronted by a professor. He said he would like to see a system utilized in which teachers submit reports of cheating incidents to a central database that can be checked to see if they are telling the truth or not.

Engvall also said that the introduction of an Academic Integrity Officer would take the burden and guilt of punishment out of the teacher's hands and lead to more reporting of cheating from professors.

"That's what the Center for Academic Integrity recommends," said Engvall. "It is possible that our system makes it a little easier to cheat and a little bit harder for professors to take the time to have to deal with it."

In the mean time, students continue to cheat at RWU and get away with it.

Last year, Joe received an e-mail from a professor that said he and another student in his class had submitted identical homework assignments. The professor said he knew they had cheated and mercifully told them they would only have to redo the assignment.

But this time, Joe knew he hadn't cheated, that in fact the other student had found his assignment and copied it, and now his neck was on the line.

"At first I was kind of angry," said Joe. "But the kid was cool about it and he redid the assignment for me."

In an ironic twist, Joe turned to cheating to deal with a problem caused by cheating.

"If I know I can get away with something, then I'll do it," said Joe. "Not to insult our own learning institution, but it's easy to cheat here."

'Eco' program seeks student volunteers

Courtney Nugent
Features Editor

Last Earth Day, when President Roy Nirschel signed the President's Climate Commitment, he vowed to make Roger Williams University a place committed to becoming a carbon-neutral campus.

After signing the Clinton Global Initiative, focusing on energy and climate change, RWU came another step closer to making real changes.

And with a new leadership program in the works, RWU is putting Nirschel's signatures, and the hard work of dedicated faculty and students, into action.

"This idea is not something new, but it is new for us," said Scott Yonan in Student Affairs, referring to the Eco Reps leadership opportunities available for students beginning next semester.

Both Tufts University and University of Vermont have had great success with forming this leadership position.

The Eco Reps, a team of 12 students living in respective residence halls on campus, will work to raise awareness and facilitate green issues on campus.

Figuring out the logistics of where each student will be placed will be interesting, Yonan said.

"[The Eco Reps] will be paid positions. Students will be able to work up to 10 hours per week," Yonan said. "Not only will these students talk the talk of being environmentally friendly, they will live it."

Yonan also said that there will be an opportunity for a student intern in the program.

The students in these new student leader positions will work on a

variety of projects, including Recycle Mania and connecting with the community as well as high school students. Students will also sit on the recycling committee and meet once a week. According to Yonan, those students will "discuss conserving power and water usage in the residence halls and across campus whenever possible."

Yonan said that he "hopes students do a bang up job recycling [and] turning off their computers when they are not in use."

He said that not only will these changes in lifestyle reduce the university's carbon footprint, but the changes will be good for the economy and utility bills of the campus, allowing for that money to be spent elsewhere.

"We're putting our money where our mouth is," Yonan said.

Along with this new leadership program, Vice President of Student Affairs John King noted that the campus has provided students with free RIPTA bus passes and designated specific parking spots for faculty and staff who carpool, as well as for those who use motorcycles. The campus also invested in a GEM--a Global Electric Motorcar--that is battery-powered and a green transportation alternative.

King said that this is a great opportunity for student leaders.

"[The Eco Reps] provides another valuable peer leadership position," King said. "This leadership program is a great support of an issue that is important to our global climate."

If anyone is interested in becoming an Eco Rep, contact Scott Yonan at syonan@rwu.edu; (401) 245-3389 or (401) 255-7337.

Music major strikes chord with junior

Alyssa Persinger
Asst. Web editor

He didn't enter Roger Williams University expecting to major in music. But as of last semester, junior Tom Caddigan, 20, got his wish.

"I always really wanted to major in music," says Tom. "I was told that [the school] was looking to get a music major, but when I got here, I found out it wasn't true—until this year."

Having already taken every music course offered, Tom only needs nine more music courses to graduate, becoming the first ever music major at RWU.

Proposed by professors Marilyn Mair and Will Ayton some years ago, RWU finally approved a music major in Spring 2008, which began in the fall. Although RWU has had independent music majors in the past, this marks the first time students will be able to come in to the school as music majors.

In addition to the past music courses are World Culture through Music courses, another music theory class, special topics in music and applied music, among others.

Students must complete 39 credits to graduate as a music major. A final project determined by the music professors is included in the credits and may consist of a thesis, composition or recital. Students may also test out of the first music theory course (see RWU course catalog for more information).

Unlike other music majors at colleges, this major will not include performance or education. Instead, students will broaden their knowledge of music throughout the world on top of learning music theory.

According to Mair, in time the

music department would like to turn the music major into the same model as the Communications major: "Students can go to different tracks."

"Maybe the music major can confer with business or performing arts," says Mair. "But [right now] students can major in music and, if they want to, double major or minor in management."

Students who are not majoring in music can still take music courses and personal lessons. Chorus and instrumental ensemble are "dual status as a course and club," and students are encouraged to either join or take the class.

"It's not an entirely practical major," says Mair. "[This major] is for students who can't be happy in a world without playing music; [for students] who take every single music course offered; for students who love music but don't have the years of experience to get into Berkeley; it will be for people who don't have a didactic path; people who learned to play on their own; people who aren't attracted to traditional majors."

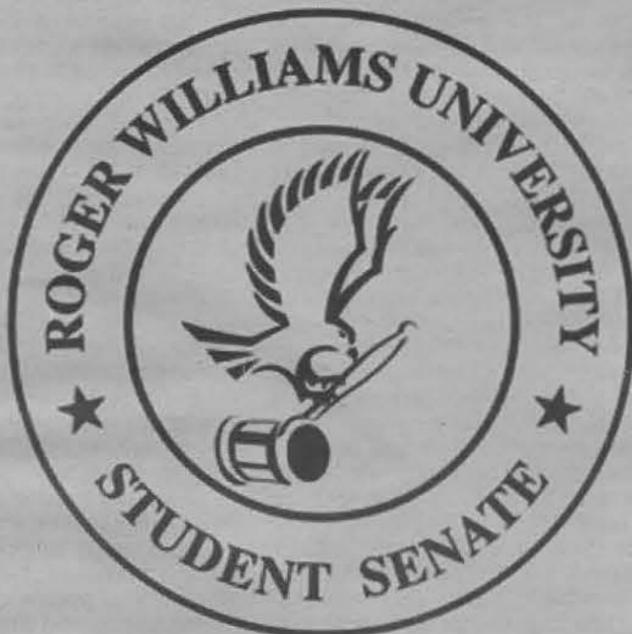
Attaining a music/education or music/performance major requires facilities that RWU does not have at the moment. With only three full-time music professors and a handful of music staff, and very little space for an orchestra, concert band and chorus, it will take time before the major can expand, if the department chooses that path.

"Music is in video games, programming, ads," says Mair. "It's always helpful to have knowledge of music; it's in everything."

RWU STUDENT SENATE

Senate "Did You Know?" of the Week

The three new senators are Omar Reyes, Adam Ogram and Ziad Achkar?



Student Senate moves Monday, Feb. 9
to the Mary Tefft White Center
in the library at 6:30 p.m.

Check us out at:
<http://studentsenate.rwu.edu>
or IM us at SenateRWU

On-Premise TIPS Training

At

Roger Williams University
Baypoint Inn & Conference Center
144 Anthony Rd
Portsmouth, RI 02871

Time: 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Saturday, March 7th
Saturday, April 4th

Cost

\$35 for community members
\$15 for RWU students

Pre-registration required. Contact
Donna Lynn Darmody
Director of Health Education,
401-254-3413 or by e-mail at ddarmody@rwu.edu

WQRI: These songs really 'pop'

Editor's note: This article is part of a series of music reviews compiled by the music committee of 88.3 WQRI, the campus radio station.

The world of pop music is not just limited to the top 40 chart. Don't get me wrong, there's a ton of great music out there, like Kelly Clarkson, Coldplay, John Mayer's "Say," and Leona Lewis. But of course, part of the fun of music is finding something that a lot of people don't necessarily know, and stuff that they should know. Here's a few left of center pop masterpieces to put on at a party to surprise people but keep them dancing.

--Tim Hollan, WQRI Music Director

Belle and Sebastian "I'm a Cuckoo"

Belle and Sebastian have been about as mainstream as you can get without actually breaking out onto the mainstream. They have a large fanbase in America, they get attention from the media, and they got onto the



soundtrack of Juno. But still, a good number of people have not been exposed to Scotland's second biggest secret (they are slightly smaller than the Loch Ness Monster). This track, from their masterpiece "Dear Catastrophe Waitress," serves as not only a great 5 minute jangle to keep you on your toes, but also as a tribute to Thin Lizzy. Very rarely does a track about romantic desperation get this bright and bouncy.

Gaslight Anthem "59 Sound"

Songs about the last song you hear before you die have to balance between two very bad ends of the spectrum: either the song is too sentimental to be touching, or the song is too weighed down by details to avoid sentimentality that it just becomes a checklist of what to do when you die. This song on the other hand, balances the two, making a poignant balance between loss and celebration. And when



he gets to "Young boys, young girls/ ain't supposed to die on a Saturday night," you know he's onto something good.

Blake Babies "Out There"

Once upon a time, Juliana Hatfield used to be the indie-darling for Alternative music, even getting name checked by the Bare Naked Ladies. For us, we probably remember her as the really attractive lunch lady on the show *Pete and Pete*. Before she was serving big Pete lunches, she was the bassist and singer for The Blake Babies, a band named for William Blake. Their peak - this indie-pop gem about desperation and isolation, with that hopeful edge: "I know it's out there somewhere." For the verses, she punctuates the lines with "I know it's stupid," and in the chorus sums it up nicely: "There's nothing to do, it's so hard to talk to you, and people never do what they want to." A song



that captures the hopelessness of youthful energy with nowhere to spend it.

Orange Juice "Rip it Up"

Imagine Morrissey, lead singer of the Smiths, with a lot more groove. Then you'll get what makes this song by Orange Juice so awesome. A cheesy, bouncy song made for the club by



this Scottish post-punk band shows that even though you're being bleak and quaint, you don't have to be boring about it. If you make the song danceable, it doesn't matter that you're sad and depressed and your arms stick like glue to your side when you see the love of your life. A lesson that fellow Scots Franz Ferdinand would use to make "Take me Out" so infectious.

HOUSING: Living off-campus a battle for some students

Cont'd from page 1

"I did have some RWU students and the ones I had problems with were the underclassmen," Sowning said. "Graduates have more direction and are a little more respectful. I'm a graduate from RWU so I know what college life is like."

"[College students] are stereotyped," Tavares said. "But unfortunately, you read the police reports in the paper every week and they're stereotyped for good reasons."

On a weekly basis, one to two RWU students are cited to appear in court due to house parties and noise levels such as loud music, revving engines and unamplified human voices, according to Lieutenant Steven Contente, who has worked for the Bristol Police Department for 13 1/2 years.

"Normally, students go out at night Wednesday through Saturday, and when they come back, they make a lot of noise," Contente said. "It's not for a long duration ... but in a quiet neighborhood, it's disruptive."

However, noise isn't what students are normally cited for. According to Contente, when the police arrive at the scene, the noise quiets down, so other violations, such as underage drinking, procurement of alcohol and disorderly conduct are the charges that are cited. These charges are then brought to the attention of RWU's judiciary system as a violation of the Student Code of Conduct.

Students living off campus abide by the "good neighbor policy," in which students living off campus have the same punishments and expectations (respecting neighbors, the law, etc.) applied to them as students living on campus. With the exception of being kicked out of housing, students are still fined, given warnings and put on probation.

According to Heidi Hartzell, Director of Student Conduct and Community Standards, if a student off campus violates probation, they can be removed from school for a semester.

"Most students who live off campus really work with us and understand the good neighbor policy," Hartzell said. "Students ... are representing themselves and the university while they're in our communities, as well as the value of their diploma."

Although RWU has no official office for off-campus housing, the school does have its own ways to help students find homes. According to Jen Stanley, Director of Residence Life/Women's Center, there are about 1,000 undergraduate commuters at RWU, which in turn means that each of them lives off campus. Located at <http://www.rwu.edu/studentlife/residencelife/universityhousing/offcampus/> are local listings put up by different realtors and landlords, along with lease-signing information.

Another way the school tries to help students find housing is with an off-campus housing fair. Four or five realtors come to campus to answer students' questions about finding housing, prices, et cetera. Last year there were about 85 students who showed up, according to Carol Sacchetti, Assistant

Director of Housing.

When going to a real estate agency, students can walk in and ask if anything is available. If the landlord allows students, an agent will show them the property. When it comes time to fill out the credit application, the agency normally asks for the parent's signature and does a credit check on the parent rather than the student.

"They come in hordes looking for apartments or houses," Tavares said. "Every parent says their child is a very studious child, that there will be no partying. And then we get complaints from the landlords, and we have to turn that over to the parents because they can be held liable for a whole year's rent if [the student] gets kicked out."

In the last year to year-in-a-half, three sets of students that Tavares knows of have been kicked out—one only living in the house for two months this past semester.

"When I see boys coming at me I almost want to run the other way," Tavares said. "Landlords tend to think girls will be better. But what happens with the girls is that they attract the boys, and you end up having the boys over anyway."

Joe Dellamura, 20, a junior at RWU, had a difficult time trying to rent a house. With two real estate agents, it still took over five months before anyone would rent to the group of four boys. In one instance, a group of four girls looked at the same house, and the landlord gave it to the girls "hands down, no questions asked."

"If I owned a house, I wouldn't want to rent to college kids either," Dellamura said. "Things get broken and things happen in your house that you prefer not to happen. If I was a landlord and drove by my house to see people getting charged \$5 a cup at the door, I'd be a little upset. ... But a lot of people just won't rent to guys."

Dellamura and his roommates lucked out when finding the waterfront property in Bristol during Law School spring break. The vacation home is an academic rental (meaning from September through the end of May), and though Dellamura and his roommates were not the Law School students the landlord was looking for, they were the first to offer her the price she wanted, so she took it.

"I absolutely hated living in the resident halls; the rules are ridiculous, it's like living in some type of communist society," says Dellamura. "For the same amount of money, I'm able to afford a much nicer place and not have to deal with people knocking on your door at 11 p.m. saying to quiet down."

Of course, Dellamura admits that he and his roommates are not exactly the "cleanest or most orderly and civil people." Having already broken their glass stove with a fist, throwing a can of Monster through a wall, and trying to make Moonshine in the back of a toilet, things have been broken and repaired.

"[Our landlord's] brother-in-law lives four or

five houses down the road, so we told the landlord about the stove," Dellamura said. "She's very cool with us because she knows if we were to leave or she was to evict us, she'd lose out on a lot of money."

Heuston also decided to live off campus for the freedom. In addition, she says it's cheaper to live off campus with roommates: while she was paying about \$800 a month to live at RWU, she pays about \$300 a month in the house.

"[Living off campus] makes me feel like a grownup now—I have to worry about bills," Heuston said. "And I can have my dog here—that was big."

"Off-campus housing is disruptive in many neighborhoods," Contente said. "But there are a lot of good college students that are good neighbors, too."

Editor's note: Kate Heuston is the business manager of The Hawk's Herald, but has no association with the news staff and had no role in prompting this story.



ALYSSA PERSINGER/THE HAWK'S HERALD
Junior Joe Dellamura enjoys a clear view of the Bristol waterfront from his apartment. Other students are not so lucky finding off-campus housing.

The Hawk's Herald Fun

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					9		3

Do you have an idea for a new puzzle you'd like to see in The Hawk's Herald?

Send Fun Corner suggestions to hawksherald@gmail.com

Across

- Average
- Craving
- Boxer's punch
- Shade tree
- de France
- Tokyo, formerly
- ET carrier
- Caribbean, e.g.
- Cushion
- Assist
- Clean-up guy
- Bakery buy
- Employs
- Certain exams
- Dracula, at times
- It doesn't hold water
- Absorbed
- Rodeo rope
- Remain
- Swiftest mammal
- "That's disgusting!"
- Did lunch
- Chafe
- Authorize
- Newt
- Jack-tar
- Fine
- Film
- Direct elsewhere
- Feel concern
- Coffee order
- Small number
- Small change
- November birthstone
- Locale
- Dolomite, e.g.
- Ariz. neighbor
- 'easter
- Action word
- Linear unit
- Lubricate
- Low card
- Bit of butter
- 12th graders (Abbr.)
- Canny
- Dry, as wine

Down

- Lulu
- Mode starter
- Bureaucratic stuff
- Time period
- Blue-pencil
- Affirmative action
- Martial art
- Way, way off
- Dog treats
- "C' la vie!"
- DiCaprio, to fans
- Deface
- Horned goddess
- Modify
- Owens
- Tolkien beast
- Stadium cheer
- "... humbug!"
- Greek letter
- Tank
- Needle part
- Toil
- On-looker
- Harbor craft
- Biddy
- Implied
- Conclude
- Adversary
- Twitch
- Happens
- Church bench
- Cries of sorrow
- Three (It.)
- Thumbs-up
- Miles per hour, e.g.
- Casbah
- Greek letter
- Applications, e.g.
- Beaut
- Poker holding
- Go yachting
- Blueprint
- Author Levin
- After expenses
- Romaine lettuce
- Be in arrears
- Bird of myth

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Corner

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WRESTLING: Kelly wrestler of the week

Cont'd from page 12

After the New England Duals, RWU traveled to Cambridge, Mass., where they defeated MIT and Bridgewater State College. After the back-to-back wins, the team traveled to Hunter College in New York for the Metro Conference Challenge.

Andrew Hawley immediately got his team out to an early lead by pinning his opponent early on in the match. After dropping the next three matches, Nadeau stepped up by winning his match which started the streak for his team. The Hawks went on to win the final three matches of the round and moved on to face The College of New Jersey. The Hawks struggled against New Jersey and in the end were defeated, 31-6. In the last match of the day RWU faced New York University. Andrew Hawley, Nadeau, Woods and Phil Kelly all wrestled well for the team while earning the win. However the Hawks lost the overall match to New York, 23-15.

Phil Kelly, a sophomore from Quincy, Mass., has been recognized as the New England wrestler of the week as well as being named the RWU male athlete of the week. Kelly had a brilliant streak going 3-0 on the mat that consisted of two pins and a major win over the top ranked heavyweight in the country.

"Over the past few months, we have been up and down as a team," said Andy Jackson. "We will continue to work hard throughout the season and expect to finish off the year competing at a high level."

The Hawks' season record now lies at 13-7 and the will next travel to Rhode Island College where it will face the University of Southern Maine on Feb. 7.

Women's basketball experiencing many ups and downs

Dan Malkin
Asst. Sports Editor

Since the start of the new year, the women's basketball team has been on somewhat of a roller coaster ride, filled with some impressive wins and some devastating losses.

On Jan. 2, the team hit the road to take on the Connecticut College Camels where they hoped to end their six game losing streak. The Hawks kept the score close throughout the first half and most of the second half before turnovers got the best of them.

In the end, the team did see all 10 players who got on the court score a point. Casey Anderson led the way, posting a double consisting of 12 points and 11 rebounds. The final score read 66-72 in favor of the Camels.

After dropping three straight games to Rhode Island College, Nichols College and Western New England College, the Hawks were determined to end their slide. The team traveled to Boston to take on the Wentworth Institute of Technology.

The game was close throughout both halves of play and remained that way late into the second half. With little time remaining, Jackie Criss drove into the lane for an attempted layup. The shot was just off the mark but was rebounded by Paige Congdon who was able to put the ball in for the score. It marked Congdon's eighth offensive board of the game and allowed the RWU to escape with the last second victory, 65-63.

After back-to-back TCCC victories on the road for the Hawks, the New England College Pilgrims traveled to Bristol. The Hawks began to get it going midway through the second half going on a dominating run against the competition. The score was 45-28 in favor of RWU going into the second half and the team never looked back. Babin once again played aggressive ball on both ends of the court putting up a career high 24 points and 14 boards. Criss finished with 19 and Anderson chalked up 12 on way to the team's third straight victory.

The streak ended for the team while on the road against Trinity College and continued with a home game against Endicott and a road contest with Colby Sawyer.

The Hawks will next square off against Salve Regina at home on the 4th and then at the University of New England this Saturday.

Striving to find the ideal, well-rounded student athlete

Dan DeBlasio
Sports Editor

At some universities, simply being an athlete is enough to get by. If you perform well on the field, then performing in the classroom, or even going to class, is merely optional. If you are a top player but can't seem to stay out of trouble, people look the other way. It is an easy road for a lot of collegiate athletes, but this is not the case at Roger Williams University.

Student athletes at RWU are constantly pushed to not only excel in their respective sport, but to reach their academic potential and become well-rounded individuals, as well. It seems like a tall order for our young men and women, some just 18 or 19 years old, but campus-wide athletes are answering the call.

Collectively, RWU athletes compiled a grade point average of 3.026 last semester, the highest in over five years. This is an achievement which surpasses those in the student body who do not participate in athletics. Eleven of the 18 teams found their averages above a 3.0 with the lowest team GPA earning a respectable 2.720.

"The department feels very strongly about the academic performance of the athletes, and we are very thorough in letting them know that academics come first," said Assistant Director of Athletics and Academic Services Director Michael Tully. "We strive to produce a high caliber of student athletes at RWU, with the emphasis on student."

Topping the charts academically was the women's cross country team, coached by Sean Livingston, with a 3.433 GPA. They were followed by women's volleyball, women's tennis, and women's swimming with a 3.340, 3.259, and a 3.250 respectively.

"The degree is the most important thing to get while students are here. Being strong in the classroom makes me just as proud as anything else athletically my players could do," said Livingston. "There's no reason you can't be a great athlete and a great student at the same time, it just takes the discipline and time management our athletes here have."

Student - athletes are constantly monitored by progress reports, which they assume responsibility for submitting to each professor weekly and then delivering them to their coaches. Some coaches institute mandatory study halls to assure the students have sufficient time in a learning environment to complete all of their work. In addition to this, certain coaches will meet with their player's teachers if the student is struggling academically.

"We're very proud of the academic oversight our department has," said Director of Athletics George Kolb. "We have great relationships with the faculty, the deans, and members of all the academic departments on campus."

According to the NCAA, Division III athletics do not need to register with the NCAA Clearinghouse, which means they do not have NCAA mandated minimum GPA requirements. This freedom though, is not something that either players or coaches are taking advantage of. RWU athletes fall under the same requirements of all students as set forth by the university.

Just this year a junior member of the Men's Lacrosse team was dismissed for academic reasons even though he still held a GPA above the minimum 2.0 threshold set forth for juniors. Coach Marty Kelly released this player because he felt that the student was not doing as well as he could do in the classroom and could accomplish more without lacrosse.

"The player was here more for lacrosse and not academics," said Kelly. "I felt I had to take lacrosse away from him to have him focus more on academics."

Every team has a traditional captain to lead their teammates on the field, but some coaches are so concerned about academics that they add a second captain, an academic captain. One coach that does this is softball coach Stephen Pappas. The academic captain has responsibilities such as helping players with class selection, finding appropriate advisors, and helping

players budget their time.

"This position is for someone who can be an academic advocate for the players," said Pappas. "It gets into season and sometimes coach's get so caught up with practices and games, there needs to be someone that comes to me and says 'Coach there's a big test or a project coming up' so I can know this and give players a day off if they need it."

The exceptional academic standards do not just begin when players get to the school. In the recruiting process coaches attempt to evaluate which prospective student-athletes have the ability to handle the tough academic riggers players at RWU must withstand. Coaches are very selective and look well past the sheer skill of the individual being recruited.

"There are a lot of kids out there that coaches could recruit," said Tully. "But if they're not at a high standard academically than we're not going to do it."

Finding a good mesh of both an athlete and student that will fit well in the system is not an easy task, but judging by our results coaches at RWU are getting it done.

"When it comes to the recruiting process, I give our coaches so much credit. Every year the students are getting better," said Kolb. "They are better academically, they are better athletes, they are better overall, and that is making all of our programs stronger."

Along with being solid students RWU athletes have proven to display strong character as well. Student - athletes not only represent themselves, but they represent their team, their coaches, and this school. All three parties have reason to be proud, because as academic averages have increased, disciplinary actions have decreased.

A possible contributor to this fact is how the athletic department handles infractions or run-ins with the law. Every two weeks community standards and judicial affairs send detailed reports of any athlete that has been accused of any violation regardless of the severity. The athletic department then waits for the university to enforce their punishment, and after that ruling is passed down they call the player in for a second meeting. In this meeting the athlete receives an additional punishment by the department, which can range anything from a warning to being kicked off a team.

"We really talk to the student athletes about their decisions," said Kolb. "They all know that they are going to be held fully responsible."

As athletes continue to build a strong reputation for themselves across this campus, they have also been positively contributing to the university's reputation within the community. Every team and every athlete at RWU has participated in vast community outreach programs both on campus and off.

Some of the services opportunities teams have taken advantage of include helping out at the Colt Andrews School in Bristol, participating in Breast Cancer Walks and Think Pink initiatives, Special Olympics, starting canned food drives, volunteering at the Bristol Soup Kitchen, and working with children at the Bristol Reads Program.

"It really says a lot these kids can dedicate themselves in the classroom and on the field for so many hours than still do these services," said Pappas, who is also the Community Relations & Operations Coordinator. "I get a lot of thank yous. The community really appreciates what the kids are doing."

The athletes at RWU have excelled across the board, continuing to impress the school and surrounding community. They strive to achieve in both sports and school work while still possessing the drive to give something back to the community. With the caliber of individuals who comprise the teams and the insight of those guiding them, their success is sure to continue and the sky is truly the limit.

BASEBALL: Manny gets what he deserves

Cont'd from page 12

Dodgers. That's just Manny being Dumby.

It's funny how the whole Manny Ramirez situation ended up.

The still unsigned free-agent was told by his agent Scott Boras that he could easily earn a 4-year, \$100 million contract with another team this off-season if he was traded from the Boston Red Sox. Also, Ramirez would have to have his two \$20 million option years waived by the LA Dodgers.

Now he'll be lucky to get anywhere near a multiyear, \$40 million deal. Well, you know what

they say about karma, Manny...

The Red Sox recently signed OF Brad Wilkerson to a minor league deal. The 31-year-old outfielder hit .220 with the Seattle Mariners last season before being released in May. Wilkerson can earn up to \$2.5 million in incentives if he reaches certain marks during the season. This move looks to shore up the depth of the outfield with question marks surrounding the health of both JD Drew and Rocco Baldelli.

Pitchers and catchers report to Spring Training in less than ten days. Can't wait for that huh?

Tucker Silva can be reached at tsilva423@hawks.rwu.edu



Men's basketball stresses defense and unselfish play

Tim McKone
Herald Staff

If you were to look up the definition of "team" in the dictionary, it would be appropriate if there was a picture of the Roger Williams University men's basketball team next to it.

The Hawks have bought into a system that stresses team defense and unselfish offensive play.

"We have been playing great team defense this year," said senior forward Michael Woolley. "We have been locking down teams forcing bad shots and causing turnovers, which is what we pride ourselves on."

The statistics back up Woolley as the Hawks are first in the league in team defense giving up a mere 53.7 points per game in conference play. RWU takes the same team approach on the offensive end as well. Of the nine players on the team getting significant minutes this season, fewer than seven points separate the leading scorer on the team's points per game average from the ninth.

"We're a very unselfish team. There's not one guy that is taking bad shots. Everyone is looking for the open man, and that's why you don't see one guy averaging a lot more than everyone else," said Woolley.

While an overall record of 9-9 might not jump off the page initially, a closer look reveals just how successful this team has been this season. The Hawks lost two heartbreaking losses to two perennial powers in Connecticut College and Tufts University.

The Hawks also came close to pulling off a major upset, losing by one in overtime at UMass Dartmouth, the 17th ranked team in the country. Major wins by the Hawks include a win at Salve Regina, at Coast Guard Academy, and most recently at home against Endicott.

"The win against Endicott is one of the best wins I've experienced here," said student assistant Chuck Davidson. "We had never beaten them in my four years here, so to get that win felt great."

In their last game, the Hawks fell to Colby-Sawyer, the second ranked team in the conference. "They're a good team," said team manager George Schork. "But we didn't play our best basketball and I think if we see them again and do play up to our potential, you could see a different outcome."

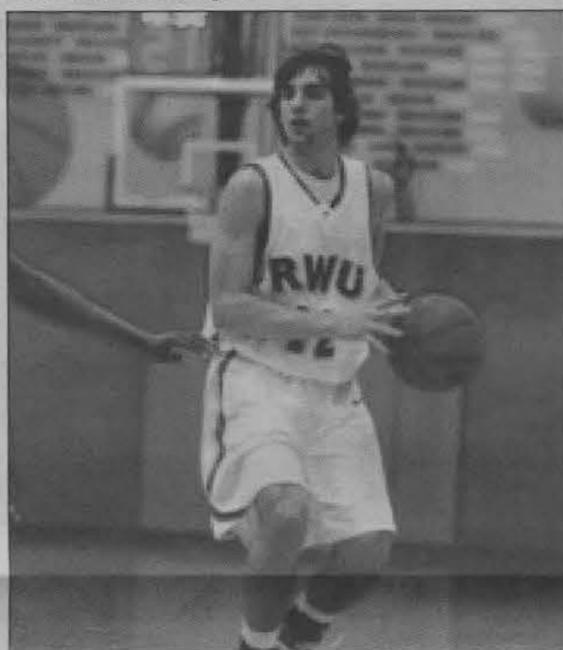
The Hawks find themselves in a four way tie for third place in the Commonwealth Coast Conference with Nichols, Salve Regina, and Wentworth. For Roger Williams the upcoming week is pivotal in determining postseason seeding. On Wednesday the Hawks will be at home to take on

their biggest rival, Salve Regina, for the second time this year. Then on Saturday the Hawks are on the road where they will take on the University of New England, which sets up to be a classic clash of opposing philosophies.

Roger Williams' stifling defense will be put to the test against the Nor'easters who have been on fire all season, averaging 84.1 points per game, which is good for first place in the conference. UNE is also enjoying a 15-game win streak, which is tied with St. Norbert College for the second longest win streak in Division 3.

"This is a huge week for us," said Davidson. "Salve is always a tough game, and then we're at UNE, who was picked ahead of us in the preseason. So if we can walk away with those two wins, it would be huge for us."

If the Hawks can in fact come away with two wins this week they will have put themselves in great position for post-season seeding as their schedule gets softer at the end, with RWU finishing its conference play facing only teams in the bottom half of the league.



The Hawks are looking ahead to a tough week of games against Salve Regina and University of New England.

COURTESY RWU ATHLETICS

Wrestling shows well in important tournament

Dan Malkin
Asst. Sports Editor

While students were away from campus, the wrestling team was hard at work. The first major tournament after the holidays had the team travel to the Hampton Coliseum in Virginia for a very important tournament.

The Hawks first faced the Apprentice school and immediately got out to an early lead. When the match was all said and done, the Hawks had dominated the competition 40-6. Next up was the division II opponent, Gannon University. The Gannon team had been competing at a very high level all season long and after a grueling match, escaped with a 27-9 win over the Hawks.

After the loss, the team faced Division I opponent, the Duquesne Dukes. The Hawks were immediately up to the opposition and split the first two matches. During the 141 and 149 pound competition, the Dukes moved ahead with back-to-back wins. After the two losses, the Hawks found their stride and were able to win three straight matches. Chris Nadeau, at the 174 pound division was able to get the victory by fall for the Hawks. After losing at 184 and winning at 197, the Hawks were up 21-19 with just one match remaining. Dan Woods proved to be the hero of the day coming up huge for his team while wrestling up from his normal 197 pound division. Woods eventually won the match 5-1, which gave the Hawks the impressive 24-19 win.

Next up in the tourney was the division III opponent Brockport University, ranked 19th in the country. After strong matches in the lighter weight classes by both schools, the Hawks entered the final two matches with a one-point lead. After a defeat in the 197 division, Nick Cambi moved up to heavyweight while giving up more than 50 pounds to his opponent. Cambi wrestled well against his heavier opponent but eventually lost in overtime.

After defeating Wesleyan University at home, 24-13, RWU hosted the New England Dual Championship. The tournament featured 15 schools from the area and was sure to be an eventful weekend. In the end, the Hawks finished seventh in the Championship bracket, while Johnson & Wales finished first.

See WRESTLING p. 11

Varitek's \$5 M deal ends Sox drama

The 92-day Jason Varitek drama has finally concluded as the 37-year-old catcher re-signed with the Boston Red Sox for a two-year deal.

The deal agreed upon last Friday has Varitek earning \$5 million in 2009, including a team option for \$5 million for 2010. The contract also states that if the Red Sox decline to exercise the catcher's option, Varitek has the choice, or the player option, of staying with the club for **Tucker Silva** \$3 million **BASEBALL BITS** in 2010.

Varitek's contract also includes a total of \$2 million in incentives based on his performance throughout the season. He will earn \$400,000 for each of 80, 90, 100, 110, and 120 games played in 2010.

The drawn out dilemma inevitably resulted in Varitek returning to the Red Sox. Due to a misjudgment of his market value by his agent Scott Boras, Varitek declined the \$10 million arbitration of-

fered by the Red Sox back in December. As a result, any MLB team that signed Varitek would have forfeited a first-round draft pick to the Red Sox because of his status as a Type A free agent.

It was highly unlikely that a team would forfeit a first-rounder for a 37-year-old catcher on the decline. This ultimately hurt Varitek's chances of a bigger contract from another ball club.

Rumors were swirling that if Varitek had rejected the take-it or leave-it offer from the Red Sox, the team was prepared to move on and acquire a younger catcher. Such catchers that have been mentioned were Arizona's Miguel Montero and Texas's Jarrod Saltalamacchia or Taylor Teagarden. However, Texas's asking price was rather high in demanding SP Clay Buchholz, who has ace potential.

However, one has to wonder if the Red Sox are reconsidering trading Buchholz to acquire Saltalamacchia. The 23-year-old catcher already praised the work ethic of Varitek. "That would be a dream come true," said Saltalamacchia. "I'd love to go there and either work under Jason for a year or two or just go there and catch full-time."

Even though the Red Sox already have both Jason Varitek and Josh Bard, the trade could still occur. Bard has a non-guaranteed \$1.7 million contract, meaning he could be released immediately to open a spot for Saltalamacchia.

Other Tidbits...

Several high-profile free-agents, such as OF Adam Dunn, Bobby Abreu, and Manny Ramirez remain unsigned in large part due to the struggling economy. SP Ben Sheets can also be added to this group. Abreu has already stated he would take a discounted one-year deal below \$10 million. Look for teams to wait as long as possible for the asking price to come down on such high-profile free-agents.

My predictions:
Bobby Abreu signs with the Oakland A's.

Manny Ramirez signs with the SF Giants or the NY Yankees (who like to stay under the radar).

Adam Dunn signs with the Washington Nationals or LA Dodgers.

Ben Sheets signs with the Houston Astros.

There are continuing rumors that Adam Dunn could possibly sign with the Red Sox. The former Arizona Dia-



mondback and current free-agent has hit 40-plus home runs the past five seasons. However, he has a history of striking out too often, which may be keeping other teams from signing him.

I can't imagine Dunn signing with the Red Sox simply because it would further crowd the outfield. The only ways he could be added were if:

- a) The team moved OF JD Drew to centerfield and inserted Jacoby Ellsbury into a fourth-outfielder role, currently occupied by recently signed Rhode Island-native Rocco Baldelli.

- Or...
- b) If the team moved

Dunn to first base and inserted Kevin Youkilis at third base, meaning the Red Sox would have to trade current third-baseman Mike Lowell. However, Dunn has already stated this off-season that he would prefer to remain in the outfield.

File this signing under highly unlikely. If power is needed, look for the team to pursue a younger option through a trade (San Diego first-baseman Adrian Gonzalez?)

Manny Ramirez rejected a two-year, \$45 million offer and most recently a one-year, \$25 million offer from the LA

See BASEBALL p. 11