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## Hawks' Herald -- March 6, 2009

Roger Williams University

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Bristol, RI

## THE HAWK'S HERALD

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## University hires second Nirschel

By DEE DEQUATTRO  
News Editor

Roger Williams University's fall hiring of President Roy Nirschel's son, Chris Nirschel, 26, for the position of regional major gifts officer was not a case of nepotism, President Nirschel said this week.

"I had no role in the hiring," President Nirschel said. "I made no recommendations, I didn't interview, I didn't evaluate."

Because of Chris' relationship to President Nirschel, the hire had to be approved by both the Office of the General Counsel and the Board of Trustees.

President Nirschel said that fund-raising positions are of growing importance to the university and have been notoriously hard to fill.

"There have been vacancies

in development forever," President Nirschel said. When Chris applied, "there were no other candidates and there were a lot of vacancies in the area."

The position was initially posted online last fall and Chris was the first applicant hired.

According to Lynn Fawthrop, Vice President for Enrollment and Advancement, major gifts officers are important because they "cultivate relationships and solicit donations" with incoming and outgoing students. The position is similar to an admissions officer in that "they are ambassadors to the university," Fawthrop said. Fawthrop stressed the importance of building relationships with potential students in order to attract them to the university and to retain them as students.

Fawthrop explained that "it is not a glamorous job." The position requires visiting four high schools a day as well as attendance at college fairs and regular contact with students and their families.

President Nirschel agreed, citing the economy as another factor that makes the job challenging. "These are not easy jobs, to knock on doors and ask for donations ... It's a tough time out there."

Chris' position is unique to the university. Although there are two other gift officers, Chris is the first to do the work of both an admissions officer and a gifts officer. Fawthrop explained that his job includes attracting students to RWU as well as soliciting donations and/or resources

See NIRSCHER p. 2

## Risky Business

3 arrested, 5 transported to hospital during first Chameleon Club since fall semester

By ALLISON COLLINS  
Asst. News Editor

Two RWU students were arrested for disorderly conduct and failure to comply and five students were transported to area hospitals due to excessive alcohol consumption last Friday during Chameleon Club, according to John King, Vice President of Student Affairs.

Nicholas McKee, 21, an RWU junior, was arrested Saturday at 12:04 a.m. and charged with disorderly conduct. According to the police report, McKee refused to leave the entrance to the Recreation Center, and after police escorted him away, he "opened the door and tried to come back inside the main entrance," according to a report filed by Sgt. Scott Scott McNally.

David Cronin, 20, an RWU sophomore, was arrested at 12:57 a.m. Saturday and charged with disorderly conduct and resisting arrest. Cronin allegedly drove his shoulder into Bristol police officer Paul Medeiros' chest, nearly knocking him over, according to the police report.

A registered guest was also arrested for possession of marijuana, according to King. Jason Suied, of Somerville, Mass., will be charged with possession of marijuana, first offense, according to the police report.

Students also tried to get guests into Chameleon Club using student ID cards that were not their own, according to King.

"As a result, there was a lot of friction that occurred over that and the student workers at the event didn't deserve to go through that," King said.

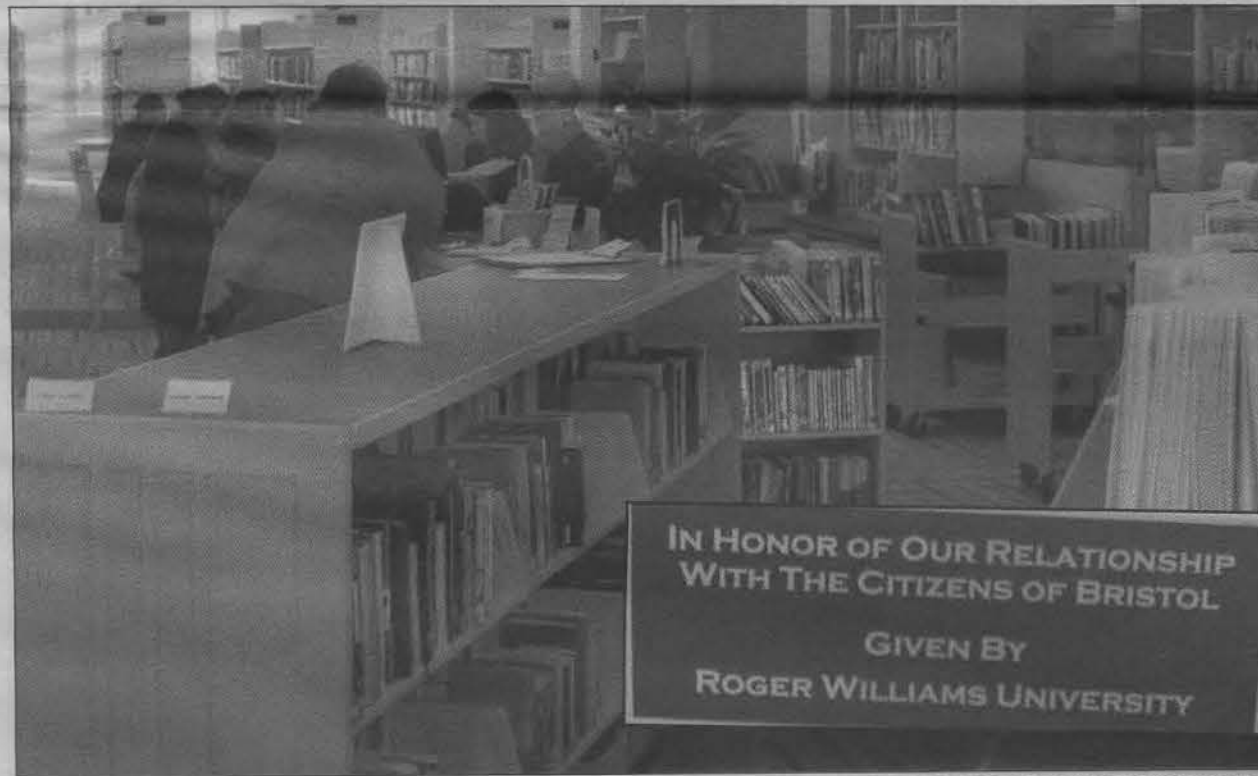
Entering students were using foul language and being rude to the students working at the event, according to Tamara Von George, Assistant Dean of Students and Director of Student Programs and Leadership.

Friday's Chameleon Club was the first since the one held last September, when 11 students were transported to area hospitals. The Halloween Chameleon Club was cancelled.

In addition to the five transports, EMTs as-

See ARRESTS p. 2

## WITH A LITTLE HELP FROM ROGER



THEODORE APPLEBAUM/THE HAWK'S HERALD

Patrons enjoy the open space at Rogers Free Library Thursday afternoon. The university recently donated \$75,000 to the library on Hope Street for an expansion project. For the full story, see page 3.

## 'Say goodbye to Lots H and I'

By THEODORE APPLEBAUM  
Web Editor

Next week, RWU will announce a plan to make parking in H and I lots for law school students only, reducing the number of lots that undergraduate students will be allowed to park their cars.

"For the remainder of this semester, the parking committee has approved relocating resident students who currently park in lots H & I to the parking deck or J lot," said Vice President of Student Affairs, John King, in an email.

"Lots H & I will be assigned to Law School students - all of whom commute to campus."

King wrote that the changes were made in light of the impending construction of tennis courts, which will take parking away from these law school students.

Senate created an event on Facebook titled, "Senate invites you to voice your opinion about a proposed parking policy," which will allow students to speak out against the change.

According to Senate, the change will result in a loss of 211 spaces for residents and a gain of 23 spaces for law students.

Under the proposal, all undergraduate students with orange parking passes will be required to park in Lot J or in the lots near Willow and Bay-side.

The price of an undergraduate parking pass will be raised 5.4 percent for the next academic year, amounting to a total of \$135.

"It's bullsh\*t," said Jessica Lundberg, a sophomore who signed a Senate petition to keep parking the way it is. "[Law school students] don't live on campus and we need somewhere to put our cars overnight; we need the space."

Senate is expected to discuss this issue and hear student opinions at its next meeting, scheduled for Monday at 6:30 p.m. in the Mary Tefft White Cultural Center.

Turn to www.hawksheald.com next week for developments.

## Spring Broke?

By KELLEIGH WELCH  
Managing Editor

With the economy continuously slipping, causing businesses across the United States to downsize and layoff hundreds of thousands across the country, the thought of going away for Spring Break this year may seem like a dream for many college students. With jobs more difficult to obtain, many college students are forced to stay closer to home during their week off.

See BROKE p. 4



# NIRSCHER: President's son new 'gifts' officer

Cont'd from page 1

(internships) from them as alumni.

Chris, who resides in Hoboken, N.J., is in charge of targeting New Jersey students and families. "This is a crucial area for the university," President Nirschel said. A large population of the student body comes to Roger Williams from the New York and New Jersey area and because of that, it is strategic for the university to have a gifts officer in the region.

According to Fawthrop, the university intends to hire an additional gifts officer. "This role is particularly important to the university during a harsh economic climate," Fawthrop said.

A job description posted on the university Web site said the "a bachelors degree is required as is five years of fundraising experience in a nonprofit or higher education organization."

Though, "in any position, if anything appeals to the interviewer, requirements are sometimes overlooked ... with the expectation that (the candidate) will grow into the position," Fawthrop said.

President Nirschel said, "The minimum requirements are there as sort of an idea, maybe." He noted that sometimes individuals may not have the exact qualifications that the job description describes but they may have a unique skill set to offer to the

position.

"We need to articulate expectations (for positions) in better or different ways than we have in the past," he said.

Chris was hired by Pete Wilbur, former Vice President for Finance and Administration. Wilbur hired the president's son with "hope he would be successful in an area where there has been little success," President Nirschel said.

According to Fawthrop, Chris was a good fit for the position because of "his connection to the university, having been a student here," as well as his relationship to the president who is "highly regarded among parents and incoming students."

President Nirschel said Chris' "personality, skill set, and knowledge about the institution" are great assets to the position. "Chris grew up in an environment where I was doing education my whole life and because of that, has a unique perspective," President Nirschel said. "I think because of his background with me, he knows more about the inner workings of the university than most people here."

Chris was once a Communications student at RWU. During his time in Bristol, he was arrested twice, once for procuring alcohol to a minor and possession of a weapon, not a firearm, in May 2004, and the other for driving with a suspended license

in October 2005, according to Bristol police records and the Rhode Island Judiciary Web site. Both charges were disposed.

"Everybody makes mistakes," President Nirschel said. "I don't actually know of anyone who hasn't been in trouble."

Despite these setbacks, John King, Vice President of Student Affairs, said that "Chris Nirschel was never suspended or expelled from Roger Williams University." However, "he took a voluntary leave of absence from the university at one point during his matriculation, like many other students do each semester."

It is unclear due to regulations outlined by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) if Chris received a degree from Roger Williams. According to Nirschel's LinkedIn profile online, he graduated in 2004 with a bachelors degree in Communications.

When asked, President Nirschel was restricted by the regulations of FERPA but did say, "When you go around campus, you will find a lot of adults who dropped out and then came back."

Prior to seeking employment with the university, Chris worked in sales and eventually took a role as an admissions counselor for the University of Phoenix.

RWU's other major gifts officers

are Ava Lambert and Heather Galvin. Lambert and Galvin have worked for the university in mainly a fundraising capacity and played less of a role in retention.

Lambert, who has years of experience in the public sector, spent seven years working as the chief of staff for the Mayor of Fall River, Edward Lambert, to whom she is now married, as well as raising funds for non-profits. She also was the general manager of the SMILES mentoring program, where she worked to screen and recruit volunteers. President Nirschel said that while most of her work was in the public sector and did not involve fundraising, she, like Chris, offered a unique skill set to the position.

Chris is in the probationary period that is typical of all new hires to the university. The period ends June 30.

"I have tremendous respect for the work he is doing," Fawthrop said. "Chris is the first to get a dinner invite from a prospective family."

President Nirschel said he believes that Chris has the personality to succeed in his new role.

"He has a 'can do' personality," Nirschel said. "If he is determined, he will see something through to the bitter end."

Chris declined to be interviewed for this story.

## ARRESTS: Two RWU students charged with disorderly conduct

sessed three students at the event, but they were not rushed to the hospital.

"The spring semester Chameleon Clubs were never cancelled but were put on hold after the Halloween [Chameleon] Club was canceled," King said.

"What's really interesting is that four of the five people that were transported, their GPAs are 3.5 or higher. So we're talking about intelligent people," King said.

"One transport is always too many. We should strive to have no transports. That said, personally I would have felt better about this particular event if we only had to deal with two or three students who were intoxicated and needed medical assessment and attention rather than eight students," King said.

Modifications were made to the event to try to lower the number of transports after the September 2008 Chameleon Club.

The door times were changed, according to Von George, from 10 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. to 12 p.m. This time the event lasted from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m., compared to past events, which have lasted from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m.

"If the doors are going to close at 11:30, then there's that last minute, 'What am I going to do?' right before, and there's a lot of drinking," Von George said.

The door times were adjusted to try to eliminate last minute binge drinking before students come to the event, according to Von George.

Members of CEN went into the freshman dorms to talk with students

about behavior expectations, according to Von George.

"We're really trying to get out there the message that this is an event that we put a lot of work into, this is an event that we love, please be respectful, be responsible and don't engage in high-risk behaviors," Von George said.

The Alternative Entertainment Club sponsored a video game tournament from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. before Chameleon Club started.

The event was a success according to the club's president, Vanessa Piccirilli.

"We saw a lot of people there who normally do not attend our regular meetings," Piccirilli said.

"The event that we hosted was our way of providing ... an alternative to the 'pre-gaming' that typically occurs before Chameleon Club," she said.

Two rounds of pizza were provided for students at the event.

"The intent was to have something there for the students who got there earlier and then to have a second round delivered for the students who were there, to keep people there. If you're out of the halls, you're here, and you're dancing, you're having water, you're eating pizza—you're in a nice safe environment," Von George said.

"One of the reasons we didn't have the Chameleon Club in October was to really send students the message that we can't have events if you're not safe," Von George said.

"If there's a reason why you feel you need to behave in a certain way to

come to an event, then we're not going to have the event," Von George said.

"Chameleon Club is back because many people have fought long and hard for it to come back, including CEN and SP&L," Chappell said.

"After conversations with CEN advisers and leaders about the future of the event, Assistant Dean Tamara Von George and I agreed that we should make some modifications, run the event, and request student cooperation," King said.

King requested student cooperation in an email he sent to the student body on Feb. 27.

"The future of this event, one which I am an advocate for and regularly volunteer at, depends on responsible student behavior," King's email said.

"If we have intoxicated students as a result of excessive pre-event drinking, multiple related ambulance transports, or uncivil behavior before, during or after the event we will likely lose future opportunities for C-Clubs," it said.

The theme for Feb. 27's Chameleon Club was 'a classy black and white affair.'

"The event went very well. Overall, people loved the theme and time change. We had over 1,400 people, which is a record for a February event," Emily Chappell, one of the Chameleon Club chairs, said.

"A lot of time, effort and work go into planning a large-scale event like this. It is the most attended event on campus and we would hate to see something that takes months of time to prepare be wasted because people

are not responsible," Chappell said.

Von George said if people feel the need to drink excessively before Chameleon Club, "then we have to question the event."

Of the five students transported, there were two freshman females, one sophomore female, one junior female and one sophomore male.

Four of the five students were transported from Chameleon Club and one was transported from the lower commons, according to King.

"We haven't had conversations about what comes next," Von George said. "It will be discussed, and it will be discussed widely," she said.

According to Jaclyn Calovine, chair of CEN, each Chameleon Club costs an estimated \$10,000. As of press time, The Hawk's Herald was not provided with a budget that breaks down the money spent on the event itself in addition to security details and ambulances.

### ONLINE EXTRA

Should Chameleon Club be allowed to continue in light of recent arrests and transports? Take our poll at [www.hawksherald.com](http://www.hawksherald.com)



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# University donates \$75 K to local library

By AUSTIN REGO

Herald Staff writer

Rogers Free Library, Bristol's only public library, was originally built in 1877 and has gone through several changes since then.

Following the most recent change, occurring last September, the library reopened its doors after completing a major construction process. Although the library received \$8.8 million in funding that provided it with a much-needed makeover, it maintained the historic feel of the neighborhood.

This expansive renovation expanded the library from 6,000 square feet to 26,000 square feet, more than quadrupling the size of the public facility. Roger Williams University donated \$75,000 to the expansion, the largest gift the project has received as part of its multi-million dollar fundraising and capital project campaign.

"I just love the new addition," said Irene Gyier, 68, a longtime Bristol resident.

She has been going to the library for more than 30 years and said that she could not be happier with the recent expansion.

The library has had a long-lasting effect on one of her nephews, Kevin Andrade, a Roger Williams sophomore. Gyier said it played a pivotal role in developing Kevin's intellectual nature and his attending Roger Williams.

RWU last year agreed to not only donate \$75,000 to the new expansion but also to give \$150,000 annually to the town along with a package of other donations for civic groups totaling \$25,000 as part of an agreement reached between the school and the town of Bristol.

"Because of the importance we place on libraries and being in a good neighborhood, we're pleased to make this commitment to Bristol's free pub-

lic library," Roger Williams University president Roy J. Nirschel said in a statement to the Bristol Phoenix last year.

The inside of the facility shines with a new, fresh appeal. The smell of the new furniture and upholstery still lingers throughout the spacious and luxurious three-floor facility from the construction that took place between June and September of last year. Each of the three floors adequately provides tons of inviting space and comfortable seating, and especially convenient table arrangements.

"We always felt we were losing customers to Portsmouth or Barrington, though the library's new appearance will help to keep people coming in," Joan Prescott, head librarian said.

By providing children's readings, Internet use, chess and book clubs and a Portuguese section, the library hopes to contribute to a better future for Bristol. With a goal to promote lifelong learning to adults and children, the library also fosters a variety of activities and meeting space for Bristol and surrounding towns. In addition, the library also added about 40 new computers in an effort to entice more visitors.

The project was financed by a variety of means, including a \$2 million bond approved by Bristol in 2001, several individual donors, with the largest contribution coming from the university.

Bristol is considered by some to be the most patriotic town in the country and contains history around every corner. Rogers Free Library is no exception.

Since 1960, the library's commitment to providing excellent public service has not changed, nor has the space in which it operates. Many of the buildings in the downtown area date back to the early 1800s. In 2006,



THEODORE APPLEBAUM/THE HAWK'S HERALD

A library patron reads a newspaper in one of the quiet spaces inside Rogers Free Library Thursday.

Town Council voted to keep large businesses away from the historic district of downtown. This made it so that no private business larger than 2,500 square feet or totaling 65 feet of street frontage can locate in that part of Bristol. Rogers Free Library rests squarely in the center of the historic area so it was very important to town planners and officials to keep that historic feel. The building has managed to maintain a classic appearance on the outside while providing the interior with a very modernized charm.

"We have already seen a dramat-

ic increase in the number of visitors the library has and as more tourism comes to the town in the summer, we hope to continue to progress our customer base even further," Prescott said.

"I am excited for what the future holds with this great establishment and we look forward to many successful years of spreading knowledge in this beautiful community."

Rogers Free Library, 525 Hope St., is open Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Friday and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**Serving alcohol to a minor is NOT a minor crime**

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# A 'rewarding' experience

## Senior devotes spring breaks to helping others build homes

By KELLEIGH WELCH  
Managing Editor

While students prepare to pack their bags and catch the next plane to an exciting (and hopefully warm) location, senior Brian Fontaine will be heading to Clarksdale, Miss. to participate in his fourth year of Alternative Spring Break.

Fontaine has been an active member of ASB since his freshman year, and instead of spending money to go on vacation, he volunteers to help build homes for the less fortunate.

"I think people get so caught up in going through a Cancun experience and getting drunk. I know my spring break is not superficial and is rewarding. Through ASB, I've been able to learn about myself and other people while I help them," Fontaine said. "My first year doing (ASB), I had the best experience. I ended up meeting people who became some of my closest friends, and knowing you are doing something to help people just gets me so excited to do it."

According to Fontaine, Roger Williams' ASB participates in a "Collegiate Challenge," where colleges will rotate building a house, depending on the week of their break. The ultimate goal is complete the house by the end of the Spring Break season.

The tasks for each incoming group changes, Fontaine said. One year, he focused on building one house, while another year his group was assigned to work on three separate houses. Their daily tasks also vary, from working on the frame of the house to installing kitchen cabinets.

"A typical workday is 8 to 4, with a break for lunch. After that, we are usually invited to dinner at a church or cook dinner at the place we're staying at," Fontaine said.

Among all the benefits of working ASB, Fontaine says one his favorite aspects is the people and their appreciation for what the group is doing.

"The people in the south are always so thankful and accommodating and hospitable. Knowing that people appreciate keeps me coming back," he said.

said. "One time, an elementary school wrote us notes and invited us for lunch and sang to us."

Before leaving, the ASB club spends most of its fall and spring semesters fundraising for its trip, along with participating in local volunteer events. Among these volunteer events, ASB participates in the annual Turkey Basket Drive, and have built homes in Providence.

"The group is also responsible to research the site, such as the history of and activities in the area," Fontaine said.

After working during the day, ASB volunteers get to do activities at night, such as bowling or mafia.

"We have a tradition to travel each night to Sonic," Fontaine said, laughing. "Before we even go to our site, we research where the nearest Sonic is so we can get there easily."

Fontaine says that ASB is always rewarding, and he does not feel like he is missing out on the 'generic' spring break.

"My freshman year I met some great people who got me involved in other clubs and orientation," he said. "ASB was my first step to becoming a student leader, and it opened so many doors for me."

"It does not surprise me that Brian chose to work with ASB for each spring break of his college career," senior and member of ASB, Eileen Evans said. "This exemplifies his passion for helping others and trying to make a difference in the world. I know that he will take his experiences with Habitat for Humanity with him in the future and apply his knowledge to further endeavors."

But with all the benefits, Fontaine still says meeting the people is his favorite part.

"I was not aware how many people live in such poor conditions, especially in the United States," he said. "It is a very eye-opening experience."

"Not only does he work very hard on the site, but he is a great role model for others on the trip. His one of a kind personality allows the group to become closer and he makes every experience more enjoyable," Evans said.



PHOTOS COURTESY BRIAN FONTAINE  
Alternative Spring Break members, including Brian Fontaine (bottom left) construct the framework for a home that will house a less fortunate family. Fontaine will spend his final spring break in Clarksdale, Miss., taking part in the program for a fourth year.

## BROKE: Break on budget

Cont'd from page 1

For sophomore Rich Goldsmith, his plans for Spring Break are centered around his wallet.

"With the hard economic times I decided to work at home and make a little money over break," Goldsmith said. "This way, I can have money for the second half of my semester."

However, with a lack of funding for break, students are not discouraged about missing out on a big trip. Spring break does not always have to mean spending a week in a some warm climate, although it would be nice.

There are plenty of ways that students can enjoy their break without breaking the bank. For example, junior Ashley Lago plans to spend her time taking advantage of free events in her area.

"I live near New Haven, which is really big on art stuff, so I'll probably go to some free galleries and concerts. I also live on the beach, so I could go there too," Lago said.

For some students, spending time at home means spending quality time with family. Junior Dina Hatoum spent last semester studying abroad

in Italy, so family time is important.

Freshman Chris Jendraszek also plans to spend quality time with family and friends, along with practicing playing music with his band. "My friends and family are very important to me. I want to be able to spend time with them," he said.

If students still want to get away, but can't afford a week in an exotic location, there is always the option of day trips. To travel from Providence to Boston, it costs approximately \$10 to travel by train, and you can manage walking around the city from there.

And if you really don't have any money, there is always the option of staying in and catching up on your work.

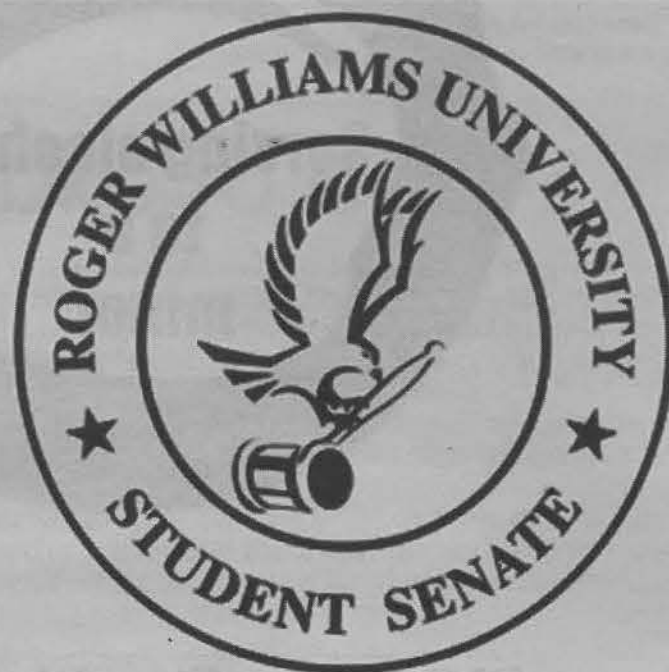
So, if you don't have plans for your spring break, do not be discouraged. Plenty of students are in the same position, and have plenty to do to keep themselves entertained.

As Jendraszek said, "Who doesn't want to stay here and freeze, instead of go someplace warm like Cancun?"

RWU STUDENT SENATE

## Senate "Did You Know?" of the Week

On Monday, March 9, the Student Senate will meet in the Mary Tefft White Cultural Center in the library at 6:30 p.m.



Meetings  
Mondays, 6:30 p.m.  
Senate Chambers, Recreation Center

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



## WQRI: Allen, U2 release new CDs

By TIM HOLLAN  
WQRI Music Director

After spending four years cursing the cold weather of Rhode Island, I have come up with two solutions for the problem. The first one would be a huge fire risk and health hazard and possibly illegal, so I won't try to tell you about that one. My next one involves building a biodome in which we can control the temperature.

Sure, the cost of building such a monstrosity may be unknown to most calculators with only a 10-digit display, and the electrical cost of running such a thing would be tremendous - and don't forget the research, noise, and bird cleanup crews. However, at the very least, I will never have to worry about the fact that I can't feel three of my four limbs. Which leads me to ask why my right leg never goes numb. Seriously, that appendage just holds onto all feeling. Anyway, here's a look at what I'm digging this week.

**Artist:** Lily Allen  
"It's Not Me, It's You"

Pop

Grade: A-

Listen to: "The Fear," "It's Not Fair," "22"

Although she won't admit it, Lily Allen is one of a mold: a self-deprecating self-destructive foul-mouthed sassy British female singer who isn't afraid to "tell it like it is." Of course, following in the "troubled female pop singer" mode, she HAS to have a song about being a media circus, but since the British tabloids actually work for double entendres, and she plays it more with a laugh than a "poor, poor, pitiful me" whine that sunk Lindsay Lohan's musical career or the "you envy my life" snarl that makes Britney Spears' new songs so unlistenable.

Unlike Britney, she actually can sing decently. Sure, she may be derivative as hell in the mold, but it's the spices that make this one memorable. The only missteps are the overly cute "F\*ck You," in which a

chorus of sped-up Lilys replace being crude with being clever, and "Him," a song that tries to be both Joan Osborne's (What If God Was) "One of Us" and XTC's "Dear God" and fails because she trips herself up over on the message but never really says anything about the subject.

**Artist:** U2

"No Line on the Horizon"

Rock

Grade: C-

Listen To: "Get Your Boots On"

The problem with going for a really atmospheric record is that sometimes you really get the atmospheres down really well, but you forget the tunes. And you're left with a record that fails to make an impact on you in any way, shape or form. This is U2 we're talking about. They are known for their rousing anthems, songs with crescendos that make you stand up and take notice. They are known for saving the world. And on their latest record, you could spawn mosquitos in it, that's how tepid it is. The worst part about this album is at the end of it all, you don't really remember one song. None of them have that punch that made U2 such greats. For a band that's been about the message for so long, they have absolutely nothing to say. Which kills the record.

**Artist:** Bell X1

"Blue Lights on the Runway"

Grade: B+

Listen to: "Great Defector," "One String Harp"

Now, this is how you do atmospherics. Let's get this out of the way. "The Great Defector" is one of the best songs I've heard in a while. It is pure perfection, and it pulls off that 80's pop Talking Heads style that no one has successfully tried in so long. The rest of the album doesn't live up to those heights, and honestly, it's better that they don't try to. Bell X1 provides decent low key pop that stays with you after the album is gone.

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# Call for Proposals!

The RWU Alcohol and Other Drug Task Force, a committee of students, faculty and staff, is working to transform the alcohol culture on campus. Our goal is to reduce high risk drinking and decrease the second hand effects that impact us all. The committee's goal is to work with the entire University community to make RWU a positive place for students to live and learn in a respectful, healthy, safe and vibrant environment.

As part of our work we need a fresh and positive alcohol message and YOU can be the one to help craft it! Submissions are now being accepted for an innovative and catchy messaging campaign that positively describes the alcohol culture among RWU students. The student who is selected with the final messaging campaign will not only receive recognition from the RWU community but will also receive a \$200 Barnes and Noble Bookstore gift card. This is also something you can add to your portfolio/resume.

A strong alcohol message would include elements of the following:

RWU students:

Engage in responsible drinking, if they choose to drink

Use common sense

Don't drink to excess (no binge drinking)

Are respectful

Show care for each other and peer behavior; look out for their friends

Realize that everyone in the community is part of the solution

Know that there are many opportunities to have a rich social life without alcohol and where alcohol does not play a prominent role

Live and learn in an environment that is healthy and safe

An example of a message would be "Here at RWU students know where to *draw the line*" and then there would be numerous forms of "*draw the line*" in all of our publications, talks, etc.

Submissions are due to Kathleen McMahon, Dean of Students, kmcmahon@rwu.edu by 5 pm on March 23.



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

## Make good decisions about alcohol

Can some of the hospital transports on campus really be avoided? Are RA's, Public Safety, and EMTs just "OVERREACTING," after countless hours of training to keep students safe? In response to an article written last week about the drinking problem or alleged non-drinking problem on campus, I would like to give a different perspective on this matter.

As an RA on campus, I would like to state that every assessment by the EMTs that I have seen was handled on a case-by-case basis. Every time the decision has been made to transport a student there was absolutely no overreacting involved. Although an RA may call for an EMT every time someone is getting sick, it is because it is part of our protocol, and we are held liable if something happens to that student, as a result of not requesting an assessment.

When an EMT comes to assess the situation, they do not go into it saying, "Let's transport them no matter what!" They assess each situation differently, and most of the time the student is not transported. Students may not realize that alcohol con-

sumption can be a matter of life and death. The students, who are transported show observable signs of alcohol poisoning, and could die if they are not transported.

I think that when it comes to life or death situations, there is no such thing as over reacting. RA's, CORE's, Public Safety, and EMT's are the reason that there has not been a death on this campus from alcohol. Should we wait until a student's "experiment" goes too far and we have to notify the parents that they died as a result of alcohol poisoning before we start assessing and transporting students? I firmly believe that the transports on this campus are a very important precautionary measure that ensures that all of our students are safe.

So attention to all of you students out there, if you or a friend is transported, it is not just because someone is overreacting. It is because something needed to be done, in order to save you or your friend's life.

So in the end, just make good decisions and take responsibility for your actions.

Jill Zalewski, '10

## COMMENTARY

## On snow days, relax and appreciate life

By KELCIE SWEENEY

Opinion Editor

It actually happened. Roger Williams University had a snow day. Some students might remember a time last year when the last day of fall semester, finals were cancelled because of snow. But a snow day in its truest sense has not occurred here in recent memory.

It was a huge surprise to many students to see that classes had been canceled. Bleary-eyed students woke to the sounds of text messages and phone calls informing them of the cancellation.

Students spent the day differently. Some slept well into the afternoon, others decided to celebrate, others caught up on work and some recognized the day by doing nothing.

Still others used the snow day to do some fun things such as sledding, slipping, sliding, snowball fights and just general playing in the snow. College students seem to have taken a break from being students and adults and instead played like kids.

Is it not interesting that something that causes so much trouble in the world also causes great amounts

of happiness?

This week shortened by the snow day also brings us that much closer to spring break, which many students wait eagerly for with baited breath. While some students dream of leaving this dreary weather behind and enjoying a warm sandy beach, others are just simply going home, in many cases, thanks to the economy, often to more snow-covered areas.

And as we wait for a break that many people badly need, one cannot help but note that the days are starting to melt away, getting closer and closer to the end of the year and for some the end of their college years. Many seniors cannot wait for the year to end and join the real world, but many are thinking about leaving with mixed emotions and feelings.

While we fondly wish away these winter months, let us not forget that when time passes by unnoticed, it is impossible to get it back and enjoy it. Life is too short to wait for the better times, time spent in the moment is time well spent so go spend a moment or two in this winter wonderland of a campus and enjoy now.

The WTF of the Week is a lighthearted look at the things on campus that make you scratch your head and shrug your shoulders. If you have a WTF in mind, send a photo and caption to [opinion.hawksherald@gmail.com](mailto:opinion.hawksherald@gmail.com) and you might just see it in print.



This mess in one of the King Philip elevators isn't unusual. On one recent evening, a Subway napkin, beer bottle and squished water bottle with mysterious liquid inside graced the floor. What happened to trash cans? Does it take too much effort to simply throw stuff away?

SUBMITTED BY ALLISON COLLINS, '10

## COMMENTARY

## Don't blame Chameleon Club for alcohol abuse problems

By COURTNEY NUGENT

Features Editor

In response to "Campus drinking problem? 'Crisis' seems ridiculous," I would like to counter the ideas brought forth by Dee DeQuattro. Those students who believe that the RWU campus does not have a collective drinking problem were not in attendance at the Feb. 27 Chameleon Club.

As a member of the CEN board who knows the amount of time and effort put into making Chameleon Club successful and safe for all RWU students, I can safely say that a large number of RWU students used and abused alcohol, causing their inner demons to rear their ugly heads.

These actions were no fault of the actual Chameleon Club event, an amazing tradition that CEN has established, but rather a display of actions that take place around our campus on a nightly basis.

Now pay close attention, this is where it gets good.

If you had been in attendance, you would have seen the student workers from Student Programs and Leadership being shoved, yelled at and disrespected from more than enough students who, in a desire to start raging, barreled through the entrance. This disrespect happens every night on campus.

If you had been in attendance, you would have seen the women in their pretty black and white dresses, falling to the ground because they could not support themselves. If you did not see the women falling, you would have seen the women leaning on their friends for support because they just could not take 5 extra steps to make it to the bathroom. This debauchery happens every night on campus.

If you had been in attendance, you would have seen the men yelling and pushing the coat check attendants for not moving fast enough when looking for their black Northface coat. You also would have heard a fellow RWU student shout, "I need to get laid" as he pushed one of the attendants down to the ground in an attempt to grab his coat and get out of the event faster. This ignorance occurs every night on campus.

If you had been in attendance, you would have seen men, women, student leaders and athletes alike putting their lives in danger, an every-night occurrence at RWU.

While I do agree with DeQuattro when she said that it is expected for "18 through 22 year olds [to be] out partying, experimenting with alcohol," I firmly believe that what most students at RWU lack is accountability, thus leading to our collective drinking problem. We do not take care of each other, we do not hold each other responsible for our actions and we make excuses for what we should be doing.

Stop blaming Chameleon Club and, instead, focus on the true problem at hand: our students acting irresponsibly in an environment that is supposed to be preparing us for real life.

For those students that do not think we have a drinking problem, open your eyes.

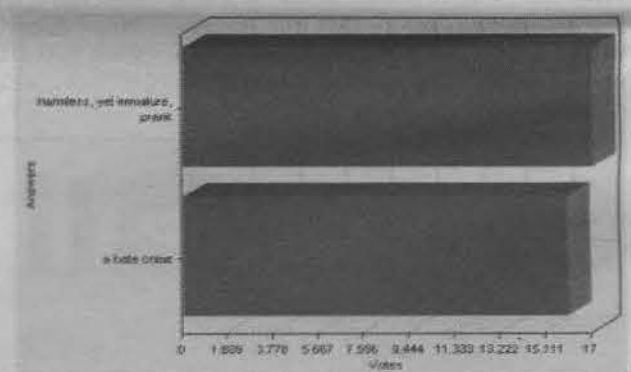
## POLL RESULTS

In the Feb. 27 issue, we asked you:

Is the swastika inscription that was etched in shaving cream on a Bayside dorm a hate crime for which someone should be punished, or just a harmless, yet immature, prank?

17 of you said it was a harmless, but immature, prank.

16 of you classified the incident as a hate crime.



Log onto [hawksherald.com](http://hawksherald.com) for this week's poll and to view poll results as they come in.

## Like to draw?

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](mailto:opinion.hawksherald@gmail.com).

Letters to the Editor  
[hawksherald.com](http://hawksherald.com)

Letters submitted to The Hawk's Herald for publication must include the writer's name, e-mail address and phone number. Contact information will be used to 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.



# Men's Lacrosse looking for continued success in 2009 season

By DAN MALKIN  
Asst. Sports Editor

Spring is just around the corner and the men's lacrosse team is busy at work preparing for the upcoming season. After having a strong season last year where the Hawks lost in a devastating semi-final game against Endicott, the team is ready to compete at a very high level.

The team has large aspirations after finishing in fourth place in the final preseason Commonwealth Coast Conference coaches' poll. Rounding out the top three was Gordon College, Western New England, and Endicott College. The Hawks were awarded 74

total ranking points, two shy of Gordon College who finished with 76 total preseason points. Endicott College and Western New England finished with 96 and 94 total points.

The team has recently announced three deserving team members to serve as tri-captains for the season. Joe Healy, Mike Horan, and Sean Benner who are all seniors, have been rewarded with the leadership positions. For Healy and Horan this will be their second straight year serving as team captains.

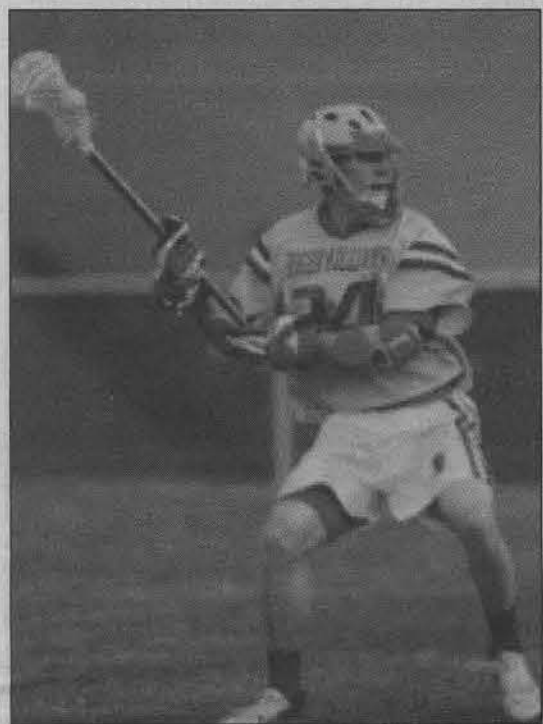
Horan, a defenseman from Acton, Mass., earned TCCC-Honorable Mention honors during his successful junior season. He was able to do this even after missing a decent amount of games due to a prolonged injury. During his sophomore season he was rewarded with a Second Team All-TCCC selection. Horan is healthy and ready to continue his success during his 2009 campaign.

Healy, a midfielder from Port Jefferson Station, N.Y. took home First Team All TCCC honors during his 2008 season. During the year he scored 19 goals while cashing in on five total assists for a total of 24 season points. He was also able to finish fifth on the team with points even after missing four games due to injury.

Benner, a quick two-way midfielder from Narbert, Penn. is also prepared to do battle this season. Benner performed at a high level last season while attaining 17 goals and nine assists for a total of 26 season points. He is ready to continue his success as a first time captain during his upcoming season.

The Hawks clearly have high hopes for the season and have the right group of players to have a very successful season. As a club they also would like to make a move in the playoffs and outdo their semifinal finish during last season's play.

The Hawks will begin play this Saturday afternoon on the road against Lasell College in Newton, Mass. They will follow up that game with yet another road contest against the UMass Dartmouth team.



RWU ATHLETICS

Senior Captain Sean Benner and the rest of the RWU Lacrosse team are looking to make a run deep into the CCC playoffs this season.

# SWIM: Men's team finishes third

Cont'd from page 8

Hawks posting yet another strong fourth place finish this time in the 800-yard freestyle relay. Carlucci, Danaher, Walerysiak, and Dubinsky would finish with a time of 7:25.40, good for another school record.

The end was in sight for the Hawks as they geared up for the third and final day of competition. Peter Walerysiak jumpstarted the day finishing third in the 100-yard freestyle and also besting the school record with a time of 48.90. In the 50-yard backstroke Dale Dubinsky was able to squeeze out a fifth place with a time 25.87.

In the 200-yard butterfly it was Teddy Swanson breaking yet another school record with a time of 2:08.36 and an eighth place finish. In the 100 IM Mike Carlucci put another school record under his belt with a

time of 55.76 and a fourth place finish. In the men's three meter diving, Joe Mello gave a huge performance as he finished in second place with a school record of 391.60 points.

Capping off the day was the men's 400-yard freestyle relay. The Hawks had shined in the relays throughout the meet and this was no exception. The team of Walerysiak, Dubinsky, Faustine, and Carlucci bested the previous school record with a time of 3:15.84 and an excellent third place finish.

The Men's Swimming & Diving Team plans to start next year right where they left off. With a strong freshman class that is rapidly improving and impeccable leadership from the upperclassmen, the possibilities of even more success are moving into focus.

# SUPER SENIOR ATHLETES

Ladies Swimming & Diving:



Katy Friedrich

From Stratham, NH, Katy has been a top performer for the Lady Hawk's Swimming & Diving team for all four years of competition. Katy holds the records in the 100 butterfly and 50 butterfly. She also was a member of the record breaking 400 freestyle relay and 400 medley relay. She was named to the All-American team, has earned All-New England honors, and Player of the Week.



Meghan D'Mello

From Old Lyme, CT, Meghan is an active member of the Roger Williams community as well as the Lady Hawks Swim team. Meghan has had many great swims throughout all four years. Meghan D'Mello has had a great impact on the swim team while also being a Resident Assistant and being on the Inter-Class Council.

5



Danielle deLisle

From East Greenwich, RI, Danielle has been an important part of the Swimming & Diving team all four years. Danielle was a top finisher in the breaststroke at the TCCC Invitational as well as the UMass-Dartmouth Invitational. Danielle will be graduating with a Criminal Justice degree in May.



Shari Rothgeb

From Denver, CO, Shari is a noted distance swimmer and has excelled very much throughout four years with the Lady Hawks. Shari was one of the top place finishers at the TCCC Invitational. Shari also holds the record in the 800 free relay as well as the 400 free relay.

THIS IS OUR YEAR 2009

## Enjoy RWU Sports?

Write about them in The Hawk's Herald!  
Meetings Monday nights at 7 p.m. in SE 132



# Baseball Bits: The off-season losers

By TUCKER SILVA  
BASEBALL BITS

Last week, I awarded six MLB teams as the "winners" of the off-season. This week, six more teams will, unfortunately, be crowned "losers."

The losers of the off-season are based upon poor spending of money; not fulfilling team's needs and simply leaving fans scratching their heads in confusion.

## Losers:

### Houston Astros

The Astros did little this off-season. The only noteworthy player they signed was former Atlanta Braves pitcher Mike Hampton, who has a massive history of injuries. Other than ace Roy Oswalt, there are no other major threats in the Astros' rotation.

The Astros line-up is anchored by 1B Lance Berkman and OF Carlos Lee. However, Lee suffered a season-ending hand injury during the 2008 campaign and could be a question mark.

SS Miguel Tejada was already on the decline. Add a confession about the use of steroids and an admission of lying to Congress and you've got yourself an inevitable void left in your line up due to criminal charges.

### Los Angeles Dodgers

The Dodgers are losers this off-season because of the fact that OF Manny Ramirez has the Dodgers "whipped."

After the first two rejected offers from Ramirez, the Dodgers should have moved on and signed either OF Bobby Abreu or Adam Dunn. These players most certainly don't carry the same bat or intimidation factor as Ramirez. But they most definitely have the potential to have a 30-plus HR, 100-plus RBI season. Oh by the way, they aren't anywhere near as greedy as Ramirez.

With Abreu and Dunn signing with other teams, Ramirez became the puppeteer and put the Dodgers up against the wall. The Dodgers had no other choice but to offer Ramirez more money.

Sure they had some positives. The signings of SP Randy Wolf and 2B Orlando Hudson will play key roles during the season. The Dodgers even

got rid of plunging OF Andruw Jones.

But the Dodgers take the cake for losers because they created an annoying, drawn-out, Brett Farve-like saga which is constantly receiving news coverage.

However, when the Dodgers do sign Ramirez, they will be the sure favorites to win the AL West.

### San Francisco Giants

\$18.5 million for SS Edgar Renteria? It looks as if the Giants certainly jumped the gun early this off season as they inked the declining shortstop the first week of December. The 33-year-old shortstop is worth no where near that amount, let alone in this economy. Renteria batted merely .270 with 10 HR and committing 16 errors during the 2008 season with the Detroit Tigers.

The Giants have had a knack of giving out absurd contracts. For instance, disastrous SP Barry Zito signing a seven-year \$126 million contract. Enough said.

The signing of SP Randy Johnson is a nice complement to Cy-Young award winner SP Tim Lincecum and furthers one of the deepest rotations in baseball. A one-year, \$8 million is worth the risk in signing the future Hall of Famer.

However, with one of the worst line-ups in baseball, the Giants are heading in the wrong direction and could have significant financial problems in the future.

### Seattle Mariners

At least they boosted up attendance by signing OF Ken Griffey Jr., eh?

### Toronto Blue Jays

Losing SP AJ Burnett in free agency (New York Yankees) significantly weakened the Blue Jays pitching rotation. The only threat remaining within the rotation is ace Roy Halladay. A weak rotation against powerful offenses in the AL East is destined for failure.

The only other noteworthy signings this off season were, well, not that noteworthy. The team inked C Michael Barrett and 1B Kevin Millar (minor-league contract).

The Blue Jays should have taken a different approach this off season. They should have gotten a head start on the rebuilding process by trading Halladay and OF Vernon Wells, both commanding large contracts. Look for the Blue Jays to enter this mode this summer at the trad-

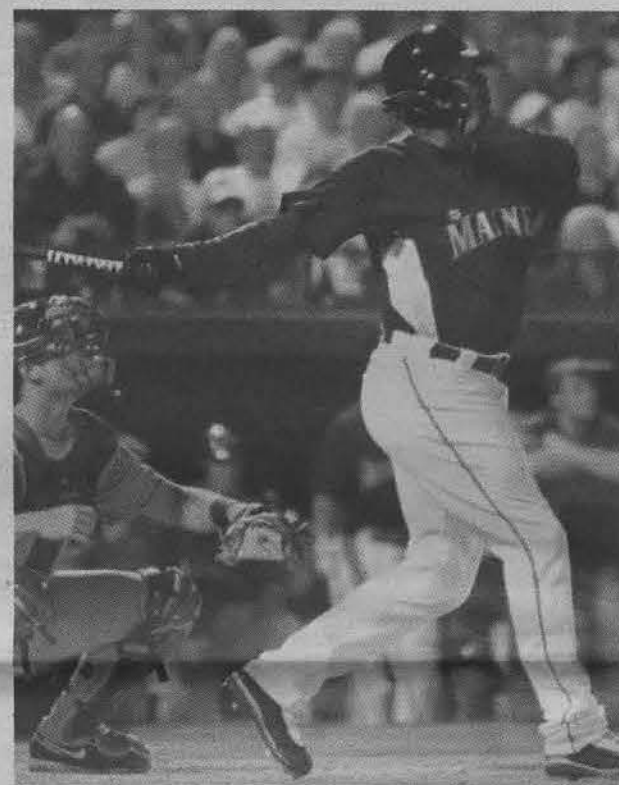
ing deadline as they fall well out of contention in the American League.

### Pittsburgh Pirates

When is the last time the Pirates had a winning season? One has to reach all the way back to 1992, when a skinny and un-juiced Barry Bonds was on the team. Do you mean to tell me this organization is really unable to produce a team with the high draft picks they have had? Simply pathetic.

The Pirates should take a page out of the Tampa Bay Rays book of developing players. Since the Rays command a lower budget (Pirates: \$48 million, Tampa: \$43 million) and made the World Series last year, the Pirates have no excuse to not producing a winning team in the past 17 years.

After an off-season like these teams delivered, fans around baseball must be telling themselves they can run a team better than these guys (I certainly am). Congratulations, losers, on a job not well done.



YAHOO SPORTS

Outfielder Ken Griffey Jr. has gone back to his roots by rejoining the Seattle Mariners for the 2009 season.

## Men's Swimming & Diving breaks 15 records en route to third place finish at NEISDA championships

By WILLIAM MANLY  
Herald Staff Writer

In the final meet of the season, the men's swimming and diving team proved its worth with a strong third place finish at the New England Intercollegiate Swimming & Diving Association Championships behind first and second place finishers Keene State and Bentley College. The team took advantage of competing in their home pool, maintaining consistency throughout the three day meet and breaking a staggering fifteen team records in the process.

"We just wanted to get out there and swim fast, show people what we're made of," sophomore Jim Crowther said. "We knew Bentley and Keene would be tough, and we knew we'd have to give it our all to have a chance for second or third."

The Hawks made their presence known early, finishing with a strong third place in the first event, the 200-meter freestyle relay. The team, made up of Zach Gillespie, Peter Walerysiak, Crowther, and Mike Faustine eclipsed the previous school record with an impressive time of 1:27.69, and that was just the beginning.

Kevin Danaher and Mike Carlucci followed suit, breaking school records in the preliminaries of the

500-yard freestyle and 200-yard backstroke with times of 5:01.62 and 1:58.43, respectively. Danaher would go on to finish tenth in the finals, with Carlucci finishing fourth.

The team also finished strong in the 50-yard freestyle, with Zach Gillespie, Faustine, Crowther, and Mike Nappi all finishing in the top 12, adding 26 points for Roger Williams. Gillespie's time of 22.17 in the prelims was good enough for another school record.

Walerysiak also joined in on the record breaking, going on to later take yet another school record in the 200-yard Individual Medley (IM) with a time of 2:06.25, good enough for fifth place.

On the second day, the Hawks picked up right where they left off. Starting off the day with the 200-yard Medley Relay, Mike Carlucci, Jeremy Siegel, Dale Dubinsky and Mike Faustine had a solid fourth place finish, paving the way for the rest of the team's success during the day.

Freshman phenom Mike Carlucci added another school record to his belt, finishing the prelims with a record breaking time of 54.82. Carlucci would go on to finish fifth in the finals. Kevin Danaher also made more waves with a school record 4:27.43 in the 400 IM, finishing sev-

enth. Also in the 400 IM was Jordan Amdur, who was able to shed twenty seconds off his personal best with a time of 4:59.47.

Siegel would go on to finish fifth

in the 100-yard Breaststroke, with Joe Presnick and Peter Walerysiak also finishing in the top 12. The day ended just as it started, with the

See SWIM p. 7



COURTESY RWU ATHLETICS

The men's swimming and diving team has proved its worth with a strong third-place finish at the New England Intercollegiate Swimming & Diving Association Championships, behind first and second place finishers Keene State and Bentley College.