Ultimate Conservative

Former WWF champion speaks out against liberalism

Mark Walterskopf
Contributing Writer

His November 17 presentation was not about wrestling, but on his new focus, conservatism, and its challenger—liberalism. The event was sponsored by the RWU College Republicans, and titled “Multiculturalism is for Sissies.”

Everybody take a deep breath. I can always feel the tension when I walk into a room,” said Warrior—his legal name for 12 years now.

Still an imposing figure, despite admitting that his physique is no longer the priority it once was. Warrior looked up to the audience and asked, “Can this thing [podium] slide in the way?” Wantx grabbed an edge and pulled. And audible crack was heard, the audience hooted.

The lights weren’t as hot as spotlights. The crowd wasn’t as frenzied as in WrestleMania 6 when he pinned Hulk Hogan for the heavyweight championship. And he didn’t run to the podium in ferocity, nor shake the microphone with infinite energy as he once did the ropes.

But when former two-time World Wrestling Federation champion, and beloved star of the square-circle in the eighties and early nineties, Ultimate Warrior, spoke to a jam-packed class, there was a certain amount of electricity in the air as Warrior made his way down the aisle of unknowns. Following an introductory video highlighting his career.

If gay marriage is allowed on a federal level, then there becomes the possibility that other “alternative” types of marriages, such as polygamy, will be pushed by certain groups. The implications of gay marriage were also discussed. If gay marriage is allowed on a federal level, then there becomes the possibility that other “alternative” types of marriages, such as polygamy, will be pushed by certain groups. Another student articulated his confidence that religion is the true dictator of the

Guess not.”

The chronicles of Warrior’s life began when he was a scrappy teenager who discovered the weight room. Seeing his body transform from bone to bronze gave him confidence, discipline and self-motivation. Seven years into a chiropractic education degree in Atlanta, Georgia—a professional wrestling hubbed at the time—he was presented an opportunity to get into the wrestling business and the rest as he puts it, “was history.”

Fans of the Warrior’s career know he has had absences from the business, specifically from ’92 to ’96, when he had to make “morally tough decisions.” Warrior said the McMahons (WWE) pushed by certain groups. Another student articulated his confidence that religion is the true dictator of the

For three consecutive days, a hawk took down seagulls outside the Gabelli School of Business. One student who witnessed the massacre said, “The seagulls didn’t seem to learn their lesson, they kept taunting the hawk.”

Split decision on same-sex marriage

Aubrey Joyce
News Editor

On November 2, 11 states voted on constitutional amendments banning same-sex marriage: Arkansas, Georgia, Kentucky, Michigan, Mississippi, Montana, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon and Utah. Twenty million Americans voted, and in every state except Oregon, the amendments passed by at least 60 percent.

Gay marriage has become a major issue that has divided the United States. Some believe that the legalization of gay marriage is long overdue and would break down a barrier of discrimination toward same-sex couples. Others believe gay marriage is wrong and should not be lawfully allowed because of religious disapproval, the concern of the preservation of marriage or the worry that children raised by same-sex couples will suffer emotionally and perhaps sexually.

On November 17, students and staff attended a Scoones Café, moderated by Professor June Speakman, to discuss the issue of gay marriage. They debated whether this decision should be placed in the hands of the federal government or be kept at a state level. Professor Jeffrey Martin expressed his belief that the states, which have always had purview over this issue, should have the right to determine if gay marriage is accepted within their own legislation.

If this issue is left in the hands of the state governments, the question then becomes, when it is appropriate to discriminate and divide the population into those who can marry and those who cannot. Right now, many gays and lesbians are heading to Massachusetts to get married; however, same-sex marriages in Massachusetts are not recognized nationwide. In addition, President Bush is supporting a federal constitutional amendment that would ban gay marriage in all states.

The implications of gay marriage were also discussed. If gay marriage is allowed on a federal level, then there becomes the possibility that other “alternative” types of marriages, such as polygamy, will be pushed by certain groups. Also, children raised by same-sex couples may be disadvan-taged—teased by their peers or sexually confused. Another implication brought up by students was the increased number of children being raised by single parents. Although the lifestyle might not be ideal—one mother and one father—these children lead healthy and happy lives, they claim, so why is it any better for a single parent to raise a child than a same-sex couple?

One Tough Hawk

For three consecutive days, a hawk took down seagulls outside the Gabelli School of Business. One student who witnessed the massacre said, “The seagulls didn’t seem to learn their lesson, they kept taunting the hawk.”

Copy by Scott Roberts
From Providence, with love

The Tao of Thanksgiving Break

Chris Villano
Contributing Writer

Tao: In Taoism, the basic, eternal principle of the universe that transcends reality and is the source of being, non-being and change.

Ah, it's good to be back home after the break. Isn't it? Wait, did I just imply that college is home? I think I did—was that an accident? In fact, I find myself doing that a lot. I've been doing it for a few years now, and if you're a freshman, odds are, this is the period in your college career that you'll start referring to the dorms as "home" too. But still, since when is this a joke of a state our facts? I'm the one who gets home—almost time to adhere to what your parents expect from you. You'll start feeling that you're a freshman who don't need to go into any detail from here.

But before you can say "home is great," you're heading back to school, to little Rhode Island, writing essays, doing projects, being that guy who shows up late, wearing sandals in the shower and eating at transfer. But I suppose this is the way it is, this is the world we live in now. People always say college years are the best years of your life and I wonder if that's true. But I do know one thing: every time I come back to school, I'm thankful for the people I've met, the things I've learned and the places I've been. Now let's go out and get wasted!

For everyone back at home, enjoy the holidays as much as possible. A time to break out the fakes, head to the bars, head to the woods, head anywhere possible to show off your newly-acquired drinking skills and remind everyone how good you are. "The Tao of Thanksgiving Break" is a mad dash to find a state of being, non-being and change.

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To contact the Hawk's Herald, email us at hawksherald@yahoo.com or call x3229.

Editor's Desk

This message is brought to you by Friends episode 7.2, "The One with Rachel's Big Kiss," which teaches females everywhere, don't forget to explore the options.

Today we will focus on two distinct types of males: the stalkers and the heartbreakers. First, the stalkers—they're creepy. Ladies, you know who you're talking about. Those guys who follow you out of class, make mindless conversation as they walk you to your car and show up at your workplace because they were in the neighborhood. First of all, nobody is ever just "in the neighborhood" unless it's Mr. Rogers and he's death, second, we're nice, and there's no good way to tell you we're not interested. So, to all stalkers: WE'RE NOT INTERESTED.

Now, to the heartbreakers. You sure know how to ruin the holidays for a girl. Here's a handy piece of advice: three years and one diamond (promise) ring face, a BAD excuse for the breakup is, "Something just isn't there anymore." Here's a good replacement phrase: "I love you, you were the best thing to ever happen to me. But I need some 'me' time and I have no intention of hooking up with anyone else for many months." So, to all heartbreakers: THINK BEFORE YOU SPEAK.

So, thanks Jennifer Aniston and Whitney Rudey, for giving experimentation national airline.
To the Editor:

I’m alarmed by comments from Bristol Town Council officials in the Nov. 13th article by Aubrey Joyce, “Some Bristol Residents Feel RWU is Taking a Free Ride.” In my Nov. 6th “Open Letter to the Administration,” I lamented the University’s unwillingness to engage in an open, democratic process when negotiating with the town to pay fees that would take the place of property taxes—and thus, as I argued, would be effectively indistinguishable from the taxes themselves. At the time I wrote this letter, I assumed that the town of Bristol had fundamentally misunderstood the degree to which the University’s administration and Board of Directors could serve as legitimate representation for the student body. These bodies are not elected by the students, and have a fundamentally different set of priorities than the student body. I thought that the Town Council had simply not understood the latter point, or considered the importance of the first.

The Town Council’s comments suggest that I was wrong—the Town Council may simply care not a whit for legitimate student representation, or for offering a truly democratic process to this discussion. Consider the comments of Town Council Vice President David Barboza, who asserts that “Roger Williams knows they need to do something, so they are not forced by state law to become equitable.” I find the thought process here to be bizarre. If the Town Council feels that the current law classifying the University as a non-profit is not equitable, or the law exempting non-profits from property taxes, then the democratic, honest thing for them to do is to lobby the state legislature for a change in the law. That is, they should do precisely what Vice President Barboza presents as a threat!

Lobbying the state legislature would allow the Town Council to present its argument, and the Student Body and administration would be able to present theirs as well—for all it’s our state legislature too. For that matter, concerned citizens in Bristol would be able to voice their concerns directly in an open deliberative process. Taking this issue to the state legislature would produce a process that is open, pluralistic, and democratic in the finest tradition of the word.

Why isn’t the Town Council doing this? I believe it is because RWU’s behavior is equitable. One purpose of making a University exempt from property taxes must surely be to encourage its expansion, thus increasing the cultural and economic benefit the University can bring to a host town. President Ruggerio lamented the University’s acquisition of Almeida Apartments and its subsequent removal from the tax rolls—but surely, this is precisely the sort of behavior envisioned and encouraged by the legislation that defined our University as a non-profit! The same holds true for the University’s renovations that Ruggerio identifies as a “sore point” in the community.

The Town of Bristol does not have a reasonable argument for their assertion that the University should be paying money—ultimately, student money—to the town. This is why it isn’t seeking redress in the state legislature, openly and fairly. Instead, it seeks to work behind the backs of a sizable block of Bristol residents—the student body—and produce a pseudo-tax without the benefit of openness, discussion or democracy, let alone student representation. It’s possible I’m wrong. Maybe the Town does have a strong argument that the University’s behavior is inequitable—a stronger argument than “it is inequitable because public opinion is against it,” which is all their current position boils down to. If such a strong argument does exist, then let’s hear it! Let’s go to the State House, and argue for or against a change in the law. Or, the Town Council could sit down with the Student Senate—the elected representatives of the students—who’d be paying any tax-surrogate—and establish an agreement with that body. I don’t object to taxes in principle—but despite Mr. Barboza’s reassurance that there is no difference between a tax and a tax-replacement, I see no functional different between the two. Taxes of any sort must be approved by elected representatives of the taxpayers, either in Providence or the Student Senate chamber.

Ethan Maron
Class of 2006

Dear Meg and Ash,

I’m having a really hard time changing my makeup over to a more “nirvana” look. I like to wear bright blues and pinks, but these are mainly summer colors. What do you suggest?

Mad over Makeup

We’re glad you asked! This is no problem at all, but we do see a lot of girls sticking to the same makeup patterns throughout the seasons, which can sometimes be a fashion faux pas. It works if you stick with brown year-round, but if you tend to go more extreme, you do want to be weary of what’s in for the season. Of course, your look depends on the occasion, but more neutral colors for the eye, such as browns, tans and greens are definitely in for the fall and winter. You can also wear gold for a more dressed-up look and even shades of grays and silver look lovely with the right outfit. You mentioned pink being one of your favorite colors, so try to stay away from intense pinks and go more toward pastels. Try putting a light shade of brown under the pink accent. For lips and cheeks, almond and nutmeg are perfect for the colder weather. Since most of us will be buying our suntan tans, you want to go lightly on this blush, the lighter the better. For a finishing touch add a nice bronzer to give you that healthy glow. When in doubt, stick to less shiny colors, unless heading out for a night on the town. We hope we were helpful!

Dear Meg and Ash,

I was in class the other day when the teacher said something rude to me. What should I do about it? I am still very upset.

Just a little respect, that’s all.

Respect:

Your best option is to talk to the teacher in private. Go to his or her office during office hours and explain to them the situation and why you are feeling upset. He or she is a professional and under no circumstances should he or she be rude to you. You are both adults and should have mutual respect regardless of whether you like each other. Were you googling off in class? Perhaps they were just trying to get you to turn off your phone. Was the comment biased, racist or sexist in nature? If it was then your situation needs to be taken to a higher level. Regardless, this is not preschool and you should not be treated like a 3-year-old. If it was completely uncalled for, take action to make sure it doesn’t happen again. Consult a higher authority. You don’t want your grades to suffer. Good Luck!

Keep those emails coming! askmeg_ash@hotmail.com

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PRSSA comes to campus
Gina-Marie Mariano
Contributing Writer

The Public Relations Student Society of America, PRSSA, has launched its first full year at RWU. Dr. Robert Ristino, a communications professor and academic advisor of the chapter said, "There was an enthusiastic response from the students and the chapter continues to grow." The PRSSA was unveiled at RWU last spring, and there are currently 30 members, but 29 others have recently indicated that they will be joining. PRSSA's officers include President Matthew Taylor and Vice-President Stephanie Marak, as well as Ben DeChouquette, Allison Garr, Angela Guarino and Jen Leoslecre.

The PRSSA, founded by the Public Relations Society of America (the PRSA) in 1968, is specifically designed for public relations majors, and provides students with educational opportunities in the field. RWU is the first university in Rhode Island to have a chapter, adding to the PRSSA's 248 chapters nationwide. According to Ristino, the PRSSA provides many ways for members to network with each other, and with PRSA professionals. PRSSA-Talk is an emailing list that allows members of the organization to discuss the public relations profession with other members. In addition, the PRSSA publishes a national newspaper three times a year, The Forum, which provides members with information about the society.

Vice President Stephanie Marak said, "We want to set up a 'student-run firm' modeled after a real firm and run our own PR business, sticking with the rules and regulations of real world PR. [Our goal] is to acquire an organization, whether it be someone like the RWU Inner Class Council (ICC) or an off-campus nonprofit organization, who needs help in the field of PR. I want everyone involved in PRSSA at RWU to come away from this year with a full portfolio to show at future internships or job opportunities. We're here to have fun, but our main point is to learn the ins-and-outs of PR which will help us be a step ahead of everyone else when we go for a job." The chapter attended the PRSSA's annual national conference earlier this semester. It was held in New York, where students were able to network with professionals, set up internships and interviews and receive resume critiques. In addition, the featured speaker was Donald Trump.

Executive Assistant to the National Liaison Adam Noska said, "The conference was a great experience, with phenomenal workshops, and we got to hear Donald Trump!" While the conference is typically five days, the RWU chapter was only able to stay for one, due to scheduling conflicts and a lack of funds. The chapter hopes to stay for the entire conference in the years to come.

Session spans from acoustics to rap

Erin Kimberly Lensers
Contributing Writer

While the hosts of the latest Expression Session, entertained the crowd with their "Are You Afraid of the Dark?" references and inside information that fortunate songs kill zombies, playing the guitar with a slow ballad, then appeared to be the most popular way for students to express themselves. One of the first bands to go was The rawk!aib Gynecologists. The group claimed that instead of practicing, they just make-up songs as they go along, using electric and acoustic guitars. One of their spur-of-the-moment songs centered on gastronomical excess, i.e., eating and drinking too much. A stand-out performance of the night was Doug, a first-time participant. In addition to playing an acoustic guitar and a harmonica, he belted out a self-penned song, followed by an instrumental John Faye tune.

Doug's performance was followed by Ray, another first-timer at the Session. Ray, playing an acoustic guitar, introduced himself with a slow ballad, then broke into a rap. As Kevin put it, "That is the kind of performance people will talk about."

Metallica Mike followed with his red and yellow electric guitar, his fingers a blur as he riffed, energizing the crowd. Following Metallica Mike, Kevin, one of the cohosts, gave an impromptu dual "Badass Reward" to What's the Status, the first band to play, and Metallica Mike. Expression Sessions are held every Thursday night in the Other Place.

Marriage

(cont'd from page 1)

path of gay marriage. If popular America has religious beliefs that oppose gay marriage, then gay marriage will not be accepted as a legitimate union. Another important aspect of same-sex marriage discussed at the Socrates Café was the layer of benefits enjoyed by married couples, but not granted to same-sex couples. One member of the Socrates Café outlined two layers of gay marriage: the formal and permanent commitment and the legal benefits enjoyed by gay couples. For instance, why shouldn't a gay couple, who love each other in the same way as heterosexual couples, feel about each other, be refused health benefits or visitation with his/her sickly loved one in the hospital? On the flipside, one student brought up the issue of the sanctity of marriage. The student expressed the belief that marriage is specifically defined as a permanent bond between a man and a woman, and unless that definition is altered, anyone else, to include marital rights. Personal attitudes toward homosexuality have certainly changed. More and more people seem to accept that homosexuals deserve equal rights. However, the issue of gay marriage is still not acceptable to all. After seeing 11 states approve constitutional amendments to ban gay marriage, it is uncertain whether same-sex marriage will ever be legalized on the federal level. Professor Kurt Torrell questioned when law should reflect majority opinion. Should the people who voted for the constitutional amendment to ban gay marriage have a say in this issue? Those who attended the Socrates Café were left to ponder who, in the end, should be left to decide the issue of same-sex marriage: the federal government or the state.
It was at this time he had discovered the Great Books of the Western World. The 60-volume collection contains 517 works by 130 authors, and describes 300 centuries worth of literature, mathematics, science, history, theology and philosophy. Because of his father's absence, Warrior had felt a void until finding the books. "Here I was in my thirties and I could point, 'These are my heroes, these are my role models.'" Warrior exchanged his muscles for his mind. "When I started to go out to college campuses I was surprised how many people don't care." He directs his disgust specifically to President Clinton's second term. "Here is a man who is politically and figuratively the leader and he is acting like a pervert and a child. There are politicians that are lying, shameless individuals in all parties," says Warrior. "The philosophy has to be right before the people are right. Government doesn't mean anything to chickens, cattle, and cats. The government is a work unless the people work, and I don't mean nine to five. Philosophy isn't some second-tier state of mind created by great philosophers to leave others confused. Whatever your philosophy is determines how you think and act."

Warrior's thunderous voice and obvious intensity engaged the audience and demanded attention. He believes the America of today is compromising core values that stood for strength and honor, and that people are at the forefront. "To [liberals] there are no absolutes, no true or false, no good or evil. They are sissies, cowards, and even pussies. To them the bum is as legitimate as the businessman, being a queer is just as legitimate as the heterosexual. Kwanzaa is just as legitimate as Christmas, and the anarchist is as legitimate as the police officer! America is a shithole getting pitifully out of sight, the enemy truly is within." Warrior quoted the Out-of-Naturalization, "I will defend the country of Independence." He continues, "In other words you're here, not here, because one with the idea of America. What don't you understand about that? America is a superior culture and civilization to all others at the beginning of time. But the foundation is so cracked you can see through it to the communism of China."

In a bit of irony on today's education, Warrior lashed out against liberals who try to twist the system. "Education should teach (students) the potential to think for themselves. The only thing that should obscure their dreams depends on how hard they are willing to work."

"President Reagan said, 'If we forget what we did, we will forget who we are.' Liberalism is trying to make us forget. They don't want American values, for the same reason peasants in distant countries teach to destroy."

Warrior claims liberals are ashamed that America has power. "We can't let others know we're powerful. In the classrooms, brains aren't trained to be anti-teacher, even anti-mind." Warrior suggests the country should teach independence and self-reliance. "Stand up and say 'Screw you, I can succeed.' These people will learn self-discipline, not self-indulgence."

"Why is it that liberals despise what America stands for and won't make good on their promise and leave? They are anti-American, but not anti-America. They want the seats so they can turn it into a playground. It is their intent to win in order to lose Islam. Socialism, communism, Marxism, none of them succeeded, they all failed."

"Under liberalism," Warrior argues, "those of you in here that work harder than others will be handing it off to the have-nots."

To pull this off liberalism needs non-American diversity. A lot of people ask me, "but Warrior, this country is built on immigrants. Yes, the people who dropped to their knees and shed tears and kissed the ground. Lots of immigrants of today's urine and deceit on the land. The people must live up to their end of the deal—the Declaration of Independence demands responsibility to the republic's demands and needs, and not a disrespectful obligation to a free ride."

Concerning the homosexual rights/marriage debate Warrior said, "People can practice whatever freaky things they want. A queer can jump over a fence and screw a reindeer. Just don't cram it down my throat, no pun intended," eliciting a large reaction from the crowd.

"I don't make the kind of money speaking as I did wrestling. If you apply yourself you can do anything. The knowledge is out there to do whatever you want to do. Liberal used to mean a person who created freedom in his life. My philosophy is classical liberalism. "Time is important on this planet. We must continue traditions and respect those who came before us. Ask yourselves what the founding fathers surely asked themselves. 'Will I do in my life what will live forever?'"
Renovated lab ready to roll

Heather Kordula
Science Editor

If anyone has wandered downstairs in the MNS building lately, they may have noticed that one of the biology labs has received a makeover. What used to be the forensics lab has been renovated into a research lab.

Drs. Marcie Marston, Sean Colin, Kerri Warren and Avelina Espinosa will be sharing the new facility in order to conduct their current research projects in more adequate space.

In the past, research projects were performed in classroom labs when there was available space. Professors and students would have to work around the lab schedules, as well as their own conflicting schedules, which was what led to the need for a dedicated research space.

Therefore, it was decided that the labs would be moved around in order to free up one lab room specifically devoted to research. Dean Koelle gave her approval for external grant money from other organizations toward the renovations of the new research facility. The lab is split into four sections, one for each professor’s ongoing research with a common space in the middle.

The renovated lab on the ground floor of MNS is being used for new research projects for the science department.

Dancers set to perform

Dancers set to perform

By Rachel Mertz

The RWU Dance Club’s fall semester show will take place in the Rec Center Field House on Tuesday, December 7, at 8 p.m.; doors will open at 7:30 p.m. The Dance Club is RWU’s largest club and its members practice all semester for the performance. Dance Club President Stefanie Mosher states, “I take pride in my passion for dance and have been fortunate enough to share it with the RWU Dance Club.” The RWU Dance Club is open to all who enjoy dancing. Hip-hop is the predominant genre performed; however, the audience will be given a taste of tap, jazz, ballet and modern dance. The show consists of two acts and a 10-minute intermission. Tickets will be on sale for $2 Friday, December 3, through Tuesday, December 7 at the ticket booth in the Rec Center lobby during lunch and dinner hours, or tickets can be purchased at the door.

December 8
Student Research Presentations

Science & Math Seminar Series
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Meetings are held every Monday at 6:30 pm in the Student Senate Chambers
(Located on the second floor of the Recreation Center).

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We Govern Your Body
**Friends don't let friends see “Alexander”**

Adam Noska  
Contributing Writer

“Alexander” was the worst movie I have ever seen in my life. Seriously. It is a three-hour movie with two fight scenes that lasted approximately 20 minutes. Trust me, you have already seen all the good parts in the trailers. The rest of the movie is pointless, consisting mostly of Alexander whimpering as he makes his way across Asia. That’s it. Do not pay to see this movie. Do not rent this movie. If you have the chance to see it for free, respectfully decline. You must tell your friends and family to avoid “Alexander” like the plague. If there are people that you care about, you owe it to them to not let them see this movie. Given the choice of seeing this movie again or paying someone to kick me in the stomach, I would choose the latter.

When I first saw previews for this movie, I all but marked the release date on my calendar. How could you not get excited? It’s a war movie about the man who all but conquered the known world. To sweeten the deal, the movie is directed by Oliver Stone and stars Angelina Jolie, Colin Farrell, Sir Anthony Hopkins, Val Kilmer, Rosario Dawson and Jared Leto. From the trailers, it seemed like the movie would be about Alexander’s aptitude in battle, with allusions to his drinking, and probably some love interest thrown in for good measure. In short, it appeared to have the makings of a phenomenal movie in the likeness of “Apocalypse Now” or “The Deer Hunter.”

Nothing could have prepared me for the longest three hours of all time, and for the movie to convey but two points: 1) Alexander cried all the time and 2) Alexander was bisexual. As a matter of fact, if you were to describe Oliver Stone’s Alexander in two words they would be “bisexual crybaby.” Throughout the movie, Alexander acts more like a preteen girl than a soldier, either tearing up, flirting with his buddy, or both.

After seeing the movie, I began calling every single person in my phone’s memory and went on a rant, much like the preceding paragraphs. I have made similar statements to every store clerk and waitress I have come in contact with since seeing this awful, awful movie. I am trying to touch as many people as possible with my message, which is why I write this now. This movie has taken away $10 and three hours of my life that I will never get back. The least I can do is save others from a similar fate.

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**SAAC Basket Competiton**

Caption and photos by Jen McMahon

The Student Athletic Advisory Committee (SAAC) met on November 21 to put together Thanksgiving baskets. All RWU athletic teams participated, making one or two baskets each, and donating money. SAAC donated 24 baskets, surpassing last year’s total, and raised over $400 for gift certificates. Locally, Stop & Shop donated an additional $80 to add to the baskets. The teams were given one hour to decorate the baskets. Over 130 athletes were part of this event, but the sailing team won the contest.
Scripted Sports

Lack of sportsmanship seen at professional level

Tim Mannion
Sports Editor

Relax. Take a deep breath. What you just saw really happened. It did. And you’re going to see, read, hear, think and breathe it for an underdetermined period of time.

If you’re like me, these above statements began to filter through your head after watching Ron Artest leap into the stands, searching for the beer bottle who so drastically threw a cap at him while he was power napping on the scorer’s table.

In history, situations like the Detroit brawl have been happening so frequently that I haven’t had the chance to blink or even get my TiVo plugged in on time. It seems like each day something outrageous and shocking happens in the sporting world. From Terrell Willingham, the sports that we know are, simply put, not simple.

There was the fight before the Cleveland Browns vs. the Pittsburgh Steelers game where LB Joey Porter and RB William Green swapped spit before swapping fists. Who in their right mind would mess with Joey Porter? Last year he got shot in the lower back during a drive-by and still played in a game later that week.

Then there is Terrell Owens. He may fit the description of the self-proclaimed “bad guy,” but he is a “jackass.” And if you don’t believe me, take a trip to his personal website, terrelowens.com. For $200 you can buy an autographed football. It’s not like he needs your money.

But Latrell Sprewell apparently does. Sprewell, a member of the Minnesota Timberwolves, turned down an extension to his contract a few weeks ago which would have paid him $27 million over three years, because he said it wasn’t enough to feed his family.

Is Sprewell feeding a small country?

Speaking of family, isn’t a football team kind of like a big family? Tell that to the University of South Carolina and Clemson University. The two teams took a play from Ron Artest’s playbook and began to rumble at midfield just minutes before their final game of the season. It looks like this family had an ugly divorce. For the seniors, it was one last hurrah—or, hurry I’ve been hit!

This week ended with the firing of Notre Dame football’s head coach, Tyrone Willingham. ND has been known for their academic standards and their cherished program, but this week the Board of Trustees pulled the trigger and fired their head coach after only three seasons. This story has caused controversy because Willingham was the third African American coach fired this month. He leaves behind a tradition the school would love to forget. “Return to Glory” has now become “Fade to Black.”

If one were to pinpoint reality, it would have to be found somewhere between Owens and Notre Dame. Some quick-to-say sports video games are a shadow of reality. I agree to disagree. For some, like me, sports have become a circus.

Reality television, take a seat on the bench. We’re putting in the backup.

Temper flare in men’s basketball opener

Hawks fall to FSC Rams 66-57; fights breaks out between players and fans

Tim Mannion
Sports Editor

The RWU men’s basketball season had a dismal start Tuesday night as the Hawks were dropped by the Framingham State College Rams (FSC) 66-57. RWU fans were also at a loss when an altercation in the stands between RWU students and family members of a Rams player brought up memories of an Indiana/Detroit fight just a few weeks ago.

The game began like any other—the opening tip, won by the Rams, led to an easy bucket. The Hawks came up flat early, as the Rams took advantage of their quick guard play, pushing the score 4-0 in the first three minutes.

The Hawks finally got on the board with 16:45 left in the half as forward Andrew Viena connected on a jumper from the corner. More, finished a pass from Chris Cormier, junior. The men took that momentum and stretched it to a 10-8 lead. Unfortunately the next ten minutes saw the Hawks’ wings being clipped as the Rams zone defense kept the ball from reaching inside to centers Andrew Viena and Parrish. The Hawks were left at a disadvantage, forcing jump shots, something they struggled with the whole night. They finished the half down 33-22.

Excitement filled the next twenty minutes. Tensions between the two teams flared as Viena and a Ram player got into a scuffle after exchanging words under the Hawks’ basket. The incident set a trend for the rest of the game, as just a few minutes later a dispute between RWU students and family members of FSC player Anthony Washington interrupted the action. After a full minute, Washington, who was on the court at the time, came over to the stands and got involved in the fracas. Athletic Director George Kolb and RWU Public Safety were on the scene promptly, ejecting the students that were involved.

It took a minute to clear the area before play resumed. The Hawks made some adjustments during the timeout, enabling them to break down the zone defense and get the ball to Parrish, who finished the game with 19 points and 11 rebounds.

They cut the lead to 55-49 with 4:15 left, but their Shaq-like free throw percentage, 8 of 21 from the charity stripe, wasn’t a handout from the stands and more ejections by officials.

The Hawks will be back in action Sunday, December 4 at 3:30 p.m. when they host Anna Maria College.

* While the coach from FSC apologized for his teams actions, the recent fights at the professional level have raised questions concerning the integrity of the sport, including the actions of players and fans.

The termed Ram (above, right) fouled Piston Center Ben Wallace. The fight moved into the crowd when a fan threw a cup of beer on Artest. The NBA has given Artest a 75-game suspension, the longest in league history.