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Roger Williams University

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Student diversity is lacking, but lacking the tools to fix

By Ashley Iasiello
Contributing Writer

You know you're black at Roger Williams University when your teacher looks at you sympathetically when he or she talks about past racial issues. You know you're black at RWU when in 95 percent of your classes you're the only black student. You know you're black at RWU when you can never skip a class without your teacher knowing. According to those who know, you know you're black at RWU when you feel different.

"The black student population on this campus makes up only one-fifth of one percent of the total population. We don't even have our own percent yet," says RWU student Kevin Bates. While most would agree that diversity is a positive goal for any college, why RWU has so little diversity, and what it would take to get it here is a matter of debate.

According to RWU administrators, the low number of black students is certainly something that RWU is trying to change. Lynn Fawthrop, the Director of Facilities Management, says, "We try to recruit African-Americans every year, but it's not easy. We recognize that this is a problem. The freshman class that entered in the fall of 1999 had a black population of one percent. Overall we had 1.8% black students apply that year." Approximately half of the black students who applied got accepted to Roger Williams University.

Fawthrop explains, "When black students come to see our school they don't see any likeness to them. They need to see mirror images of themselves. They don't see that here. It makes them feel uncomfortable." Fawthrop further explained that the fact that we only have one African-American professor "does not help at all. RWU tries to get more minorities to come here. We target minorities by getting involved in Hispanic fairs and working with Bridge To Success. Bridge To Success targets black students and tries to help them achieve their academic goals. However, no one from Bridge To Success came to Roger Williams."

Fawthrop also explains that the university is putting a lot of energy into diversity. "We're very committed to this issue. However, it is hard to make instant changes. We had some students here a little while ago from Boston Latin. They were a group of minority students that really seemed to like the school. But they asked what the population of minority students was and they were not happy with my answer. An example like this is one reason why we are planning new ways to recruit minority students."

The fact that RWU is mostly a white campus deters some people from wanting to come here. Al DaCruz, an African-American student at the University of Rhode Island, says, "I went to high school in Bristol, so Roger - see RWU trying to fix, page 3 - was not the place is good. I love my friends and I have a good time. Not everyone treats us differently. But the ones that do really stand out."

Kevin Bates, a minority student here at RWU

Accommodations in future for RWU due to growing population

By Beth Martinson
Entertainment Editor

Plans are already in the works for a new residence hall that will provide housing for 400 students. According to Matthew White, Director of Facilities Management, the building is being built to "accommodate the growth of the university." The new dorm will have four buildings with 90-100 beds in each building to be built behind the Center for Student Development. "The new residence hall will feature suites, doubles, and singles and will be used for freshman housing in the Fall of 2001," said Vice President of Finance, Thomas Oates.

The lack of enough housing this year was a problem for many students who wanted to attend the university," explained Oates. Many accepted students wanted to attend RWU but were not able to because the University could not promise them housing. The addition of a new dorm will not only resolve this problem, but also ease the problem of overcrowding in the other dorms.

Also in the works is an addition to the Paolino Recreation Center. "The addition will be major," explained White. Some of the additions will include a new eight-lane swimming pool, aerobics rooms, and a wood floor basketball court. The addition will "provide a pool for swimming teams, as well as, intramurals for students, faculty, and staff," said Oates. The expansion of the recreation center will be "as modern as possible" and will "enhance athletic programs" here at Roger Williams University.

There has also been a proposal to enlarge the Student Union, which is inadequate now that the university has grown so exponentially. The proposal is to enlarge the union to twice its current size. "We know we need to do it and we want to do it, but finance is an issue," said White. The expected cost for the new resident facility is about $10-11 million, and the addition to the Paolino Center is expected to cost about $8-9 million.

The administration also plans on doing something about the terrible parking situation on campus. The problem, which affects students as well as faculty and staff, needs to be handled soon due to the fact that the University is expanding so quickly. Ideas include using more space on North Campus and the Portsmouth campus. There has also been a proposal and approval for a parking garage on Old Ferry Road that will provide 550 more spaces for cars.
Editor’s Notes

O, Canada!
By Aly Mase, Editor-in-Chief

I waited until the last possible minute to write this Editorial, hoping that perhaps by some miracle of God, this election would be set straight. I am not sure if I can take a positive or negative stance on it. I can only write about: “What if?”

What if George W. Bush becomes President of the United States? Well, boys and girls, after having a heated debate with my eleven-year-old brother, an avid Bush supporter thanks to 6th grade social studies; I realized no one understands how terrible it will be if Bush gets elected. Now, keep in mind this is merely my opinion. But speaking as a woman, a supporter of equal rights, a firm believer in AIDS awareness, a devout anti-gun activist, pro civil union, and an open homosexual, I will be deeply affected if George W. Bush becomes the next President.

Bush has stated that he will “probably not [make any appointments of openly homosexual people]. Because they do not share my ideals.” Bush has stated that he will fight to abolish Civil Unions and forbid adoptions to gay and lesbian parents, to “uphold traditional values.” As Governor of Texas, he has also refused to pass hate crime laws that mention sexual orientation. He has also not been an open supporter of the Employment Non-Discrimination Act, which includes ruling against discrimination and termination of openly gay and lesbian employees.

On an even darker note, Bush does not support the controlling of firearms in America. Meaning incidents such as Columbine High School meant nothing to him. I don’t understand why, according to Bush, homosexuals can not get married, but murders can get a gun anywhere and anytime they want. If that’s okay to Governor Bush, doesn’t that scare anyone else but me?

As far as HIV and AIDS education, Bush feels it should be left out of schools. Perhaps, again to “uphold traditional values” in his June Cleaver fantasy of America. AIDS education should begin as soon as children enter school. The entire country should be aware, as soon as possible, of what this disease is, how to prevent it, and the myths that surround it, so that one day we can eventually eliminate the word from our vocabulary. Bush has decided to place a “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” policy on this disease. AIDS is something that cannot be put aside, but that is how the Governor wishes to deal with it. Can this country afford to ignore HIV in the government for four years? I think not.

Now before I get flooded with political science majors bashing me, and pointing out that the presidency is not a tyranny, I wish to point out that the House of Representatives is a Republican majority. The Senate is a Republican majority. If the White House seats a Republican president, any law that possibly makes it through the House, or through Congress, that has to do with equal rights, AIDS education, gun laws, or anything else non-traditional, it will, in essence, be immediately vetoed. Not only this, but the Bush Presidency has the power to appoint Supreme Court officials, which will out last the four year Bush legacy.

Supreme Court justices serve until they retire, which could be 30 years or more after Bush leaves office, if he ever makes it.

In the case of Vermont Civil Unions, it was a state-wide ruling, not nationwide. Therefore, neither the President, the Senate, nor the House had anything to do with the decision. Who did? The Supreme Court of Vermont. Should the Vermont Supreme Court hearing of Civil Unions had been brought to a justice appointed by Bush, with Bush values and ideals, the ruling would have never passed. This is what the state level politicians will now face.

So, if George W. Bush becomes the 43rd President of the United States, I think I’m moving to Canada. What’s in Canada? NO BUSH.

Awards Announced for Maple Halloween Around the World

By Sara Clark
Staff Writer

On Monday, October 30th, Maple C.O.R.E. Tripp Hutchinson announced both the individual and the unit awards for the Maple/Nike Halloween Around-the-World, held on Sunday, October 29th from 8 to 10 p.m. Tripp was just one of three judges who went from unit to unit in Maple that night, videotaping as they went. Each unit was required to come up with a theme for decorating their lounge. On Sunday, they scrambled to decorate their units and get into their costumes while other Maple residents toured their units. The faculty and staff feasted on their candy, popcorn, cake, and in the case of one unit, Chinese food, had their photographs taken, faces painted, or were given party favors. The themes of the units ranged from a Halloween dance party complete with laser light show and dance club music to a tour of the “Adams Family Mansion.” At 9 p.m. there was also an opportunity for students to pay $1 to pie their RA in the Unit 9 lounge.

Awards for the event were; Best Decorated Unit, Unit 6, for their “Nightmare Before Christmas” theme; tie for Most Original Unit, Unit 4, for their “Scary Photos” theme and Unit 3 for their “Adams Family” theme; Scariest Unit, Unit 5, for their “The Dark Side” theme.

Individual awards were awarded as follows; Scott Carson of Unit 6 won scariest costume for his old man scarecrow costume; Tom Martin of Unit 5 won Most Original Costume for his headless body costume; and Barbara Dalhuske of Unit 3 won Funniest Costume for her Grandma Adams/tour guide costume.
Letters to the Editor

To the Editor:

I agree with my colleagues, Ben Carr and Dianne Cominsky, who, in the lead story of the November 3rd issue of The Hawk’s Eye, referred to RWU’s lack of African American faculty members as a serious problem.

The truth is that the RWU administration has remained uncommitted to solving the problem. We might say that we are committed to a more racially diverse faculty, but we really are not. Verbal announcements are not serious commitments, they require no action, and no serious commitment of resources. If the administration were serious about recruiting minority faculty members, it would make appropriate changes in its faculty search procedures.

Last fall, Michael Schipper, Vice President for Human Resources, met with faculty members in the Feinsteins College of Arts and Sciences (FCAS) to stress the importance of finding qualified minority candidates during the faculty search process and bringing them to campus for interviews. Mr. Schipper seemed sincere, and my conversations with FCAS colleagues, as well as my own experience on a search committee, suggest that faculty search committees took their charges seriously. But we were not given approval to bring candidates to campus for interviews until the middle of March. By that time, many qualified minority candidates have already accepted jobs elsewhere.

That was the case in the search process in which I participated.

As Vice President, Loretta Shelton stated, the number of African Americans holding doctoral degrees is relatively small, and there is fierce competition among colleges and universities to hire them. To recruit them, we must start the process early. In fact, I believe it is already too late to hire African-American faculty members for the 2001-02 academic year. Our searches should have commenced in September and should be concluded by Thanksgiving. We ought to begin the faculty search NOW for the 2002-03 academic year. We will recruit qualified African-American faculty members by changing our faculty search procedures, not by making vague announcements about the need for ethnic diversity.

Regarding Vice President Shelton’s comment about RWU being a rural university, well, I don’t consider Bristol an example of rural America. Relative few residents of the East Bay make their livings on farms. The area surrounding RWU is, in fact, richly and attractively diverse. Twenty miles away is an economically revitalized urban center. Ten miles away is a historic seaport town. Suburbs, seashore communities, wooded areas, and yes, a few farms—can also be found within a thirty minute drive from RWU.

The idea that African-Americans might not want to teach here because the area is too rural is not a valid excuse for our lack of African American faculty members.

We have used essentially the same recruiting procedures for the past twenty years, and we have recruited very few African-American faculty members.

Maybe it is time to change our strategy.

James Tackach, Professor, English Department

EDITORIAL RESPONSE:

I would have to agree with Professor Tackach, as well as Ben Carr and Dianne Cominsky, in saying that there is a serious problem in the lack of African American professors on faculty here at RWU. I would also like to say that Vice President Loretta Shelton makes an outrageous assumption in stating, “We [RWU] are a very young university and a rural university. These facts make the problem more difficult to solve.”

In that statement, she is not only assuming, but also following a ridiculous stereotype, that African-Americans would not be attracted to teaching at RWU because we’re not located in a suburban area. I also agree with Professor Tackach’s theory that, yes, it’s good that we acknowledge we have a problem here, and a lack of diversity, but the administration should stop talking about it, and start taking steps towards the goal of hiring more African-American professors.

Aly Mase, Editor-In-Chief

Have something to say? Write a letter to the Editor of the Hawk’s Eye.

Letters should be dropped off at THE HAWK’S EYE office in the lower Student Union before deadline. Any letters submitted after this date may not be printed.

Letters must be typed, double-spaced, and spell-checked. All letters must be signed.

Anonymous letters will not be printed.

The writer should include his/her phone number, although the number will not be printed in THE HAWK’S EYE. All articles are subject to editing.

call: 254-3229
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Memorial stolen over Labor Day weekend returned

By Kyle Kennan

A memorial that was stolen over Labor Day weekend was anonymously returned early in the morning on October 28th, according to Vincent Federici, CORE of Willow Hall. The memorial, which was located under a tree near Willow, was a plaque fastened to a four by four piece of wood. It was dedicated to the memory of Nehemiah Warren, a student of RWU who passed away two summers ago.

At the urging of some students, there was a dedication service conducted last year, located at the tree which friends of Nehemiah’s had aptly dubbed “Ne’s Tree.” In response to his affection for that tree in particular.

The theft was made easier due to the fact that the wood post was not properly anchored to the ground; it was merely hammered in. “That’s what made it a little bit easier to rip out,” said Federici. “It was actually pretty simple to take out.” It should be noted however, that theft of such an item would not seem likely, seeing as it was a memorial to a deceased student.

After learning of the theft from an RA, Federici sent a voicemail to all residents of Willow informing them of the theft, and urging them to contact him if they had any information about it. It seemed that no one knew much about it, however Federici said, “I got a couple of phone calls from residents who said they would help in any way.”

Outrage was the response most students had upon learning of the crime. “This really makes me angry,” said Bryan Roy, a close friend of Nehemiah’s. “He never would have done something like that to anyone.”

“It makes me sick that someone would do something like that,” said Adam Rotherock who grew up with Nehemiah. “Even if I didn’t know the person, it’s still the wrong thing to do.”

In the case of the right thing was done, and the memorial was returned intact. There are plans to redo a possible re-dedication now that the plaque has been returned. Regardless, Federici stated, “It will be installed correctly now.”

Continued from page 1

RWU trying to fix diversity problem here at school

Williams was always in the back of my mind as a college choice. I like the campus and I played a lot of basketball in the gym during the summer. But I knew that there weren’t many black kids there at all. I was one of those black kids in high school so I wanted to go to a place where there would be more diversity. So I opted for URI based on that.

Creating diverse student bodies is an issue many colleges and universities are confronting. Loretta Shelton, Vice President of Academic Affairs, says, “Roger Williams University is very interested in diversity. I feel we are making progress toward diversity.”

Some people may disagree with that. Ben Carr, an African-American marketing professor, states, “I always tell the black students that they can come to me if they need to talk. They need that. If Roger Williams wanted to have a higher population of African-American students, they could.”

Bates recalls his first week at RWU, “I didn’t talk to anyone during the first few weeks of school. I was completely shocked when I came here and realized that there weren’t many other black kids. I felt very different. I’m from Chicago and the schools that I had attended before Roger Williams were predominately black.” Lee Harris, a student at RWU, says, “I don’t think our school is interested in diversity. I feel that they just want to fill their quota.”

Bates says that having so few black students bothers him “to a point.” “I feel like I get treated differently than my white friends. Some people on this campus are intimidated by me. When I walk around campus at night and smile at people, they look away. I just feel like I stick out. I had never felt like this until I came to this school.”

Bates says, “Overall this place is good. I love my friends and I have a good time. Not everyone treats us differently. But the ones that do really stand out.”

A re-dedication is planned Nehemiah Warren’s memorial under this tree located in the willow quad. -photo by Marc Stroum, Sports Editor
New abortion pill a relative issue to RUW

By Kyle Kennan
Contributing Writer

For every "Pro-Choice" bumper sticker we read, there is another one that reads, "Choose life, your mom did," "it's a child...not a choice," or "Diapers are disposable...babies are not!" The point being that many people have very strong opinions one-way or the other on the topic of abortion. However, what about people like me who agree with both sides of the argument? Would their bumper sticker read "I sort of agree with Pro-choice?"

This is a debate that will continue to last, and have direct influence on such vital decisions as electing our nation's leader. A new twist to this argument was unveiled last month with the FDA approval of RU-486, otherwise known as the "abortion pill." Without attempting to intrude on the enormous philosophical war that has already been waged, I pose this simpler and more relative question, "Should this pill be available to students through RUW?"

RU-486, or mifepristone as it is known here in America, was released in France way back in 1988. Subsequently it has been prescribed to over 500,000 women in more than ten European countries. Why is it then, that we in the "land of the free" have just recently approved this pill? The answer is politics.

In 1989 President George Bush and other pro-life supporters pressured the FDA to impose an import ban effecting the research in the United States. However, in 1993 our current president, Bill Clinton, reversed this ban creating an almost instantaneous rush of research on this drug. This research proved that it successfully terminated pregnancies of up to nine weeks for at least 92% of women; less than 2% of these women suffered any complications.

How does this pill work? The process is not as simple as just taking a pill. First of all, in order to prescribe this drug a doctor must be able to date the pregnancy conclusively and, if anything goes wrong, be able to provide surgical intervention, either to complete the abortion or to stop any heavy bleeding.

Also, this procedure requires three visits to the doctor over a two-week period, as opposed to the one visit that is needed with surgical abortion. Two sets of pills are needed to complete the abortion process as well. The first step is to take mifepristone. Then, two days later the patient must take misoprostol, which causes contractions that expel the fetal tissue. It may also cause a significant amount of bleeding as well as intense cramping, which some compare to a severe period. Before any of this however, the patient must read written instructions on taking the pill and sign a statement swearing that she has read them and that she is prepared to have a surgical abortion in the case this technique fails. Finally, the drug will cost somewhere in the range of $200-300, making it just as expensive as surgical abortions and not readily available to lower-income females.

Supporters of mifepristone point out a number of advantages this method brings to women looking to have an abortion. One of the most glaring is the privacy issue. This drug allows for a woman to have an abortion in the privacy of her doctor's office. The avid pro-lifers many women have had to face while entering abortion clinics can sometimes be as traumatic as the abortion process itself. "One advantage is that it really puts the choice back where it should be and that's in the privacy between the woman and the doctor," said Lois Schuyler who is the head of Health Services at RUW.

This method also allows for the woman to abort the pregnancy as soon as she learns of it instead of waiting until the traditional six-week period when most doctors perform surgical abortions. In addition this may allow for the abortion to be conducted before the embryo resembles a fetus, and is in many cases no larger than a grain of rice. In a report CNN aired, the president of Planned Parenthood, Gloria Feldt stated, "Mifepristone, or early abortion pill, is as significant a technological advance for women's health as the birth control pill was forty years ago."

Opponents of mifepristone use some of these so called advantages, against the supporters of the drug. One main argument is that women will not receive proper counseling both before and after the abortion. "I don't think girls will receive the right counseling, that is needed after they do something as traumatic as having an abortion, however I am very pro-choice," said Danielle Wendell as sophomore engineering major, Judie Brown of the anti-abortion American Life League has a similar opinion, "We will not tolerate the FDA's decision to approve the destruction of innocent human persons through chemical abortions." She also stated that she believes that a group such as hers will not be able to counsel these women.

Some people are also worried that certain individuals might use this as a means of birth control. "I don't really agree with this drug because I see it as an easy way of escaping responsibility, people might use it as another form of birth control," said Ashley Khammar a sophomore here at RUW.

Extreme opponents of this drug are vowing to take to the streets and boycott any doctors who prescribe it. Some of these opponents, many who have deemed it a "chemical coat hanger," are also trying to make allies in congress to try and have it banned and to boycott any company that produces the pill. In fact, many people feel that if George W. Bush is elected president, he will have the drug banned by appointing the proper people in the right places. Also, although severe side effects happen in only 2-3 percent of the women who have used it, some have lost so much blood that it required surgery and/or blood transfusions.

Will this drug be available to women on the RUW campus? In all actuality, it probably will not be available directly through RUW. "I would not anticipate that we would prescribe it here, but that we would know places in the community where it was available to people," said Schuyler. While Health Services does administer the "morning after" pill, in all probability mifepristone will not be. The "morning after" pill in effect prevents pregnancy through a heavy dose of birth control substances, instead of actually terminating pregnancy like a chemical abortion.

In anything like this, there is a huge liability issue that the school must deal with and as Schuyler put it, "Probably an inappropriate liability for the university to take on in terms of prescribing." Whatever ends up happening, the issue seems to be in the proper hands of people like Schuyler who said, "As health professionals we need to be really well informed, so that we can talk about that to students as an option and tell them what both the risks and the benefits are, and then to refer them to a source where we know they will receive good medical care." This outlook seems to concur with many students' opinions on the drug. "I would never take anything like that unless I felt I had to...I would never use it or use it as a contraceptive, but I feel it should be available to students through a referral to health services," said Becka Carroll a junior communications major.

Undoubtedly, in an issue such as this, there will be people who either vehemently agree with the decision, or strongly oppose it. The facts are out there, both supporting the FDA's decision and backing its opponents. The battle lines were drawn years ago with the legalization of surgical abortion, and with the approval of RU-486. Don't be surprised if you start seeing bumper stickers that read, "Which side 'RU' on?"
Computer Science program being moved to School of Engineering

By Scott Proto
Contributing Writer

When Professors Earl Gladue and Joel Silverberg began the Computer Science major at RWU, they designed a major that was fairly new to the market, and started a curriculum that would be able to be formatted for the future. As years went by, courses were added and both professors continued their research to keep up with the computer science field.

A few weeks ago, both professors learned from Vice President of Academic Affairs Loretta Shelton, that the Computer-Science program was being moved from the College of Arts and Sciences to the School of Engineering. With that, the association with the program, they began, ended for Silverberg and Gladue. Although Shelton asked them to continue to Engineering with their program, they refused. As of September of 2001, the computer science major was officially part of the School of Engineering, with new faculty.

While administrators say the Computer Science program will remain essentially unchanged from what Gladue and Silverberg created, the two professors will no longer teach in the Computer Science course after the spring semester. Both Professors feel more comfortable teaching mathematics within the College of Arts and Sciences, where they have been located since they began teaching at RWU.

Since its creation, the Computer Science major has been located in the College of Arts and Sciences. Now the University has decided to seek accreditation of the Computer-Science program from ABET, the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology, which the School of Engineering already has. Even though course changes will be minimal, and the Administration believes both the students and University will benefit, the professors argue that the major should stay right where it has been.

According to Gladue, a professor of mathematics and computer science, where the major is housed is not an issue for ABET accreditation, so therefore it could have remained in the Feinstein College of Arts and Sciences. "The Computer Science major is fairly new around the country," Gladue said, "When it was created in the 1970's, universities placed the major wherever they felt comfortable." Some schools placed the major in colleges of arts and sciences, and other schools placed the major within schools of engineering.

Silverberg believes that the engineering and the computer science programs, do not necessarily belong together.

"The program in computer science at Roger Williams has concentrated on the scientific design," Silverberg said. "This type of program is normally housed in a college of arts and sciences." Silverberg also stated that the computer science programs have a substantial engineering component, others have not.

According to Earl Gladue's own research, half as many computer science programs are located within engineering schools, as opposed to places such as colleges of arts and sciences.

The main reason for the move of the computer science major is the University's decision to seek accreditation. Recently CSAB, Computer Science Accreditation Board and ABET, Accreditation Board of Engineering and Technology merged. Since the School of Engineering has already received accreditation from ABET, the administration believes it will be easier if both majors are located in the same school.

According to Earl Gladue, he and Silverberg set up the curriculum so that by adding courses, it could one day be accredited, therefore being able to stay within the College of Arts and Sciences.

Loretta Shelton, Vice President of Academic Affairs, agrees with Gladue, "I think it is possible to be accredited in the College of Arts and Sciences," Shelton said, "but I believe it's not as coherent."

Shelton believes that it is very important that the computer science program be accredited. "Right now computer science is not licensed," Shelton said, but she believes that people will need a license in the near future.

Shelton said the accreditation of the program will further develop the University as a whole. Each time a program is accredited it not only makes the University look better, but the students also benefit from it. As the University grows, it helps students when they go out for jobs. "Students' degrees gain something," Shelton said, "even School of Engineering is the new home for the Computer Science program.

degrees of students from 20 years ago will look better as the University develops."

Joel Silverberg on the other hand believes that it is not a big deal if computer science becomes accredited.

"Accreditation is not a necessity for a computer science program, the way that it is for architecture or law." According to Silverberg, entry to graduate school and the ability to obtain excellent employment opportunities are not tied to graduation from an accredited program.

Earl Gladue believes accreditation will give Roger Williams good publicity. If the University succeeds in accrediting the computer science program, it will be the only one in Rhode Island. The closest school to Roger Williams with an accredited computer science program is U.Mass Dartmouth. The exposure could gain a higher population of students applying to an accredited program, rather than the amount that apply now.

Silverberg sees a bigger challenge with the accreditation process. Since the beginning of the computer science major, there have been only two faculty members teaching the courses, Silverberg and Gladue. When the decision was made to move the major, Silverberg and Gladue were offered positions in the School of Engineering as computer science professors. Both declined. Even though both agreed to teach courses in the major next semester, Roger Williams will have to hire all new faculty for the Fall semester of 2001. Silverberg believes this will be a challenge.

"PhD's in computer science can attract superb salaries in industry," Silverberg said, "Many go to industry for that reason." Those who choose to

Even when 2000 Election finally ends, will it really end?

By Kate Sousa
Contributing Writer

With the 2000 Presidential Election more than a week behind us, the talk of an even longer wait is dis pleasing to the majority of American citizens. The people of the United States just want to be informed of who will be the new leader of their country.

The final count from all 67 of Florida's counties was released Tuesday after a two o'clock in the afternoon deadline stating that any county wanting to continue recounting their votes must present Florida Secretary of State, Katherine Harris, with written arguments by Wednesday afternoon at two.

At the final count of the 67 counties on Tuesday, Governor George W. Bush was still in the lead with the Electoral College vote being 500 over what Vice President Al Gore held. Although the entire state of Florida has finished with the recount, there will still be a waiting period until 5 o'clock on Friday evening to allow for absentee ballots from overseas to be counted.

With the possibility of the election being over by the end of this week, the fight for the Presidency will still be on the table. If Bush is to win the Electoral College vote, he will have to take the state of Florida he will take the Presidency but sources from the Gore Campaign say that there is still room for a lawsuit.

Final results are still up in the air for the states of New Mexico, which mistakenly entered 161 votes for Gore instead of the 661 that he had w as, and Oregon where Gore is expected to win the states seven electoral votes.
Men's basketball ready for season opening tournament in New Hampshire

By Marc Stroum
Sports Editor

The men's basketball season gets underway this week when they head up to Plymouth New Hampshire to participate in the Plymouth State tournament. They will play Thomas College in the first round. The team is coming off a strong season last year in which they were runner-ups in the conference losing to a strong Endicott team in the championship game.

Well, this time around, it's a new year and the Hawks have a lot of shoes to fill. The Hawks had to say goodbye to three very important seniors, Lian Carr, Robert Sewell, and Chris Venino as well as a very talented freshman Chris Bagdis. This left the team with only one returning starter and plenty of new faces.

This year's squad is led by senior captains Kenny Nappi and Michael Lynch, both of whom have played under coach Tom Sienkiewicz since they were freshmen. Nappi has been a consistent sixth man over the years giving the team some quality minutes and he has been a threat from long distance. Nappi will be looked upon to step up his play and be the leader of the team.

Lynch, a 6'8" senior who can play down low and along the perimeter is coming off his best season as a Hawk. He led the team in several different categories including rebounds with 8.8 a game, blocks with 2.7 a game and he was second in scoring with 14.0 points a game. For his efforts Lynch was named to the Second Team All Conference. He is just 145 points shy of 1,000 in his career.

The team is looking for a lot of newcomers and other returning lettermen to step up their play. Senior Andrew Provost will be the team point guard, Junior Jason Wiggins will be playing down low along with Mark Bobovnik, who was with the team two years ago. Junior Kevin Bates should give the team some quality minutes and newcomers Marco Barrera, Kameron Alemdar, Jay O'Brien, Chris Stash, and Mike Gagnon should have a positive impact on the team.

With the loss of last years seniors and Bagdis, Coach Sienkiewicz has come up with a new game plan and is doing his best to incorporate his new talent into the lineup. "We are going to make things a little simpler this year" said Sienkiewicz. "Last year we had guys with lots of experience so we had a more complex offense and we could add new plays because of the overall experience." He also went on to say, "We are going to need our defense to come up a level and be better than last year."

In the CCC pre-season polls the Hawks were picked to finish 5th in the Conference behind Endicott, Colby-Sawyer, Salve Regina, and Curry. Despite this, Coach Sienkiewicz is still optimistic that his team could win the conference and get the automatic bid to the NCAA's. "Our whole team goal is to get to the NCAA's, but in order for that to happen we have to work hard as a team, have more team unity, and have key people step up there play to a higher level."

The Hawks play their first six games on the road and will finally open at home on December 9th against defending champs, Endicott College.

Strong finish for women's runners at New England D-III Championships

By Brian Rhodes
Layout Editor

The women's cross-country team finished, what is arguably the greatest season in its school history, with an 18th place finish at the New England Division III Championships on Saturday, Oct. 11 at U.Mass Dartmouth.

After a season where they broke numerous school records in just about every meet, the women's team finished in style, breaking another school record at the New England D-III Championships. Freshman Allison Belanger broke the school record at the Division III championships with a time of 19:29. She placed 77th.

Her teammates were not far behind, freshman Lynda Wilson was next at 89th place. Following her was freshman Diane Leith at 99th, freshman Dawn Miller at 106th with a personal best time, and sophomore Lauren Conroy placed 146th.

They won their home meet at Colt State Park earlier this year, and returning home to Colt State, won the Commonwealth Coast Conference Championship.

The team is very young and has a very bright future ahead of them.

Men's Basketball at Midnight Madness getting pumped for the season

Men's Basketball at Midnight Madness getting pumped for the season

-photo by Marc Stroum

Mike Lynch reminds the opponent whose house he is playing at.

-photo by Marc Stroum

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Young women's basketball team looks to turn heads with best depth in years

By Michael Lynch
Sports Editor

Youth is one thing that the Roger Williams University women's basketball team has on their side. This year's version of the Lady Hawks does not have a single senior on their roster. In addition, 11 of the 13 players on the roster are either freshmen or sophomores. They will be heavily relied upon to improve on last year's 10-14 record (2-10 in Commonwealth Coast Conference play).

Head coach Ray Brown (4th year, 15-57, .208) turned to juniors Emily Winsor and Lauren Hall and sophomore Marie Charlier to captain this year's squad. Winsor started all 24 games last year and led the team in scoring (14.3), rebounding (8.4) and field goal percentage (43.3). Winsor also was second on the club in blocked shots (0.9), and third in assists (1.5) and minutes played (26.4). She scored 334 points, the second-highest single season total in Roger Williams history.

Hall played in 23 of the team's 24 games a year ago. She averaged 5.3 points and 3.3 rebounds per game last season. Hall also led the team in free throw percentage (85.7) and was second in field goal percentage (41.4). Her strong defensive play helped to solidify the Hawks defense.

Charlier started all 24 games a year ago, leading the team in three-point percentage (33.8) and assists (2.8). She was also second on the squad in free throw shooting (69.6) and minutes played (29.5). Charlier was hit with a third on the team in steals, averaging 1.8 per game.

The Hawks also return two other starters from last year's team, sophomores Emily Whitson and Ashlee Vose. Whitson averaged 8.5 points per game last year, which was second on the team. She also was second on the team in steals (1.9) and was third in rebounding (3.9) and free throw percentage (69.1). Vose started 22 games last year and led the CCC in blocks, averaging 2.2 per game. She had seven blocks against WPI, breaking a new school record for blocked shots in a single game. Vose also was second on the team in rebounding (7.2).

The Hawks also return three more guards to the fold this season. Sophomore point guard Merrielle Fazio played solidly in 18 games last year before suffering a season-ending knee injury. Sophomore guard Amanda Armstrong saw action in 19 games last season and was second on the team in three-point percentage (28.9). Sophomore Melissa Fredericks also will look to see some action in the Hawk backcourt this season.

In addition to the returning players, Coach Brown has brought in a solid recruiting class consisting of five freshmen. Guards Erin Aires, Kristin Gaynor, and Jennifer Koslowski will look to move right in and jumpstart the Hawk offense. Forwards Emily Shaw and Caryn Ayers will also be key in helping establish a low post presence for the Hawks.

The Lady Hawks have nowhere to go but up. With such a young team full of such great potential, good things are expected of this club. In the Commonwealth Coast Conference pre-season coaches' poll, the Hawks are picked to finish 10th. Junior captain Lauren Hall says that that's not necessarily a bad thing.

"Because we don't have the respect of the CCC, we can come up and surprise a lot of people and compete for the CCC title. We definitely have the talent to win the CCC," said Hall.

"All The Hawks look to earn some respect by starting their season at Mount Holyoke College, as they compete in the Mount Holyoke College Tip-Off Tournament on November 17th and 18th. They will face Albertus Magnus College in first round action on Friday, and will face either Mount Holyoke or Becker College on Saturday.

Four named captains for Pilgrim league grapplers

Head wrestling coach Dave Kemmy has announced that senior Pete Doucet and juniors Brian Bagdon, Jeff Bernard, and Kevin Logue will serve as quad-captains for the 2000-01 season.

Doucet has had an excellent three-year career and will be serving as captain for the third straight season. Last season he capped off a great season by capturing All-American honors. He is the just the second wrestler in RWU history to do so and just the third athlete in school history. He became the school's third New England Champion when he captured the 157 pound title at the New England D-III Championships. He set a school single-season record for wins and take-downs and now has a career record of 48-14 with a 4.0 grade-point average. As a sophomore he led the squad in rebounding and blocked shots and he led the team in free throw percentage. As a sophomore he shatterd the school record for blocked shots in a season, and led the team in rebounding and free throw percentage. He had his first career triple-double that season, and led the conference in blocked shots.

Bernard etched his named in the record books last season by excelling on and off the mat. On the mat he earned All-New England Honors. Off the mat he was named to the NCAA D-III Wrestling Coaches Association Scholar All-American Team. Bernard is the just the second wrestler, and third athlete, in school history to be so honored. He was also named to the Pilgrim League Scholar-Athlete All-Star Team and the RWU All-Academic Team. He is a first time captain.

Logue has been having a great season last year until suffering a lower back strain that hampered him the latter part of the year. He led the team in near-fall-2 point, near-fall-3 point and pins. His combined near falls are the third-highest in a single-season all time. He was also named to the Pilgrim League All-Star First Team. He will be serving as captain for the first time.

"All four are very hard workers who are doing a great job of setting the tone for the rest of the team," said Kemmy. "They are all looking to continue their improvement and have even greater seasons than they had last year."
Men's soccer team goes to NCAAs for second season

By Marc Stroum
Sports Editor

The Men's soccer season sadly came to an end on Wednesday, November 8, when Westfield State ousted them from the Division III NCAA tournament in the first round. It was a great run while it lasted, but the Hawks ran out of gas in the first round as the Owls beat them 3-2. Students, parents, alumni and even a few professors managed to get up to the Bayside Field to show their support for the Hawks.

Coming into the tournament game, the Hawks had many people hampered by injuries. Senior Captain Matt Snow was still bothered by a leg injury that he sustained during preseason. This sidelined him for much of his senior year. Adam Sweet missed his only game of his senior season with a leg injury as well, which he received in the conference final. Junior forward Neal Rosenthal was out indefinitely with a foot injury that he received in the middle of the season, as was midfielder Dave Hatch who injured his leg in the conference final. Seth Mahanen and Dave Regan, although hampered by injuries, played. Despite a pretty banged up team, the Hawks put up a good fight.

The Hawks did manage to have a little luck on their side, as they were able to draw a home match for the second straight year in the first round. Westfield State was the higher seed, however because they play on a turf field, they could not host the tournament game according to NCAA rules. Westfield State were the champions in Massachusetts State Conference, received the fourth seed, while the Hawks grabbed the fifth. Middlebury, Williams, and Wheaton received first round byes, so the Hawks avoided playing nationally ranked teams in the first round.

Needless to say it did not matter that the Owls were not ranked, they came out ready to play and jumped on the board just three minutes into the game to give themselves a 1-0 lead. It was obvious that nerves had set in for the Hawks, as they weren't playing their fast paced aggressive style of soccer. Fifteen minutes later the Owls were able to find the back of the net once again and up their lead to 2-0.

It was at this point when the Hawks finally got it going and began to show a little life. With about 7 minutes left in the half, senior forward Stuart Malo scored and the Owls got the Hawks on the board as he evaded a defender and buried a shot near post, cutting the lead in half. The Hawks had some quality chances before the half ended, but could not capitalize.

The second half began with the same intensity and determination as the end of the first half. In the first minute of the second half Hulke almost connected for his second goal, but the Owls denied his bid. Moments later Hulke would connect on a free kick from forward Brent Malo and headed the ball in.

The Owls would be able to add another goal in the 80th minute with a header from Matt Caruso, as the Owl's goalkeeper was stranded out of position. They went on to win the game 3-2.

Coach Cook enjoys the early shower -photo by Marc Stroum

The back of the net to knot the score at 2-2. The Hawks looked like they were ready to take the lead when just seven minutes later, the Owls would score on a low blast that was accurately placed near post side. With the score 3-2, it would be all the Owls would need to advance to the next round of play.

For about 20 minutes the Hawks worked diligently to get another score, but all the opportunities the players had were denied by the Owl's goalkeeper. Despite the loss the squad had their most impressive year to date. They were undefeated in conference play and in their three playoff games they outscored their opponents 12-0 on the way to their second CCC title in row. In the championship game the Hawks blanked Westworth Institute 2-0, sealing their bid for the tournament.

Many seniors on the squad enjoyed their finest season as a Hawk. Hulke, Malo, Snow, Sweet, Eric Rogers, Drew Wilson, and Greg Somerville all had fabulous careers here and will leave a team that will hopefully start up next year where they left off this year.

Wrestling team gets underway with season with solid showing in tourney

By Nicole Fitzmeyer
Contributing Writer

The Thomas Paulino Recreation Center was packed with a large amount of fans when the Hawks varsity wrestling team hosted an invitational wrestling tournament this past weekend. The Hawks managed to place fourth out of fifteen teams, having six men place in the top 6 of their weight classes, one of which was the first place finisher freshman Jesse Aquino.

Aquino started off his college wrestling career with a bang taking first place overall in the 133-pound class. Aquino managed upset American International College's Yves Lamitie, 4-3, with a reversal with only five seconds left in the match. Lamitie was a NCAA Division II fencer, last year for the Yellow Jackets. Aquino stated after his victory that: "It felt great! I felt good to win the whole thing as a freshman. I feel that it is a very big accomplishment." Both boys should be real assets to our team."

Junior Captain Jeff Bernard said he was very surprised and pleased with Jesse Aquino and Joe Fitzsimmons' performances, both of which are just freshmen. Both boys should be a real asset to our team."

Bernard went in the RWU tournament on November 11th. himself, placed fifth. photo by Marc Stroum, Sports Editor

Joe Fitzsimmons, who placed second, pins his opponent in the 184-pound weight class, while Junior Captain Kevin Logue took third in the 141-pound weight class. Trevor Richmond took sixth in the 152-pound weight class and Brian Bagdon took fourth place in the 197 pound weight class.

Overall, the Hawks pulled together very well during the meet.

Coach David Kemmy was definitely right when he said that the team has a good group of experienced guys and a good group of newcomers. Of course this is just the beginning of the Hawks season, but I think everyone can agree with Coach Kemmy that this should be a "very interesting season!"