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Hawks' Eye - August 29, 2000

Roger Williams University
New constitution for RWU student senate
The Roger Williams University student senate has officially decided to run under the newly revised constitution by Jennifer Ahertner & Alyse Schwartz, Contributing Writers

For the last eight years, the Student Senate thought that they were tied down to the 1992 constitution. Recent developments concerning whether or not the senate was permitted to run under the constitution they had just revised, led the senate advisors to search for a signed copy of the 1992 constitution. Regrettably, they came up empty handed, ultimately leading them to believe they were still bound to the last signed document: the 1986 constitution. As a result, senate now faced a complicated decision, whether or not to stick to the 1986 constitution or to go ahead and use the 2000 constitution.

During their first meeting held on Monday September 11th, Senate motioned to run under the 2000 constitution. This motion was supported in a 14 to 12 vote, and 1 abstention leaving them to remain under the 1986 constitution. Just two days later, Wednesday September 13th, an emergency senate meeting was called, at which Michael Cunningham, Co-Acting Dean of Students and Senate Advisor brought to their attention the fact that the 1986 constitution states "the membership of the Student Senate shall consist of: 18 voting, registered members of the student body." Therefore making it obvious that three senators would have to resign before the next election. This once again left the senate with another complicated dilemma. After a lengthy debate the verdict was in: the final count was 9 for, 5 against, and 3 abstention, conflicting with their previous resolution.

Cunningham stated that he was quite impressed with the level of debate that took place over the course of the meeting, realizing then that this year's senator had grown and were finally discussing things that a senate should discuss, "integrity, opinions, rules and disagreements."

Although it was stated in the 2000 constitution, "instructions must be made available in writing at least one month prior to the election date," Senate overlooked it. As a result, the election has been postponed from September 20th and 21st to October 4th and 5th. This has caused a misunderstanding between the Senate and some candidates. Candidate for freshmen class President, Becky Blake, felt that although it was great that senate had reformulated a new constitution, she was upset that it wasn't publicized to both the candidates and the student body.

Marybeth Gordon, Senate Secretary and Chairperson of Elections, "apologized for the inconvenience." Currently, the 2000 Constitution allows for full election to fill seats left open after the annual Spring Elections. As wording, the Constitution allows those elections to be open to all students. However, on Monday September 11th a bylaw was created to restrict anyone but freshmen and new transfer students from running in this election. This bylaw has not yet been voted on.
Editor's Notes

I dedicate this paper to everyone on campus who has asked me in the past three weeks, "Aly, is there a Hawk's Eye anymore?" and who didn't believe me when I said yes.

That's right, this is the first issue of the new and improved Hawk's Eye, the student newspaper of Roger Williams University. I would just like to inform the campus community of our plans for improvement this year. There was nothing wrong with last year's Hawk's Eye, but that wasn't enoughopen for improvement. So we're setting a lot of goals this year for the paper, and hopefully we will have the staff and the drive to reach them. I really believe we do.

Our first improvement will be sports coverage! I'm sure most of you will agree that the Hawk's Eye definitely did not cover campus sporting events on a regular basis. I support every sport on campus, and I respect and admire the effort put into every game and every practice, and I feel it is only fair to let the campus know how awesome our teams are.

The second thing we are working on is a more in-depth Entertainment section. I would love to have a section where we can have movie, music, play and book reviews. I would also like more features and interviews in that section as well. I feel it adds a professional appeal to the paper, and we can have interviews with respected artists such as Melissa Ferrick, who was interviewed last semester, and Guster this issue. Also, I would love to have a few art majors draw up political commentary cartoons, or something fun. Maybe crossword puzzles, word searches, etc. We'll see how creative I can get over the course of the year. I also noticed that the performing arts productions presented on campus have never been covered. I am a firm believer in recognizing dedication and hard work, and I will make sure that these issues are dealt with!

Also on our agenda is an entire Clubs and Organizations section. We would like to have each club and organization send us updates, or any kind of information they would like to see put in the Hawk's Eye, that would be both beneficial to the students and campus community, as well as the club or organization itself.

Lastly, I would love to have more photography in the paper. I feel pictures draw attention, and we definitely did not have enough last year. We're developing an entire photography section for the Hawk's Eye this year, so hopefully the paper will be more aesthetically pleasing along the way.

We are also working on a more timely publication. Right now our production schedule runs on a bi-weekly basis, but hopefully by the end of the semester it will come out once a week. So that news will get to the campus community sooner. Everyone needs to know what is going on!

So, thank you for reading, and if you have any comments or suggestions, please feel free to contact us via email at rhawkseye@hotmail.com.

RWU staff has some changes for 2000

by Sarah Capozzoli, Staff Writer

The 2000-01 school year has brought many changes to the staff at RWU. Congratulations to this year's new staff promotions.

-Dr. Ruth Koelle is serving as interim Dean of College of Arts and Sciences in place of Dean Ambrose, who has left his position.

-Peter Deede has been appointed Dean of University Library Services.

-Anthony M. Pesarem, J.D. has been appointed as Dean of the School of Justice Studies.

-Barbara Giotta is now the assistant Dean of The Gabelli School of Business.

-Hugh Ryan has been appointed acting Executive Director of Public Affairs.

-Mary Lou Leonardi has been appointed coordinator of circulation of the RWU Library.

-Micheal Cunningham and Richard Stegman have been appointed co-acting Dean of Students.

Good luck and once again congratulations to all!
Be part of a growing teaming by joining the Hawk's Eye

Talk to the Hawk’s Eye before writing an article (not necessary, but helpful!)

If there is a number one guideline you should follow when writing for the Hawk’s Eye, it’s this: if you want to write something for the paper, you should talk to us first, for these reasons:

We can give you advice on how to write it or help you develop your ideas to get you started.

We may know something about the subject and be able to give you advice on how to make it interesting to readers.

It won’t be redundant, if an assignment is already going into the paper from some other writer. We can help you steer clear of the problem of not getting published because someone was already writing your topic.

Why should I write for the Hawk’s Eye?

Students who write for the Hawk’s Eye have many different reasons, as many reasons as there are different kinds of writing. Some of us write for every issue, and others may only write an article once in our lives.

But the number one reason is fun. Those of us who write for the Hawk’s Eye, or work on some other part of it, are the kinds of students who know that there’s more to being a student, and to learning, than just doing work for our classes. We also are the types who want to make the kind of fun not just for ourselves, but other people. We want to make our own fun, not just have it provided for us.

Not coincidentally, lots of us are also involved in other student clubs, and other kinds of extra-curricular stuff—among other students who’ve discovered this great way of fighting off boredom, and looking at the world in fresh ways.

Also, we aren’t in a town with local media that exactly represents the student perspective. The Phoenix is centered on local news, rather than university news. Therefore, not really giving students from the university, also living in the community, a forum for their views. In these forums, more often than not, when students make demands—such as keeping tuition low or not cutting education in the federal budget, they’re laughed off or treated patronizingly. The Hawk’s Eye is one place that always has a student perspective.

There is also plenty of practical reasons for writing for and working on the paper: Some want to go into writing for newspapers or magazines, or do editing, and working or working for the paper is a good way to gain experience and a portfolio of published work.

Some want to express opinions that do not go over well with mainstream media.

Students may have first-hand knowledge of something that no one else thinks about seriously. When this something isn’t talked about, or misrepresented in local media, the Hawk’s Eye is a perfect forum for a one-time article or even several articles.

The Hawk’s Eye may have published something you think is outrageous or dumb, and you want to set us straight with some counter-writing.

What is writing and what is writing published?

Most students who want to write for the Hawk’s Eye write at least passably. In the interests of quality control, we can’t just publish anything. Some pieces need editing before they can get published.

Some students get annoyed at us if we don’t publish whatever they write. Because it’s the student newspaper, and they’re students, they think anything they write should go in. We have to serve student readers, not just publish student writers.

What kind of writing is needed at the Hawk’s Eye?

News Writing. At the moment, we greatly need more newswriting, especially about University issues. RWU has a number of unique issues facing it: cutbacks, budget problems, housing, administrative blundering, etc. that we are not able to get to because of pressure from just putting the paper together.

If we don’t get newswriting, we can and do fill the news section with stories from the public relations department of the university. While these are interesting stories, they don’t nearly have the impact as something on campus.

We can limit you the equipment you need to do interviews, coach you, help you out with formulating questions, and so forth. The editors edit your piece so that it makes sense to a general reader, and will do the layout work for your finished writing.

Arts Writing. This includes reviews of films, music, visual art, books, video and other media, and reviews of performances. We also publish student fiction, poetry, and creative non-fiction in the Arts section. Some people (like myself) are into arts journalism (covering issues that affect the Arts community). This section is getting pretty large, but we intend to fit as much writing into it as possible.

Sports Writing. Reviews and news of games, players, etc. for any sport.

Do I have to join the staff or take on other responsibilities to write for the paper?

No. In fact, the Hawk’s Eye would greatly benefit from more occasional writers, to give the paper more variety and more student voices. Please feel free as a writer to be committed to writing, not our paper. We understand that RWU offers many clubs and organizations, and that sometimes writing does not come first.

Though we are encouraging a timely dedication to the Hawk’s Eye, we do repair your stories and/or help in other areas if you are not able to make a commitment.

Do I have to use my real name when writing an article (or letter)?

We’re afraid so.

For some reason, lots of people also think that an article written by a “mystery writer” will create more interest in their writing. We think that writing that is interesting will create more interest; nothing else.

Can I write about a controversial subject?

Controversy is often caused by writers not intending to cause controversy; readers usually spot those who set out to intentionally, and ignore them.

Can I say ____ in my article?

This is another question that gets asked a lot by people who want to say “a bad word” in their writing, or take a controversial position. We don’t encourage “coming”, however, it is writing, and with writing, it’s not really what you say, it’s how you say it. So we cannot really make a decision until we see the finished article.

What’s libel?

Libel is the written equivalent of slander—putting something that isn’t true about an institution or person into print. Libel is grounds for getting us, and possibly yourself sued.

That said, you should not automatically censor yourself. We don’t want the Hawk’s Eye to be a self-censoring newspaper.

If you’re writing a news or editorial piece, just document your sources and indicate to us where you think there could be a problem, as far before the press deadline as possible.

Mistakes, such as getting someone’s position in a company wrong, are not libel (but they will make the person you spoke to annoyed) and will make the article seem less trustworthy to readers. Discuss fact checking with the editor of the section you want to write for.

Racism, sexism, and other problems

Aside from libel, we reserve the right not to publish expressions of racism, sexism, religious discrimination or homophobia. As fairly weak minds are behind these attitudes, news or editorials or letters that expose them (see purpose).

However, sometimes the author of articles don’t intend to say something racist, sexist, etc. but do because they’re not aware that an article or common usage is racist, such as referring to getting ripped off as a Jew.

The way something is phrased could be construed as racist, sexist, homophobic, or discriminatory in some other way.

In these cases, when permitting, we will likely call you up and say, “Did you really mean to say ______?” and you will say, “no, (most likely), and we will suggest alternatives. You can also come and ask us if you’re not sure of something. Ideally, it would be best to ask yourself these questions if stuff you’re not sure about comes out of your pen.
Intervarsity Christian Fellowship hosts Fall Conference at RWU
by John Tanagho, Clubs and Organizations Editor

Before I tell you about Intervarsity Christian Fellowship's Fall Conference, I want to give you a brief description of what IVCF is all about. Intervarsity Christian Fellowship at Roger Williams University is in its third year. The fellowship is a place where students can develop great friendships, learn about having a personal relationship with God, wrestle with hard spiritual questions and be loved regardless of who they are. Intervarsity Christian Fellowship is also a place where skeptics and people of no particular faith are welcome to come and see for themselves what God is about. We have prayer meetings every Monday night at 10 pm in the lobby of the Center for Student Development. We also have three student led Bible studies every week that meet Tuesdays at 8 pm in the CSD lobby and Wednesday's at 7pm in the CSD lobby and also at 8pm in Bayside 355. We also provide rides for church every Sunday morning. Anyone is welcome to come to any or all of our events and there is no commitment necessary. Some of the things that we value as a fellowship are studying the Bible, being Christians (followers of Jesus), worship, community, mission projects, service projects, fun and deep friendships. Intervarsity Christian Fellowship at RWU is a part of a larger organization that is at 560 Universities around the country. For more information on Intervarsity you can check out their website (ivcf.org).

Every year Intervarsity has a weekend long conference during the fall where all the fellowships in a region get together for Bible study, worship, speakers and tons of fun. This year the Rhode Island region is meeting here at RWU. The speaker will be Vanessa Quatianoo, Professor of speech communications at the University of Rhode Island. Professor Quatianoo will be speaking on "Racial Reconciliation and reaching out to our campus community." The conference begins at 7pm on September 29th and ends on the morning of October 1st. We will be staying in nearby host homes and food will be provided. To register please call Patricia Pagano at x3275. If you have any questions about Christianity or the Bible please call me at 254-6359.

Superstitions large part of athletic teams here at RWU
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On the heartfelt and sentimental side of things, softball player, Laura Bednars, who is a sophomore catcher on the Roger Williams softball team, has a poem that her coach read to her in high school before a big game that she has kept with her for many years. It is about a young boy who prays to the Lord in the locker room before the "big game" asking the Lord to help them win. The Lord responded and said He could not do so because the other team was praying for the same thing. He said you could pray that players don't get hurt and that all the calls are fair. That He then won't just watch the game. He would bless it with his care, and help them learn that everything in life is fair. The poem concluded and said, "You shall be blessed, the Lord replied, Your team and you the same, and now will you excuse me boy, I cannot miss this game." Because of this poem, before the first batter of each inning comes up to the plate, Laura makes a small cross in the dirt and makes a silent prayer for all the calls to be fair and for no one to get hurt. Laura also told of a superstition to never throw the bars cross, or there will be bad luck during the game. Lastly she tells of a friend who was Italian and proud of her heritage. She wore three crosses on her bag in the colors of the Italian flag, red, green and white. One day they were on their way to a tournament when she lost one of her crosses. She made the bus driver pull over and stop at the nearest "Hav Mor" Market in Connecticut to get three new ones in identical colors.

As you can see superstitions are very much a part of athletics here at Roger Williams University and are simply what psychology would call "ritualistic behavior", says Dr. Trimbach.

Superstitions do not have to be that of the athletic type, they are in all forms. Some superstitions are funny, others are even somewhat ridiculous and some of them are sentimental, but whatever they are they are important to the athletes, teams that utilize them, and people all over the world.
CEN and WQRI bring Guster to RWU for outdoor concert

Entertainment

by Aly Mase, Editor-in-Chief

Thanks to the Campus Entertainment Network, and the campus radio station, WQRI FM, Roger Williams University was brought an example of what the music industry would like to call “real band.” (A real band is defined as a group of two or more, who not only play their own instruments, but write their own songs as well).

On Sunday, September 10th, the ever-growing more popular band, Guster, of Somerville, Massachusetts, blessed the stage of the first outdoor concert ever at Roger Williams University. The concert, co-sponsored by CEN and WQRI, was scheduled as part of the Welcome Week events, to encourage students to attend student-organized events. The turnout was phenomenal, so much so, that the dining services (who were serving dinner outside at the concert) ran out of food! Students enjoyed the nice weather, and the chance to be outside and have fun.

The band, that formed over four years ago at Tufts University, has released three albums, and toured the country relentlessly in efforts to promote themselves, is now used to rather large crowds. However, Brian Rosenworcel, the “Thunder God” (deemed so by his amazing talents on the bongo drums), clarified that, during college tours, “don’t make real distinctions about the size of a school,” just as long as there is an audience for them to play for.

As audience size grows, however, the demographics do not change much, says Rosenworcel. “We played a big show in New York City, and this small show here, and it’s all mostly college-aged fans. It’s cool, though, to see moms, and older people at the shows.” And fan base is quite important to the band. “Every step we take, we think what’s the next step? Because we’ve been building ourselves by touring,” in real Grateful Dead fashion.

For further information on the band Guster, visit their website at www.guster.com. The band is very involved in what goes onto the website, and, Rosenworcel claims that “if anyone [in the band] has a stupid idea, we implement it!” (Which may explain the refrigerator web-cam thing they have going on there….)

Book Review: Back to School with “The Giver”, by Lois Lowery

by Daniell Kinerer, Staff Writer

“The Giver” by Lois Lowery is about the journey of twelve-year-old Jonas. He gets selected to be the new Receiver for his Community. The Receiver is the person in each Community who holds all the memories of days gone by. When he starts to receive these memories from the current Receiver, he calls the Giver, his world is changed forever. Jonas is used to order. Everyone in his Community is assigned, after many hours of being watched, to a position that they will hold for the rest of their lives. No one sees colors in his community, hears music, or feels love. He comes to find out why the Giver is such an outsider, and with a determination that is partially derived from the memories of long ago and also part of his own temperament he sets out to change his small part of the world for the better.

This story appeals to many different age groups, and each group will have a different point of view of the story. For the younger readers there is the adventure and suspense of not knowing what will happen to Jonas, the Giver, and their Community. In addition for teenagers there is understanding because they too are on a journey away from their family. For the adults there is also the political aspect of the book. Through the whole story there is the underlying question whether socialism really does work. But in the end there is one part of the book that pulls people back to read it over and over again.

Li’L Miss Can’t-Be-Wrong:

What’s up everyone? My name is Li’L Miss Can’t-Be-Wrong. I am a student here at Roger Williams, like many of you. I am here to answer any of your advice questions. Although I am not an expert at anything, I am insightful (or so I have been told). If you have any questions about life, school, work, love, relationships, etc., just e-mail me at lilmisscwbw@yahoo.com, or drop off your question, addressed to Li’L Miss Can’t-Be-Wrong, in the Hawk’s Eye submission box! I will choose as many questions to answer as I can. Check out the next issue to see what questions arise! All of the questions will be anonymous, so don’t worry about confidentiality.
Entertainment

Cartoon death match: The Simpsons vs. South Park
by Seth Mitchell, Staff Writer

For almost thirteen years, the Fox Network has given eager watchers pleasure in knowing that their lives are not as mundane as at least one family’s, The Simpsons. Thanks to television, and the wonders of animation, viewers watched as the characters evolved, both in physical appearance and in personality. But there’s a short, fat cloud forming over Evergreen Terrace, the home of our favorite family. That cloud is Eric Carman.

Eric Carman is one of four-and-a-half children, including Kyle, Stan, Kenny, and Timmy, who dare to challenge The Simpsons to a ratings duel. However, the question arises, How can one show copy another and expect to win a ratings war?

To show how South Park copied The Simpsons, we can do a little character comparison. First, let’s compare the two main characters of each show, Homer Simpson and Eric Carman. Both are “big-brained,” both are over dramatic, and both are sometimes loud and obnoxious. Can you see the connection?

Second, we have the masters of the one-liners: Ralph Wiggum and Timmy. Timmy is hilarious. Unfortunately, the producers of South Park did a bad thing by creating an episode in which Timmy’s one line was over-used and lost its appeal. Ralph, however, is still able to light up everyone’s day by simply saying, “I found a moon rock in my nose.”

I am sure you are all thinking, “How can be say South Park copied The Simpsons? It’s so much funnier!” Granted. South Park is a funny show, but will we really think so in 10 years? It has a humor that only teenagers and young adults can appreciate, while The Simpsons have been making us, and indeed our parents, laugh since we were children.

And besides, The Simpsons only has two commercial breaks.

Movie Reviews

Great Animation, Poor depiction by Dinosaur
by Seth Mitchell, Staff Writer

This past weekend, I had the opportunity to see the Disney computer-animated movie Dinosaur. The graphics for the movie were not impressive, as one might expect from a computer-animated movie. Though the scenery was impressive, it was the only aspect of the movie that was. The graphics for the dinosaurs themselves were poorly done, and the rainbow colors on the dinosaurs’ backs were unrealistic. These details were only overshadowed by the horrible story line. The story took place at the end of the dinosaurs’ existence when a giant asteroid smashed into Earth, destroying most of the life. Though the asserted scene was spectacular, one key point was left out: the extinction of the dinosaurs. Not only did many survive, but also, they moved in a giant herd of mixed-up species, to lush and green lands where they flourished (which is why we still have dinosaurs today). However, the Disney writers did not dip away from their normal, boring plots as shown when two dinosaurs find love amid the death of the entire world around them. The setting for this subplot was not as alluring, and most of the scenes featuring the two promiscuous quadrupeds, were forced into the story at times not at all appropriate for the movie. All in all, it was a terrible movie, even for kids, because of its unrealistic depiction of what dinosaurs were like, how they lived, and how they became extinct. Fortunately, I did find relief in the fact that there was no singing or dancing, which would have made Dinosaur one of the worst movies I have ever seen.

Fight Club isn’t a knock out, but still a winner
by Beth Martinson, Entertainment Editor

This week I would like to put the spotlight on Fight Club. This movie, starring Brad Pitt and Edward Norton, is not going to appeal to everyone. It is an edgy drama about a loser who befriends a guy, who is the essence of everything he is not: interesting, brave, attractive, and well liked. He finds himself intrigued by this man. One day the two of them get into a fight that seems to give them a state of euphoria, which they soon become addicted to. They start sharing this game with others, and this begins the Fight Club, an underground game of punching and kicking. The best part of the movie, besides seeing singer Meatloaf as a manstruggling to cope with having breasts, is the ending. In the end, you will see exactly what makes this movie worth renting. The ending leaves the audience member completely surprised and intrigued.

Creative Writing

Nature’s Lullaby
by Danielle Kimerer

The midnight black sky bright with stars
Each twinkling separately
Each competing for your tired eyes
The moon at full
Shining down on you and your dreams
Like a father watching over his son
The trees rustling in the wind
Dancing to a melody only mother earth knows
The nocturnal animals playing hide and seek
Waiting for their breakfast
Their mothers hurriedly scurrying because the night does not last forever
This could be the most beautiful lullaby in the world
People will try to express it in music
But will not be able to keep up
This lullaby is only for people who look up
At the sky when the lights are out and they are out of dreams
This lullaby refuels them with more dreams than anyone could have imagined

Playing Paper
by Beth Martinson

One day I saw a crumpled piece of white paper:
Frolicking in the wind
Jumping over the tiny blades of brown-green grass
Twisting, turning, comforting
Not able to decide
Which way to go
Swaying in the wind to and fro
Stopping to tease me,
Then continuing its game.

Like a child with a smirk, hoping to persuade.
As I sit in my chair looking out the window,
I can’t help but ponder what it would be like
To be like that paper
Careless, unrestricted and free
Not engulfed with worry and tragedy
As I stare at its willing contentment.
I somehow wish that I were able
To escape the graying prison walls of my mind.
And allow myself to play.
Sports

Trio of senior captains named for men's soccer team

Men's soccer head coach Jim Cook has announced that a trio of seniors will serve as captains. Cook said of Matt Snow, Eric Rodgers, and Adam Sweet, "All three have worked hard to earn the captaincy of the team. They have set an excellent example on and off the field."

Snow is entering his fourth season as a starter in the midfield. Last season he tied for second on the team in scoring with five goals and earning 11 points. He also tied for second in game winning goals with three. One of his game winners came in the conference championship game where the Hawks defeated Gordon College 2-1 in overtime. Last season he was named to the All-Conference Second Team. A key performer in the midfield once again, Sweet will be captain for the first time.

Women's volleyball coach names three captains

Head women's volleyball coach Ben Heroux says he has proven leadership on and off the court this season in the team's captains. Seniors Toni Pratt and Kelly McSweeney along with junior Ali Pires will serve as co-captains for the 2000 season.

Entering her fourth season as a starter, Pratt led the team in assists, set average, service aces, ace service, ace service average and tied for the team lead in games. Her set assist total (424) is fifth-highest in school history. Two seasons ago she led the team in assists, set average and service aces, which ranked 17th nationally in NCAA Division III.

She was an excellent defensive player, earning Commonwealth Coast Conference All-Conference First Team recognition. She is a Dean's List student, Pratt will be captain for the second straight season.

Spang, entering her fourth year, led the team in block assists, was second in digs, dig average, block solos, and blocking average. She has the fourth highest digs total (283) in school history. Two seasons ago she finished second in block solos and blocking average, while in her freshmen year Spang led the team in blocking average. She is serving as a captain for the first time.

Lady hawk booters led by defense on and off the field

Dean List students Fry and McSweeney named captains of squad

The women's soccer team will be led with defense a season sweeper Allie Pires Fry and Karen McSweeney will serve as co-captains.

Entering her fourth season as a starter, Fry is hoping for better luck this season than last year when she suffered a season-ending injury in the seventh game. In her third season as a captain, she has started all 45 of the games she has played. Last season she tallied two assists before going down and two seasons ago tied for second on the team with six assists. As a freshmen she had an excellent defensive season, earning Commonwealth Coast Conference All-Conference Second Team recognition. She is a Dean's List student and is the female RWU representative for the CCC.

McSweeney easily stepped to the forefront on defense last season when Fry went down and led the team in the back the rest of the season. She has started all 39 of the teams games over the past two years. Last season she wound up sixth in scoring with seven points and earned All-Conference First Team honors. She has been on the Dean's List for all four territers. "Fry has been a team leader since she joined the team three years ago," said head coach Frank Kowalki. "McSweeney truly one to the occasions last year and showed she can be an excellent leader for this team. We are counting on them to take charge and lead the way on and off the field."

Superstitions are part of the game here in RWU Athletics

by Kate Sousa, Staff Writer

One recent afternoon with members of the Roger Williams soccer team, a junior, Jessie Boudreau, told the players about the belief in the "white shirt" that sits on their bench wearing a pinny at every game. The 10-inch high, 12-inch wide cloth colored elephant holds the same Cosmos and he is a little souvenir that was picked up on the teams' weekend trip to New Hampshire last season.

They place this elephant on their bench before every game and even if the game does not end in a victory, they feel a sense of ease when playing. According to Jessie, "Cosmo is a good luck because we kept him on our bench at all the games we had that weekend and we went undefeated, so we decided to keep him there for the season." Listening to the song "Hurricane," by Bob Dylan also gives the girls a sense of confidence before every game, as they religiously come dressed in their black T-shirts and team warm-up pants, in preparation for the big games.

Some players had to warm up with the same ball prior to each game and their assistant coach, Vivian Vixia, always wore the same outfit on game days.

As one would well imagine, team and player superstitions are a big part of collegiate athletics at Roger Williams University and elsewhere. For example, Michael Jordan always wore his college basketball shorts under his Chicago Bulls uniform. Also, former American League third baseman and designated hitter Wade Boggs would eat a chicken sandwich before every game and take the same 35 steps from the dugout to the plate when they played in Boston. Red Sox shortstop Nomar Garciaparra always tugs himself on the shoulder with the bat twelve times, representing his lucky number and Jesse Barfield, a retired Toronto Blue Jay kissed the ball park fence before every game. Darel Green, cornerback for the Washington Redskins, always puts a tootsie roll in one of his socks before every game, believing this will make him run faster. Some say this is arrange and may even be a little uncomfortable, but it works for some of the fastest players in the NFL.

The wide array of superstitions encountered, range anywhere from strangely peculiar to highly sentimental. Both males and females form religious, cultural and personal superstitions. According to psychology professor, Dr. Charles Timlin, "There is no rational substance for their beliefs but because of winning games or doing well, they gain reinforcement from it."

People who use these superstitions seem to be convinced of them due to a specific instance or event that has taken place, forcing them to believe it brought them luck.

Speaking of peculiar superstitions, a few of the Hawk Women's basketball team members have them. A veritable team, senior Melissa Bell, said she has to have the same player tell her which way the ball is going before each half, so she does not score into the opponents hoop. Another must wear her socks up really high and many of the girls keep the same socks and sports bras during winning streaks.

However, it must be said that the men of Roger Williams tend to take their superstitions more seriously. Most of the pitchers on the baseball team have a slip in one side of their shirt at all times. The team also plays a game called "flips" before every game. In this game, six of the guys line up and touch the ball with their glove. If the ball drops before the game is over, the person responsible is out of this motivational, pre-game activity. A big superstition among the team is that when the pitcher is throwing a "no-hitter" or a "shut-out", not one player will dare to spit before, and say aloud the words "no-hitter" or "shut-out," for fear that they may join the pitcher and the team.

One member of the team, junior Grant Emile, always has to wear the same necklace as a sort of good-luck charm and he will never mention the year 1986 before or during a game. You ask why?

1986 had to be the biggest loundown for Red Sox fans in history, because the first baseman, Bill Buckner, let a routine ground ball roll through his legs, losing the World Series for the Boston Red Sox.

Dr. Timlinbach says that the reasons we use superstitions is because, 'they make us feel comfortable and confident when competing.'

Junior Marc Stroun never touches the lines and jumps over them, always landing on his right foot. He always bays the same way and makes two check swings before he hits. On the more sentimental side he tells me, "My grandfather died when I was 13 or 14 and ever since then I have dedicated all of my efforts during a game to him and I always play with him in mind."

On the less serious side of things, he also says that he wears the same socks and undershirt when the team is on a winning streak. Marc later made a point of saying, "Hey I do wash them in between, I just wear them again and again." However, Marc changes them as soon as they lose.

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Women runners off to great start
Three women's cross country runners break school record
by Michael Lynch, Sports Editor

Three women's cross country runners broke the school record for any course at the University of Massachusetts-Dartmouth Invitational on Saturday, September 16th in North Dartmouth.

Diane Leith is new to the school record holder, as she finished the race in 19:41, which was good for 49th place.

Allison Belanger finished 51st, clocking a 19:45, and Lynda Wilson placed 52nd with a time of 19:48. Overall, the women finished in 14th place and had 12 runners compete in the race.

The men's team placed 22nd as a team in the same meet. The top finisher for the men was Josh Shapiro, who finished 125th with a time of 30:25. Mike McCourruck placed 130th, as he clocked a 32:52. The team will run in the Pop Crowell Invitational at Gordon College on Saturday, September 29th.

Women's soccer stays unbeaten in conference play with win over Regis College
by Michael Lynch, Sports Editor

The Roger Williams University women's soccer team remained unbeaten in Commonwealth Coast Conference play on Saturday, September 16th, as they blanked Regis College 4-0 at Bayside Field.

After a well-contested, scoreless first half, the Hawks 3-2, 2-0 CCC came out firing in half number two. Sophomore Carolyn Smith broke the scoreless tie with a goal on a pass from junior Kara McSweeney.

Sophomore Jen Sherman made it 2-0 with a goal from sophomore Celeste Melanson. Freshman Gina Jacobson and sophomore Torn Turner closed out the scoring for the Hawks on assists from Sherman and Smith, respectively.

Junior Celeste Malo and freshman Becky McWilliams each made one save to preserve the shutout victory.

Earlier in the week, the Hawks lost a 5-4, non-conference decision to in-state rival Rhode Island College. In a game that saw numerous lead changes and high-powered offense, Turner, freshman Jill Alperino, senior Allison Fry, and sophomore Meghan Vitti scored one goal apiece. Fry's goal was the first in her collegiate career at Roger Williams. Junior Justine McGrath had two assists and McSweeney notched another.

Defending CCC champs continue winning ways
Men's soccer off to solid start for 2000 season
by Marc Stroum, Sports Editor

The men's soccer team has started off strong as they look to repeat as Commonwealth Coast Conference Champions. Only losing one starting senior in Marc Randall from last year's squad, the team has a strong nucleus returning. Led by captain Eric (Buck) Rodgers, Matt Snow and Adam Swacek, the team hopes to surpass last year's 1st round loss in the NCAA Division III tournament.

So far in this young season, the Hawks have posted a 5-2-2 record with 2 non-league losses. The team is solid in all aspects of the game, they have speed and quickness as well as strength and determination. "When you have a lot of returning players, you know how to work as a team and that is one of our strengths," said captain Buck Rodgers.

The team has had impressive victories over Westfield State, Coast Guard, Salem State, Eastern Nazarene, and Eastern Connecticut. Their only losses came to Plymouth State who was ranked 7th in New England and Johnson and Wales who beat the Hawks in overtime with a lucky corner kick that found the back of the net.

Despite this tough loss, the Hawks have bounced back nicely and have jumped ahead to first place in the league, posting a 3-0-0 mark.

Scouting has been rough to come by, as teams have been double and triple teaming All-American forward Stuart Hulke. They have finally caught on to his scoring, and have started scoring goals in his first two seasons here. Despite this, Hulke has been able to set up his teammates on a number of occasions.

Hulke's counterpart in the front, Brent Malo, has had a strong season scoring 6 goals and for his tremendous play during the week of September 18-24, he was honored as player of the week in the CCC conference. The midfield play and defense has been excellent thus far as well as the goal tending. Gregg Somerville is in his third year as starting keeper and has a solid nucleus to help him keep the ball out of the back of the net.

Rodgers, Seth Matheson, Chris Curren and newcomer Josh Rosen have been doing a great job in the back, while the midfielders have been all over the field making plays happen. Transfer Dave Hatch, who was last years Rookie of the Year in the CCC, has been very impressive as a hawk this season. He has been a key addition as 2 time all conference midfielder Matt Snow has been bothered by injury and it looks like he could be sidelined until the playoffs.

With plenty of conference games left, the Hawks have their work cut out to stay atop the CCC. Every team is after them as they are the team to beat in the league once again. With hard work and solid play, they should see themselves back at the NCAA tournament.