What are the limits of Campus Art?

Sarah Garrouper  
Herald Staff

Last week, posters placed around campus read “Can Masturbation be Art?” However, days later, new posters for the same Socrates Café were changed to read a new topic, “What are the Limits of Art?”

When Art Professor Ann Tait first proposed the topic to administration, they were not opposed to putting up posters with that title around campus. They did protest, however, the sending of press releases outside of the Roger Williams campus with the word masturbation in the topic, so the organizers of Socrates Café suggested the similar title “What are the Limits of Art?”

According to Tait, the topic was relevant based on a visitor who was known for his controversial work with art. Vito Acconci, a performance and video artist, visited the Roger Williams campus last year. Because one of his most controversial pieces involved masturbation, a student in one of Tait’s classes asked if masturbation could be considered art.

Tait pointed out in her presentation that Acconci pushed boundaries and said that “art should get in your space.”

“I think the original question was appropriate,” said professor of Philosophy Robert Blackburn. “It is, after all, a university.”

“IT wasn’t about the topic; it was about the public presentation of a topic with that word outside on campus,” said associate provost of academic affairs Jeffrey Martin. “It’s the public relations aspect. Society has a hypersensitivity to the issue.”

According to the organizers of the Socrates Café, the administration produced new posters after the original posters had already been put up. They told Blackburn what was being done but said it was a pronouncement that was not up for discussion.

“The University has always had certain criteria about what we can and can’t put on posters of any kind,” said Blackburn. “It represents the institution and they are interested in good marketing for our college.”

Many students were upset about the censorship of the poster.

“We’re mature adults,” said Bill Doling. “We can handle the word masturbation on posters.”

While many agree, some students can understand the need for the administration to change the wording of the posters.

“While I disapprove of any form of censorship, I can understand that there are events here in which children are on campus, and potential students visiting, so administration wouldn’t want to have posters that say masturbation around,” said desk staff Ann Tait.

See SOCRATES, p. 4

Accreditation:  
So your degrees mean something

Beth Kleiman  
Herald Staff

It is re-accreditation time for Roger Williams University, and there is a lot of preparation required. Without proper accreditation, RWU won’t receive any federal money. No federal money for the university means no financial aid, no student loans, and no work study, among other things. For the large number of students who depend in some way, on one or more of these, the possibility of a failing grade by RWU to be re-accredited might cause concern.

University accreditation is necessary for every school across the country. It ensures that the school maintains high standards of education and meets requirements in all areas including academics, faculty, and finances.

Without accreditation RWU would receive no federal money. Also, any degree granted by the university would be meaningless and invalid.

Accreditation is required every 10 years, and RWU is approaching the eight year mark. After eight years, the university conducts a two year self-study where it evaluates its strengths and weaknesses, obtains input from the university community, and closely examines all aspects of the university.

The New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) is the accreditation agency responsible for Roger Williams University. This agency is also responsible for the accreditation of every school in Rhode Island, Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and Vermont that awards bachelor’s, master’s, doctoral and associate degrees.

To conduct the two-year self-study, a Steering Committee, made up of eight administration and faculty members, is formed. This committee oversees the 100 other members of faculty, staff and administration from RWU, who are divided into sub-committees called Task Forces.

See ACCREDITATION, p. 8

Newsweek journalist  
Eleanor Clift speaks to RWU students

Eleanor Clift, the journalist and prominent figure of women’s rights, speaks to students on Monday in CAS 207. SEE STORY, PAGE 5.
"From Bayside, with Love"

"Dining Hall or Transfer?"

One of the toughest daily decisions I can remember having to make for the majority of my college experience was the choice between the D-Hall or transfer. Although I haven't had to make that decision for about a year and a half, I'm suddenly reminded of it now as I sit on the edge of making another hard decision.

To me, the Dining Hall always represented the sensible choice. Not just because I had the opportunity to choose from a wider variety of nutritional options (a.k.a. food, who am I kidding?) But by choosing I'd have my final meal of the day before 7:30 at night meant I would have to adjust my schedule so I'd be asleep before 12, or else I'd be starving all night (there's only so much China Moon I can order per semester).

This would mean waking up earlier and taking earlier classes and in turn helping me establish a well-structured "early to bed, early to rise" day. And then I'd get all A's, I'd never miss a meal on my stomach, with ketchup and salt. One thing I never understood about the whole process is that if I went to the Dining Hall for dinner I could drown myself in a boiling cauldron of Italian Style Wedding soup and then devour an entire pizza but yet when I transfer my meal points it only equals about $6.50. Where did that number come from?

But anyway, I always found this option to be the less than sensible choice and more of the easy way out. I could stay up later and even take my food back to the room and hang out and watch movies while eating chicken fingers. And then I'd miss random tests, miss classes, it would rain six days a week, and every class I tried to register for would be open. While all that sounds great, it's highly unrealistic.

And then there's the other option. Transfer. This subsidized version of the Dining Hall is open later but has fewer options. It's basically a deep fried assault on your stomach, with ketchup and salt. One thing I never understood about the whole process is that if I went to the Dining Hall for dinner I could drown myself in a boiling cauldron of Italian Style Wedding soup and then devour an entire pizza but yet when I transfer my meal points it only equals about $6.50. Where did that number come from?

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So why, having been removed from making this decision for a year and a half, am I suddenly reminded of it now? Because once again I've forced to choose between the sensible/unrealistic option or the less than sensible/reallistic option. And although I really love to be mature about this and choose to be the bigger man and not let it bother me. I just can't make the decision to not stand up for myself. I never went to the Dining Hall for anything except brunch, so screw that place and screw you too, Matthew Smith.

First of all, I never asked that you love me, but while I'm on that subject, I'm sorry you wasted all your time freshman year on some girl who obviously dumped you. However, what I do want from you is respect, and I'll tell you why.

With journalism students constantly reminded every day that the field we've chosen yields minimal profit. Basically, our professors tell us we're not going to make any money when we get out into the real world. This always bothered me a little; actually I'm sure it bothers all Communications students: But instead of College Majors or accepting a future which seemed destined for mediocrity, I decided to do something to help disting?uish myself from the crowd.

Now I know what you're thinking, no possible future employer of mine is going to read "Titties McGunBarrels" and say "oh this is genius, you're hired, here's a million dollars." But that's not the point I'm trying to make. Someone recently told me that each week I perpetuate the negative college student stereotypes and make them look cool while in turn making myself look stupid.

This is actually a really good argument and it got me to think long and hard about what I'm trying to do here. But newspaper journalism is an industry that is slowly decreasing in popularity due to the advent of new and more easily accessible media sources (a.k.a the internet).

So now you tell me what's more important for me to try and do. Write an article that people read albeit sometimes tasteless and crude, or write a cookie-cutter column that's safe and inoffensive? The choice is simple.

But that's just what I have to say in my defense. I didn't start writing this column for my own benefit, or as you so eloquently put it, "I am merely here to amuse myself so that when I pick up the Hawks Herald there is something witty and fun to read." I really hope you weren't talking about that garbage you submitted, riddled with poor grammar, shout outs, bad advice, and just awful writing in general. Because what you wrote wasn't even close to witty or fun, it was just disturbing.

I'm sorry you don't like my writing Matthew, but I'm even sorrier you made me waste half the page defending myself this week. This will be the last time the column I've worked hard on for 25 weeks will be reduced to something so petty.

Chris Villano
Herald Staff

Editor's Note:

There will be no Hawk's Herald next week, Nov. 25, due to the observance of the Thanksgiving Holiday.

The Hawk's Herald will print its final issue of the semester on Dec. 2, which, not coincidentally, is Editor-In-Chief Timothy Mannion's 22nd birthday.

Dear Megan and Ash,

I'm a senior and I'm starting to stress out about graduating. I have no idea what I'm going to do when I leave here? I worry about money and whether I'm going to get a job. I'm getting headaches all the time. How can I stop this craziness?

-Lonely over Life

Dear Loony,

Take a deep breath and calm down. Then, take a good look around you and meet all of your fellow classmates who are feeling the exact same way. Every senior is feeling this (except the filthy rich ones who will live off mommmy and daddy for the rest of their lives). Try not to let this get you so stressed. Take a look at your resume and your transcript. How are things looking? Go to the career center and sign up for Hawks Hunt. While there, speak to a specialist. They will edit your resume and help you decide what field is best for you. The center also offers Interview 101 and other workshops. Taking these steps toward your future will make life 10 times easier. Whenever you start feeling stressed try and remember that this is your last year at RWU, live it up! Don't fret and enjoy senior year!

Meg & Ash

Dear Meg and Ash,

I have physical abnormality that keeps me from getting close to girls. I have been dating this girl for a few months and I can tell she's getting restless. She definitely wants to take things to the next level, but I'm really nervous about her reaction. What should I do?

-One is the Loneliest Number...

Dear One,

Ok... so have you talked to this girl about what's going on? Chances are, if you don't she's going to get offended and she may even call it quits. If she really cares about you, then she'll understand what you're going through. If you tell her your situation and she freaks out then she isn't really worth your time. Everyone has their skeletons, so you might as well clean soon so you don't ruin the relationship. Good luck!

Meg & Ash

Meg and Ash are RWU's own personal advice gurus. These experienced advice columnists have contributed to the Hawks Herald for a year and are ready to take on more of your emotional challenges. Write to Meg and Ash at askmeg_ash@hotmail.com.

I'll give props to some of my other countries, but the Lemle Report says that my Antarctica was the "coolest" spot in the land. For the story, see page 8.

Tracey Lemle

Herald Staff

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Students not deterred by dangers abroad

Tracey Lennis
Features Editor

Paris is burning, Jordan is blowing up, and London has just gotten over its summer attacks. It is most definitely a scary time to go overseas. But RWU students do not seem to be overcoming their potential fears and continuing their studies abroad in those three countries.

"None of our programs have been canceled," Coordinator of Study Abroad Programs, Gina Lopardo stated. "RWU currently has twelve students studying in London and one student in Jordan through the Center for International Education (CIE) approved program. Although no attacks have plagued London since early July, the fear is still there for those students who are living and touring the city.

As for the junior who resides in Jordan, more pertinent and scary threats are looming. With the three American embassy bombings just last week, many would assume that the RWU student would have a desire to leave the program and return to the states. However, it is much to the contrary. The unnamed student, due to privacy issues, is so content in Jordan that he has already decided to stay for second semester.

Lopardo went on to explain that the student in Jordan is enthusiastically learning Arabic and getting involved with the culture. "Being in Jordan has reinforced his belief to be there. He would eventually like to be involved in law enforcement or government.

As for the Paris program, there are currently no students studying there. As of January, however, there will be two. Junior Danielle Ameden will be one of those students boarding the plane.

"No, I'm not scared," Ameden stated. "The news reports are a little scary, but honestly, I'm not too worried. There's still lots of time until February when I leave, so hopefully the unrest will cool off by then.

Although the students are still planning to travel abroad for the spring semester, it is not going without RWU's close attention to the matter.

"We monitor and check world events all the time," Lopardo stated. "It may be difficult, however, for RWU to allow the continuation of study abroad in the near future. Recently the Avian Flu is plaguing many countries in Southeast Asia at a rapid rate and President Bush has suggested that if the situation turns into a pandemic, he may force for restricted travel.

"There is a possibility that a pandemic would force restrictions of international travel and commerce," White House Spokesman Trent Duffy stated.

It is difficult to actually monitor if students are deterred from such riots and bombings, but the abroad office hasn't seen many changes with application numbers.

With two students planning to study in Paris and a female student joining the male student in Jordan, RWU is still finding interested and eager students to participate.

"Rumors may be circulating but they couldn't be further from the truth," Lopardo stated.

"For now, I'm just thinking about how amazing the Parisian cafes and museums and culture will be, and studying at the Sorbonne. I'm trying to keep a positive outlook about the situation," Ameden said.
Socrates: Censorship draws large crowd to discussion

Continued from p.1

Chris Riendeau.

"It [changing the question] didn't affect the topic of discussion at all."

Professor Tait agreed. "If anything, by changing the subject, it put a focus on the question."

The forum began with a presentation dedicated to controversial art over the years. Tait gave the example of Manet's Olympia, a nude prostitute who shocked much of society.

Tait also claimed that there is a constant tension between artists. Her examples showed how various pieces of art in today's society would be considered controversial in another culture. "Art is that which challenges us and rips apart established norms," said Tait.

Questions brought up in the discussion included "Can masturbation and pornography be considered art?" "When is it life and when is it art?" "Can something functional be art?" "How do we define good art?" and how do we define art in general?"

Discussion in the forum varied from the portrayal of masturbation in various mediums and whether or not pornography can be art to discussion of what the definition of art actually is and whether censorship on a college campus is appropriate.

Mr. RWU event raises money for charity

Rebecca Ribe and Roey Broughton
Special to the Herald

The Inter Residence Hall Association (IRHA) is inviting you to see who will be crowned the 4th Annual Mr. RWU on November 19. This year's event will once again benefit the Children's Miracle Network. The 11 members of the RWU community have been hard at work to be named this year's winner.

This year's contestants are Karl Pelletier, Christopher George, Joseph Marchione, Eric Rolle, Jake Silberman, Alex Nicholl, Christopher McGrath, Shashwat Baxi, Al Berrelli, Kerry Gilmore, and Todd Hiller.

The Children's Miracle Network is an alliance of premier hospitals for children, a non-profit organization dedicated to helping kids by raising funds for 170 children's hospitals across North America. Each year these non-profit hospitals provide the finest care, research and community outreach to help millions of children with diseases and injuries of every kind.

The Children's Miracle Network hospitals are open 24 hours a day to help kids of every age and background overcome every imaginable disease and injury. This year alone, Children's Miracle Network hospitals will provide charity care worth billions, yet these non-profit children's hospitals depend on community support to help fund their vital services. (All taken from the CMN website www.cmn.org.)

The money that will be donated by the Mr. RWU pageant will allow Baystate Medical Center to purchase needed equipment for the hundreds that are in need.

The Mr. RWU contestants have raised money by carrying donation jars through campus from the beginning till the night of the pageant. The contestants also sent out fundraising letters to family and friends to help donate.

The Mr. RWU Spectacular will take place on November 19 in the Field House. Doors open at 7:00 p.m. and tickets are $3 for students.

Come laugh and have a great time while supporting a worthwhile cause!

Editor's Note:

For more information on the Children's Miracle Network or to donate money to this worthwhile cause, visit www.cmn.org.

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Topside Party Card

$4 Coors Lite pitchers all the time!
Monday & Wednesday - 20¢ Wings Nites 7-9 p.m.
Tuesday - Free Pool and Free Pizza 9 p.m.-close
Wednesdays after wings - DJ 9 til 1 a.m.
Friday - $5.00 cover for Live Bands ($2 discount off for cardholder & date - show the card)
Special Late Night Menu available Friday & Saturday Nights only 9-1
Saturday - $5.00 cover for Live Bands - Ladies' Night!!! ($2 discount off for cardholder & date - show the card)
Bacardi Drink Specials - come see the Bacardi Girls!!!
Sunday - Coors Lite Football

$4 Coors Lite pitchers all the time!
Watch for specials that you can only get with the Topside Party Card!

Under 21 Welcomed until 9 p.m.
McLaughlin Group star, Clift, speaks at RWU

Lindsey Richard
Herald Staff

On November 18, as part of the Presidential Lecture Series, political icon and women's rights activist, Eleanor Clift, gave Roger Williams a look into the world of politics. Clift is currently a contributing editor at Newsweek Magazine since 1994, writes on the Washington structure, the influence of women in politics and other issues. She is currently assigned to follow the emerging contenders for the 2008 presidential nomination in both the Republican and Democratic parties.

In addition to her Newsweek columns, Clift is a regular member of The McLaughlin Group, a political show that involves commentators debating on four topics with their views ranging from extremely conservative to liberal. Being one of the last members of the show, Clift often says that she is the only woman on the show.

Before realizing the depth of her passion for politics, Clift started her career as a secretary for Newsweek Magazine. It was during a time when magazines weren’t hiring women as reporters or writers, so her only way to delve into the business was through secretarial positions. During her time there, some of the older and more established women at Newsweek brought forward a lawsuit of gender discrimination, which ended with an affirmative action outcome that was settled outside of court.

This decision prompted Clift’s interest with women’s rights and abilities in the political world. After a short time as a secretary, Clift applied for an internship at Newsweek's Atlanta Bureau and was immediately told to cover Jimmy Carter, a young politician at the time. "My dirty little secret is that I never went to college," Clift admitted. However, her lack of a college degree didn’t stop her pursuit for the top. She calls her coverage on Carter her "cinderella story," because Carter won the primary and eventually won the presidency, making Clift his White House reporter.

And she’s been in Washington ever since.

After years in the business, Clift got much more involved in women’s rights in politics. She has written several books on the topic, but in Madam President, the book she co-wrote with her late husband, she talks about how eventually a woman will become president. She gave clear reason why a woman would become president based on how far women have come in the last century. During a debate, she had mentioned that in this century she was certain that a woman would win the candidacy for president. With the new show, Commander in Chief, and the increased amounts of women in control of capital hill, she is sure the time will be sooner rather than later.

Clift told the audience about Alice Paul and Pat Goltz, who were two of the feminists to break the barriers for women. Paul was the chief radical and Goltz was the complete opposite, but the two paired up in the early 20th century and gained the public's attention widely.

Clift said in her departing words that she’s a very serious time and it’s the most critical time to voice opinions. She expressed how torn she is with the entire Bush administration. "Part of me wants him [Bush] to fail but I also don’t want that because if he fails, then we all fail."

But above all, Clift’s speech spoke to the women and to the activists in the room. "More than half of college students are women," she proudly stated. "More than half of medical and law schools are made up of women as well.

Between her columns, defending her liberal stance against four loud and over-bearing men, and keeping her very strong position on protecting and furthering women’s rights, Clift is a busy woman.

She happily addressed the women in the room by stating, "it is a good time to be a woman.

Wireless Internet available, but sporadic

Keri Tzuvi
Herald Staff

Many students at RWU have had the pleasure of using the wireless Internet service that is made available throughout campus, usually to research assignments, do homework, and study.

The wireless Internet service has existed since the fall of 2004, but many students wish they had access to it in their dorm rooms. Students can currently use the wireless Internet at about twelve places around campus. The library, the multi-cultural center, and the commuter lounge in the recreation center are a few places, among others.

Information Technology (IT) hopes to put the wireless Internet in about ten different classrooms throughout campus during the spring.

Currently only about 20-30 registered hosts per an access point are allowed to be on the wireless service for limited use (e-mail and web research).

Joe Pangborn, Chief Information Officer for Information Technology, reflected on the limited action of the wireless technology.

"One needs to understand the shared bandwidth and broadcast/collision domain concepts and constraints for wireless design. In highly populated areas with constant and wider use, a more dense deployment of access points would be required."

Pangborn explains.

Due to the limitations in the current wireless Internet access points, there are fewer resources available to use, thus eliminating students from chatting and gaming.

Still, many students are wondering why the wireless service is only available to use at certain areas on campus. Several students would like to have access in their dorm rooms.

"I think it would be nice if they could have it in the dorms because if you just wanted to chill on your bed with your laptop and do homework you can’t unless you have a really long cord," Mendyka said.

Some students have had luck with getting online via wireless Internet in their dorm rooms. Pangborn says, "There will certainly be (and currently is) some signal bleed into residence halls from academic spaces. This is to be expected, as the RF signal cannot be that tightly controlled. For example, [it bleeds into] Stonewall by the honors study area or Maple by the Multi-Cultural Center."

Several students do find the wireless Internet service to be very helpful when trying to complete an assignment or study for a test.

"We do see wide usage of the wireless capability. We have to assume that this means that students find it useful," Pangborn said.

Frank Tuthill, junior, is a frequent wireless Internet user. He says, "Most of the cable ports in the library don’t work, so wireless is your most convenient option. It would be useful to have it in all of the academic buildings."

To begin use the wireless Internet service on campus students must have an 802.11b/g wireless network card implanted into their computers. Once the card is properly installed into the computers, the students can easily get online by opening a web page, entering their username and password, check the ‘I accept’ box, click the log-in link and minimize the connected mini-screen. Students can purchase the wireless cards at the RWU campus computer store.

"If I were to have something like this in my house, I would absolutely buy it," Tuthill said.

During a debate, she had mentioned that in this century she was certain that a woman would win the candidacy for president. With the new show, Commander in Chief, and the increased amounts of women in control of capital hill, she is sure the time will be sooner rather than later.

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**RWU’s Food Critic:**

**Nello’s Pizza:** Good food, O.K. service, so-so spinach pie

Kaitlin Curran
Herald Staff

Instead of reaching for the phone and dialing the number for Domino’s again, why not try something new?

Nello’s Pizza, located on 574 Meneley Avenue in the Bell Tower Plaza in Bristol, is your average local pizza place. They offer free delivery, 35 different kinds of sandwiches, pasta, salads, and of course, pizza.

The pizza anywhere from cheese, vegetables, and assorted meats. They do, however, offer a variety of “Nello’s Specialty Pizza” which includes the “Mexican” (hamburger, tomato slices, hot chili peppers, and spice) and the “Putt-Putt” (cheese, pepperoni, and onions.) Nello’s also offers Package deals like the large one-topping pizza/ten wings/2 liter Coke, all for $15.95.

On this particular occasion, I decided to go for the classic cheese pizza. I called for delivery and they said it would take about an hour. Unfortunately, I was not surprised because I’ve noticed a trend among delivery services in Bristol.

It seems that no matter what time or day of the week it is, in order to get ANYTH-THING delivered to Roger Williams, it always takes about an hour and usually more. Strange, considering most of the places that deliver to campus are only about ten minutes away.

Sure enough, the pizza arrived within an hour, as expected, and the delivery guy was friendly and professional.

As far as the pizza was concerned, every bite was delicious. It also has a better quality than generic-tasting pizzas like Dominos or Pizza Hut. Each slice was covered with a thick layer of cheese and not once did I take a bite only to have the entire pizza-topping fall off.

The sauce was what made the pizza so great. It had a very light spice, which gave it a kick, and blended well with the cheese. The crust was crispy on the outside and soft on the inside and the dough was fluffy and light.

I found myself wanting to eat more because I wasn’t full. I probably could have eaten an entire large pizza by myself without even blinking; it was just that good.

Aside from the pizza, I also tried ordering a spinach pie and a vegetable calzone, just to see if the other food offered was as good as the pizza. The calzone was

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**Xbox 360: Doing circles around your other consoles**

Timothy Mannion
Editor

The truck will roll in around 5 p.m. on Tuesday, November 22. The boxes, which fill up most of the bed, will be handled with extreme care. The workers move on schedule, sorting through the goods with smiles from ear to ear. The eager people will pick up their new Xbox 360 at midnight, in search for hours of unsaturated fun. Microsoft will be unleashing the wrath that is Xbox 360.

The Xbox 360 is first in the line to enter the next-generation console market. They are several months ahead of Sony’s PlayStation 3 and up to a year ahead of Nintendo’s Revolution. Microsoft is looking to make a big splash; big enough to knock most of the water out of the pool before Sony and Nintendo make their way to the diving board.

The Xbox 360 will feature most of the equipment the X-heads have already come to love and crave from Xbox 1.0. With the built in Ethernet port and free silver service, along with the 4, the Xbox 360 will have the capability to connect to Xbox Live, the global online network. With Xbox Live, gamers can chat with friends online, build and share gamer profiles, send and receive text and voice messages, and gain access to Xbox Live Marketplace, for new content such as game demos, trailers and games from Xbox Live Arcade.

Subscribers to the gold level of service will also have access to online multiplayer, playing against people from across the globe.

“I expect online game-play to be on a whole new level,” says RWU senior Scott Kennedy, whose Christmas break will be filled with an unhealthy dose of egg nog and multiple hours of onlineMelies. The newest Xbox games were starting to become multiplayer focused, and I expect that trend to continue with the 360. Online communities are starting to form and I expect to see that developed a whole lot more.

“I’m sure that we will see upward of 32 players and probably even up to 64 players online at one time. The interface is going to be user friendly, while shar- ing personal information about yourself (as much as you want to share) from where you live, to what you like to do, and even pictures of the players themselves. Online ranking isn’t going to be solely for one game. The ranking sys- tem will rank you as a gamer and not just how good you are at say Halo 2 or NBA Street. In general, I expect it to be more fluid and user friendly, while making it more personal so you are dealing with actual people and not just a video game.”

The launch of Xbox has clearly created quite a stir near RWU. GameSpot in Seeksok, Mass. has 46 systems ready for the first delivery. Right next door, Best Buy has 30 new systems in all. Of these will be off the shelves before Wednesday morning rolls around. The impact of the system has spawned 19 games, all due out before the end of the year.

Of the newest features to hit 360 the one that stands out first is the new sleek design. The look and feel of the console may almost make the strongest gamers cringe. The new cream color is indeed 360 degrees from the black and green that smothered the old model.

The controller, mean- while, is an adaptation from the elder Xbox. While the virgin controller of Xbox 1 was quite large, the latest creation has the keen kungfus grip. The real difference though, lies in the wres- or lack thereof. All of the controllers will be wireless with a range up to 30 feet and a life expectancy up to 30 hours needing two AAA batteries.

Xbox 360 will be the biggest launch of a console since Nintendo 64. A 20 GB hard drive (which can be detached to store music) and High-definition technology will help to change gaming forever. For a price $400 ($300 for the lower model) gaming heaven can be achieved. Gaming philosophers are quick to say today’s youth is the “Nineteenth generation.” Microsoft is looking to put end to that.

Kennedy firmly agrees. “I think that the 360 is going to be an amazing system. I’m a huge fan of the Xbox and what it has given us so far, and I feel that gaming companies are now going to push the limits of gaming because we have a system that will be able to handle it. I have already played some games on the 360, and so far it seems flawless.

“The games look vivid and real. The control is responsive and fluid and the con- troller itself has a natural feel to it. It com- bines the fluidness of the Xbox controller with the compactness of the PlayStation 2 controller.”

“I do not know what to expect from the system will be able to do, as I do not currently own one, but I have seen many game previews and screen shots, and currently they all look amazing and these are just the initial system releases. I think that this system is going to have a great future, both with the online community and the single player gaming.”
Christopher Parish
Sports Editor

A lot of people say their best ideas come to them in the bathroom. So a few weeks ago, I was looking for an interesting concept idea for my sports page when "nature called," as they say.

Now, it’s important to note here that I, along with my fellow editors, spend more time in our office than I do anywhere else. And the closest bathroom to my office (located in the Rec Center, for those of you living under a rock) is just down the stairs from me (to the immediate left of the Rec Center entrance). So I meandered down to the men’s room and took a seat in the middle stall.

It didn’t take long for the idea to dawn on me. Scrawled across the stall were dozens of catchy phrases and grotesque sayings.

It’s called “bathroom graffiti.” For the life of me, I don’t know who writes this stuff. I can’t say that I, while exercising one of life’s dirtiest but most necessary deeds, have ever felt compelled to look through it for future bathroom-goers. Not to mention I’m not sure I’d know what to say. “Chris was here!” Nah, too cliché. “Red Sox rule!” It’s been done. How about “All you mother [expletive]s are [expletive] zero?” Not my style. “Wow. How deep.” This person must have some complicated thoughts. For example, on the wall of one stall, you can see a quote... It’s a great display of bathroom humor and such."Chris was here!" I had never looked at bathroom graffiti as something more than a good excuse to speculate on whether or not it’s still there, but I can tell you that the man can’t ever be faulted for not loving his school based on his bathroom verbosity...

I love Roger Williams.

What a great display of passion from our chief university officer. Next time you see him on campus, be sure to tell that you love Roger Williams University, too.

However, the bathroom stalls were more or less empty, but on the third floor, somebody carved a noble quote...

Death before dishonor.

I find it mildly amusing that someone so firmly embedded in the notion of dishonor would choose a bathroom stall as his canvas. After all, I had never looked at bathroom graffiti as something other than a way to write thoughts. For example, on the wall of one stall, you can see a quote that says...

I have to interject here. That’s not fair. I know a lot of Kates, Katies, and...
Accreditation: Provost Martin says NEASC "very helpful"

Continued from p.1

The job of the Task Forces is to talk to people and hear what they have to say about the university, and to "incorporate reactions, comments and points of view." There have been a total of about 20-25 meetings, all of which have been open for university community to attend. The entire process "should be a very public process," said Interim Provost Jeffrey Martin.

For those who may have concern about the university obtaining its re-accreditation, fear not. Martin, chair of the Steering Committee, is dedicated to making the self-study process run smoothly and properly. He spent a weekend with NEASC officials last fall, in order to learn the correct process to conduct a self-study, and in turn, be fully prepared for the university's re-accreditation.

Community input is very important to the self-study process. The committees want to hear thoughts from students about how they think the university is performing, and what could be improved. Martin said there has been a lot of feedback so far from the community. There have been student forums where students have had the chance to voice their opinions and concerns. Martin believes that lots of good input came from these forums.

One of the deeper aspects of the self-study that requires a look and an analysis done is the schools strengths and weaknesses. According to Martin, "NEASC doesn't expect a perfect institution." The agency is aware that all schools have strengths as well as weaknesses. NEASC doesn't want to see an institution that isn't aware of any problems or one that doesn't want to fix those problems.

Roger Williams, too, has its strengths and weaknesses. Martin believes that some of the weaknesses have stemmed from some of the strengths, which he referred to as "growing pains." For example, the considerable growth of Roger Williams over the last few years is considered a strength. The school is gaining popularity; there are more applicants and there is more competition.

On the other hand, due to this increased popularity, campus housing becomes overcrowded, and there is a struggle to find enough offices for all of the faculty. The school needs to "catch up with the growth," Martin stated. "There is no change without plus and minuses. We want to continue to become a better institution." Even though Martin believes "it's amazing what the school has achieved over the last 50 years," he also feels that there is still more opportunities to grow.

Some other strengths of RWU that Martin pointed out included a grand improvement in the IT department, and a more international population on campus. The university is striving to become more global by internationalizing the curriculum and sending more and more students abroad. As of now, about one quarter of students at Roger Williams spend a semester abroad.

Martin believes that NEASC has been "very helpful in trying to get RWU through the process." He said they are helpful with not overwhelming the process by breaking it down into steps. "It's really a group effort," Martin said.

NEASC is a regional accreditation agency. RWU's current regional accreditation from NEASC means that Roger Williams is also accredited nationally, as well as for the state of Rhode Island. There is no agency that specifically accredits nationally; however, if an institution is accredited regionally, it automatically means that it is accredited nationally.

There are two kinds of accreditation. Roger Williams' accreditation is both institutional and programmatic. NEASC's accreditation is institutional because it looks at the entire university, looking at all its aspects. In addition to this, however, specific professional schools at RWU have separate accreditations.

The architecture program at RWU is accredited by the National Architectural Accrediting Board. RWU's Construction Management program, Elementary and Secondary Teacher Education programs, Engineering and Environmental Engineering programs, and Science (chemistry programs) are all accredited by different agencies that specialize in their specific field. In addition, the Ralph R. Papito School of Law and the Paralegal Studies degree at RWU received approval from the American Bar Association for accreditation. Each of these programmatic accreditations are nationally accepted.

Less time is spent by NEASC looking at the above mentioned departments, since they are accredited by other individual agencies that focus more specific attention to them. These programs are still included in NEASC's accreditation, however, meaning that all the professional schools are accredited by two agencies.

Roger Williams University is undergoing a long, yet crucial process. The school is in the good hands of the Steering Committee and its Task Forces, who will be well prepared for re-accreditation in 2007. This will not only allow the university to keep receiving federal money, but will also ensure the success of both the University and its students. As Provost Martin stated, "We give real degrees for real studies."
StudentsReview Update:
Students speak up; RWU's grades improve

Sean McGriff
Herald Staff

Question: What do 27 undergraduate students, 1 graduate student and 13 RWU alumni have in common?

Answer: A keen overall dislike towards our beloved university.

In a previous issue of The Hawk's Herald, such disgruntled students took the responsibility upon themselves to show not only fellow students and members of RWU but also the world just how terrible our university really is in their own words and opinions.

However, since the full-page spread of comments, some disparaging, more students have taken an opportunity to voice their opinions, and the school's grades have gone up considerably.

The overall rating of D+ for our university caused many to question the credibility of such a survey, saying that a survey of such a small number of students and alumni can not truly represent the overall opinion, and the school body made up of 3,800 undergraduate students.

"People with negative opinions are more likely to report to a website like that," freshman Sacey Axelrod said. "People that are satisfied don't want to rate the school, thus, the negative outweighs the positive opinions of people.

Grades as of 11/4

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Total students: 41 (27 undergrad, 1 graduate, 13 alumni)
Average SAT: 982

Grades as of 11/18

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Total Students: 86 (59 undergrad, 2 graduate, 25 alumni)
Average SAT: 1100

Despite few outbreaks, Scabies not a problem

Courtney Nugent
Herald Staff

When coming to college, most students worry about making the Dean’s List, roommate problems and being far away from home.

A problem most Roger Williams University students did not think about adding to this list, however, were health related issues involving scabies.

Recently, a panic set in across campus after an all-campus email about scabies was sent out. The email stated that although students should not be alarmed, Health Services treated more than one case of scabies in the past week.

A list of the signs of scabies and precautionary matters were included in this email.

"I thought the article was written with a lot of statistics, the stats need to be reflective of the student body, which they clearly are not," junior Rebecca Ribe added.

Outside of surveys and questionnaires, Roger Williams’ students, disturbed by the results of StudentsReview.com, still search for the truth about the quality of the university. Therefore, the burning question still remains uncharted: What do students really think of Roger Williams University?

In response to this question, there are two other surveys reporting on similar college information that should be addressed to show and accurate comparison. The first is the original survey is the updated CampusDirt.com.

The second of these surveys, one done on CampusDirt.com, also deals with information reported by students on the university. The overall report of this information gives the school mostly average scores with a few on the higher side, such as the “campus” category, which scored 70th out of all schools reported.

The second of these surveys was done by students, shown on StudentsReview.com.

The updated StudentsReview.com survey was sent out in reviews from 27 undergraduate students to 60 undergraduate students which showed a clear distinction between the outcomes of the two surveys.

In response to the publication of the original survey, almost three times as many students logged onto StudentsReview.com to try to present Roger Williams University in a more accurate light. In every field across the board, ratings improved for this university. While not receiving quite as prominent ratings as Salve Regina, the ratings for the university have greatly increased.

The second of these surveys, one done on CampusDirt.com, also deals with information reported by students on the university. The overall report of this information gives the school mostly average scores with a few on the higher side, such as the “campus” category, which scored 70th out of all schools reported.

These comparisons between different surveys just show that there are countless opinions of students throughout the university, whether satisfied or dissatisfied with their school experience.

No matter what type of survey is done online, the true feelings of the student body towards the school cannot accurately be reflected. The job of the university is not to please everyone but to just do what it can to make the most people happy, positive or negative reviews aside.

Grades as of 11/18

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Total Students: 86 (59 undergrad, 2 graduate, 25 alumni)
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Scabies is just gross," Day said. "I’d almost rather know about an outbreak where I’ll be living for the next four years.

I find it as the first place you would show signs of scabies would be around your hands. It seems stupid for them to send out an email about a health issue and not explain it fully."

"Students are obviously going to be worried about it."

Director of Health Center Ann Andreade explains the scabies situation.

"There are a couple of cases. No current cases as of right now though. We haven’t seen anymore cases this year, than years past. There is no outbreak or epidemic by any means. Everyone has been treated and so have their contacts, so the situation is well under control."

Although a second all-campus email was sent out, indicating that the university finds cases of scabies each year and there is no reason to be alarmed, students still worried about the situation.

"If the scabies issue wasn’t a big deal, why would they send the initial email in the first place?" student Ana Deal questioned.

"The health tips were sent out to inform people about the problem, but rumors went around saying the school would have to be shut down. There is no truth to that at all. The emails were sent so the students understand what is happening on campus," Andreade added.

Nonetheless, the emails allowed for students to become aware of the situation as well.

"It was good that the first email explained what scabies was and the signs and symptoms of it," Deal said.

"I’m glad I wasn’t kept in the dark about the situation- this is where I live and it’s nice to know what’s going on. I just wish the email had been clearer so everyone would have stopped freaking out."

Other students found the outbreak of scabies to be disgusting and something the university should have kept under wraps.

"I thought scabies was something that came about because of unsanitary conditions," student Kathleen Day said.

"I would not like for people to be living in conditions where they are getting scabies, maybe something needs to be done about maintenance facilities.

No matter what their initial reaction was, many agreed that although it is a good thing the university keeps its students enlightened, some things are just not meant to be shared.

"Scabies is just gross," Day said. "I’d almost rather not know about an outbreak where I’ll be living for the next four years."
Holiday concert joins RWU choir, Bristol

Traci Harris
Herald Staff

Thirty-four Roger Williams’s students: 60 local residents. There’s only one time a year you’ll find these 90 voices singing in harmony.

For the past 25 years, the Roger Williams University chorus and the Bristol County Interfaith Choir have been teaming up for their annual Christmas concert.

The concert, titled, “The Many Moods of Christmas,” features a variety of holiday songs in many different languages. Two shows will be held at St. Mary’s Church in Bristol on December 3 at 7 p.m. and December 4 at 3 p.m.

The concert is a Bristol tradition because it announces the start of the holiday season. This concert is also special because it reflects the silver anniversary for RWU Choir Director, Joan Roth, who is founder of the RWU Chorus and the Interfaith Choir.

“Every year we perform for at least 1,200 people. There will be a 90 voice chorus, accompanied by a 40 piece orchestra,” said Roth. “This concert is the big thing of the year. It’s one of the biggest things in Bristol, from the point of view of performing arts.”

Meghan Rothschild, the president of chorus, also acknowledges what this concert means to the area. “This concert has been bringing the community and RWU students together for 25 years, and it really means a lot to the town.”

“There are more people off campus that know about us than there are people on campus.”

Despite the annual event, the chorus has found a way of tweaking the performance to make it different than years past. “It will be longer, and we will be doing four suites, each with a solo by Roger Williams students,” Rothschild said.

“There are four carols in each of the suites, and every year only one or two are done but this year all four will be done because it is the anniversary year,” Roth explained.

While the audience is sure to enjoy the show, the members of the chorus will also take in the experience. “It’s a wonderful thrill for the kids. We are a small school, we have a small music department, a small chorus,” says Roth. “When do they get a chance to get up and sing with a large group, and make this magnificent sound with a full professional orchestra? It’s a fun experience.”

“Whatever you would do if someone determined to leave their legacy in the campus, kids who sang when they were students, graduated but stayed in the area, and continue to sing in the chorus,” Roth said.

Roth wants students to attend the concert. “I want the students to come and support their friends, and their fellow students at Roger Williams. I want them to be proud of what Roger Williams does in the community, as far as music is concerned,” she continues to say. “I hope they think they are going to hear a fine performance and enjoy themselves.”

Tickets for the concert will be on sale in the student center on November 30th from 11-2, and 4-6. The cost is $5 for RWU students and $10 for anyone else.

Graffiti: It’s graphic sometimes, but hey, it’s free advertising!

Continued from P.1.

I don’t know who you are, Purtle, but you’re clearly an inspiration to graffiti enthusiasts everywhere.

“Hello! I think it’s lame,” the freshman said. “I think if you’re gonna take the time to write on the wall, it should be humorous.

Words of wisdom from the man on the can. Who said this freshman class didn’t show great potential?

Before I left, I stopped by a room occupied by four young ladies, one of whom I know from the cross country team. I asked them if they could recall any graffiti in the women’s stalls.

“So?” one of the girls said. “What would you do if somebody flashed you?” and then there’s a reply, “Me I would like it.” That’s pretty much it, though.

What an interesting concept. The women took their opportunity in the stalls to answer some of life’s more profound questions. I suppose it’s because they spend more time in the stalls because of men, what with their anatomical make-up and all.

Having traveled to dozens of bathroom stalls across the campus, I saw many interesting and informative quotes from people determined to leave their legacy in the most public of places. And yet, I never did get to my true understanding of the graffiti. Why is it written? Who has decided to leave their legacy by spending tedious effort carving their quotes onto the stalls? What goes through the mind of a man who pulls a pen out of his pocket and scribbles a note to a future bathroom user? And who is this mysterious Purtle who, I should so assume, is well-known throughout the graffiti circles?

The answers may never be known. But I must take this opportunity to thank the members of this dark and largely unappreciated sub-culture. Without your words of wisdom, I’m not sure I’d know what I’d do in there.
**Sports, My Way: Dying for a playoff system**

Christopher Parrah  
Sports Editor

I don’t know about you, but I really want to see Notre Dame and USC play again.

I don’t care where or how. Let USC host it. Let Texas host it. For crying out loud, let Arkansas host it and do it convincingly, but they won't ever get a chance at the national championship. As if the BCS system works (but check out the sidebar for a partial explanation). But that system really means about 75 million dollars.

That ends up being a significant pay-out to the schools in question. Back in the 80s, each school in a sponsored game got about four million dollars. By 1998, those payouts increased to $11 million per school. Last year, the base payout for a BCS game was just under $14.5 million.

Why wouldn’t a playoff system work? It works in every other sport. The NCAA tournament brings in $425 million in advertising and revenues. For the four days of the first two rounds of the tournament, nobody turns the channel off of CBS (which is the opposite of the rest of the year, when nobody watches CBS at all).

The teams that are snubbed in the NCAA tournament don’t matter because they didn’t have a shot at the national title anyway.

And basketball isn’t the only sport to put the playoff system into effect. Soccer, hockey, baseball’s College World Series and virtually every other NCAA sport involve some sort of playoff system. As if that wasn’t enough, Division I-AA, Division II and Division III football involve a playoff system.

Why? Because it works. But revenues drive the major conferences, and that’s the way it’s going to be.

Forget that a playoff system might actually incur more funds than a bowl system. What matters is that corporate America is footing the bill, and that’s just fine with everyone.

Everyone, that is, except me. And probably Brady Quinn. If it hadn’t been for Reggie Bush’s illegal final play, Quinn could be the Heisman Trophy favorite right now.

No kidding. Flag football on the architecture field. Somebody call Charlie Weis.

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**How the BCS Works**

Team percentages are derived by divid­ing a team’s actual voting points by a maxi­mum 2850 possible points in the Harris Interactive Poll and 1550 possible points in the USA Today Coaches Poll.

Six computer rankings calculated in inverse points order (25 for 1st, 24 for 2nd, etc.) are used to determine the overall com­puter component. The beat and worst ranking for each team is dropped, and the remaining four are added and divided by 100 (the maximum possible points) to produce a Computer Rankings Percentage.

The six computer ranking providers are Anderson & Heuser, Richard Billingsley, Kelly Mann, Kenoch Mussey, Jeff Saggers and Peter Wolfe. Each computer ranking accounts for schedule strength in its formula. The BCS Average is calculated by averaging the percent totals of the Harris Interactive, USA Today Coaches and Computer polls.

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**Division One competitor Boston University, which claimed first place in the tournament.**

Head wrestling coach Dave Kenmey was extremely pleased with his team’s performance in the face of strong competition.

Coach Kenmey said that Saturday’s Invitational Tournament is the largest athletic competition hosted by Roger Williams University.

"We are off to a great start," Kenmey explained. "We are currently third in New England.

Kenmey was pleased that his team was able to continue to perform so well even after several of his athletes were injured.

However, they all were expected to be back in action by this past week.

"I don't expect any major problems from these injuries," he said.

One of the injured players, Freshman Zach Weinrich, was honored as the most outstanding upper-weight wrestler in Saturday’s tournament.

Weinrich also gave an outstanding performance in the Hawks first tournament, on November 5 and 6 at the Ithaca College Invitational Tournament. The team placed seventh out of 16 schools, breaking the school record of 12th. This trend continued into Saturday’s match.

Weinrich became the first freshman in
Alex Rodriguez deserves the MVP award. But before I go into exactly why, let me clear something up. I am NOT a Yankees fan. I’m not even Red Sox hater. I’m a Phillies fan, to be exact (don’t you feel more sympathy for my argument already?). I go into this completely unbiased, unlike the majority of my opposition who most likely wearing a “Jeter Swallows” shirt right now.

The 2005 race for AL MVP was one of the closest I’ve ever seen in my lifetime. When you look at the numbers, A-Rod and Big Papi are almost identical. Rodriguez led the league in homers, but only had one more than the Ortiz. Ortiz led the majors in RBIs, but was helped by having guys who got on base in front of him, and Rodriguez ended the season bunting in the two spot. Rodriguez did have an advantage in that he batted 20 points higher than Ortiz and stole 20 more bases than him. Although these numbers were to close and did not factor into how the MVP voting ended. It all comes down to defense.

The importance of fielding comes into question this year because David Ortiz is designated hitter and does not play the field. Supporters of Ortiz are quick to point out that defense has not been a factor in other MVP votes won by players such as Frank Thomas of Chicago. These players are certainly nothing special with the leather. However, at least they played the field, something Ortiz only did during interleague play.

That’s important because every day on the field these players took fielding practice, and every inning they had to play the defense they could. No matter how bad they were at their position, they still had to put time into it, unlike Ortiz. Every game he just had to concentrate on batting. It’s no wonder he is such a large man, sitting on a bench. Supporters of Ortiz are quick to point out that defense has not been a factor in other MVP votes won by players such as Frank Thomas of Chicago. These players are certainly nothing special with the leather. However, at least they played the field, something Ortiz only did during interleague play.

The bottom line? Ortiz produces as much as A-Rod for $20 million fewer dollars. Who’s more valuable?

David Ortiz Has a Personality. Though this fact may not affect statistics, it does affect the chemistry of a ball club. David Ortiz is a likeable guy. He has the ability to pick his team up when they’re stuck in a rut. He can have fun with the coaches, teammates, reporters, and fans. He makes Edgar Renteria feed him apple sauce in the dugout.

Now, don’t get me wrong. A-Rod is not a bad person. He never says anything wrong to the press and leads by example on the field. But, aside from his pretty blonde tips and his manufactured Hollywood smile, he is a lifeless, plain teammate. Even Yankee fans have to agree. Though they may love his production and his glove, he’s not the kind of guy with whom you want to be friends. Don’t believe me? Ask Gary Sheffield.

David Ortiz! Lips Are Not/Neve

Have Been Blue. So this one is a complete cheap shot, but hey, this has to count for something, right?

So who’s the MVP? Baseball writers have chosen A-Rod. But Red Sox fans know who the MVP is, and we know who we’d rather have on our team. Give A-Rod the damn trophy. After all, just a few months from now we’ll be at Fenway chanting “Let’s Go Paps”, just before he crushes yet another walk-off homer.