Nirschel and "Little Roger" scale Africa's tallest mountain

Sarah Courrager
News Editor

"You're stupid. Quit." President Roy J. Nirschel said that, by day six, he was ready to quit his ascent up Mount Kilimanjaro, but he persisted. In "An Hour With..." on March 23, a monthly initiative to highlight different students who experience different cultures, President Nirschel gave an account of his hike up Mount Kilimanjaro, explaining the difficulties and frustrations but also what he learned on his adventure.

Once a volcano, Mount Kilimanjaro is the highest solitary peak in the world. The hiking trip was expected to take between seven and ten days to reach the peak and return back to the base. Throughout the trip, climbers experience five extreme climates including a savannah, alpine forest, moorland, an alpine desert, and a glacial plain.

According to the film that persuaded Nirschel to choose the company Tusker Trail, "there are no sure bets, that is the adventure and the challenge."

On the day Nirschel arrived in Tanzania to prepare for his hike to Mount Kilimanjaro, he heard the news that three

Zachary Tannoli
Herald Staff

On March 17, Roger Williams announced its partnership with Ruckus Music Inc. Ruckus gives students the opportunity to legally download music files and purchase video files. Roger Williams Students can sign up for a free account by entering their RWU email address at www.ruckus.com.

"It is really cool about Ruckus is that the user has the ability to download entire albums," Promotions Director of WORI Student Radio Jillian Carman said. "It is great to have because there are sometimes when a new CD comes out and I don't feel like paying all the money for a 10-song download and try it out for a while. If I like the CD then I would definitely go out and buy it. Downloading is temporary process sort of a trial period."

RWU's administration and Information Technology (IT) were monumental in bringing Ruckus to campus. Information Officer of IT Joe Pangborn believes the new program will kick-start the file sharing evolution.

"We are promoting Ruckus by spreading posters around campus. The whole deal is to get students across a consortium to not pay a fee all while having free songs to download. So far there are five outlets in the state of Rhode Island who have the ability to house Ruckus. As of now, only Roger Williams and Providence College have rolled out the program to their students."

Ruckus offers approximately 1.5 million licensed songs from major and independent recording labels, including a wide variety of artists and genres. Ruckus also allows users to choose from a wide array of his Hollywood movies, independent films, and cult classics. Among other video files, students can also download popular TV shows and music videos to their computers for a small fee.

One of the early concerns students have found so far is the renewal phase they must go through in order to keep their songs on the player.

"The way Ruckus works is simple," Pangborn said. "It is legal licensed software, so after 30 days the user will be allowed to renew their subscriptions. Ruckus allows users to share files with their friends who are in the same area as well.

For the most part though the students have been gracious of new toy. The thing I don't like is you have to renew your song subscriptions. Other than that and the price of the fee it's been working out great..."
"From Bayside, with Love"

"Memo to James Tackach"

Last semester I promised not to waste another column defending what I choose to write about. I’ve always known that one person can’t please everyone. But more importantly, when you have to waste time addressing the accusations of a latter, I’m only writing for myself, and that other person. And that’s why I write this column each week. I write it so Joe College Kid has a place to run his eyes when he locks on the spring brake, and someone will have to wait.

Puckfest: that seems like a good place to start. While this might not be something you take part in, you sure seem pretty good at spewing hate. I can’t understand why you choose to write so viciously. I don’t own of anyone who responds positively to being attacked. Personally, I respond well to constructive criticism, but there was none to be found in your letter saturated with animosity. You talk about the students, faculty and administration caring about how our University is viewed, but the manner in which you addressed this issue raised a question. What’s more important, the way we learn to talk to people we disagree with (via our teachers) or distinguishing between homonyms? I would have to choose the former.

You disagreed with my point about breaking bottles and accused me of looking like a “deficient pre-adolescent boy” and “annoying people” pushing “alcohol.” For one, you’re taking me way too seriously. Normally, I trust that my readers have the ability to discern between my level of seriousness. But also, don’t children break glass when they get married and don’t peoplechristen a new boat by breaking a bottle of champagne against it? As Dave Chappelle once said “they’re all diagnosing relationship difficulties.” Why should breaking a glass on your friend’s birthday be any different? This is also inspired you to question my manhood (and I might add, in quite an arrogant manner, don’t ever address me as “sohn” again). So now it’s my turn to question your manhood. Let’s crop positions for a moment. You can drink a beer and then throw it against the wall on your friend’s birthday. Then I’ll 1) rate and publicly aim to embarrass a younger writer with less experience who’s half my age. Then we’ll exchange stories about our experiences to determine who feels more like a man.

Actually, I’m sorry, I’m going to have to leave out the part where you attack the poor freshman girl who spoke a couple of times in class. Because technically, since you’re a hypocrite and spelled two names wrong in your own accusation, that part doesn’t count. Do you realize this girl is only a freshman and is gladly trying to write again because of you? If you want the school paper to improve, stop attacking the people who contribute to it and make it great. You do realize we do this on our own time and receive no credit from the school for our hard work, right?

Before your overwhelming sense of social responsibility kicked in, I know while reading my column you wanted to laugh a little (or maybe even crack a smile). You were a college student once, too, weren’t you, Jimbo? I know my column evoked some youthful nostalgia tucked behind thick glasses and sturdy academic coat of arm-old English teachers.

But I bet you enjoyed every second you spent scouring over every last column, reveling in every grammatical error you could find. There’s something you need to understand, no one cares but you. You can try to put the blame on the editors, all you want but it won’t change anything, no one is resigning. Some have people with Sports Illustrated using the sweatshirt issue to help fuel circulation. Is that so different then the Hawks Herald publishing my column?

Despite your bias, I am no longer in high school, so I don’t have time for this dramatic goofy. So if you feel the need to reflect, know I won’t waste any time responding. I take responsibility for what I write. I am aware I perpetuate some negative college stereotypes and make them look cool. But no amount of ignorance-sold by hypocrisy professors is going to change these stereotypes. They’re real and they’re funky, don’t ask me why. James, my column isn’t for you. Last time I checked the front of the paper read “the independent student newspaper at RWU.” Let the students enjoy a guilty pleasure or two. And if you don’t like what I write, don’t read it.

Dear Terrified,

First off, you must speak to your teachers individually about your problem. Visit them during their office hours and show them your grades, and then show them your tests. Explain to them the situation. Chances are, they will be sympathetic and will allow you to perhaps do a take home test, or have some extra credit. Also, you may suffer from a form of anxiety. You should speak to a professional about your phobia, and they may be able to give you pointers and even medication to help you relax. You could also speak to faculty at the center for academic development. They could get you in contact with someone who can analyze your problem and can then arrange for you to take tests separately from your class or they may have other options. Good Luck!

Meg & Ash

Dear Meg and Ash,

I’m a senior and I’m starting to have serious anxiety about graduating. My grades are fine and I have a good resume, but I become really emotionally attached to people and I hate change. I feel like I’m going to go crazy at graduation. Any tips?

-Graduating Blues

Dear Self-Centered,

This is the same fear almost everyone you know has. All seniors are worrying about what’s going to happen once the day graduation comes along. Our best advice? Talk to everyone else. Sit down with them and tell them your fears. You’ll probably be glad to hear that everyone else feels the same way. Maybe set up a definite weekend that you and your closest friends can get together within a few months after graduating. Plan something fun and try to stay in touch, even if it is just a phone call. Let your friends know how much you’re going to miss them and make plans to stay in touch. Try not too worry too much because a very exciting time is coming up for you! Good luck with everything!

Meg & Ash

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

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Climb: Nirschl climbs to world's highest point

On the drive back to the hotel, Nirschl spotted a van in front of them that said "What have you done today to prove you're alive?" Nirschl said he just felt "so grateful to be alive.

Becoming Nirschl had never been to Africa; he was especially interested in the culture of the village which was one-third Christian, one-third Islam and one-third other.

According to Nirschl, some of the villagers would poke at his skin. "The people were great." Nirschl said. He explored the nearby villages conversing with natives and finding out what life was like for them.

As to whether Nirschl would ever again return to the peak of Kilimanjaro, he said he would never go again. "It was a once in a lifetime experience," Nirschl said. "I would recommend it to my enemies and to my friends."

Fun Facts about Mount Kilimanjaro

* Mount Kilimanjaro is also known as Kilima Njaro or "the mountain that glitters" in Swahili
* Highest point is the highest point in Africa: 5,895 meters (19,340 feet) above sea level
* It is the tallest free-standing mountain on the Earth's land surface
* Kilimanjaro is a triple volcano (has three peaks) that last erupted centuries ago and has more than 100,000 years ago, but still exudes volcanic gases.
* Approximately 40% of people who set out to reach the peak, turn back before reaching it
* The ice caps on Mount Kilimanjaro are melting

Nearly sixty argue at the Socrates Cafe

Should the nation elect the Supreme Court Justices?

Charlie Shigekani
Herald Staff

On March 23, the library played host to the renewal of Socrates Cafe as the issue of selecting Supreme Court Justices came to the table. Hosted by law professor Dana Hessel, and with the attendance of nearly 60 students and faculty members, the heated debates ensued.

Should we elect the people elect Supreme Court Justices? The question has continued for much more time, but has only come into the open recently, with the death of former Chief Justice William Rehnquist, and the retirement of Justice Sandra Day O'Connor. The newly appointed judges (Chief Justice John Roberts and Associate Justice Samuel Alito) have their work cut out for them, but whose responsibility is it to select our justices? Many argued that there is not a point to having a non-elected branch especially because it holds much of the responsibility to protect its governing citizens, while others urged the point that it should be left to the Congress to select that call.

For one thing, it is almost a certainty that either candidate selected would be a falling man for the people's will. If we put government in power, aware of their beliefs, then those use the results we should expect. The first question asked by Professor Hessel accented to win uninterested and apathetic students, into active vocal members of the community.

"The Supreme Court rarely touches [the idea of selecting Supreme Court Justices]," Hessel said. "They don't want to just elect them. Does it give the people a better sense of who the justices are if we elect them?"

Almost simultaneously, the room split in half, with those who diverged from the idea of electing justices, to those who felt it was not our duty. One student remarked that, "We should never elect Supreme Court Justices, law is hard." When asked to prove why his argument had any merit he replied by saying, "Leaving it to people who can interpret the law better, by applying scholarship is important." The student's argument, in short, explained that we the people, a society are in no position to elect our justices, we are devoid of the legal knowledge which necessitates an educated choice. If we choose who governs us we must be prepared to deal with the repercussions.

While the debates went back and forth, the talk was fairly similar. "You can't give power to the people," a female student said. Professor Hessel presented another thought provoking question to the table, "Would publicly funded campaigns help?"

Are we as voting members of a society capable of electing money to whom we support? It seems at times that those politicians who have the bigger bank roll, or have more support of money hungry tycoons seem to find themselves in a very uncomfortable spot. The idea that campaigning would be more equal if the people donated money would represent a stronger voice for the community, but that could quickly be negated by the support of the nominees more opulent lifestyle-seeking friends. So who benefits in the end?

With discussions wrapping up, a final idea reached the Cafe and that was the question of the Senate itself. The people elect members to the Senate which disprove any idea that we are powerless. One female said, "The job of the Senate is represented through the people's voice, we are indirectly electing justices through the Senate." "Look out for the individual not the majority," another girl said advocating for government to elect our justices.

It is fair to say that this topic will be reviewed, discussed and dissected a thousand times with no fair answer to give. Many feel elections should be left to the more knowledgeable minds of law, while others support the idea for people's rights. The arguments are ever-lasting, but for the mean time the task will be left to those at Capitol Hill to fairly and evenly measure the decisions for the good of the people to keep our ideals and passions stronger than ever.

(Above) President Roy J. Nirschl's crew sang "Rain Bena" to raise everyone's spirits on the arduous journey. (Below) Nirschl points at the glacial plateau behind him.

Nirschl spent over a week climbing to the summit of Mount Kilimanjaro over winter break.

Chief Justice John Roberts was one of two Supreme Court justices appointed recently. At a recent Socrates Cafe, students argued whether they should be elected.

http://www.worldnet.com
Darfur: The long fight

Ashley Reynolds
Special to the Herald

Few know of the mine killing of hundreds of thousands of people in the recent genocide occurring in Sudan. Several students hope to change that by increasing awareness in order to raise donations to help the suffering nations. In a conference open to the entire student body to be held on April 27 beginning at 6:30 p.m., the four students of Doctor Katherine Hall’s Critical Writing Class will be giving a presentation to educate the audience of current events.

Students Ashley Reynolds, CharleSudduth, Courtney Smith, and Alexander (All) Saffy, became aware of the situation when Saffy heard a brief broadcast of Sudan on the BBC. The girls were horrified to learn that an entire race of people was being cannibalized by their own government in an war similarity to the earlier genocide in Rwanda. Even more to their amazement was the fact that they had not heard about the tragedy at all on the news, despite its 20-year duration.

Since the 1970s their own oil producing government, the Jonglei, has selectively slaughtered the non-Arabs of Sudan, especially in the Darfur region. Since 2003 over three million people have been affected and every month, over 6,000 people die. Refugees have lost their homes and over 75 percent of their livestock and are now forced to live in the most direst form of poverty. Women still women are subjected to rape just to survive while mothers bury their small children who died from starvation. The men who were lucky enough to survive are permanently crippled with limb loss and other deformities. If nothing is done, these statistics will only increase.

Despite UN involvement and other government interaction, not enough is being accomplished. Due to lack of funds, poor security, and insufficient supplies the refugees are not getting the aid they need.

The four girls hope to correct the situation for they believe that if more people were made aware then they would not just sit by and do nothing. They remarked that when they learned of the devastation occurring in Sudan they felt that it would be unconstitutional to just present it to the class for a grade. Once they were told to they were made aware they could not just sit by and do nothing while more and more people die.

As a result, at the presentation on April 27, which will also show a MTV documentary anti-Sudan, "Translating Genocide," they will be collecting donations which will buy the refugees food, water, livestock, and provide them with education. Any amount that they raise will be matched by Starbucks as well as the company at which Smith’s mother is employed. Only $375 dollars can save someone from starvation or provide a child with education, while $500 will buy them clean water. With the help of the student body, the girls have the potential to make a difference and save the refugees that they are not forgotten.


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"Senioritis" kicks in as graduation approaches

Tracy Leval
Features Editor

With spring break over and only a looming seven weeks left until graduation, seniors have begun what is commonly referred to as "senioritis," by ignoring their academic responsibilities, choosing any other activity besides homework, and certainly increasing their social experiences during the workday.

"I'm pretty much over all this crap at school, I have no motivation for schoolwork," someone I know has said. "I just want to get my semester over with and be able to rock." Jeff Lefeld said. "It will be nice to stop doing pointless school work and start caring on a larger scale, like being salary based."

Seniors each year tend to get this feeling when they are ready for the next step in their lives. Everything begins to lose its importance except for the time spent with friends, knowing that graduation is in its final countdown.

However, professors tend to frown upon "senioritis," as they still have 1/3 of a semester's worth of material to teach. They know that they are reaching a breaking line and it's hard not to enjoy it, if they don't complete the work, their grade will suffer." Professor David Moscovich said. "No work, no grade."

However, the senior class seems to be in complete agreement when it comes to the end of the semester and feeling that all schoolwork has lost its necessity.

Senior Jess Peters has lost her interest and motivation. "Honestly I feel like I definitely have senioritis. I am more focused on getting a job than on doing my work. I spent last semester trying so hard to get good grades and now that the real world is so close I feel like papers and tests are not as important as getting interview talks," she said.

Other seniors express their concern in their sudden change of pace: They claim that it's not a conscious event when "senioritis" hits, work just becomes impossible to focus on and complete.

But for seniors such as Dave Pond, it is not the work that is bothering him. "It is a matter of work but going to class is a waste of my time, time I could be doing work."

Senior Steve Gorel agrees that he is looking forward to graduation and the end of schoolwork, but explains that it's not that I don't do my work because I still do the same amount now that I always have done, now its just that I know that this is the end, the end of the journey and I'm ready for it to be over."

Not only are all seniors ready to move on, but even underclassmen whose courses have taken on immense responsibilities throughout their four years, are finding work slightly tedious and are ready to leave the work behind them. "I go back and forth. I'm sick of homework but I will miss the routine that school gives," Todd Hiller, HRA, student team member, stage company participant, Boyside Hall Council leader and theatre major with rehearsals all night, said. "After spring break, I'll take a week off, I want to get back into school. In three months I'll be graduating, but I am definitely ready for the next step."

Professor Moscovich, campus, however, have a different view on senior's abilities post spring break.

They (the seniors) seem hummed out while they're dealing with the stress of graduation, but I haven't seen it (senioritis) yet," Historic Preservation Professor, Mike Marshall said. "The seniors are just frustrated and there are ways of dealing with it constructively. Starting in April, I have all of my classes out in the field because after spring break the students should start to lose their focus."

RWU seniors certainly feel justified in their "slump" as graduation is a mere 51 days away. I want to know when they didn't start slacking," Melnikov said. "I mean, it happens on every campus under the sun."

Adopted students embrace past and future

Lauren Caruglio
Herald Staff

This past summer Kaillln Curran jumped into the car with her mother and ventured to the Wide Horizons Adoption Agency in Walhalla, South Carolina. At the agency, she discovered a shocking piece of information. She had originally been named Sinclaria. That was when it really became reality, as she jumped from a junior Communications major, said. Curran was slightly uncomfortable, she understood her birth mother's reasoning. "Sinclaria" was not a name that my birth mother could identify with. It was more of a comfort factor."

Curran is one of several adopted children across the world. Like many, she lives happily with a family that has brought nothing but love to her for 21 years.

Curran's parents always discuss her adoption openly. "It's something that I've always known," Curran says. Although at a young age it was difficult for her to grasp, she never felt as if it were something that shouldn't be talked about.

Recently, Curran, 21, also a junior, shares her experience as an adopted child.

Toomey's mother had never kept her adoption a secret, a fact that truly meant the world to me. You aren't from mommy's belly, you're from mommmy's heart," she remembers.

Curran has asked questions and researched her biological parents. She discovered that her birth mother, named Beth, is from a strict Irish Catholic background; however, the fact that Curran's adopted parents are also Irish-Catholic is no coincidence. Based on little information available such as occupation, religious background, health issues, and interests; Beth and her family were able to choose which type of family they would want Curran to have as her own. In fear of disappointing her faithful parents, Beth at age 15, had kept her pregnancy a secret until before Curran's birth on January 29, 1985. Kaillln's Biological father, James, was 16 at the time, but was no longer together with Beth.

"My parents literally found out they were going to have a kid the day I was born," Curran recalls.

Curran keeps a gold charm from her biological mother safely in her jewelry box that she received from her adopted parents on her first communion. She jumps up to get it, saying, "The charm is of the Virgin Mary looking down on baby Jesus. My biological mother wanted me to have it so I would know she was always watching over me."

Toomey knows little about her birth parents. She knows that her birth mother was approximately 20 years old. Based on some minor descriptions of her biological parents, Toomey believes that she looks most like her birth mother. Toomey knows that she is part Native American and was born in Atlanta, Ga.

Curran is interested in learning more about her biological parents, but it is not a priority right now. "I think about contacting them, but I am at a stage where I am busy with other things," she said. "I have a lot to look forward to, but it is not something I need to do right now, it can wait."

She also understands the repercussions of meeting her biological parents. "I wouldn't be meeting just a mother and a father, I would meet grandparents, uncle, aunt, and possibly even brothers and sisters.

Toomey also temporarily puts aside her desire for meeting her biological parents. "On my birthday I think about my birth parents, but I am busy with my life right now, so maybe when I get older."

Curran thinks that meeting her biological parents would be too much for her to handle right now. She worries about the possibility that her birth parents would be uninterested in meeting her.

"I worry about the rejection I may get from her," Curran explains. "She could say 'I don't have room in my life for you."

Although Curran and Toomey show interest in meeting their biological parents, they assure their mothers and dads that they will always be their true parents.

Curran's mother did share a piece of her when she was still a baby. "When I was five months old, my birth mother asked a social worker at the adoption agency if she could see pictures of me. My mom sent them, but we never heard from her (Beth) again."

Toomey's mother feels similarly about her interest in contacting her biological parents but agreed to help her find them. "I truly wanted to. When I first found this film containing information on my adoption, she thought I would find my biological parents and would leave her. There is a fear, but deep down she knows," Toomey says.

Although Curran and Toomey are comfortable with their adoption, others have made it difficult for them at times.

Curran often hears that she looks very similar to her adopted parents, due to the fact that they both have Irish blood. People are often shocked when they discover she is adopted and begin to ask questions.

"A lot of times people will say to me, 'Do you have a birth mother? What was she like? What was she doing? Say, 'Yeah, I live with them'" Curran said. "Whenever relatives and loves you are your parents. That's your family."

People are often curious and want to ask questions about her adoption. They often begin their questioning with, "Hey Curran, you don't want to talk about your past, do you?" Curran just laughs and reassures them that they won't. "I'm adopted and you don't have to worry about offending me. I never thought I was different, but rather felt that there was something cool about me."

Curran agrees that her real parents are the ones who raised her, "I am so much like my mother it's disgusting!"

The journey has also had some difficulty fitting in with her family. Her mother's side of the family treats her slightly different.

"They don't consider me blood. There's something there that makes me feel like I stand out," Ryan's father's side, however, is quite comfortable with her being adopted.

Curran and Toomey believe that the common misconceptions about adoption are due to the fact that people are unable to think about it or are simply ignorant of it.

"Some people find it a sensitive topic. People assume biological parents were, like, too young or too old," Tookey explained.

"Some parents may find the subject uncomfortable. Some may not want to face the other issues that sometimes go along with putting a child up for adoption like who is the child's real birth parents."

Curran and Toomey have considered adopting children of their own in the future. "I would still want to have biological children, but if there was ever a case where I couldn't have my own, I wouldn't hesitate to adopt at all," Curran said.

Toomey realizes that appearance doesn't mean anything when it comes to a family. "I sometimes think I would want a kid to have someone to look like, but then I think it wouldn't matter at all."

As adopted children, Toomey and Curran see the beauty in being adopted and in raising children who were previously unable to be taken care of.

"I think adoption is the greatest gift a person can give to another person," Curran said.
Ricottic’s: A perfect score for fries & more

Restaurant Ratings (1-5)
Food: 5
Service: 5
Prices: 5

Ricottic’s Sandwich Shop, located on 11 Goulding Ave. in Brew, is a small fam-
ily run business established in 1971. There
are over 50 varieties of hot and cold sand-
dwiches and it is home to the best spinach,
chowders and broccoli pies around.

This was my first time visiting
Ricottic’s and I had heard good things
about it, so I just had to go and see for
myself.

It turns out, the rumors are true.
Ricottic’s has the best sandwiches in the
area and I can’t wait to go back!

When I first walked in, the interior
gave me the impression of a small Italian
style kitchen with floral table clothes and
old wooden counters. The seating area is
small, but the booths provide enough room
for customers who don’t feel like getting

any level of hunger.

After the sandwich was devoured, I
happily tasted one of Ricottic’s famous
spinach pies. I can see why they’re famous
because I enjoyed it immensely (and I
don’t usually like spinach). The bread was
thin like a pita and wasn’t overfluffed. I’m
not sure what their secret is, but it could be
the pepperoni slices raised in the
spinach.

Aside from their large assortment of
sandwiches, Ricottic’s also offers salads,
six varieties of 10-inch pizza, king sized
hot dogs and much more.

Of course, I had to sample the french
fries since they are my favorite food that
this planet has to offer. I can happily say,
they were delicious and just the way I like
them: hot, fresh, crispy, and covered in
ketchup.

I also sampled the mozzarella cheese
sticks, which were good despite the mari-
nutri since, which had a funky taste. It was
one of those tastes that’s not bad, but not
good either. Don’t let that hold you back
from ordering them, however, because they
were worth $2.23.

Ricottic’s also has vegetarian friendly
sandwiches, including the Vegetarian
Special: Sweet peppers, mushrooms;
onions, lettuce, tomato, pickles, hot pep-
pers, melted American cheese and pro-
volone cheese.

Overall, I highly suggest making
Ricottic’s a part of your next dinner
arrangement. I’ll be the best gift you ever
give to your stomach.

Do you have a restaurant that we should review? Email your suggestions to:
bannerheralds@gmail.com

Breaking new ground, spring break style

When most students think of spring
break, what comes to their minds are ideas
of drinking excessively, lounging in the
sun and spending time with friends like a
scene out of an MTV beach house special.
Although two groups from RWU were
able to experience their spring breaks in
the sun and with their friends, they were
doing this for an extremely important
organization.

Members from the InterVarsity
Christian Fellowship spent their spring
break building homes for Habitat for
Humanity in Daytona Beach, Florida
during the spring break trip to Daytona
Beach, which is sponsored by the Habitat
for Humanity Collegiate Challenge.

Although many students may not
know what Alternative Spring Break
entails, the students who particpate in
the event have nothing but good things to say
about it.

“Alternative Spring Break is exactly
what it says,” said senior Steve Lohrbarte.
“It’s an alternative to doing what college
students usually do for their Spring Breaks
like going to the beach or partying. I actu-
ally wanted to do something productive
with my life. In this case, I used my life for
community service.”

During their time in Summer, the mem-
ers of Alternative Spring Break worked
on building homes for the low income
students in Daytona Beach.

“The work was very hard, but the
students were very happy,” said Lohrbarte.
“I learned a lot from the students and the
task was very rewarding.”

In order to get to Summer, the members
of Alternative Spring Break used
a great deal of fundraising.

“We did three main fundraisers for our
trip,” said sophomore Samantha Hurd.
The first one, Build a Brick, is a fund-
raiser that allows all of the students on campus
to help out by buying a ‘brick’ that
costs one to five dollars. Every brick
that was bought essentially helped to build the
road to Summer, South Carolina. The sec-
third fundraiser that we did was a real sign
away. It was a deal that we worked out with
dining hall staff. When students
signed the meals away, we got a certain
amount of money. This year we asked that
students signed their meals away during
one of the days of the long weekends.
The last fundraiser that we did was writing
letters home. Each ASB member wrote 5
letters to either family members or friends
asking for support.

The members of ASB also received
funding from other organizations on cam-
pus. We got funding from Student Senate,
IrHA, the Kelly Fund,” said Patyus. “We
also got support from the InterCultural
Center this year through the use of one of
their vans.”

Much like the members of ASB, those
involved in the IVCF trip to Daytona
Beach shared a similar experience.

“It is a unique experience, especially
for someone like me who has done almost
nothing with power tools in my life,” said
junior Kristina Vente. “The site managers
show you how it is done and then you are
on your own. It is a good bonding experi-
ence too. Even if you go with friends it
brings you closer because you are doing
something for people who really need it.”

Even though spring break has passed
and the trips have both come and gone,
students are still encouraged to look into
local Habitat for Humanity experiences.

“I just think that these programs are
something that everyone should try at
some point,” said Hurd. “If you don’t have
time to go during spring break, then stop
by a local Habitat group on the weekend.
I already got in touch with the local group in
my hometown and plan on helping.”
The adventures of Spring Break ... on a bus

Roxie Aglia
Herald Staff

Many spring breakers book their hotel and airplane tickets, 1 on the other hand booked his hotel and two tickets to Miami.

Yes, I did say bus tickets. Not many people think of taking the bus to keep the cost of spring break low.

My friends, Nellie, Daniels (both RWC students) and I started talking about spring break back in November, but being last minute girls we did not decide that we were actually going until two weeks before. So of course, plane tickets were around $550. Train tickets were around $500, but the bus tickets were only $178 round-trip. To save some money, we decided to be brave and take the bus: one day and 15 hours to get to Miami.

The bus, John Kennedy Plaza in Providence at 3:30 a.m. Thursday. Luckily, not many people take the bus that early in the morning, so we each sat in our own seat and fell asleep until we got into New York. In New York, we boarded the connecting bus. I sat with Daniels and Nellie sat with another spring breaker, Wayne. Who would have thought a bus ride would be so entertaining. This tall man with large gold rings and a gold cross necklace insisted on sitting alone the whole ride.

Every time someone asked to sit next to him, he would look back and say, "there is an empty seat back there." He had to have done this to at least 20 people. Finally, the bus got full, and the driver walked back and told him that he had to let someone sit next to him because it was sold out. He was not too happy with that.

Most of the people on the bus fell asleep. We decided to talk because we did not feel like sleeping. We were not being loud. I would admit we can be loud, but this time we were not. Of the riders we approached someone sleeping, we locked at the man who was sleeping at us, then went undo. We were in shock. Who if someone to get their attention, treating us like dogs? We were quiet for a few seconds from shock, but then burst out laughing. This woman next to us said we should be quiet and not disturb him, but we kept talking. He didn't bother us anymore, thankfully.

We stopped in North Carolina and went inside the station. Connected to the chairs were small televisions. There was a show to put a quater in or if it were an arcade game. But they didn't work. It was fascinating to see some of the old attractions still intact in the stations, I guess earlier when boxes were popular, people stopped watching TV while waiting for the next bus.

We finally arrived in Orlando on Friday, around noon. We had to switch buses, but we were a little late because the driver decided he was hungry and stopped to get food. We waited in line to get onto the next bus but it was filled before we could get on. There were about 15 people left in line to board the bus. We were told that another bus was called to bring us.

Apparently, they overbook the buses because not everyone shows up at the scheduled time. Little did we know that the next bus that was coming was at 3:15 p.m. We were so mad because they told us that they were sending one before the scheduled bus. It would not have mattered to us except that we were so close to Miami. After waiting three hours, we finally boarded the bus to Miami.

I guess there is a reason for why things happen the way they do. If we were to arrive in Miami, we would not have over the energetic 5-year-old Korina. Korina and her brother were heading to Miami to visit their grandmother for spring break. Korina with her light up high-heel shoes sat in front of us entertaining us until she fell asleep. Little children are very friendly and love to tell strangers everything. We learned about her 13-year-old brother and how he had a girlfriend at school and how he only pretends to care about her and how she can come to 100.

We finally arrived in Miami all excited. There are three Greyhound stops in Miami. The first one was Korina's, the last one ours. We went off the bus, said our goodbyes to Korina, and realized we would never see her again.

We thought the bus ride there was interesting, but the ride home topped it. (Danielle took a plane home; Nellie and I took the bus.)

Between the two of us, we had 20 dollars left. Luckily, we slept most of the way home so we were not hungry or thirsty. We survived on chips until we arrived in New York. Where we got what seemed to be the best meal of our life. Even with no money, we enjoyed the trip home.

After fifteen minutes outside of Orlando, we spotted this man on a motorcycle flagging down the bus. One of the baggage inspectors was not sure properly and one bag had blown out. Instead of turning around and picking it up, the driver said most likely someone would pick it up and call Greyhound.

We all started to break out. No one knew whose luggage it was, all I kept thinking it was mine and that I had lost everything. We got to the next stop some place in Georgia, all the passengers went to the side of the bus all wanting to look and see whose baggage it was. The security men were being rude and would not let anyone look; they said we would have to wait until we were at our next connecting bus to see if it was our luggage. Back on the bus, I bad nightmares the whole night about my bag flying off the bus and all my clothes flying everywhere.

Outside Savannah, Georgia, 10 p.m., a man two seats behind us began screaming, we thought he was on the phone. The man screaming, pointing to the people in front of us. 'Not 1, not 2, not 3,' continuing until he reached 10.

By this time, everyone was aggravated with him and realized that he was drunk. They yelled at him to shut up, but he just kept louder. He was getting louder. He leaned over to the people in front of him and started to pinch an old man. At that point, all the men around to yelled at him and threatened him.

He got of the old man, started yelling again, when the woman in front of us started to scream, shut up, and threatened him to quiet down or he would have to deal with her. He quieted down and when we stopped in Savannah, he practically ran off the bus. That was the last we saw of him.

We finally made it to New York. The drive from New York should have only taken us approximately four hours but all the stops made it seven hours. It felt good to see Providence, except when we got off the bus into the freezing cold weather.

Taking a taxi somewhere is not that bad, it is like flying only better.

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Couple of the Moment:
Jeff Sudman and Lucy Devens

Reporting by Elizabeth Liederman

Interview With Jeff:

What Jeff had to say...

1. When and how did you and Lucy first meet? We met in September 2004 in Wilton building. We were both stuck in the same building.
2. What were your initial thoughts about her after you met? She was really fun and had a great personality.
3. How long have you been together? Almost 2 years.
4. What would you say is the cutest thing about her? Her smile.
5. What is the newest or most memorable thing you've done for her? We went to Cape Cod for her birthday weekend.
6. Do you guys have any plans for summer? Not as of yet, but hopefully hit up the West Coast.
7. If you could pick one word to describe your relationship with Lucy, what would it be? Perfect. We couldn't be a better match.

Interview With Lucy:

What Lucy had to say...

1. When and how did you first meet Jeff? Jeff and I lived in the same building in Wilton freshman year. We really just clicked when we met.
2. Were you immediately attracted to him? Definitely!
3. What is the most appealing thing to you about Jeff? I can only pick one?! I love how considerate he is. how he can always pick me up when I'm upset, just how he makes me feel when I'm around him. He is just an overall great person.
4. What is the sweetest or most memorable thing he's ever done for you? I had never been to the Cape before and I had always wanted to go. Jeff took me there for three days to celebrate my birthday. It was so sweet for him to plan the whole thing out and spoil me for the weekend.
5. What is the newest thing you've ever done for him? We do a lot of thing for each other, so it's hard to choose one. I'll bake him cookies or I'll go out and bring him back little presents. I do a lot of stuff like that for him.
6. Have you guys taken any memorable trips together? Other than Cape Cod, we've been on one other vacation. We went to South Beach last year for spring break with two other people. Our six-month anniversary was in the middle of spring break last year so we got to spend it in Florida.
7. If you could pick one celebrity couple that reminds you of you and Jeff, who would they be and why? Oh man... I think most celebrity couples suck and the few couples that do seem to work well together end up breaking up. I'm not gonna just say.

Do you know a couple that should be the next Couple of the Moment?

E-mail us hawksbyadd@gmail.com.
Dense Hurtles
Special to the Herald

A new sensation has taken the students of RWU by storm, and all it takes to get there is the turn of a radio dial. The radio program called Pick Your Poison has captivated audiences across campus and neighboring areas with its perfect blend of blues, classic rock, reggae, alternative rock, and engaging talk segments.

The show, which can be heard on WQRI (98.3 FM) on Tuesday nights from 8 to 10 p.m., often features bizarre callers and interesting plot twists. And, students cannot get enough of this new phenomenon.

"Pick Your Poison is more than just a radio show... It's a revolution, and it's coming for you whether you are willing to accept it or not," said a fan of the show, Emerson Goodman.

The show's offbeat topics have included: a contest in which the winner received a co-host's kidney, a hostage negotiation involving rare Brazilian monkeys, and several protests related to the Diairama Corporation. Who is the person behind all of this insanity? He is, of course, a man who is known only by the name: DJ E.Z. D. (in reference to the late poet, Larry E.).

"Pick Your Poison is the elephant in the room that nobody wants to acknowledge," said E.Z. D.

"But let me tell you people in the quote unquote establishment something... Pick Your Poison is coming for you, it's said one listener who chose to remain anonymous, "Sure [Pick Your Poison] it's entertaining, there's no denying that, but I'm just worried about the overall message it sends to our children, who won't anybody think of the children?"

While the public is split on the overall message of Pick Your Poison, one thing garners little debate: the show's entertainment value. The staff of the show, which includes co-hosts, DJ Casey Eddie and Tere-Tac along with E.Z. D., dig up the most outrageous and compelling news stories of the week and proceed to have discussions about them. It was one of the first shows to discuss the Dick Cheney shooting at nan-seum.

While the news is an important aspect of the show, the reason for the show's success is the variety and quality of the music. "It's the music guy, you gotta love the music... If the music was a woman I would make love to it," said E.Z. D., who also stresses audience participation. "I am a man of the people! I not only encourage my audience to call in... I beg them! The audience is the lifeblood of this show..."

The show brings in unparalleled exposure to entertainment on a campus that has been in desperate need of one. E.Z. D. delivers a powerful dose of poison every Tuesday night and leaves his audience asking for a second helping.

Hendryk Hershey

Dabble in Scrabble

Alex Ruggeri
Special to the Herald

For one night at least, pong was not the most popular board game campus.

On March 8, the staff of Roger Williams' on-campus literary magazine, Accepted Wild Extreme Pro fantasy, hosted a Scrabble Tournament in The Other Place. This event was held to raise funds for the burgeoning club's publishing efforts and to extend a fun yet cerebral gaming night for the university community. The entrance fee was five dollars, and although the event was advertised across campus, most of the participants were magazine staffers. Once the players had arrived and received a menu, several rounds of heated competition ensued. Some exceeded their allotted vocabulary and impressed use of the board, while the highest scorers were the ones who used more obscure Scrabble tactics to form several words even with just two tiles (i.e., a word can be formed with another word—i.e., "book is on"). The night was replete with hearty competition and intellectual vigor.

Of course, no tournament would be complete without prizes. The highest scorers picked first from a cornucopia of stuff which included restaurant gift certificates, novel, music CDs, computer games, and a Scrabble board. By the end of seven 15-minute rounds, everyone left with at least two gifts and a sense of accomplishment.

The night's efforts yielded $60, a sum that doesn't seem too impressive, but one that the Accepted Wild Extreme Pro fantasy staff regards as a symbolic step in reaching out to the university. This group is devoted to voicing art on campus. The dedicated staff has already published two issues of their magazine that includes diverse subject matter, and they are still refining the magazine's design. An open issue will be available soon in CAS, the campus and other locations. Accepted with Extreme Pro currently accepts any submissions, but they do not publish everything—they look for depth, quality and ingenuity and this isn't high school, folks. Through their collective efforts in publishing the student body's art, they hope to inspire and further creativity, while having fun along the way. They invite people to join their staff and work with the staff of editing and publishing. Meetings are held on the first floor of the Library on Tuesdays at 5:30 for those who are interested. They encourage and want anyone to submit their work to the staff directly or to RWU hngg@gmail.com

Show of the Week:

The Sunday Breakdance

And Angel

Do you think you're cool? If so, you should probably listen to The Sunday Breakdance! From 7-9 AM, Handsome and breezy cool. The Sunday Breakdance combines the latest and greatest in reggae, dance, alternative, punk, and hip hop! Also, says "Who picks the music? Quite eclectic. Not enough Rap though."

Favorite Albums:
1. Alkaline Trio - Goddamn (of the albums that really started to get me into music)
2. Junior Senior - D-D-Dont Stop The Beat (Junior Senior makes the sound of German people)
3. Prefete CDs - Make Graves - Good Health (Probably the best band I've seen live, and an amazing album)
4. Feel free to recommend nominations for Show of the Week by listening to WQRI and giving us a call at 1-800-353-WQRI - There is also a program guide circulating for more information.
5. Last thing, WQRI often interviews local and upcoming artists such as Michael Young interviewed by our own Mike and Angie, so keep listening!!

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2 3 7 8 4 1 5 9 6
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What Steve Perceives:

Tell everyone your "Dirty Little Secret"

Steve Amore
Herald Staff

Think of all the things you've ever bottled up inside: All the secrets you have wanted to tell your friends or family, but couldn't because they were too explicit or personal.

Maybe you've stolen money from a friend. Perhaps something worse, like you've lied about someone you love or cherished on your significant other. Anything is permissible. Think about how those secrets have burned inside you for so long.

Think about how you've wanted to tell someone, anyone, but you couldn't because it would ruin a friendship or relationship. Try that monkey off your back for good. Get the secret out there. Tell the world but remain anonymous, with the help of PostSecret.com.

PostSecret.com is a website that allows you to be creative while letting out your most embarrassing, heartbreaking, or deceitful secrets.

Participants create a postcard with whatever graphics they like, and on the postcard reveal their secrets, but never have to put their name on the card. This allows people all over the world to share and compare secrets while never having to deal with the agonizing nuances of being identified and confronted.

Just one year after it was posted at a local blog project by creator Frank Warren, PostSecret became an internet hit with the Internet. It combines the old-school with the new-school, incorporating both the traditional "mail art" process along with the world wide web.

Just this past winter PostSecret even allowed readers to be able to create a book with secrets that was full of America's most beloved secrets that had been sent in.

From the humorous to the depressing, all the way to the shocking, each postcard marks the secret of a faceless contributor and can be seen in the colorful and wonderful pages of the book.

Hence, the feeling of letting go of that emotional burden will surely ease your blues.

Everyone has a secret. What's yours?
Winter Recap: Wrestling 20th at Nationals

Jim Dugan
Herald Staff

At the beginning of this year’s wrestling season, expectations were not extremely high. The team had only one senior and consisted mainly of freshmen and sophomores. To say that this team was a pleasant surprise is like saying Red Sox fans, but that’s not really the point. There are not many bigger understudies.

The wrestling team finished the season at 14-6-1, topping the year with a 20th Place at nationals. They also finished second in the Pilgrim League and third at the New England Division III Championships. On paper the squad looked like it was in a rebuilding year, but it turned out to be one of their strongest years in history. As coach Dave Kenny said, “That’s why they do things on the mats and not on paper.”

This exceeding of expectations can especially be seen in junior Andy Lacruz, who finished third at nationals in his weight class.

Lacruz went into nationals seeded and had to defeat the fourth, fifth, and sixth seeds to finish where he did. His only loss came to the eventual champion in the event. The third place finish is tied for the highest in school history.

Teahcinch Zack Weinstuhl and sophomore Anthony Nikoladzecu also surprised the competition by having fantastic performances, finishing one round away from All-American honors. Nikoladzecu was not even originally supposed to be at nationals and only made the competition when another wrestler was injured.

With the team having five freshmen starters for the entire year, it is obvious that a lot of credit has to be given to coach Kenny for being able to get them ready so fast. Kenny, who has been coaching at W&L for 12 years, has always been extremely successful. This season was the team’s 10th straight winning season, and coach Kenny received his 300th win of his career. He was also honored by the National Wrestling Coaches Association for 25 years of service.

Always humble, Kenny was quick to point out that “It just means I’m getting older.” In reality, though, Roger Williams is lucky to have such a prestigious coach. Kenny is even the current chairman for the NCAA Division III Wrestling Committee, meaning he’s both knowledgeable and respected throughout the entire country.

Through all the success on and off the mat, one thing that is definitely not surprising is the success academically. Last year the team had a 21-15 GPA nationally. C.J. McCormick helped the team continue the trend this year by being named to the NCAA Division III Wrestling Coaches Association Academic All-American Team. The wrestling team won the first to use progress reports to keep up on academics, and the program’s commitment to education shows.

Next year the wrestling team looks to get even stronger. They will return with all 10 of their starters from this year and more confidence and experience. And with the great coaching that Kenny brings to the team, they are sure to have an excellent year ahead.

Sports, My Way: Ten burning questions

Christopher Parish
Sports Editor

I feel like this paper has some serious animosity towards me. Remember that there were heated debates the day before the tournament about whether or not George Mason deserved to be in the tournament because their leading scorer would miss their first round game due to a suspension. Personally, I think that’s a bad reason to have a team out of the tournament, but obviously that’s not how it worked out last year. So I thought I’d lighten the mood with my ten burning questions in the entire sports world, in reverse order.

10. Where is the (expletive) George Mason?

Apparently it’s in Virginia somewhere, but that’s not the point. Remember that there were heated debates the day before the tournament about whether or not George Mason deserved to be in the tournament because their leading scorer would miss their first round game due to a suspension. Personally, I think that’s a bad reason to have a team out of the tournament, but obviously that’s not how it worked out last year. So I thought I’d lighten the mood with my ten burning questions in the entire sports world, in reverse order.

9. What’s with all these Red Sox fights?

This could be the most eccentric season ever. The Sox got into two heated disputes during Spring Training: SPRING TRAINING! And they just avoided a third. Plus, nobody knows when David Wells is finally going to just snap and pull out an ethics. Somebody check on me — what’s the over under on Wells and Iona? Concern settling a dispute to the death before the end of the season?

8. Paul Dana was killed in an IRL crash?

I watched this crash last Sunday and literally turned and said to a friend, “It’s amazing how close the cars get demolished in these wrecks and people just jump out, unharmed.” Negative points to me for speaking too soon. A tragedy there ever was one that sadly haven’t gotten the press that Dale Earnhardt got five years ago. It’s not for Danica Patrick, most of us wouldn’t even know what the IRL was.

7. Can we prove Bonds guilty already?

We all know he did it. Baseball knows he did it. Can we come to some sort of resolution now before he breaks Babe Ruth’s mark? The man is a racist, trash, abusive cowardly, sorry excuse for a human being, which makes me not care what kind of baseball player he is.

6. Can’t there be some sort of rule to that?

About 16 minutes before I started this column, a guy walked by me with a Red Sox shirt and a Yankees hat on. This is not legal. It can’t be. I probably wouldn’t have been as angry if the man wore the shirt one day and the hat another. Then she’s just confused. But both? It’s insane if she walked by with the sole purpose of my perception. And damnit, it worked.

5. Is the NFL really currying touchdown celebrations?

This might be the worst idea in the history of mankind. The only reason nobody has talked is that Terrell Owens by now is that his touchdown celebrations are funny. The only reason anybody knows who Chad Johnson is his hair due almost entirely to his touchdown celebrations. The only reason I’m wearing a Spiderman in my sock during the upcoming instrumental fanless hockey season is because of these touchdown celebrations. Can Tagliabue leave this ruling to the NEXT commision?

4. Can I really have Yankees on my fantasy team?

This seems like a no-brainer. I haven’t had any player from the Bronx Bombers on my team in six years (or since I forgot to put Derek Jeter on the “no draft” list and got stuck with him all year). So glad I lost that season. But this year I’m going to draft Robinson Cano. This is his breakout year. I’m telling you, I’m not sure if I can root for him.

3. What’s with our baseball team?

I went to the website and found out that, as of press time, the team is 6-9. It’s not that I don’t believe they won six games, but it seems like every time I hear a score, it’s a loss. Derek Carlson is a great coach and the team looks good on paper, but I just keep getting the feeling that they’re better than they play and would win more games with a little focus.

2. Does anybody care about the NBA anymore?

I can’t remember the last time I had a serious conversation with anyone about pro basketball. I can’t remember the last time I looked forward to watching an NBA game. What happened to this league and why hasn’t LeBron James fired it yet?

1. What are those Lauren Kisses doing at Duke?

This might be the most disappointing story of the year. Accusations of rape, a repugnant program under siege and a president under fire. The details are just coming out, but it’s a bad week in Durham, and it can’t be made better with the successes of the basketball program. For the sake of sport, let’s hope this matter is resolved quickly.
Women’s lacrosse beginning to shine

Christopher Parish
Sports Editor

Last year, the women’s lacrosse team won three games. The year before, in their inaugural season, they won only two.

And this season, just six games into their 2006-2007 campaign, the team has equaled their best win total. With a 3-3 record, 1-1 in the Commonwealth Coast Conference, head coach Emily Klibshick appears to have molded the beginnings of a winning franchise.

“(Tuesday’s victory) was a huge step for us,” Klibshick said. “We’ve improved a lot from last year. Curry is a strong conference team.”

In the 7-5 victory over Curry College, who won the game at 4-1 with their lone loss in league play, freshman midfielder Jackie Clinton scored four goals including the game-winner. Freshmen Libby Stott added two goals, as did senior Caitlin Courtney, and sophomore Mallory Schmuck made 17 saves. The influx of freshmen and sophomores who are contributing on defense for the team shows that the team’s future seems bright.

“This is the best recruiting class I’ve ever had,” Klibshick said. “Then again, it’s also only the second recruiting class I’ve ever had.”

Klibshick, who is also the women’s soccer coach, says that the dividends have paid off.

“I’ve put a lot of time into recruiting this year,” she said. “Spend every weekend recruiting for both soccer and lacrosse this past summer. This school is easy to attract students to.

“Last year’s players have improved drastically . . . now, any game we play is winnable for us.”

Among those top teams are Endicott and Gordon Colleges. Endicott and the Hawks played last week and lost by one goal, in a game that Klibshick said was a stark contrast from years past.

“In our first year, they beat us by 21 goals,” she said. “It really set us back, but it made the program stronger. This time around, we lost 6-5, and it was a heart-breaking loss but we showed that we can play with them.”

“We should have beaten Endicott!”

Courtney said, “It’s a huge feat for us to almost have put them, especially when they beat us by 31 goals two years ago. Almost isn’t good enough for our team though, and next time we will get them.”

With the win at Curry, the Hawks won as many games that the team won last year (in the 2005 season, all three wins came in the final stretch of the season). But Courtney, one of three captains on this year’s team, was hardly surprised the wins came so early.

“We have worked really hard,” she said. “This is something that has been coming to the program for a long time. We’ve always had the work ethic.”

Klibshick said, “Now we have the skill to meet our expectations.”

Courtney, a captain, says that Klibshick is one of the biggest reasons for the program’s rapid success.

“She expects so much from us,” Courtney said. “She is an amazing player herself, our team really respects her and what she has to say. While her expectations are hard, they are totally realistic always pushing us to a higher level that we all know we could reach.

“The wins aren’t just coming from within the conference, however. The team’s success against SUNY-Plattsburg and Emerson College, the close game against Utica in overtime and a strong showing against RPI proved that the Hawks are no longer a struggling team but the makings of a rapidly-improving team.

“We have patience on offense that we lacked last year,” Courtney said. “Our defense works as a unit really well. The more they are playing together, the more they are trusting each other.

“Schumacher is in the net, and she is vocal and our team really believes in her; she gets our team going. Our speed is tremendous on the whole field, rather than just the midfield. Speed in women’s lacrosse is something that is hard to defend against.

“Courtney, along with fellow captains Megan Fico-Sciortilo and Elena Kozie, have been the guiding light for this group of savvy young players, even despite Kozie’s recent injury.

“They’ve become better lacrosse players,” Klibshick said. “But they’ve become a lot more competitive.”

Shawn Hogan
Herald Staff

When NFL place kicker Adam Vinatieri signed with the Colts for a reported $2.5 million a year for three years, it left me thinking.

That is a heck of a lot of money for a kicker.

Does this reflect a new trend in the NFL? Traditionally, kickers have been the highest paid while kickers have hovered near the bottom of the income bracket, even those of Vinatieri’s stature. It seems as if the general consensus in the NFL has been that kickers are not vital to the team and are in essence replaceable.

However, the key role that Vinatieri has played in every one of the Pat’s Super Bowl victories shows that this notion is incorrect.

I do not think that Patriots would have won any Super Bowls without Vinatieri. Sure, Tom Brady may have made all the right calls and thrown the necessary passes, but when it came down to winning or losing in the fourth quarter it was Vinatieri that made the kicks that either won or lost the game.

When Vinatieri’s contract with the Patriots was up this year, he knew what he was worth, he knew full well that he was the most valuable free agent in the market.

If anything, the Patriots front office still believes in the notion that a kicker cannot earn almost as much as he thought he deserved. This may quite possibly prove to be one of the greatest errors made by any NFL team in the off-season.

because Paul Edinger, the most likely replacement, is not Adam Vinatieri.

When it comes down it, the Colts were the team that thought outside of the box and offered Vinatieri the money he deserved.

The Colts realized the importance of kicking when Mike Vanderjagt missed a 46-yard field goal (by 15 yards, I might add) which could have sent the divisional playoff game with Pittsburgh into overtime.

(He had made, the Colts had a real chance of making it to the Super Bowl.)

To put it simply, the Colts realize how vital a kicker is to the team and they have handed over the largest salary any kicker has ever had. It is something that the Patriots failed to realize, an error that will likely affect them greatly next season.

What this whole Vinatieri fiasco shows is that kickers are indeed not dispensable members of a team; they are indeed vital to a team’s success. The incredibly high salary the Colts handed over to Vinatieri shows that the teams that realize this and the ones that get the good kickers will succeed in the future.

Christopher Parish

Sophomore goalender Mallory Schmuck stops shots at Wednesday’s practice. Below, coach Emily Klibshick talks to her team about Thursday’s opponent, Rhode Island College.