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Hawks' Herald -- March 23, 2007

Roger Williams University

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Senator asked to step down

Phil Devitt
News Editor

The Student Senate was with one fewer member this week after one senator stepped down amid allegations that he showed up intoxicated to a March 5 meeting.

Jon Nash, a junior, was asked to step down for what Senate President Mike Witek called "negligent and gross misconduct" that Nash allegedly displayed at the last public Senate meeting before spring break.

Nash spoke out about his dismissal from the Senate this week, saying his actions resulted from getting swept up in celebrating his 21st birthday, which also was March 5.

"I agree with the decision entirely, and regret drinking on my 21st birthday," Nash said. "I regret the incident and apologize to all those whom I let down."

Nash was the chair of the Senate's Academic Affairs Committee. Witek said Senate Vice President Veronica Columb is filling in as chair until the Senate decides upon a replacement.

Witek would not go into details about Nash's behavior, but in a statement read at Monday night's Senate meeting, Witek said Nash's actions were not "acceptable conduct."

Nash initially submitted to Witek a letter of resignation after the incident, but Witek then asked him to step down. Witek said a resignation would have allowed Nash to run for Senate in future terms, whereas asking him to step down nixed his chances of serving altogether.

The Student Senate bylaws state that dismissed senators may never again hold positions of honor and trust in the Senate. Witek said being dismissed from the Senate also makes it impossible to step down.

Behind the birth of the Roger statue

Sarah Carrouger
Editor

He sits by the fire, his walls covered with antique hand-crafting tools and sports memorabilia as Beethoven plays in the background. Armand LaMontagne stands as those people working as an artist and sculptor, primarily of sports players.

The Roger Williams University community, however, knows LaMontagne best for creating the Roger Williams statue located on the quad commissioned by the university 10 years ago.

"I wanted to honor the man for whom the university was named," Professor Anthony Santoro, the president at the time the statue was commissioned, said. "He was an important historical figure because of his thoughts on religious freedom and tolerance. I wanted the university to be continually reminded that it must be a place for the free expression of ideas."

When approached to create a statue for the name

Former student charged with harassment of Nirschel

Phil Devitt
News Editor

A former Roger Williams University student, who was expelled in 2000 for allegedly sending racist e-mails to a black dean, was charged earlier this month with making hundreds of harassing phone calls to President Roy J. Nirschel and local authorities, Bristol police said.

George Battles, 38, of Fenton, Mo., was issued a no-contact order, sentenced to one year of probation and ordered to undergo mental health counseling following his March 1 arrest.

Battles had been living in Missouri since his expulsion from the university, according to authorities.

Police said Battles began the crank calls several years ago when the university took him to court over racist, threatening e-mails he allegedly sent to John Prettymn, the former dean of students at the Ralph Papitto School of Law. Battles was studying law at the time of his expulsion.

"He started a telephone harassment campaign that lasted two or three years and as a result of that, we initiated an investigation and ultimately had an arrest warrant drawn up for him for crank and harassing calls," Bristol Police Lt. Nick Guercia said.

Nirschel, who did not return a request for comment, became president of the university in the fall of 2001 and so was not involved with Battles' expulsion a year earlier. Battles likely unleashed his verbal assault on Nirschel out of anger toward the entire university, police said.

When Battles learned the university had filed a complaint with local authorities over the phone calls, he began crank-calling Bristol police and at least one attorney for the university in Smithfield, Guercia said.

"He would call our main desk and tie it up for an hour with continuous phone calls, not making any sense," Guercia said.

Students stranded

Amanda Buckley traveled to Cabo San Lucas, Mexico with friends for six days where she went snorkeling, jet skiing, swimming, yachting, sailing and clubbing. When the relaxing and sun bathing ended, Buckley planned to leave Saturday morning so she could be back on campus Sunday afternoon.

That was until she discovered her flight had been cancelled. "I guess when a flight is cancelled because of weather, the airline doesn't have to do anything at least that's what we were told," Buckley said.

"Continental told us they wouldn't

See ARREST p.12

See ROGER p. 8

See BREAK p. 11
Vaginas

And Other Things I Don't Understand

In an early scene of one of the true cinematic masterpieces of the 1960s, Kindergarten Cop, a little boy stands up and informs Arnold Schwarzenegger playfully, "Boys have a penis, girls have a vagina." While this type of language may be acceptable in kindergarten, it apparently does not fly very well everywhere else. I'll get back to what I mean there in a moment, but first let me tell about myself a little. When it comes to speech, I normally do pretty well-grade-wise, and I killed the SATs. However, I very often feel like an idiot. Why? Well I feel like this often because there are many things in this world that I just don't understand.

For instance, why did Deuce Bigalow: Male Gigolo require a sequel? And how does anyone actually enjoy watching NASCAR? And why don't Apple Jacks taste like apples?

But more so, I don't understand why people get so upset over everything. For example, Columbia University recently announced that Matthew Fox, the star of the hit show Lost would be giving their class day speech. Many of the students there began to protest immediately, and the university's undergraduate magazine, The Blue and White, and their online publication, BWOG, have launched a campaign to remove him, calling his selection "an outrage, a travesty.

Sure, he may not be as big of a name as BWOG's first choice, Anna Paquin (She played Rogue in the X-Men movies.) Yet another thing I didn't know, but Fox is a graduate of Columbia and has become pretty famous in his field of work. As a result of the foundations of a great speaker for a school? I guess the students really are just upset because they feel Fox isn't on the same level as last year's speaker, John McCain, the senator from Arizona. Oh wait, Columbia received a lot of attention through the play where I was really uncomfortable. It's the type of language that comes from watching Schindler's List or from watching the nightly news after civilians have died in a bombing. There are a lot of terrible things in the world, but they're things that we need to be exposed to. We can't just make a play go away and pretend these things don't happen.

Surely next year there will still be some type of event that will touch on the issue. But when the Vagina Monologues are reaching so many people, why would anyone want to sacrifice something so effective?

Sometimes I just don't understand.

Spring Publishing Schedule

March 30
April 13
April 20

April 27
May 4

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FLO’S FASHION AFFIRMATIONS

I believe in shoes. Colorful. Beautiful. Plentiful. I believe in bold colors. Draw some attention to yourself. I believe in belts. Waist or hip, they add a little something to any outfit. I believe in designer clothes, if they are timeless. I believe that people don't always know what looks good on them. Ask a friend, or better yet, ask a friend of the opposite sex. I believe that tailoring is a last resort. Unless it's pants length, don't do it. Instead of promoting tailoring on every fashion TV show, they should try promoting how to find clothes that actually fit in the fitting room. I believe that a $300 Coach handbag should never be worn. The show is making you feel like you must have the extra cash, is it really worth it? I believe that most men have no style, and they wouldn't know what style was if it hit them in the face. I believe in short skirts and mini dresses. If you have hot legs, flaunt them and don't let anyone tell you a skirt is too short unless your butt hangs out. I believe that affordable jeans are made terribly. The waist could fit around Shamu, but for some reason, they are worn. Gifts made terribly. I believe in personal style. Find out who you are, and then express that in what you wear. I believe in cute underwear. Color. Lace. Bows. It'll make you feel adorable and sexy all day. I believe in hair and makeup. A little goes a long way. At least on days when early classes are not involved. I believe in sunny, warm weather. It makes dressing well easier and more fun, not to mention it's when we can wear awesome bikinis and all our cute tops. I believe in favorites: those clothes you wear at least once each week, even though you have 20 other pieces you've worn once or never at all. I believe in fashion (on days when early classes and snow are not involved.) Always dress to impress.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR: VAGINA MONOLOGUES

Dear Editor,

I was recently quoted in an article on the Vagina Monologues, in which I stated that I feel the show is morally irresponsible, and promotes a radically liberal agenda. However, while my reverential statements pertained directly to the content and conveyance of the show, it was rebutted with malicious attacks on the shows opponents, which I take personally considering that I was the only person the show's proponents quoted in their letters.

In response to the show's proponents urging opposition to attend the show, I would like to report that I HAVE seen the show, hence my vigorous opposition to it. I feel that the show provides a tasteless way to convey a sub-par message. Also, for those deeming opposition to the show "mysoginistic", I would like to remind people that you do not need to dislike women to dislike tasteless displays of mediocrer messages! While I respect the hard work that the show's actresses put into it, I simply do not support their rationale. Finally, I feel an important part of my interview was left out of the initial article on the show; I believe that if an equally conservative program were brought to the school, it would make national news. In my opinion, if a liberal show is allowed to illustrate "shock-and-awe" tactics to convey a message, conservative programs should be allowed the same leverage. I stand by all statements I have made regarding the show, and urge students to stand up against moral irresponsibility on campus.

Sincerely,
Gregory Gravelle

This water fountain, located in the Campus Recreation Center by the bathrooms, has been broken since October. The solution? Slip a piece of paper that says "Out of Order" on it. What to do when that piece of paper gets worn out? Put on a new "Out of Order" sign. Can someone please fix this?
Couple of the Moment:
Devon McCormick & Brian LeDuc
Reporting by: Kristen Kades
Interview with Devon

How long have you two been dating and how did you meet?
We met when Brian was elected Freshman Class President, and joined the Inter-Class Council, which I was already on. After that, I sort of pursued him, really, by asking him to bid on me as a homecoming date for Mr. RWU (I was a Fr), and then after homecoming, I asked him to come to two of my best friends and me to a Matt Nathanson concert. While we were waiting for him to come on, we were sitting at Lupos together, and I just sort of blurted out that I had a crush on him. After that, the ball was in his court and he definitely did his part.

What is your absolute favorite thing to do together?
Be dorky. No really, we are both so involved and dedicated to life on this campus, but, we mostly really just like hanging out in my room, talking, watching movies, doing homework together. We’re like an old married couple. It’s kind of sickening, in a cute way.

What is the most attractive thing about Brian?
Good question. I was pretty overwhelmed by his attractiveness the day that I met him. Aside from his smile which is adorable, the laugh he has when he’s uncomfortable, the mannerisms he has, his body in general… alright, looks. Really. I gotta say the most attractive thing about him is the way he takes care of me. I mean, his personality is just amazing, he’s an awesome guy, but, nothing is sweeter or more attractive about him than when he’s trying to take care of me.

What is Brian’s favorite movie?
He’s got a few. I won’t even pretend to guess what his answer was, but, truth be told, anything particularly girly and embarrassing. Other than that, any movie that is meaningful and well made.

What would you say is his favorite article of clothing?
Well, do haircuts count? He’s very partial to the way his hair is cut. It would be cool maybe if he said the comfy pants I gave him for Christmas, but, most likely his work t-shirts that he’s cut all of the sleeves off of.

If you could give people one word of advice for how to keep a good relationship, what would it be?
Communicate. And, you know, if you love the person, don’t screw it up. Stop pointing fingers or picking unnecessary fights. Just, be patient, work it out, and have fun.

Interview with Brian

How long have you two been dating and how did you meet?
I’d say I first really saw something special the night of midnight madness. She asked me to bid on her as a date for Homecoming (an opportunity that I couldn’t pass up) and eventually she asked me if I wanted to go to a Matt Nathanson concert with her and some friends. When we were walking towards the concert, and on the cold streets of Providence she noticed a plastic bag and picked it up in the road to throw it away and that really struck me as very uniquely her and made her stand out in my mind. After that night, you could say that things started to progress.

What is your absolute favorite thing to do together?
I think it’s safe to say that we both really like just having down time with one another; we’re a good break from our busy schedules.

What is the most attractive thing about Devon?
Have you met Devon? Try finding a least attractive thing about her, and then we’ll have something to talk about; rather, argue about. Anyways, her eyes.

If you could describe her in one word what would it be?
Genuine.

What is your favorite movie?
I definitely have a huge range of movie favorites, but my classics are The Boondock Saints, Fight Club and most recently (by Devon’s influence actually) City of Angels.

What would you say is your favorite article of clothing?
My faves Aeropostle pants; Devon gave them to me for Christmas and I pretty much live in them when I’m in my room, in her room, or hanging out at home. They’re the most comfortable “sweatpants” I have ever owned.

If you could give people one word of advice for how to keep a good relationship, what would it be?
Communicate. If you don’t know what the other person is thinking, then you’re assuming, and if you’re assuming you’re probably misinterpreting, and if you’re misinterpreting there’s bound to be arguments. So talk. And get good at it.

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Contact Kate Heuston for information no later than April 2nd
hawkshearald@gmail.com
Frequent fire alarms cause headaches

Kelleigh Welch
Herald Staff

Nothing could be worse for a college student than being woken up at 2:30 a.m. to the piercing sound of the fire alarm. Maple Hall, one of the oldest residence halls on campus, is on fire. Students must evacuate, and the firefighters that have to go in can turn off the alarm, which is why students must wait outside for five minutes and talk to a friend, then return to what you were doing.

"Pay attention to what you are doing," Newman said. "Do not go out of the building for five minutes and talk to a friend, then return to what you were doing."

"The Department of Residential Life and Housing is also taking action to prevent further alarms. "Our goal is to be educational," Newman said. "We will educate through passive programming, including RA conducting a demonstration on the properties of microwaves to their residents.

Frequent fire alarms cause headaches for students. Maple Hall is one of the oldest residence halls on campus. It is worth being safe," Newman said. "The inconvenience of standing in the cold for five minutes and talking to a friend is worth it."

"If an alarm goes off for Maple, we all turn to our rooms. The Bristol firefighters volunteered for Maple. Dellamura said that he was interested in the past, and it's not that I don't want new people or more involvement, but with four or five weeks left, it's kind of hard to train somebody and expect them to know everything."

"I want to appoint somebody who's close to the Senate, just because there's not much time left and I want to cut down on the learning curve so they can jump right in and have a working idea of it—someone who was interested in the past," Witek said. "It's not that I don't want new people or more involvement, but with four or five weeks left, it's kind of hard to train somebody and expect them to know everything."

"We're looking to have a senator to resign," Witek said. "They will be appointed, but we need to appoint somebody who's close to the Senate."

"It may seem like more of a hassle for students, however those procedures are mandatory. "The inconvenience of standing in the cold is worth being safe," Newman said.

Elections for the 2007-2008 Senate will be held on myRWU.edu on April 4 and 5. The new Senate will take power toward the end of the semester.

DISMISS: Senate seeks replacement

Cont'd from page 1

Able to serve in elected positions in other programs the Senate controls.

In his statement Monday night, Witek apologized for the incident in front of his fellow senators and a crowd of student leaders from other organizations. They were present at the Maple Hall meeting.

"This is an isolated incident that was dealt with swiftly and fairly with the interest of the student body in mind," Witek said. "It was the act of an individual and not the group."

Witek said student senators are "senators for the time" and have an obligation to act appropriately in public. He called it unacceptable to act irresponsibly, especially at Senate functions.

"What I said in my report might have been a little bit harsh, but it was more to make a point that we're not going to stand for this stuff and that's not the image of the Senate," Witek said during a separate interview. Witek recalled only one other time he has asked a senator to resign. He said a few other senators have resigned voluntarily during his presidency because of other commitments, study-abroad opportunities and personal matters.

With the current term set to end after a month, Witek said the Senate is working to appoint someone to Nash's position.

"We have a list of names of people we're looking at," Witek said. "I make the appointment, but I include others in it and I ask other people for input and what not to try to pick the best fit. The only thing that's tough now is that there is such a short amount of time between now and what's left of the year."

The Senate has three weeks to fill an open spot with somebody who could begin working right away in the weeks building up to elections.

"I want to appoint somebody who's close to the Senate, just because there's not much time left and I want to cut down on the learning curve so they can jump in and have a working idea of it—someone who's been interested in the past," Witek said. "It's not that I don't want new people or more involvement, but with four or five weeks left, it's kind of hard to train somebody and expect them to know everything."

Elections for the 2007-2008 Senate will be held on myRWU.edu on April 4 and 5. The new Senate will take power toward the end of the semester.
Herald Music & More

For all the latest in the music industry. Reviews, charts & much more!

Danny Ruth
Herald Staff

With flowing red locks and a voice stronger than ever, Joss Stone returns with her third album entitled Introducing Joss Stone. Stone chose the title to reflect both her happiness with her previous efforts and to portray the style of music that fans would be receiving on the new release.

Stone explains that this record finally feels like something that represents who she is as an artist and as a person. Apparently, many decisions were made without her consent on her past two records and she has finally gained control.

This new found control is richly expressed on the soulful “Introducing...” The album finally finds Stone mixing the correct amount of chrous-driven pop and off-beat neo-soul rhythms. Highlighting this refreshed new musical style is her significantly matured and powerful voice. Stone shows more control over her voice with less distracting riffs and more simple soul.

The disc features two stellar collaborations. First with Common on “Tell Me What We’re Gonna Do Now,” which is a beautiful love song with a harmonic feel and flowing lyrics from Common on the bridge. The second collaboration might be a shock to some. Joss Stone, after repeated calling to her mother, managed to bring Lauryn Hill out of retirement. “Music,” one of the most powerful songs on the CD, explains Stone’s love affair with music and tells the story of what it means to her. Hill’s lyrics are as poetic and meaningful as ever. This collaboration makes the CD a true winner.

Other mentionable songs include “Bruised But Not Broken,” which finds Stone subduing her voice to mesh beautifully with an orchestra-infused track. Both “Girl They Won’t Believe It” and “Head Turner” have very old-school feels. Reminiscent of Aretha Franklin or Diana Ross, both tracks are heavy in the chorus and background vocals. Lastly, “Bad Habit” glides along with a strong bass-line and quick pace.

Overall, Introducing Joss Stone shows significant growth and maturity on Stone’s behalf. The disc is well-crafted and has a unified feel to it. Unlike her previous efforts this disc shows Stone at her best and truly is a necessity for any lover of neo-soul music.

Joss Stone, “Introducing Joss Stone” A-

Tim Hollan
Herald Staff

When I first heard the Arcade Fire, it was a performance on Conan O’Brien, which I remembered being awesome primarily because one band member was playing percussion on another band member’s motorcycle helmet while he wore it. The image the band portrayed – free-spirited people filled with the artistic impulse while wearing incredibly conservative clothing – was both fitting and contradictory. However, at the base of it was some quality song writing.

And it is that quality song-writing that makes their second album, Neon Bible, such a rewarding listen. The song writing is never portentous or a collection of pop clichés, but instead, it is very heartfelt, distinctive and soulful.

Like all great albums, Neon Bible is not just a collection of good songs, but a complete and total whole. No song feels like a single tack on for the purposes of moving sales, nor could I think of a single song that should be cut off that would not do more harm to the record than good. Every song belongs to this album aesthetically, whether it is the simple throwback rock of “Keep the Car Running,” the baroque indie-pop of “Black Mirror,” the tortured “My Body is a Cage,” or the sing-song “Neon Bible.”

I mean no hyperbole when I say that this is an indie-rock equivalent of the Beach Boys’ classic album Pet Sounds. Not only does it have that whole “teenage letter to God” feel that Pet Sounds had, but it also has the baroque flourishes that Pet Sounds contained. Every song has many layers of sound going on, whether it is timpani flourishes in the first track, or the overpowering church organ and the tinkling bells on “Intervention.” On a few tracks, they create the sound of a choir singing the music. And it never sounds overloaded, busy or gratuitous. Rather it comes across as warm and loving.

But the greatest thing about this album is the fact that it is moving. It will stir up emotions in you, and it will move the soul more than a modern day revival. It is strong, powerful, and a triumph. I can say with certainty that this album will be spun on my turntable constantly until I wear it out. And then I’ll just get another copy and do it again.

The Arcade Fire, “Neon Bible” A+

Billboard Chart Review: Number ones

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The Herald, Friday, March 23, 2007
Exercise experts and students alike seem to agree that the freshman fifteen is a problem on college campuses. Gaining weight freshman year is not necessarily an inescapable aspect of the college experience, but it is a problem that affects the majority of students.

Kim Teves, an exercise instructor at Roger Williams University who teaches yoga, spinning, core classes and sculpting said, “An average of 80-85 percent of students gain weight as freshmen.”

Teves followed by stating reasons why students gain weight.

“Poor eating choices, a lack of education on what to eat, and eating on convenience,” she said. “They don’t know how to eat. Students are overwhelmed by the new experience and they make poor choices. Alcohol has part to do with it, too.”

Freshmen come to school looking good and feeling great. As the semester rolls on and the work load piles up, students tend to focus less on what they put in their mouths. The motivation to walk to the gym seems to fade, never mind the workout once they get there. The choices at the RWU Commons don’t help much either.

Freshman Brittany Dreier said sarcastically, “Hm...which would I rather, some lettuce, cucumbers and tomatoes with a dressing I can’t even pronounce? Or those hot, delicious onion rings, french fries, and pizza that are calling my name? I think I’ll go with the greater option.”

Freshman Kelsey Mcellen said she has definitely seen the effects of her unhealthy eating habits, lack of exercise and overindulgence in alcohol.

“I was so shocked when I saw that I had gained thirty pounds in one semester,” she said.

Mcellen added, “My mom is a health freak at home and I think I’m rebelling. Plus I never really drank at home so now it’s an overload of alcohol which does damage. When I’m at home I go to the gym every day but here, I haven’t been once. I’m too busy.”

Most college students on campus share the same feelings. Busy schedules, new experiences and an overwhelming amount of freedom all take a toll. Students agree that food is to blame; however, Teves says the students make their own bad food decisions.

According to Teves, there are many ways for students to eat healthy and get well-balanced meals.

“There are a lot of great options in the commons: The Global section is fabulous! Students should eat fruits and vegetables, get in good protein and walk away with a balanced plate,” she said.

Teves believes students are unequipped about the foods they put in their mouth and the effect they have on their bodies. She says, “They should also watch portions and know what they’re eating.”

More on the basis of recommended exercise, Teves suggested college students work out five to six times a week doing a cardiovascular activity such as walking or running, 30 minutes a day, and a minimum of three days of weight training a week.

Some students on campus are not likely to exercise anywhere near the amount suggested, probably due to lack of motivation.

Caitlin Kraft said she gained some weight, but not the whole freshman fifteen.

“I go to the gym every once in a while. At home I took dance classes three hours, twice a week which I don’t have here. I find it more motivating to go somewhere where I have a class than going to the gym on my own.”

Kraft said she has thought about participating in other group exercises available at the Recreation Center. She also added, “If I guess if I found someone to go with and felt like I had to go, I would. For example, at home I was paying for the dance classes, so I had to go. I had the motivation.”

Many other students might feel the same way. They know they should go to the gym, but they find it difficult to get motivated, or they don’t want to go alone. At the beginning of the school year, students commonly tell themselves that they’ll visit the gym daily, but as the school year progresses, many stop going.

According to Teves, the number of students in group exercise classes is high at the beginning of the year and rises again right before spring break. Once spring break is over and exams approach, Teves said the number decreases once again.

To help with this problem, Teves suggested other ways for students to remain active outside of the gym.

“Swimming, walking, biking on the bike path, waterfront activities like kayaking, even getting a group of friends together and watching work out videos,” she said.

Freshmen are the victims of the weight gain because, according to Teves, “It’s a new start, and freshmen aren’t used to college life yet.”

Teves explained that once students have everything balanced, they are more likely to go back to a healthier and more level weight.

So for all you out there who have gained that pesky freshman fifteen, there is hope. Focus more on what and how you eat, your exercise routine and drinking habits, and you could feel just as great as you did when you first got here.

Food Critic: Carmella’s Pizzeria

Jano Clark
Herald Staff

Walking into the cute pizzeria, we immediately felt like we were in tuscany. The walls were painted yellow and purple with beautiful paintings on the walls and one giant painting on the back wall.

The chairs were black and the tables were metallic-like. The atmosphere was casual but definitely appropriate for Carmella’s. We were able to order an appetizer, salad, small pizza and three drinks for 25 dollars.

Although Carmella’s offered many salads, we decided upon the house salad, and although the two of us shared it, there was almost half left. It was an easy-to-go container though and was full of a variety of veggies.

We also ordered cheesy bread which was focaccia bread with cheese on top. They also served great dipping marinara sauce with it.

Again the portion were too much for us to handle, and the appetizer served at least four people.

Our main course was a small prosciutto pizza which had spinach, broccoli, roasted garlic, prosciutto, cheese, parmesan and there was easily enough for five people which cost only $10.89.

Everything tasted delicious and we had no complaints.

In addition, they also offer “choose your own topping” pizzas as well as various pasta dishes.

The dining was casual with paper plates, plasticware, napkins and straws in baskets at the tables to serve yourself with.

The dining space seemed small, but never overcrowded during our dining experience, granted we dined at a non-peak hour.

Carmella’s pizzeria can be located in Middletown across the street from Applebees and is great for a casual night out with friends and they offer takeout as well.

Although the service was quick and friendly, we were a bit confused at first. You first order your food and choose your drinks out of a case, then you pay at the counter. You can then choose a seat and they serve you the courses.

Our waitress only came to the table twice, once to deliver the salad and once with appetizer and pizza at the same time.

As the customers entered into the store, it seemed as though the staff knew everyone by name saying “how are you, how is the family” to the customers. The only downside was when we could hear them fighting in the back.

Definitely worth checking out!
ROGER: Sports sculptor creates namesake

The creative genius behind Roger

Cont’d from page 1

sake of the university, LaMontagne initially was uninterested.

“Oddly enough, he at first refused to accept the commission. When he saw the location that was being proposed, he quickly agreed to take on the task of creating the statue,” said Santoro, now a RWU law professor.

According to LaMontagne, a friend on the Board of Trustees convinced LaMontagne to take the free lunch with him and the president despite his lack of interest for the commission.

“I thought to myself, ‘What the hell is his batting average?’” LaMontagne chuckled. The two men convinced LaMontagne that it would be a Rhode Island historical piece that would stay in the state. “I guess they caught me on a good day,” LaMontagne said.

LaMontagne begins a statue with a big block of wood approximately 1,500 to 1,600 pounds and then carves the original piece. From the carving, a silicon and rubber mold is made from the wood and then the bronze casting is struck at the Paul King Foundry Inc. The wooden carving of Roger Williams is exhibited in the university library on the stairs leading to the second floor.

When John Tameo, manager of facilities operations and engineering, came to pick up the bronze sculpture, they didn’t have a location for the wooden statue.

“It was a last-minute decision to put it in the library and make the special glass case for him,” Tameo said.

According to LaMontagne, he does not know how long a given individual will take to carve and mold.

“Each individual is different. Everyone is unique and different,” LaMontagne said adding that he brings a lifetime of experience and knowledge into each creation.

“It’s like golf. You take three weeks off, and it is like you have start all over again,” LaMontagne said.

Although hesitant at first to working on the statue, “I had fun with the president [Santoro],” LaMontagne said. “Most people are afraid of those guys.”

On one occasion, Santoro told LaMontagne that he was going to offer baseball player Ted Williams an honorary degree from RWU, but LaMontagne warned him that Ted Williams would refuse — he refused Harvard. LaMontagne advised him to send the letter anyway because he would get a letter back with a signature from Ted Williams worth at least $1,000.

“I am not sure if he followed through with that or not. I would have done it, but I was not the president,” LaMontagne said.

After finishing Roger Williams, La LaMontagne created another historical piece for Michigan Sun, a Connecticut casino, of Gladys the Medicine Woman.

“She was 100 years old, and I hoped the whole way over she didn’t die before I got there, but she lived another six years after it was finished,” LaMontagne said.

Because of the research involved, the Roger Williams statue took longer than usual to make.

“No known image of Roger Williams,” LaMontagne said. “There wasn’t even a contemporary who had described him. Kapstein [LaMontagne’s agent] and I did some research and even looked at many known ancestors, but none had a distinctive common feature.” Even after creating the statue he still says he would love to know what Williams looked like when he was alive.

“I thought to myself, what the hell is Roger Williams’s batting average?”

According to LaMontagne, the Board of Trustees and Santoro asked LaMontagne what the statue was going to look like.

“Because the majority of the board were Italian, I joked with them and told them ‘He’ll end up looking Italian if I mess up’” LaMontagne recalled.

Because no recollection of Williams’s appearance exists, LaMontagne had more freedom than with most statues he creates. However, according to LaMontagne, it was a blessing and a curse having so much freedom. On one hand, he couldn’t mess up the look, but he also needed to “zero-in on a particular individual.”

Because he had just finished a life-size sculpture of Ted Williams, he decided he would make Roger Williams look like him.

“Well, he has to look like someone,” LaMontagne said. “Nobody can say I didn’t use the right name. They must be related somehow.”

The design included original period clothing from the 1640s as well as long hair, which according to LaMontagne, Ted Williams would not have liked. But he used Ted Williams height and profile.

An RWU rumor claim that the statue featured Ted Williams’s chin but Santoro’s nose.

“Dr. Santoro’s nose just happens to look like Ted Williams’s nose,” LaMontagne said. “That is accidental.”

LaMontagne gave Roger Williams Ted Williams’s height and stature.

“I was a bit optimistic with the size because 6’4” would have been a giant in the 1640s, but my job is to put guys on a pedestal and that is literally what I do,” LaMontagne said. “Heroes are supposed to be larger than life. Nobody could tell me for sure he wasn’t that tall.”

LaMontagne constructed Roger Williams with a welcoming pose - a book in his hand and his other arm extended as to welcome students and guests to campus. He was placed up on the rock in hopes that students wouldn’t climb to shake his hand and wear down the bronze.

Of course now, campus superstitions include shaking Roger Williams’s hand for good luck before finals and dressing him for special events.

“I’ve seen him [Roger Williams statue] dressed as everything from Cupid to Santa, with a toga etc.” Tameo said.

Describing himself as a “portrait sculptor,” LaMontagne says he enjoys documenting the contemporary heroes and heroines of the time. Because he immortalizes heroes, mostly he creates sculptures of sports players.

As a kid, his hero was the baseball player Ted Williams. When he was commissioned to create a statue of the hall of famer, he got to meet him and talk with him.

“I told Ted, ‘Ted, be careful, I can take a chip off your shoulder real quick… literally,’” LaMontagne said.

LaMontagne also got to meet basketball legend Larry Bird who hit his head on the doorway to the studio. Other sculptures he has created include Bobby Orr and Babe Ruth.

Although being able to meet his childhood hero was a dream, he claims he still hasn’t created his favorite statue. “You got to have something to look forward to,” LaMontagne said.

If LaMontagne agrees to commission a statue for someone, he insists that they come to his studio to pose.

“I make only one exception: if they are dead, they do not have to come,” LaMontagne said.

“I’m still doing what I was doing when I was twelve – art and sports,” LaMontagne said. “It’s a challenge, which is why I am intrigued by it. Each person presents a new challenge.”
Stigmas stopped: surveys set record straight

Florentine Lahor
Herald Staff

A survey completed last April at Roger Williams University showed that students’ perceptions on drinking and drugs were different from reality. The CORE study, developed by the CORE Institute at Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, was administered to 1,389 Roger Williams students.

"I was shocked to see the difference between the perception and reality of alcohol use," Donna Darmody, the Roger Williams Wellness Coordinator said. "So it’s not as bad as everyone thinks. Students think that everyone is partying three times a week, having eight or nine drinks, and that’s not showing up."

The survey found that while 61 percent of students thought that students were drinking three times a week, 65 percent of students reported drinking once a week or less.

The survey also found that students believed that other students drank on average 7.5 drinks at their last social drinking occasion, but students reported drinking only six drinks on average.

According to Darmody, however, six drinks is still binge drinking. Darmody says binge drinking is "defined as five drinks in a row for males, and four in a row for females."

"If there were 100 people at a party, 85 of them would probably do absolutely fine, have a few drinks, have a great time, go home," she said. "Maybe 10 to 20 of them would be to the point where their friends would say, ‘well you’ve had a couple of drinks,’ and maybe about 10 to 20 would throw up, but what the perception of that party would end up being is that everybody got trashed."

Similar results showed up in the survey questions involving marijuana and other illicit drugs. Students again thought that many more students used marijuana than actually claimed to. 49 percent said that they never use the drug. The same results appeared with other illicit drugs. Only five percent of students thought that the drugs were never used, but survey results showed that 82 percent of students never use illicit drugs other than marijuana.

Darmody explained that many students will pick up on the heavy drinking or drug habits of one or two people on campus, and will then consider that to be the norm.

"It is human nature to notice the extremes," Darmody said.

Junior Patti Behen agreed. "Everyone has a few bad nights and some people just take it to the extreme every night. People focus on those more than the average. The bottom line is: if everyone were blacking out every night there would be more than a few hospitalizations a year and people wouldn’t be making it through college alive."

Dean of Students Kathleen McMahon hopes that the survey results and the "social norms campaign" done by the Wellness Center will help curb high-risk drinking.

"I hope students will pay attention to the real data and realize that their peers are not drinking as much as they had believed," McMahon said.

The survey included 47 percent female and 53 percent males as well as 31 percent freshman, 22 percent sophomores, 25 percent juniors, and 18 percent seniors. 66 percent of the students who took the survey were under the age of 21.
**RWU CAREER FAIR**

Fieldhouse, RWU  
Roger Williams University  
Careercenter.rwu.edu Hawk's Hunt  
(401) 254 – 3224  
**Skills for attendees**

Knows goals  
A realistic goal for attending a career fair is to get an idea of what employers are looking for or to be invited for an interview at the company at a later date. Do not expect to be offered a job.

Dresses appropriately  
Are you wearing business casual and wearing comfortable shoes? If not, go back to your room and change.

Good manners  
Use your best handshake, make eye contact, smile when you introduce yourself.

Say ‘thank you’ and take their business card for a formal follow up.

Always prepared and professional  
Bring 20 or more resumes.

Do not fold them; use a portfolio, briefcase or shoulder bag to hold resumes and all the materials you will collect.

Reread your resume to make sure it is error free.

Enthusiastic  
Employers identify the most important personal attribute to your first regular employment position as “enthusiasm.”

Project interest in the company.

Never overwhelmed  
There will be many applicants, but keep a positive attitude and concentrate on the benefits of the experience.

**Practice answering questions**

Tell me about yourself, what are you interested in doing after graduation.

Be able to deliver a 30 second commercial about yourself to an employer.

Be prepared to discuss where you want to work geographically and your most relevant skills.

Strengths of the Fair

Well-rounded representatives  
Reps are looking for RWU students to fill full-time, part-time, summer-time jobs.

Reps available with graduate school and co-op/internship opportunities.

List of Employers attending online  
Check out Hawk’s Hunt on the career center website for an up-to-date list of attendees.

Employers expect to interact with students.

Employers expect to interact with students seeking job opportunities as well as those simply researching careers and organizations.

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**WQRI: Tune-in**

Show Name: The Sturkified Showcase  
Time: Mondays 8-10 p.m.  
Description: Check out our show every week for some sort of musical gumbo containing all the finestfixes. From jazz and blues to funk and jam, a good time will be had by all. So let yourself be Sturkified every Monday night to start your long, crappy week off right.

Show Name: Wakin’ up with Gina and Bobbi  
Time: Fridays 10am-12 p.m.  
Description: Beep...Beep...Beep...Snooze! We don’t think soooooo Gina and Bobbi will get you energized and out of bed dancing to your favorite hits, update you on the local buzz, and grant you exclusive access to Gina’s Complaint Corner. Don’t miss out!

Show Name: The Southern Sizzer with the Hicksville Hunnies  
Time: Tuesdays 2-3 p.m.  
Description: Tune in for the best variety of the hottest and newest country music. In addition you’ll hear news updates, gossip, and funny stories from the hottest DJs around!

Show Name: Literary Revival with Greg Ben and the Dude of Life  
Time: Fridays 12-2 a.m.  
Description: It is a celebration, an exultation of alliteration throughout the nation using extreme elations that utilizes the RWU WQRI’s station in the most optimistic optimization of the disc jockey vocation.

Show Name: Afternoon Delight W/DJ STEW (Ryan Stewart)  
Time: Wednesdays 3-5 p.m.  
Description: Playing all your favorite music from the 70′s 80′s, 90′s and Today, without all that Echo and Rap.

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**Come see the softer side of Senate...**

Mondays at 6:30 in the Senate Chambers  

**Check us out at:**

http://studentsenate.rwu.edu  
or IM us at:  
SenateRWU
Caitlin Kraft
Herald Staff

It is safe to say that many students feel guilty pleasure to check if a friend commented on their "wall," if they were tagged in any crazy pictures from the night before, or check if they have any new friend requests. However, is this popular social utility becoming more of a detrimental service? Harvard alumnus Mark Zuckerberg launched the facebook.com in February 2004 in an effort to make Harvard University more social and more united. Since then, in only four years, Facebook has spread to more than 17 million registered users across 47,000 regional, work-related, collegiate and high school networks.

According to comScore, an Internet audience measurement database, Facebook is the sixth most trafficked site in the U.S. and the top photo-sharing site. So what's the big deal about Facebook? Some students agree that Facebook is a great way to keep in touch with their friends all around the nation — and globe. Senior Patma Ghalian uses her Facebook account because she "thinks her friends in Egypt have one as well. Facebook offers the convenience of bringing nations together, as if our friends across the world were really on the street.

Most students created their Facebook accounts on the first day of classes. Once people have a valid college email address, they are able to create their own profile, where personal information can be given out. Freshman Casey Meagher said she created her Facebook account because she "figured it was a college thing — like MySpace for college kids." It is a "trend" and that it has her "screen name, dorm, and interests on there." In addition, Ghalian has her phone numbers so that friends who want to get in touch with me if they need to." In "In Team CARE, there are people who actually wrote down their favorite pastime as 'Facebook..."

—Patma Ghalian

Putting this personal information on an Internet site is not always an intelligent thing to do. Although users, although it probably should be one to be more aware of. A lot of times that"pokes" you are about teams who were abducted after going to visit someone they met online. Freshman Kelsey McLean said "I am definitely never gonna do that. I think it's just..."

Meagher and Ghalian agreed on the matter — both also block their accounts, even in their own networks. "If someone has a problem with you, they have easy access to that information, but if you only have your friends see your profile, it's not really a problem," Meagher said.

It is up to the account user to determine whom they "accept" as friends, therefore personally granting them permission to view this information.

Some agree that this is a major downfall to websites like these; sites that allow personal information also attract people with stalker-like personalities — "creepers," as McLellan put it. However, on the Facebook site, users are clearly stated that people have their own control over their personal security settings. It is up to the user to keep on their own.

Another negative aspect of Facebook, according to McLellan, is that "drunk Facebook always means being embarrassed the next morning" whether it be in pictures, comments, or with the harmless, yet awkward, "pokes," a friendly "tag-you're-it" to let your friends know you are thinking of them.

This brings on the Facebook addiction. Students sign on mainly to see if they have a new friend request, or someone made a new comment, or pay some great photos.

However, this leads to checking the site five, ten, or even more times daily. For most, this seemingly controllable habit eventually turns into a subconscious activity — mindless entertainment — while bored doing homework and other more important activities.

Meagher said that she finds her mind will drift while she's working on the computer, and suddenly she'll find herself on Facebook.com. "It's right there at your fingertips... literally."

Instead of going out and doing regular day-to-day activities, some people are becoming consumed with living their lives through this web site.

As a Residence Assistant, Ghalian said she finds it is becoming a definite hobby for students.

"In Team CARE [where she is a member on campus], there are people who actually wake up thinking about this Facebook site as a pastime "as Face."

While they did not find it personally true, some students say the distraction of Web sites like Facebook could have an impact on students' grades. The more favorable choice for students is to find a source of entertainment, instead of writing that 10-page term paper. However, putting it off is not usually the greatest decision.

It all comes down to how students manage their time. McLellan said she gives herself a schedule. She does check her Facebook account on a daily basis, however, she does know where I check my email, and then my Facebook, and then I get to work for a while before I decide to make a well-deserved break. It is all about finding that healthy balance.

Let's face it: Facebook is a social phenomenon that keeps us busy. Whether or not you are attentive to the signs of stopping. As Meagher so aptly described it: "I think it's just... you know... taking over the world."
Senior breaks typical student mold

Tyler Molzau
Herald Staff

It is 4:30 a.m. and almost everyone is sleeping, dreaming about the weekend. Angelo Calcagni does not hit the snooze button. Without hesitation and on autopilot, Calcagni quietly puts on his green and white “We Dispose” t-shirt, tattered and stained carpenter jeans, and eight-year-old Timberland boots with brand new gel inserts. He clips his black Nextel to his waist, throws his Carhartt jacket over his broad shoulders, opens the door, and creeps out of his dorm room without disturbing his roommates.

With only four hours of sleep under his belt, Calcagni regretta having stayed up to watch “Lost.” He catches a swift thirty-second doze as he rides the elevator down to the lobby floor.

Calcagni is not your typical 21-year-old Roger Williams University student. Although he may look it, he is strictly business. Calcagni manages a family owned trash service company that operates out of Cumberland, R.I., called We Dispose.

We Dispose, with about 2000 accounts throughout Rhode Island, Massachusetts, and Connecticut, is a multi-million dollar family business. Calcagni’s father, Peter Calcagni, started in 1998. Calcagni has been working for his father since he was thirteen: taking out the trash, running our accounts with contracts, and absorbing as much information as possible so that he can one day run the company his father built.

Over the years, Calcagni has moved up the ladder at We Dispose. In July of 2006, he became general manager of the company.

During the school year Calcagni only works part time.

“I get up Monday to Saturday at 4:30 a.m., grab my coffee, and drive a half hour to Cumberland where the We Dispose headquarters is located,” Calcagni said.

On a day-to-day basis, Calcagni takes on a number of tasks.

“Make sure all the drivers are in, and everything is operating smoothly. My drivers typically start around 5:30 a.m. I handle anything that may arise between 5:30 and 8:00 a.m., before the office personnel comes in,” Calcagni said. “I sign off on bills, go through any questions or issues, and just handle what has been brought to my attention and then head back to school around eleven or twelve, depending on my schedule.”

Calcagni is also a full-time student here at Roger Williams with an overall grade point average of 3.2 in business management.

Next to his father, Calcagni is the highest ranked employee at We Dispose, and also one of the youngest.

“I think there are a lot of people who work for me that respect me and there are some who don’t respect me because of my age,” Calcagni said.

In regards to Calcagni’s age, Office Manager Donna Mullins said, “People are going to either like you or not like you. It has nothing to do with age. Plus I try not to think of his age (I’m old enough to be his mother).”

Some coworkers, however, have had a difficult time working under a boss who is younger than them.

“It think it is a 50/50 split,” Outside Sales Representative Michal Sammon said. “Some people just can’t get past his age or it could be jealousy.”

Calcagni admits that having to let someone go is always the hardest part of his job.

“It never feels good to fire anybody, no matter how much you know they have to go,” Calcagni said.

At one point, he had to fire an employee of 45 years old with three children.

“I feel a lot of pressure because I am so young, like who am I to fire this person, but my first priority is to look after the company’s best interest,” said Calcagni.

Since Calcagni’s reign as manager, We Dispose has moved in a positive direction.

“Our customer base has grown; we are retaining the accounts we have and gaining new ones more than ever. Lessors are down, we are securing our accounts with contracts, and we are finally hiring qualified employees,” Mullins said.

Calcagni believes that We Dispose has drastically improved.

“I have come across various billing errors and other issues that have needed to be resolved and helped save the company thousands of dollars,” Calcagni said.

Since the last general manager left, Calcagni has had to hire almost a completely new staff in order to ensure a bright future for the company.

Calcagni said his friends keep him sane, and make him still feel like a kid while living in a grown-up world.

“We often call Calcagni a 40 year old trapped in a 21 year old’s body,” Calcagni’s roommate, Brandon Carr, said. “I don’t know how he does it. You often hear Architecture majors whining about how they have it rough; if they only knew about Calcagni.”

Calcagni’s best friend since the seventh grade, senior Dana Morin said, “What other 21 year old do you know that says they’re too busy for girls?”

Morin is convinced that when it comes to a work ethic, Calcagni is the hardest working, self-motivated man you will ever meet.

“One of the best attributes about Calcagni is that no matter how busy he is with work, he always has time for his friends, and is very humble about what he does,” Morin said.

Calcagni was raised to not take anything in his life for granted.

“My father always taught me to be humble and treat everyone with respect. I was never allowed to have a brand new vehicle. My father made me work for everything in life and because of him, it has made me a better person,” Calcagni said.

One notion that was stressed in Calcagni’s life was the importance of getting a college education.

“Experience may have gotten me to where I am today, but without college I would have never learned certain terms and formulas that I actually use in the field, met all my friends I have now and had the chance to study abroad in Italy,” Calcagni said.

Although some may believe that the offspring of families who own businesses have it made, Calcagni believes otherwise.

“They say that the average family business lasts between 25 to 30 years because most kids who take over a business just coast. They do not try and improve and just milk it for money until they go bankrupt. Then there are the kids who are pointed in the right direction and the business can last up to 100 years,” Calcagni said.

With an ability unlike most seniors, in November 2000, Calcagni purchased a house in Mansville, R.I.

“The worst part was signing the papers and walking out the front door thinking I am going to be in debt until I am fifty years old,” Calcagni said.

Calcagni’s future goal with We Dispose is to become the number one trash disposal service in all of Rhode Island, Massachusetts, and Connecticut.

He plans on taking a semester off and return to Roger Williams in the spring of 2008 to enter Law school.

“You’re not going to be handed everything,” Calcagni said, “You have to earn it sometimes. You don’t have to steal it, but you have to earn it. If you’re dedicated enough and take the time to seize the opportunities that are put forth in front of you, you can actually achieve anything in life.”
The Hawk's Herald apologizes, but due to technical issues, we have no new puzzles for you this week. For your entertainment, we have included some tic-tac-toe squares to play with your friends.
The story so far
How some of the spring teams performed on the road over spring break

Baseball
The team traveled to Arizona for a nine-game road trip and returned with an overall record of 4-5. The team started their season on Monday, March 11 with two victories over McDaniel College, 12-3 and 5-3, with the later game going eight innings. Monday's victories were followed by four consecutive losses to Keene State, Macalaster College and William Patterson College.

On Friday March 16, the Hawks were pitted against Rutgers College, winning 3-1 in game one and losing 12-9 in the second. The Hawk's finished their Arizona trip with a 12-9 win over Springfield College.

Freshman pitcher Dan Roberge saw his first two collegiate starts in Arizona. Roberge returned to RWU after striking out a total of 10 batters, according to the season statistics posted at the RWU athletics website. To see these stats visit: http://www.rwuhawks.com/stats/14/TEAMCUMENHTM

Softball
The women's softball team went 7-3 in their road trip to Cape Coral, Florida. With a 7-6 over SUNY-Brockport on Monday March 11 the Hawks took on Drew University on Tuesday March 12, where they were defeated 4-3. Tuesday afternoon the Hawks earned a 5-1 victory over the Richard Stockton College of New Jersey. Wednesday March 13 the team won 1-0, winning 1-0 over Albion College and losing 6-4 to the University of Wisconsin. On Thursday and Friday the Hawks posted a 3-1 record. The team beat Nazareth College 9-5 followed by a 6-4 loss to Carroll College on Thursday. Then defeated Mount Ida 11-1 and St. Joseph's of Maine 6-1 on Friday.

Sailing
The sailing team traveled to St. Petersburg, Fla. for a week of practices following a second place finish in the USF Team Race the weekend of March 10.

Information from www.rwuhawks.com

Softball sets sights on CCC

The women's softball team ran into Jason Varitek last week in Florida and were able to snap a photo with the Red Sox captain. Ashley Littleton

Herald Staff

Trading rest and relaxation for hard work and preparation, the RWU softball team spent its spring break in Cape Coral, Fla., for a pre-season tournament. The Hawks fared well in their games, going an impressive 7-3 over the course of the week — good enough for their best spring record in history.

The team spent nine days playing teams from all over the country. Although most of the teams were evenly matched, the girls pulled off notable wins over Richard Stockton College of New Jersey and Albion College of Michigan.

Coach Steve Pappas commented, "I knew we would do good there, but I was exceedingly pleased with how well the team played. It's great for us to go into the season with this momentum."

According to Pappas, the trip was helpful in learning about the team.

"We learned about how the players are on the field and also how they are personally," he said.

Junior co-captain Jen Lyford noted the team's depth, saying "There are a lot of girls on the team that can be used in numerous positions. It's nice to know that if someone were to get hurt during the year we would be able to move people around and still have a strong team."

The team looks toward Tuesday, March 27 for its first conference game, in which they will play rival Endicott at home. As for preparation for the season, Pappas explains, "Endicott always has a good team, as does Curry. We also have a long rivalry with Salve Regina. In rivalry games, anyone can come out on top."

As for the ultimate goal, Pappas states that the team has one focus: "Our goal is to finish as high as possible to get the best seed. The better the seed, the easier it is to get through the brackets. "We are aiming to go to the NCAA championship."

Lyford believes the goal is attainable. "With the returning players and the talent we've gotten from the freshmen and a sophomore transfer we should be able to put up great numbers this year and hopefully make it to the NCAA tournament," she said.

The team hosts their first game of the season today at Paulino Field against Rhode Island College, starting at 3 p.m.
Worst in show
The top (or bottom) five losing streaks of all-time

Late last Saturday night, sighs of relief rang out across the region; millions of Irishmen and women and the wannabes - breathed peacefully, thankful they had made it through another St. Patrick’s Day parade without getting arrested. But they weren’t the only happy people. An entirely separate set of drunk people rejoiced as the Boston Celtics finally put an end to their wretched Curse of the Tim Duncan.

The curse started back in 1996. The Celtics had gone a pathetic 15-67 (.193-96) season, which somehow was only second worst in the league (Vancouver won just 14 games). We stand on guard for thee.

The only thing Celtics fans had to look forward to was the draft and Tim Duncan. That was until the lottery, when the Ping-Pong balls came out and the San Antonio Spurs, with their 20 sinking wins, got the first pick.

Since then, the Spurs have gone on to win three NBA titles while dominating the Celtics year in and year out, beating the green 18 straight times. Earlier this season, the Celtics lost a franchise-worst 18 games in a row.

Is the fact that these two streaks both lasted 18 just a coincidence? Yes. But it still got me thinking about some of the most terrible streaks in sports history. Here’s a rundown of five of the very worst.

5. NBA – The ’73ers

This one’s not exactly a streak, but the 1972-1973 Philadelphia ’73ers went 9-73.

The season included a 20, 15, and 14-game losing streak.

But for a city in which fans haven’t seen a championship since 1967, I won’t pile on with this.

4. NCAA Tournament – Note to Coogs: Stay in Utah

While everyone looks for the next Cinderella team to emerge, the losers are sometimes forgotten, and we can’t appreciate them for what they really are, huge losers.

The best of all in recent years is Brigham Young University’s men’s team, which has lost six straight NCAA tournament games. Its most recent loss came last week against the Musketeers of Xavier University.

The Cougars have not won a tournament game since 1993, and BYU’s all-time tournament record stands at 11-25.

Meanwhile, Mississippi State is stuck in the NIT, winning by an average of 21 points a game. Figure that one out.

3. Major League Baseball

Most Consecutive Baseball Slapped Out of Pitchers’ Gloves in Critical Postseason Moments – that goes to A-Rod, who holds the record at one. Just had to get that one in.

2. NFL – The Wholesale Season...and then some

The 1976 Tampa Bay Buccaneers, dooming the worst jerseys in the history of cloth, went 0-14 in their inaugural season.

The Spirit of ’76 carried into ’77, as they lost 12 straight to start their second season, before winning the last two games of the season.

The interesting side to this story is that their head coach, John McKay, came from USC, where he was the winningest coach in school history and brought the Trojans to four national championships.

It must have been the best.

1. College Football – 80 straight losses

The Panthers of Prairie View A.M. University pulled off the impossible, losing 80 straight games in the ’90s.

Eighty. That’s 17 more than .63. And 63 is a high number.

According to ESPN.com’s Page 2, “Their worst year might have been 1991 --- they scored only 48 points all season, while giving up an average of 56 a game.”

1b. College Basketball – More than a decade of losing

Over the past 11 years, The Benjamin Banneker Institute of Technology have answered a question I’ve asked my whole life: How do tech schools have athletics?

The answer – they don’t.

On January 27 of this year, Caltech ended their 207-game, 11-year losing “skid” with an 81-52 win over New York’s Bard College.

For a quick recap, that was 207 games, 11 years.

And the troubling part is trying to guess what the Bard coach said to his team after getting slaughtered by almost 30 points to the lowly Beavers.

So what’s the moral of the story? Losing’s not so bad, if you do enough of it you might just end up in the history books as one of the best.

And let’s face it, you’re not really good at anything else.

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D’ANGELO: A broken man

Continued from p. 16

middle or toward the top half of both of my pools. Great? No. Still alive?

Absolutely.

Besides a few games that burned me (i.e. Duke, UNLV, Notre Dame, Virginia Commonwealth, who, by the way, just might have the best guard in the country), I was still in OK shape. But as the day lagged on, I saw my picks one-by-one fall from my brackets like mosquitoes to a bug zapper. The dream was slowly fading.

Sunday, 3/18/97 — Mood: Broken

For you psychology majors, I was experiencing learned helplessness. I was totally accepting the fact that there was no way to change my current situation. I was a broken and somewhat pitiful man Sunday afternoon.

The combination of USC winning, UNLV continuing their run, and golfdamned Tennessee moving on equated to an additional six hours in bed for Rob.

Sweet, I’m a loser.

Then my dad, good ol’ Bobby D’Angelo, dragged me from my veins of deep and whining to go watch the Florida-Purdue game at a local sports bar (Yeah, exactly where I wanted to be. Thanks Dad, you’re a pal.

So as I sit my last buffalo wing and drunk down my soda — I know you expected the soda to be a beer, but hey, Sunday is God’s day — I revealed in the fact that maybe, just maybe, both UCLA and North Carolina can make the finals. With UCLA winning, I may not have to pay for one of my brackets.

Post Script
I put one of my brackets, pick-for-pick into the Facebook March Madness pools and I am currently 24th out of 10 kids and ranked 1,199,912 in the country. That’s pitiful. By writing this column I could have just thrown away the little credibility that I have and made no headway in gaining anyone’s respect. But, I’m not a basketball guy. To tell you the truth, I can’t stand the sport... You know what? I’m just bitter. Just like if I shot a 90 in golf. “I hate the stupid game,” but when I’m shooting plus five I’ll be on the course five days a week. I guess what I’m trying to say is don’t gamble... unless you’re going to win... a lot.

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Spring Sports Outlook
Reportage from the annual sports meeting and photos from this week’s Open Rate: Michael Hurley
March Sadness

The pains of failure
in filling out NCAA brackets...and gambling

For many sports fans, March Madness is a time of year comparable to Christmas time on the Gregorian Calendar (a fun fact, that’s the name of the calendar most of the world uses today). For me, it has a lot of the same feelings, except I’m the poor stiff that, instead of getting a shiny new bike, has the stocking full of coal.

Each year feels like it breathes new life and optimism with each bracket I am handed. Like the little kid who puts a pony on his Christmas wish list, three weeks later he’s left searching under the tree for that pony, asking himself “Was I bad this year?”

Replace the pony with an emptied bank account and that’s me.

Sadly, there is no Santa and there is no March Madness Fairy to take away my gambling debts (just maybe a phone call home to mom and dad to try and weasel some money out of them). I am going to take you through what has become, like the swallows returning to San Juan Capistrano every year, a perennial experience for me: my March Sadness.


I receive an e-mail from a friend with a link to a bracket to be printed out. He outlines the scoring and other details about the pool. Buy-in $100. Done.

Monday, 3/12/07 – Mood: Delightfully light and confident.

My cell rings at about 11 a.m., which is a bit too early considering the previous night’s happenings. It’s the “Sauce Man.”

Sauce: “Yo, you gonna do that pool with us or no?”

Me: “What? What pool? What (expletive) time is it anyways?”

Sauce: “March Madness BABY!” (Duke and Vitale fan; especially annoying when hung-over)

Me: “Ya, whatever, I’ll call you when I’m up.

Later that day – Mood: Continuing optimism, though a little nervous now.

As I drag my sorry excuse for a college kid into Sauce’s house, I’m greeted with a beer and a bracket to be filled out with alacrity, with one price tag of another $125.

At this point I am a bit uneasy about the prospect of losing $225. See, at this point in my life, I know some people have an aptitude for certain things. Some play an instrument, some are great athletes, and so on. I, my friends, am not a good gambler.

None have been, never will be, yet that’s never stopped me from trying.


It was all out of my hands now; the first round of the NCAA tournament just began. Like a stockbroker running a hedge fund, I tried to do the same with my brackets. The cheaper bracket was up half-laden while the big money bracket was a safer bet in the first round. Both had huge potential upside. Potential being the key word.

Saturday, 3/17/07 – Mood: Less than happy, but not completely dejected.

For the most part I was either in the...