By Sarah Holway

Contributing Writer

By Sarah Holway

Students, faculty, staff and guests packed the lobby of the Pauline Recreation Center for the groundbreaking ceremony of the new 80,000 square foot recreation center.

The recreation center will include a computer lounge, a large fitness center, space for clubs such as the radio station, newspaper, and dance club, an eight-lane swimming pool and more. Richard Stegman, Dean of Student Affairs, began the ceremony by introducing our new university President, Roy J. Nirschel, P.h.D.

President Nirschel began by saying, "I promised I'd put a shovel in the ground by the time this semester was over and I'm keeping my promise."

He then said that having a groundbreaking ceremony honored a commitment that he made at the beginning of the semester.

"This is important," he said.

The next speaker was junior Neil McKiernan, President of Student Senate. McKiernan said a few words about the lack of space in the recreational center now and that he was excited for the new center to be built.

After McKiernan spoke, Matt White, Executive Director of Facilities talked about the process of helping to design the new center.

White said, "It's been a very long design process we've been working on for two years." He also talked about the virtual tour video that was shown at the end of the ceremony. The video took the viewers through the center, giving an idea of what the inside will look like and how the center will look in relation to existing campus structures.

The last speaker, new Director of Athletics George Kolb, said that the new recreation center will have a major impact on this campus community.

Kolb said, "This will be a place that will enhance and enrich our lives."

Once the speakers were finished, everyone proceeded outside to watch the first shovels hit the ground for the new center. Dean Stegman, President Nirschel, White, Kolb, and McKiernan each wore a hard hat to turn over the ground. The rainy weather kept the outdoor part of the ceremony to a few minutes.

The new recreation center is expected to be completed in May of 2003. Construction will begin in March.

One university, three championship teams

By Allison Belanger

Contributing Writer

Three teams were honored during a special ceremony held at halftime of the men's varsity basketball game on Saturday, January 26. The men's and women's cross country teams and the men's soccer team had the chance to unveil their championship banners, which will be hung in the gymnasium. Individual athletes' outstanding achievements were also recognized.

The teams' captains presented special mementos to President Roy J. Nirschel, P.h.D. and Dean of Students Richard Stegman.

"It is great to recognize athletes, and draw positive attention to our facility," athletic Director George Kolb said.

The women's cross country team, coached by Todd Deely, captured their second straight Commonwealth Coast Conference Championship, becoming the first women's team in school history to win two conference of league titles. The team captains are Andrea Boudrood, Heather Kuli and Diane Leith. Allison Belanger was named CCC Runner of the Year, and became the first runner in school history to earn All-Conference honors. Freshman Megan Melaragi was named CCC Rookie Runner of the Year, and was named to the All-Conference Team. Sophomores Diane Leith and Dawn Miller were named to the All-Conference recognition.

The men's cross country team, also coached by Deely, captured their first Commonwealth Coast Conference title in school history. Freshman Eric Van Taswell had a dominant season, earning CCC Runner of the Year, Rookie Runner of the Year, and All-Conference honors. J.J. Pruner also earned All-Conference recognition.

Deely said, "It's great to see teams being honored that have never before received public honors."

Continued on page 5...

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Continued on page 5...

RWU student attends Superbowl festivities with victorious Patriots

By Blaine Moffa

Contributing Writer

While most students at Roger Williams were watching Super Bowl XXXVI from behind a decent-sized television screen, one RWU student was watching it from behind the 40-yard line.

Lisa Scamecchia, a junior who lives in Tiverton, just happens to be the daughter of Dante Scamecchia, Assistant Head Coach/Offensive Line Coach of the New England Patriots. With her father as a Pats coach for 10 years, Lisa has seen her share of football games, but nothing compared to flying to New Orleans to watch the team beat the St. Louis Rams at the Superdome on Sunday night.

Scamecchia flew down Thursday, January 31, complete with police escorts and a personal drive-through service right into the airport. She described the scene at the Louisiana Superdome as nothing less than amazing.

"There were a gazillion people in there, [it was] an insane Mardi Gras!" So what was the moment that stood out for her? Like most Patriot fans, she would tell you - "Definitely Vinatieri's field goal!" Scamecchia remembers the chaos of the Superdome and considers the night "absolutely amazing."

Scamecchia flew back with her father, the rest of the Patriots, and the entire team Monday night, February 5. She said they got in to the airport in time for five o'clock rush hour, and were greeted by Pats fans.

"There were so many people there, it was unbelievable," she said.

It doesn't feel different to be the daughter of one of the Pats' head coaches, just lucky. "It's so much fun. This was my third Super Bowl and we were all just happy (for the team)."

She has gotten to know the players over the years, and feels the Patriots differ from other pro teams because they consider themselves a family.

"No one wants to be singled out for anything. They stick together," she explained.

Of course, no one can disagree that going to as many games as possible and having a father with access to Pats merchandise is considered a perk. Scamecchia's part-time employer, Judge Roy Beas Saloon in Bristol, held a raffle on Super Bowl Sunday _ the winner received a football signed by both Tom Brady and Drew Bledsoe.

However, all good things must come to an end, and Scamecchia returned to campus and resumed classes on Tuesday. And even if future years bring them more Super Bowls for the Patriots, there is little doubt she will forget this one.
LETTERS

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor;

Writing as an active member of the Animal and Environmental Rights Club, I can hardly agree with [Laurie Schorr] more about our precious beach and its present state. I too am a Willow resident, yet I only heard of the original plan to clean up the beach from a friend, not from any signs or announcements. I sent an e-mail out to the club members as soon as I could, notifying them to attend if possible, but regretfully that was but a few hours before the activity in question. Those who did manage to show up were turned away due to the fact that there were not enough gloves for everyone; thus the plan was for us to meet at the same time the following week. This too I disseminated to the club, and a voicemail was sent out to all Willow Hall residents. I dutifully showed up the next week, only to find that there was nobody there; I walked down to the beach to check if they had gone ahead without me, but I could not find a person.

Laurie’s words truly resonated in tune with my feelings regarding the end outcome of it all. I thank you and your friends deeply for your action; had I known of her presence earlier in the day I would have dutifully joined you.

Sincerely,
Paul Burke

Letter to The Editor

Dear Editor;

Martin Luther King, Jr. advocated the necessity of equal treatment for Black Americans by promoting high moral character and a strong work ethic during the 1960s civil rights movement. According to Rev. Jesse Lee Peterson, a Black American speaking at the 30th annual CPAC conference, so-called proponents of minorities, most notably the “Rev.” Jesse Jackson, have hampered minority development by deviating from Dr. King’s original message of equality before the law a message of victims created by law. Rev. Patterson claims that this type of tripe-spoken rhetoric has caused minorities to be dependent on the government rather than adopting the personal responsibility that is needed for self-reliance and self-dignity in family, church, and societal government. In particular, Rev. Peterson vehemently opposes government quotas and reparations for the slavery. As said by Rev. Patterson, government quotas are inventive to the intelligent of minorities because it asserts that minorities are second-rate to majorities and therefore, must be treated on an inferiority basis. Now if this is not conspicuous, egregious racism then what is?

Personally, I am a Latino American and I do not need the government or any other alleged “champion of minorities” telling me that I cannot perform just as well as other ethnicities just because I was not as privileged to the same wealth or schooling. Furthermore, Patterson rejects the notion that Black Americans should be given reparations for past grievances, because by definition Black Americans are not directly affected by slavery, and the Whites who did own slaves are a different generation than of today. Why should a majority individual give money to someone who he did not affront and who in turn was never the affronted generation? This is not rocket science but common sense, which Jesse lacks familiarity with. Rev. Patterson makes it clear that he wants to return to Dr. King’s original message, that all men created equal and will be successful according to “their” work ethic, accountability, and most importantly, integrity. During Black history month let us remember that many Americans died to uphold equity in a civil war, which must not be treaded upon by the tawdriness of bungling individuals like the “Rev.” Jesse Jackson.

Sincerely,
Jason Mattera

Hawk’s Eye Letter Policy

The Hawk’s Eye welcomes Letters to the Editor. Letters can be dropped off in The Hawk’s Eye mailbox in the Campus Programs office in the lower Student Union at any time, and will be printed in the following issue. The Hawk’s Eye staff reserves the right to edit any letters for content and/or grammar and punctuation.

Letters must be typed and spell-checked. All letters must be signed by the writer. Anonymous letters will not be printed.

The writer should also include his/her phone number with the letter for contact purposes only. The number will NOT be printed.
Comedy Review
The fact of the matter is...

Weekly column by Features/Editors Editor Steve Saleeba

Monday, February 11, 2002

EDITORIALS/REVIEW

Commentary
On the state of America

By Brendan Finn
Contributing Writer

Americans are known for being resilient. We are known for our ability to state adversity in the eye and send it retreating to far-off lands. What Americans don’t seem to want to understand is that we are living in a strange new world, a world with no traditional borders and no common enemy. I think it is this inability to make us forget about what evil minds are conjuring up in those mountainside caves. You see, the terrorists are being beaten, and the war will soon be over. That's the illusion that the media and its quick-and-fleeting sound bites help to create. Christmas washes our minds of those scary words such as anthrax and Al Qaeda. But do we still see the fallen, the forever wounded of the day New York stood still?

Two months ago you couldn't get away from it. The flag was everywhere. It was institutional to do so in the aftermath of the only attack on America's homeland since Pearl Harbor. Fly a flag. The flag that represents a beacon of an idea. The idea of what Americans seem to guard so fiercely. Or maybe that flag was just a way for a common people to stand together fearing an uncommon foe. But where are all the flags now? Why does it seem that we are slipping back into the normal existence of the nation's economy. Experts say our recession is over. So much for a long, harsh winter of 2002.

Ah...the all-holy mall, and spend money to have fun. But now the faithful flock to the basement of the site. Levassaur to RWU, and he attempted to build an empire.

Unfortunately for Mussolini, his plans were not well thought out. The economy went from bad to worse. The Afghani tribes are loyal to their Arabic country that is trying to help us. Rather tell me how the Afghani tribes can cloak themselves in. Our war is on a daily basis. Living in a constant state of fear and paranoia is no way to live through this. These emotions don't help the situation. Our government says the way you can help is by going back to work and trying to help the situation.

By Garry Dow
Contributing Writer

More than 150 people turned out for the first-ever RWU Coffee Corner in the basement of the RWU Student Union on the evening of Saturday, February 2.

Acoustic singer/songwriter Jason Levassaur mesmerized the crowd for over an hour, performing lesser-known originals as well as old cover-tune favorites before leaving the stage to chat with listeners and sign autographs.

A small army of tattooed waitresses kept the enthusiastic and attentive crowd supplied with complimentary coffee and mugs sporting the ABFN Coffee Corner logo. Eric Hughes, chair of ABFN and the woman responsible for bringing in Levassaur to RWU, commented that "the coffee corner was a bigger success than we originally planned. I was worried that not that many people would show up since Jason is not well known as of yet, so the turnout was much more than we expected...we ran out of coffee within the first 20 minutes so I would say it was a huge success!"

Levassaur, whose style can be described as "James Taylor meets the Barenaked Ladies," has opened for the likes of Dave Matthews Band, Bryan Adams, Ben Folds 5, and the Allman Brothers. His music has been featured in movies such as J "Just Write" and "Bridal Truth," as well as the Dawson's Creek Website, where one of his songs was chosen to be part of the "top ten list" of a fictitious character named Rachel that producers created for the show.

Levassaur joked with audience members that he was happy to be playing to a smaller crowd, saying that his music was "appreciated by a made up character." In reality, the North Carolina resident has far more to be proud of than he lets on to his music. His music has made its way across the globe to Australia where one of his songs serves as the theme to a popular TV sitcom. In addition to being a prolific singer/songwriter, Levassaur is also a versatile drummer who has played with bands such as Vertical Horizon, Edwin McCain and the Pat McGee Band.

Levassaur's set list included his own material as well as two cover songs, "A Murder of One" by the Counting Crows, "Time After Time" by Cyndi Lauper. Several other medleys covered a wide array of musical tastes that included everything from Britney Spears to Sir Mix A Lot to The Beatles. Between songs Levassaur, who has just released his first debut album as a solo artist named "RWU," took frequent breaks from playing to engage the crowd with questions about campus life. He also took time out of his set to tell humorous stories about himself and some of the inspirations for his songs. He ended the night to a thunderous applause after one song. What is the secret to Levassaur's success? According to his close staff favorite (members cheered when he called out the name) "The Steps of St. Patrick's."

In addition to Levassaur, there were four other musical guests that performed, all of whom attended RWU. Garry Dow and Tim Bestor opened the show with a 30 minute set that included Eric Clapton's "Wonderful Tonight" and Joe Pullack and Todd Mushak closed the night with some technically proficient acoustic guitar work that capped the evening.

Coffee corner strikes a chord

150 students attend first concert of spring semester

By Garry F. Dow

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Commentary on Life

It's a pretty crazy thing, living in another country. Every minute of every day is new and exciting and at times intimidating. With every challenge and every adventure you learn more about yourself and your ability to grow and adapt. Monday, February 11, 2002

It was very nerve-wracking to make small talk with the woman behind me in line, and noticed that people were staring at the American with sneakers on. The woman was wearing white hair and glasses that fell below her nose, shouted at the man.

It was a wait. I realized that the line wasn't getting any shorter and everyone was getting aggravated. There was a man at the head of the line holding every person up. He made the cashier wait while he went down the aisle to pick up some more boom. He paused by me reeking of alcohol and just knocked me onto the floor. He said, “Where are you from?” I asked with a thick accent I didn’t recognize. When I replied that I was American, he immediately became interested in making conversation.

It was a conversation that would make most Americans shudder. He explained that he, as a Somalian, had a vision of America. He praised Osama bin Laden and his efforts and cursed our president’s name.

I became very nervous and started to look for the nearest exit, which he was blocking. For some reason the Somalian man turned to the rest of the market and started speaking in Italian about America. The littlest lady I have ever seen, with white hair and glasses that fell below her nose, shouted at the man.

She spoke fiercely in my defense, and in my country’s defense.

When I tell family and friends that story, they say I should just say I am from Canada or Sweden. They want me to lie about my identity. They want me to protect myself from reignades with a vendetta against the United States. They are afraid that I will be used to set an example.

It’s a sad time that we live in when we have to hide our identities and our pride as Americans. But for every man or woman tearing down our flag, there is another raising it.

RWU searches for religious equality

By Beth Martinson

Entertainment Editor

It was her freshman year. She was getting used to a new school, a new atmosphere and a new life. At home, her constant was school, social life and religion. Unfortunately, Michelle Mostowy-Eisenberg wasn’t able to incorporate her religion into her new life at Roger Williams without some difficulty and aggravation. In one class she wasn’t allowed to leave early to go home and celebrate Yom Kippur, an important holiday in the Jewish faith, until she had explained to her class what the holiday was all about. Her professor insisted that she stand before the class, which was filled with unknown faces, and explain herself, her values, and her religion. She was the only observant Jewish student in a class of more than 25 of her peers.

Americans have the right to believe in anything they want to believe as long as it doesn’t infringe upon another’s rights. Roger Williams has allowed students, faculty and staff time to celebrate their religions based on the administration’s opinion of universal belief systems. According to the academic calendar, only Christian holidays are observed.

The academic calendar that now dictates university policy on holidays has become somewhat dated. We are "rooted in a history that does not reflect the present," explained Loreta Shelton, Vice President of Academic Affairs. It was a different age. The world was a different place when Roger Williams College first opened its doors. Now the world is outraged when religious beliefs are obstructed. Every American feels he or she has the right to faith. But, as our ancestors discovered when they separat­ed from church state, it’s impossible for every religion of the world to be represented fairly.

“We are not a Catholic Institution. We are not a Jewish institution. That’s not who we are. To acknowledge that and not diminish respect for individual choice is what this is all about," explained Shelton, who has been working on revising the calendar. It seems to be an impossible task to implement a program in which all religions are cele­brated.

President Nirschl explained that, Continued on page 5...

Importantinfo for Class of 2003 members

For juniors who plan to graduate in May of 2003, there is some important information that you need to know. In order to receive a correct diploma on Commencement Day, you need to fill out a Degree Application. You can pick up this two-page form on the counter at the Registrar’s Office during regular hours. All applications are due on Monday, February 25, 2002. Students may not be able to fill out the Degree Application with their advisor, as an advisor will not be able to fill them out. The Registrar's Office or ask your advisor or the Dean of your college for more information.

By Laurie Schorr

Staff Writer

The arrival of the spring semester brought the arrival of a new student body. The Roger Williams campus and the vitality of the student body.

"When you meet people such as the students and faculty here, and ask yourself whether or not you like to surround yourself and work with these people, the likelihood is extremely positive," Noonan says.

Currently Noonan is surrounding himself with other students and administration. He works in a "consistent state of training and cross training" with other members of finance, Human Resources, the Registrar, and the Bursars.

The Administration "team" interacts with each other and works to represent one of the major "core values" of the university: learning for its own intrinsic sake.

Noonan, who has not held a position at a university before, brings plenty of teamwork experience to Roger Williams. The Rhode Island native has worked in the field of public accounting for 30 years. He spent 20 of those years with a manufacturing and distributing company, the Colibri Group of Rhode Island, where he was the Chief Financial Officer and held a significant role in the company’s 50 percent growth rate and overall improvement. The University of Rhode Island graduate hopes to bring that same success to Roger Williams.

He wishes to provide financial leadership and administration and faculty as well as open up lines of communication between students and arrangement at a university before, brings plenty of teamwork experience to Roger Williams.

"We are looking to the same goal: to better understand students’ complaints and suggestions." Later in the week, Noonan and Dean Stegman will be conferencing with the new Athletic Director George Kell to analyze department and program needs for the new Recreation Center, scheduled for completion in May of 2003. Other events in Noonan’s schedule include a meeting with the development staff to discuss fundraising ideas as well as another meeting regarding parking problems at the Providence campus.

Through providing financial leadership to the administration and faculty of Roger Williams, developing relationships with both the student body and the administration, and opening up lines of communication between students and others across the country, Noonan plans to improve campus life in a variety of ways.

"The student is a customer," he says, and "our goals become focused on making the University’s better place to be."
**News**

### Senate passes “Blue Light Resolution”

**By Kathy Lopes**

Advertising Manager

Human responded to the Bat Signal in Gotham's night sky, and now RWU's public safety officers will respond to a blue light in Bristol's sky. Roger Williams is planning to install a blue-light security system in designated areas throughout campus.

“Blue light phones will be available in 2002,” said Bruce Bowie, Director of Public Safety. “Students have always been able to reach security by dialing HELP (extension 4537) from any campus phone, but a blue light system is a faster, more convenient way to reach security.

The purpose of the blue-light phone — as stated in a student senate resolution passed on October 22, 2001 — is for individuals to contact security in cases of emergencies such as a crime, suspicious persons, lost or stolen property, medical emergencies, fire, or car trouble. Students are also encouraged to call for a public safety escort when walking alone at night.

The cost of this project is not yet known because the exact model of phones has not been chosen and negotiations are still in progress. In general, to activate a blue-light phone, a student would simply press a button located on the face of the phone. The connection to security is accomplished through an auto-dial system and the exact location of the caller will be known immediately. Also, a blue strobe light on top of the pole is activated as an additional indicator that someone is using the security phone.

There will be a total of 14 blue light phones dispersed throughout strategic locations on campus and some of the parking lots. Initially chosen locations are the dock area, bridge behind the Student Union, the shuttle stop, the gazebo, Almeida, Lake Bayside, N.S.C. Campus, and Old Ferry Road parking lots.

These general areas were chosen because they were out of the way, said Bowie, “yet specific locations have not been chosen.

A lot of thought goes into deciding the exact placement of the phones because there is wiring involved. In addition to the blue-light phones, six-house-security phones will be attached to the outside buildings, such as the Pauline Recreation Center, library, east side of Nick, and quads in Bayside. These will be similar to the house phones that are already installed outside of Cedar and Willow, the difference is that the house-security phones will solely be used to call security.

It was announced at the President's Forum that these phones should be operational within four to six months. Discussing the status of the blue-light phones have been going since before Bowie's appointment as Director of Public Safety in September 2000. Only recently was there action on the part of the administration and the Student Senate to pass the resolution.

The 2000 Annual Security Report posted on the RWU website reported that last year there were four forcible sexual offenses, nine burglaries, and three cases of arson. These numbers demonstrate that no campus is without incidents and RWU is taking necessary steps to make campus more secure as the university continues to grow.

“Overall we have a safe campus, but the blue-light phones will be there just in case,” said Bowie.

### The benefits of liberal arts education

**By Kim Baker**

Core Tutoring Coordinator

So, you have been on pins and needles, waiting with baited breath to get to last issue's question: What do former President Reagan, TV journalists Lesley Stahl, musician Al Jarreau, actor Paul Newman, Senator John Glenn, and 131 of all CEOs have in common? They all studied liberal arts in college.

If you think that learning ends in the classroom, consider the benefits of studying liberal arts.

First, a liberal arts education teaches you how to think, helping you develop strength of mind and an ordered intellect, think for yourself, and platie open how to understand the world better (e.g. the theory of relatively vs. the theory of relativities who still call you baby), and symbiotic ideas (of the core science in the same semester that the core take Basic human behavior, I can design an education that you enjoy because it does not add to my guilt of eating too many calories). Remember that politician and advertisers count on your being half-educated or educated solely for their specialty. Now you know you are more easier to deceive.

Second, liberal arts education also teaches you how to learn. Knowledge builds upon knowledge. When you learn something (what time to arrive at the cafeteria before the ice cream runs out), your brain remembers how you learned it (got stuck eating ice cream till 3 a.m. in a row and sets up new pathways to make it last longer in effect).

Once you have a solid base of general knowledge, you understand how to apply it to specific areas (the mastery of the world problems in algebra make you a whiz at the whiff-whaff of words and numbers thrown at you when filling out financial forms).

Once you know how to think and how to learn, you can see things as a whole, not just in terms of your major. This more expansive vision is one of the most important benefits of a liberal education. A well-rounded education gives you a map of the universe form which to navigate the complex world we live in. How I wish right now that I knew more about the history of the Middle East and the religion of the people. This knowledge won't change the sad- ness I have experienced since the September 11 attacks, but it would at least create a context for the many layers of happenings in the world right now.

"Don't worry, be happy" could be the motto of a liberal arts education. Knowledge makes you better educated and being educated can make you happier. Educated people have, statistically, happier relationships, less loneliness, and a better understanding of how to navigate the complex world we live in. How I wish right now that I knew more about the history of the Middle East and the religion of the people. This knowledge won't change the sadness I have experienced since the September 11 attacks, but it would at least create a context for the many layers of happenings in the world right now.

**Religion**

"you can not list every single day of every single religion that there is because there are hundreds and hundreds and hundreds of religions. But, "it’s reasonable that the major religious holidays be recognized on the calendar," said Nirschel.

Currently the academic calendar only makes reference to Christmas holidays, including Hanukkah and Good Friday.

"The academic calendar is not a religious calendar," explained Shehton. "I know of no school that celebrates or observes multiple religions through class canceled days.

The new calendar for 2002-2003 has no reference to any particular religious holidays.

"It is a holiday, not a holy day," says Shelton, who believes that "the academic calendar should be free of specific allusions to specific religions." Discussion is underway to change the current calendar, but dates will still be taken off from classes. In a memo to faculty, Shelton sent out a list dated December 10, 2001, and their dates and asked that faculty keep certain dates in mind. When asked why, Shelton stated, "I am requested that we avoid scheduling

**Continued on page 6...**

Andrew Combra was named conference Player of the Year, and was named to the All-Conference First Team and to the All-New England Second Team. David Hatch and Colin Waltes were named to the Conference Second Team. Neal Rosenthal was named to the Jewish Sports Review Division II and III All-American Team. Joshua Rosen was named to the Jewish Sports Review Division II and III All-American Team and to the NSCAA/Adidas Scholar-Athlete All-Region team.

Kolb said it was a great way to cele- brate the end of the season. She also acknowledged all of their hard work. The success of these teams, she said, is taking the pressure off. Saturday's ceremony was a chance to honor fall sports for their outstanding achievements.

"It think it is a wonderful way for ath- letes to show their appreciation to the administration," said Kolb.
**Religion**

*Continued from page 5*

major obligations on the days noted below so that students are able to pursue their beliefs and make up their academic commitments at a time agreed upon between themselves and their professors.

President Nitschel said that there should be "sensitivity in scheduling exams and things such as that." But, professors are often Christian-biased without realizing it. Mostovoy-Eisenberg, who is a member of Hillel, finds that despite their requests, she still feels that "individual professors sometimes ignore this because Jewish students are not the majority here at RWU."

Not every college handles this dilemma in the same way. Bates College in Maine does things a lot differently than RWU. All incoming students are invited to register, voluntarily, their religious preferences with the school. Then a multi-faith calendar is made in which all major holidays are represented. This multi-faith "Holy Days and Holy Season" calendar is then distributed around campus. Despite this religious celebration, students who want to miss class for religious holidays have to fill out a formal Dean's excuse for doing so. Most colleges have their own opinions on how religion in school should be handled.

"I don't believe that the calendar acknowledges all religions due to the amount of diversity that is represented in the United States," said Stephen Gresham, a junior at Bates. "By representing all religions in the calendar and, moreover, acknowledging those religions, it demonstrates that not one religion is superior or more American than the next."

Gresham understands the dilemma universities face.

"I think we should have those days off if they are the religion with which we identify, but if we acknowledged all religions and had all their days off, we would never be working or in school," he said.

Tracy Bernardo is a Rhode Island native. Christianity is the norm for her community, but she agrees that things aren't quite right. "I just don't think it's fair," she said while walking to class, "if one religion gets a holiday off, everyone should get that holiday off. Why do Jewish students have to miss class and get behind in their work just so they can celebrate their religion?"

Most Jewish students would have to agree with Bernardo's observations. "I think that RWU should put the Jewish Holidays on the calendar and I'm surprised that they aren't," said Rachel Margolin, who is Jewish. "The school should have more opportunities for other religions. There isn't equal opportunity for non-Christian religions." One of the reasons more holidays aren't taken off is because there are such scheduling conflicts. Tom Oates, former vice president of Finance, explained (in an interview held before he left RWU) that there is "virtually no time." He said we "need so much class time for accreditation." The time that is taken to observe is reserved for Christian holidays.

Professor Anjali Ram of the communications department finds that "mainstream America views a lot of other religions as cults." But, she explained, "Americans are experimentalists." In a country that studies a wide range of religions, it's hard to believe that many people are still very closed-minded.

"Unfortunately the majority dictates and the majority is Christian," said Ram.

Lindsey Youn, who strongly believes in freedom of expression and spirituality, is part of that majority.

"As a Catholic, I know how important my beliefs are and I think it's very unfair that other students on campus who practice other religions aren't given the same opportunities as I am given," she said.

Ikki Hyoshi is an international student from Japan. He's been lucky enough to travel around the world and has been witness to many different religious beliefs. He questions why RWU doesn't have a more broad view of world cultures and religions.

"How come we only celebrate Christian religions?" he wondered. Ikki studied Buddhism and he shared his dorm room with a Muslim roommate last semester.

"This country is an emigrant country," he said. In Japan you can believe in anything, but here, not as many religions are represented."

College is preparation for future careers and life goals. It is also supposed to be a place where diversity is appreciated and students are encouraged to become cultured.

"The world at large does not grant time off for religious observance," explained Shelton. After all, days that the university allows off are not for religious reasons.

College is also supposed to teach students about worldviews. Religion dominating world opinion. Each country has had heated debates on religion. Many universities have classes that teach their students about world religions, beliefs and cultures.

"I think more education should be made available, not just a memo and not just for Jewish people, but for all religions to make others aware of other cultures and their beliefs instead of the ignorance we usually get," said Mostovoy-Eisenberg.

Professor Ram agrees that education is key. "It would be good for students to be exposed to that diversity," said Ram, who is originally from India.

Ram called RWU's academic calendar standard. "It may not be fair, but I think it's the best we're going to do."

Ram said she thinks the calendar should be looked at for religious holidays because "it affirms that the institution recognizes them. They're not invisible."

Students also agree with professors on the importance of culture in education.

"I want to be cultured," said Bernard. "The world has a lot of diversity and I want to be part of it."

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**News/Features**

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Spotlight on George Kolb: new Athletic Director

By Michael Vining

George Kolb, is the newest member of the RWU team. He is the new athletic director here at Roger Williams. Although he is a rookie here, he is a veteran at understanding what it takes to run a successful athletic program. Kolb, a native of Pennsylvania, enjoyed playing basketball and soccer while attending high school. He knew that he could play basketball at a Division III school, but instead choose to go on to a better school for his education. He attended Villanova and majored in business administration. After that he went on to Temple to receive his masters in education. Before coming to RWU, Kolb worked eight years at Brown University in Providence. While at Brown, Kolb was first introduced to RWU. He was very aware of the location of this school, but his first introduction to the athletic department was when he was interviewed for the job here at RWU. He was very excited to learn of the potential of this university. The thing that excited him the most was the way he thought he could improve the relationship between the athletic program and the university community. He feels that no matter what, every student and faculty member should enjoy a rich educational experience and a true student involvement in some type of athletics. Kolb feels that now, President Dr. J. Roy Nis scaled, shares his vision. Kolb is very excited about our new president and is very excited that President Nis scaled wants to attract athletics for everyone. Kolb is very enthused about being a part of this university’s "fresh start." When asked about his thoughts on the building of a new recreation center, Kolb smiled and admitted that was a big part of his decision of coming here. He feels that this new building can be a focal point of our campus.

"We’ll have something to offer everyone here. Whether it be our athletic teams, intramurals, clubs, or simply just recreation." Kolb says that this new building will be a building for the entire campus community to use. He knows that RWU administration wants athletics to be a part of every student's education. He hopes that this new building will be able to make that vision a reality.

Kolb has three major goals that he thought he could accomplish while at RWU. One is to have yearly success from all our intercollegiate programs. Kolb wants all of RWU's teams to raise their level of play and be successful year in and year out. Kolb also wants to make the athletic department an intrinsic part of campus life. He wants every student to at least be aware of every type of athletic opportunity that they can be a part of. He says that it's important to involve some type of athletics into an education. The last of his three big goals is for the new athletics facility. He wants to be sure that this building will reach out to everyone.

"It will be a focal point of the campus, a meeting place for students, athletes, and others. A place where people can learn something about themselves and about our school." When asked about the behavior of some of our athletic teams over the past couple of years, Kolb said that he has spoken with all of the coaches and teams and told them that they not only represent themselves, but also RWU. He knows that athletes are an important part of the campus. He also knows that most athletes are put on a pedestal and need to realize that they will be looked upon for the proper behavior. Kolb would like to be able to bring in some speakers to talk to the teams and the other athletic teams, coaches and other athletic-related topics. He wants to make sure that not only the athletic teams, but also the entire university realizes that they are all responsible for their own actions.

"I feel that I need to be the first one that spreads school spirit." Kolb said, when talking about how athletics are viewed at this university. "I feel that we need to do a better job of getting our events publicized. I want to work with [Campus Programs] and get the word out about our events and our activities. The competition at this university is great. I think people will really enjoy watching our teams play. Especially to go and see their peers." Kolb said that students really owe it to themselves and to our athletics to come out and see a few games. When asked about what he most wants to be remembered for after he is done working at RWU, Kolb replied, "I want people to be able to look back at this time and say that it was a real turning point for this school. I want people to be able to really take part in this school, and be proud of it."
The (mis)adventures of Bob

By Sara Clark
Editor-In-Chief

He's had a lot of highway accidents, but he's never had a scratch — never a physical injury. His car was a different story. After the carousel hit it, it was drivable, but badly in need of repairs.

Bob Ristino, an Assistant Professor of Communications in the Feinstein College of Arts and Sciences, was traveling South on Route 495 on Wednesday, September 5 toward campus to meet with his undeclared advisories. Bob was traveling along when he noticed a van pulling a trailer loaded with a carousel a couple hundred yards ahead of him.

Bob was startled to see that the flatbed began to rock and forth and then it stopped and it started to career across the road, said Bob.

Heating for his 1999 Toyota Camry was a flatbed trailer loaded with 12-foot high carousel consisting of what Bob thought were yellow duck seats, and Bob had nowhere to go. To his left was the median and beyond that were two lanes of traffic rushing north. To his right could have been other southbound cars, but Bob, understandably, did not have time to turn and look. So Bob did the only thing he could: he tried to stop.

"So I just jammed on my brakes - I have ABS brakes — and the car stayed real straight," remembered Bob.

Bob's Camry collided with the carousel and it continued to move, flipping by his car, until it came to rest on the median between the north- and southbound traffic lanes. Bob said that he was able to keep his car on the road and in his lane until the carousel had passed him, and then he, too, pulled over onto the median strip, waiting for the police to arrive on the scene.

"And the state police arrived about 10 minutes later, really quick, because somebody had stopped and they telephoned them," said Bob.

According to Bob, two state police officers responded to the accident, a male and a female officer. They determined that the van, flatbed and carousel belonged to an amusement company based in Leominster, Mass. Bob said that the two officers also determined that the van was not registered and that the driver had not used safety chains between the van and the trailer.

When Bob assessed the damage to his car, he found that his Camry's right front fender and the front bumper were completely smashed, the right headlight and signal light were completely destroyed. The total came to around $2,400.

"But," said Bob, "being a Toyota Camry it was still... drove perfectly fine, but I didn't want to try to drive it all the way to school without a front headlight and without a blinker, and also the damaged portion was hanging down and rubbing against the tire, so I turned around and I drove home."

In the end, Bob said that his insurance company determined the van and trailer's owner and operator to be at fault, and Bob received the money to fix his car and money for a rental car.

Luckily, neither Bob nor any other drivers were harmed in the accident. The van operator had already pulled into the breakdown lane when the trailer broke off.

"It was just a matter of a lot of plastic and metal and chrome being twisted and bent, but that can be replaced," said Bob.

"I've been involved in a lot of highway accidents," he continued, "what's miraculous is I've never had a scratch. I never had a scratch in that accident, either. I actually had a car destroyed on a highway one time, and I was fine."

Bob's had further misadventures in September when he was stranded in California on September 11. He and his wife had flown to San Diego for a conference, and they were scheduled to return that day when all flights were cancelled. Bob and his wife were "marooned," as he put it, in San Diego for a week before they could finally fly home to New England.