The Fray and Four Year Strong perform
See pages 6 and 7

The student "newspaper of Roger Williams University
Bristol, R.I. 02809

Thursday, May 6, 2010

Double and triple majors get single diploma

Amanda Newman
Business Manager

As graduation rapidly approaches, there is a lot of anticipation about jobs, new beginnings, and life after college. However, there are also a lot of questions about diplomas.

It seems there has been some confusion regarding exactly what it is that a student receives when they graduate. The simple answer to that is "When a student graduates, they receive a diploma with their primary degree printed on it," said Daniel Vilenski, University Registrar. Students also receive a copy of their official transcript. But if a transcript is also received, then what is printed on the student's diploma?

"The diploma just says the degree," Vilenski said. See DIPLOMA on page 5

Bayside courtyard packed with partiers

Kelleigh Welch
Editor-in-Chief

Following the end to a successful Spring Weekend, students left the fireworks display over the bay and headed back to their rooms to begin their evening of "informal Spring Weekend celebrations." What began as a simple gathering of students drinking outside their rooms in the Bayside 200s, socializing and listening to music, eventually escalated into hundreds of students dancing and drinking until approximately 1 a.m.

It was a large, unorganized outdoor gathering that had not occurred for a few years on the RWU campus. Most comments by students included how incredible the party was and how they had the ability to throw it.

"It was freaking awesome," senior David Pullman said. "Best Bayside all year," a male freshman said.

"I think that it took us four years and we finally did something right on this campus," senior Will Boshes said.

However, from an administrative perspective, the incident was a lot better than it could have been.

"In this case, we were lucky," Dean of Students Kathleen McMahon said. "There are a lot of safety issues. What you often see are beer bottles being thrown, people being cut or hurt, physical damage to property, and excessive noise."

See BAYSIDE page 4

www.hawksherald.com
RWU recognized as one of the top 'green colleges' in the nation

Kelleigh Welch
Editor-in-Chief

For efforts made to create a more sustainable campus, Roger Williams University has been named one of the "Top 286 Green Colleges," according to the Princeton Review. Each college added to this guidebook was reviewed based on their conservation and education efforts, and their overall work to create a more sustainable environment.

According to rw.edu, RWU was chosen based on multiple sustainable efforts, especially with the student-led group of Eco-Rep's. "Our 'greenest' goes way beyond the Canola shuttle," Scott Yonan, Assistant to the Vice President of Student Affairs and Special Projects Manager, said.

According to Yonan, the "RWU makes multiple efforts to make RWU a more sustainable campus. For example, Public Safety now has a Corola, Piels, and Gem Car to reduce carbon emissions that have been placed on top of the Architecture and Engineering buildings, and the student garden outside the campus has been planted and will be harvested at the end of the summer.

The combination of efforts from multiple departments on campus also contributed to the addition of RWU to this guidebook.

The Recycling and sustainability committee has the ability to "generate ideas," Assistant Professor and ecologist John Furch said. "Each idea individually is not as exciting, but as a committee they do significant efforts."

Bon Appetit was also praised for its sustainable works, including spending more than 80 percent of their budget on local and organic foods.

"Obviously there are things you can't buy locally," Yonan said. "But whenever possibly [Bon Appetit] does buy local."

Bon Appetit does possess a fantastic job of getting students aware of food waste and carbon emissions," Byrne said.

Byrne also emphasized the importance of the program as a strong effort to remain sustainable. According to Byrne, the 2007–2008 fiscal year, 100,000 rides made by faculty, staff and students prevented 88 metric tons of carbon emissions into the atmosphere.

"It's kind of a small thing, but it helps add up," Byrne said.

The guidebook also emphasized the creation of a new study aboard program to Turkey, which was made possible by the U.S. State Department. The program will specifically focus on the study of sustainability from a global perspective, and will be placed on top of the courses "related to urbanization, pollution, remediation, green building design and construction, renewable energy, and public policy," according to the Princeton Review's guidebook. This new program will become part of the increasing opportunities for education on sustainability that the university has offered in recent years.

I love the fact that we're now getting sustainability into the curriculum," Yonan said. "I'd love to see a sustainability major in the future that involves an interdisciplinary study."

This sort of green mentality is in demand by employers today, and by educating students, they can bring sustainability into their future jobs," Byrne said.

With this new recognition, RWU will continue its sustainability efforts in the future. According to Yonan, University President Roy Nirschel has signed a President's climate agreement to become 80 percent carbon-neutral by 2030, a task that Yonan says can be done.

"There are two reasons why being a green campus is important," Yonan said. "First, it's the right thing to do. It's better for the environment. And second, it makes financial sense to be green."

To help in the sustainable initiative at RWU, students can participate in many tasks to reduce their own carbon footprint, such as shutting lights off when they leave the room, shopping locally, using public transportation and recycling.

The RWU bookstore also tells a book titled "Green Book," which examines a number of other tasks people can do in their everyday life to help the environment.

"It's important to be a green campus because we're increasingly realizing that as humans, how we live is depleting our resources faster than we can replenish them," Byrne said. "We have a responsibility to become more efficient and to use our resources more wisely."

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Health reform bill will reduce students' reliance on securing insurance benefits

Allison Collins
News Editor

Last month, The Affordable Health Care Act was passed by congress allowing young people under age 26 to get health coverage through their parents starting this fall.

Insurance companies must cover people age under 26 through their parent's insurance if they wish to remain under age 26.

The Act aims to ensure that everyone can have and afford health insurance. Some insurance companies are offering insurance through the summer, before the Sept. 23, to avoid gaps in coverage for new college graduates and other young adults, and save on insurance's administrative costs of disenrolling and re-enrolling young adults, according to a statement from The White House. Those companies include: Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Massachusetts, Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Rhode Island, Horizon Blue Cross and Blue Shield of New Jersey, Inc., Capital District Physicians' Health Plan (Albany, N.Y.), Emblem Health (New York, N.Y.), Blue Cross and Blue Shield Plan of New York, Community Health Plan (Worcester, Mass.) and Tufts Health Plan (Waltham, Mass.), according to a website managed by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, which will allow young people to buy their parents insurance, as long as they do have insurance.

"It's comforting in knowing that people will be able to keep their insurance and continues, as long as they do have insurance," Sniezek said.

"For some people, it will alleviate stress to find a position, as least immediately," Sniezek said.

Sniezek doesn't think employers will hire differently, "As far as I know we haven't heard any feedback from employers," Sniezek said. "I think they're still looking for their strong candidates, Sniezek said.

For a full list of companies that will cover the May to September period, go to nccc.rightsidehealthinsurance.com.

To the staff of the Hawks' Herald and the RWU Community,

As the semester comes to a close and students begin to shift their focus from academics to the summer, I would like to take a moment to thank the staff of the Hawks' Herald 2009-2010 for the hard work they have done this semester.

In my four years on the paper, I've witnessed multiple redactions and staff transitions, and I can honestly say that this year has been the best year on staff. I am proud to note that each week members of the community anxiously wait for the newest issue, knowing that the quality and content of the paper has surpassed past years.

I have received multiple compliments from members of faculty about the quality of our work, and hope to see it continue in the future.

Please, I would personally thank Allison Collins for her work on the redesign, which she created over the break. Without this new look, the paper would not be at the point it is today, and I have given us an opportunity to solidify our purpose on this campus. Beyond the re-design, Allison has taken on multiple responsibilities to assist me as Editor, and without her I would not have been able to handle everything the paper threw at me.

I am very excited to announce that the editorial board for 2010-2011. This group is present, but they show strong promise and understanding of how to run a newspaper, and will be able to keep the University informed in an efficient and effective way.

The staff for 2010-2011 includes: Editor-in-Chief: Ben Whitmore, Co-Managing Editor/News Editor: Amanda Newman, Co-Managing Editor/Features Editor: Owen Kaupilla, Photo Editor: Mark Fusco, Web Manager: Connor Gensicke, Opinion Editor: Katelyn Proctor

I wish you the best of luck next year and expect great things.

Peace,
Kelleigh Welch
Editor-in-Chief 2009-2010
Marketing students set a university precedent at New England advertising competition

Ben Whitmore Assistant News Editor

Students from a dual-semester marketing class placed fourth in the regional division of a national student advertising competition this weekend, earning the highest rank ever by a Roger Williams University group in the annual event.

Each year, student teams from colleges around New England compete for a chance to go to the national finals of the National Student Advertising Competition (NSAC), which is organized by the American Advertising Federation (AAF).

This year in the New England district, students representing eight schools met in Boston to present an advertising campaign pitched over many weeks in the making. RWU’s top-four finish earned the team prestige among the other schools in the district, according to Jeremy King, a junior marketing major.

“We placed, which ... was kind of a big deal. Now we’re in the big leagues in our district,” King said.

The students from the NSAC advertising campaigns class worked for two semesters on their presentation. In the fall semester, students conducted research for their target market, and this semester, created strategies for the presentation and execution of their campaign, said Kathy Micken, professor of marketing and faculty advisor for the RWU chapter of the AAF.

Each year, a company sponsors the NSAC, providing its own market research and demographic information to students creating pitches. This year’s sponsor was State Farm Insurance.

RWU students chose to augment State Farm’s current slogan, “Like a good neighbor, State Farm is there,” by eliminating “neighbor” and making it as dynamic as its target market. It allowed us to relate to everyone uniquely,” King said.

For the competition, students created a 32-page plan book, a document that laid out their research and creative strategies, Micken said. A five-member “presentation team” delivered a 20-minute multimedia presentation to the judges. Though only five students presented, all class members attended the presentation.

They lacked some of the multimedia stuff,” Torti said.

“We’re hoping for something stronger,” King said.

For next year, one of the things we decided to focus on is our need for a little more bedazzle and a little more shazam with our presentation.”

University offers scholarships to family members of police officers

Allison Collins News Editor

Children, stepchildren and spouses of police officers killed in the line of duty are eligible for this endowed scholarship.

For the 2010-2011 year, $1,000 will be awarded, according to Lori Cochrane, Director of Donor Relations.

The Alister C. McGregor Scholarship was created in memory of Maj. McGregor, a 16-year veteran of the East Providence Police Department and a Roger Williams University alumnus, who was killed in the line of duty in December 2005. McGregor graduated from RWU in 1969 with a BS in Criminal Justice. He was a graduate student at RWU during the time of his death.

There is no specific deadline set for the scholarship yet, Cochrane said. McGregor was a state expert on the use of deadly force and developed policies for responding to school shootings that are still being taught in R.I. police agencies today.

If no one fits the criteria, RWU students who are the children of Rhode Island police officers and demonstrate financial need may apply.

Those fit either of the criteria, students who are enrolled in the School of Justice Studies and demonstrate financial need may apply.

McGregor was accidentally shot and killed on Dec. 27, 2001 by fellow officer while conducting a training exercise, according to The Officer Down Memorial Page. He was 47 years old and survived by his wife and five children.

For more information, or to apply, contact Cochrane at (401) 254-5480 or lcochrane@rwu.edu, to receive an application.

The Major Alister C. McGregor Memorial Foundation established the scholarship.

For information about other endowed scholarships, contact Lori Cochrane at (401) 254-5480 or lcochrane@rwu.edu.
U.S. government toughens enforcement of labor laws regarding unpaid internships

Kiera Haley
Herald Staff Reporter

Two weeks ago, the U.S. Department of Labor released a fact sheet that explains the employers’ guidelines for legal unpaid internships under the federal law. The fact sheet provides general information to help determine whether internships must be paid the minimum wage under the Fair Labor Standards Act for the services that they provide to “for profit” private sector employers.

“arrest

The New York Times reported in early April that the Department of Labor has found an increase of companies using interns to perform illegal free, labor. Often it is jobless gradu-ates looking to strengthen their resumes, but sometimes it’s affecting undergraduates as well.

The Times stated that the number of companies that are offering internships for free has grown in recent years. This is due to the fact that many companies are looking for ways to cut costs while still providing students with valuable work experience.

According to the government document, there are six conditions an employer must meet for an unpaid internship to be lawful:

1. The internship, even though it includes actual operation of the facilities of the employer, is similar to training which would be given in an educational environment.
2. The internship experience is for the benefit of the intern.
3. The intern does not displace regular employees, but works under close supervision of existing staff.
4. The employer that provides the training derives no immediate advantage from the activities of the intern, and on occasion its operations may actually be impeded.
5. The intern is not necessarily entitled to a job at the conclusion of the internship.
6. The employer and the intern understand that the intern is not entitled to wages for the time spent in the internship.

According to the Chronicle of Higher Education, the Labor Department is still reviewing the regulation of internships in both the public and nonprofit sectors.

BAYSIDE: Hundreds of students fill the 200s

Continued from page 1
alcohol consumption.”

According to McMahon, students have been held accountable, especially anyone who was acting to insight the crowd. Also, the administration is using this incident as an example for the rest of the year.

“A lot of prevention, we’ll have extra staffing with public safety and Bristol to be sure we have a safe end to the semester,” McMahon said.

McMahon said the crowd was very compliant, and many helped clean the mess that was made.

“The crowd literally had it cleaned up within half an hour,” Pullman said. “I saw people throwing all the bottles into one single pile. It wasn’t like we were all jazzed about it.”

“It’s important to look at this in the context of Spring Weekend, which went well,” McMahon said. “In compari-son to other Spring Weekends this was great.”

Kelleigh Welch

After the fireworks display on Saturday night, students crowded the Bayside 200s courtyard, playing loud music and holding open alcohol containers.
**News**

**Community news and investigative reports**

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**Theatre department's production of ‘The Male Animal’ entertains audiences**

Connor Gentilcore

Herald Staff Reporter

With the last performance on May 1st, the student-performed play ‘The Male Animal’ was deemed a success for everyone involved.

“The Male Animal” is a romantic comedy about the roles of men and women, but it’s also about brain versus brown and academic freedom,” said Director Jeffery Martin. While one issue is about academic freedom on a college campus, the other issue questions who deserves to be with protagonist Tommy.

Theatre department’s production of ‘The Male Animal’ was deemed a success from night to night. When considering one’s ability to act on this set, Martin said, “The arena is a very tough environment because there is no place to hide.”

With six performances in total, the show has made several changes that either help the show to run more smoothly or in an attempt to get a bigger laugh from the audience, Martin said. The show was well received each night that it was performed.

“I am just immensely proud of everyone,” Martin said. “It’s just been a lot of fun.”

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**DIPLOMA: Transcript lists all students’ majors**

Continued from page 1

**BRATTON: will receive honorary degree**

Continued from page 1

Mr. Bratton holds a Bachelor of Science degree in law enforcement from University of Massachusetts Boston, is a graduate of the FBI National Executive Institute and was a senior executive fellow at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. The search for commencement speakers already starts early, Nirschel said. "Trustees suggest several names, Nirschel suggested names and other members of the university also send in their picks for people they think would be a good fit."

Then, the university contacts the suggested people, Nirschel said. The respondents are brought before the board to make a decision, Nirschel said. "I wrote to Lady Gaga, but she never wrote back," Nirschel said.

The university generally doesn’t pay commencement speakers, Nirschel said, sometimes it’s hard to get certain people to speak. He has almost nine years here, Nirschel said the only paid commencement speaker was Jackie Joyner-Kersee, who spoke in 2008, and was a last minute replacement speaker.

The university has already started to think about commencement speakers for next year, Nirschel said.

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**RWU wins GYT Challenge?**

Kiera Haley

Herald Staff Writer

Roger Williams University is expected to have Get Yourself Tested (GYT) Campus Challenge. Although the results will not be in until sometime this week, RWU was in the lead when the challenge closed.

By the age of 25, 1 in 2 sexually active people will have contracted a sexually transmitted disease. This fact is part of the reason why MTV had started the GYT Challenge—to raise awareness for the importance of getting tested.

Sophomore Kirstie Goodwin initiated RWU’s participation in the challenge. “I’m not sure where I first heard about the challenge. It started within the HAWL and Team CARE, just informing and telling them to participate. Then the RA’s signed up and John Kinnon put out an e-mail for all of campus," said Goodwin.

“This really shows how one comment could escalate into winning," said Donna Darnody, Director of Health Education & Alcohol/Drug Prevention Coordinator. “When Kirstie first mentioned it I didn’t pay much attention, but then deciding on the posters I became more interested. Then when we were in 20th place I went on the website and got motivated," said Darnody. Students are able to get tested for STDs at the Health Services on campus.

According to MTV, students on the winning campus could win a trip, accommodations, and tickets to see Cobra Starship, Travie McCoy and other acts over the summer.

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**RWU.edu/theatre**
The Fray give small crowd big show

The Fray took the stage to talk about performance in years and to make up for the unfavorable reaction to the band's meet and greet.

Amanda Newman
Business Manager

CEN kicked off its Spring Weekend on Apr. 28 with the highly-anticipated concert featuring internationally-known artist The Fray.

"The show was more than Dan Shea, CEN Traditions co-chair, said senior CEN Traditions co-chair Cat Stines. Doors opened at 7 p.m. for the 8 p.m. concert, which opened with a performance by pianist and singer Brendan James, followed by indie rock band Steel Train. Around 945 p.m., The Fray took the stage to deliver the most talked about performance in years.

"Well, this is our first boycotted show," The Fray's lead vocalist and pianist Isaac Slade joked.

According to the band, they were surprised when informed about the students' adverse reaction upon announcement of their performance. Guitarist and fellow vocalist Joe King said, "We saw the Facebook group [Roger Fusco] and were totally surprised."

"It's just so random. We've never been in this type of situation before," King said. (To see the full interview with King, see PAGE HERE.)

The Fray disregarded the negative reactions and determined to deliver the show of a lifetime. "It's almost more exciting to play smaller venues because it's more intimate," King said. "You can do more with the crowd, be more interactive."

Slade took full advantage of this, encouraging the crowd to get involved with the show. "As you're watching the concert, you're part of the show. That's the best thing you can bring to the experience."

"It's fun to watch our fans and try to make them get involved in the show," Slade said.

The band's meet and greet was a huge hit for The Fray. To make up for the unfavorable reaction to the band's meet and greet, the band offered fans a free t-shirt and a free album, which opened with a performance by guitarist, Joe King.

"We talked about performance in years," Stines said.

Amanda Newman
Business Manager

The Hawks' Herald sat down with guitarist, vocalist and Denver native Joe King to discuss being in a Grammy-nominated band, their impact on local fishermen and why the show was the best show of their career.

The Hawks' Herald: How'd The Fray get started?

JK: (Laughs) It's hard to say how The Fray started. It all happened, you know? You gotta get out there, you know? You gotta close the show of a semester."

HH: Where do you get your inspiration for songs?

JK: Everywhere. We draw inspiration from everything - life experiences, stories, relationships, family. For example, I was inspired today by these fishermen that I met yesterday at the docks here in Bristol. They invited me and the band out on their boats with them this morning, so we went out and hung out with them all day. It was amazing to me. These people go out every day and do this labor to continue supporting their families. There's a phrase they use, "pushing the line," which means that the closer you get to the line, the better fishing you get. However, there's an increased chance that you can lose everything you've caught up until that point. You're risking your catch, your livelihood - but the payoff could be huge. Would you take the risk? Why wouldn't you push the line?

HH: How's going mainstream hindered your ability as artists, if at all? Does it make it harder to "push the line?"

JK: Always. No matter what you do in life, you can become less hungry. If you're not inspired, if you lose your inspiration, you're not going to make good music. At The Fray, we have made it the biggest hindrance. I still don't feel like we're really as successful as we are. I still don't feel that way.

HH: What messages do you try to convey with or through your songs?

JK: Sometimes, we don't know the message. (Shrugs) The best lyrics come out of when you're in a moment, discovering them. It's always the best when someone hears a song and applies their own experiences to the lyrics. Then, the song becomes theirs, it isn't yours anymore. That's the thing we try to accomplish every time, so I guess that's our message.

HH: What's the most challenging thing for you to overcome together as a band?

JK: Wow, good question. (Flashes) I'd have to say that the most challenging things are not music, band, or show-related at all - it's personal life. It's the real shit you go through, the unexpected things that happen to everyone. When the unexpected happens, it's the most challenging. And you gotta get through it together. It's pretty crazy just how fragile everything is. Just one person could have something tragic or unexpected happen, and then it seems like everything just caves in.

HH: Do you have an advice for aspiring musicians?

JK: Are there a lot of them here? If so, good for them! (Grins) I'd say the best advice I can give you is to say that if you're worrying more about how to make it instead of how to make the best songs possible, you've got it wrong. Don't worry about making your break - someone will hear it eventually. Just focus on the craft more than the business. If you're dedicated to the craft, it's simple... just like it is for the fishermen.
Amanda Newman
Business Manager

The Hawks’ Herald sat down with the lead vocalists and guitarists, Alan Day and Dan O’Connor, of Four Year Strong before the show to talk to them about their lives, their fans, their music, and their future.

When I meet Alan Day, the first thing that surprises me is how soft spoken he is. The tall vocalist pleasantly introduces himself to me and asks me to excuse him while he goes to find Dan. I take a few moments to look around the dressing room. There’s nothing out of the ordinary—no strange requests, no fussiness. By the looks of what’s left of the food, the boys enjoy eating as much as the next guy. For a dressing room, it feels more like a hangout spot than anything. A few moments later, Alan returns, this time with Dan in tow. Dan strikes me with his burly appearance, but the smile that breaks upon his face seconds later instantly relaxes the room. We do another introduction, and then we sit down to start the interview.

The Hawks’ Herald: How did Four Year Strong get started?
Dan O’Connor: We began back when we were in high school. A former member introduced me to Alan, and we began to play some stuff.

HH: Where did the name “Four Year Strong” come from?
DO: (Laughing) In high school, every band has a name. And it’s actually pronounced. We took the name from a Get Up Kids lyric and changed it around to get Four Year Strong. We’ve been playing under the same name since high school. Most bands change the name after high school, but not us.

HH: Who do you cite as your influences?
DO: It changes from month to month.
AD: Alan Day: I’m influenced by Tom Petty at the moment. I’m also influenced by Dan.
DO: I’m influenced by Alan. (Laugh) As a band, we’re influenced by the Boston hardcore scene and pop punk, including Newfound Glory, The Story Kids, and Save The Day, for example. We began forming ourselves based on the types of music we’d like to listen to and then looked into the types of shows we knew we wanted to have. We were also influenced by Midtown; they made us want to use harmonies in our songs.

HH: Your second album release, Four Year Strong Explains It All, was a cover album of all your favorite songs from your childhood. What inspired that?
AD: Whiting: I was 12 again. Seriously, everything was cooler then. I wish I still had the imagination I had back then.
DO: Being a kid ruled—go out, get dirty, be home by dusk.
AD: Yeah—playing until the streetlights come on.
DO: Not always—depended on the night, you know. If it were summer or something.
AD: Yeah, yeah, exactly. (Both laugh)

HH: What’s the best part of your job?
DO: The fact that we don’t actually have a job. I get paid to do what I do for free.
AD: Same. I’m doing the same thing I’d be doing if I were with out a job.

HH: What must you absolutely have with you on the road?
AD: iPod, I don’t have one [with phone], though it’s awful.
DO: An iPhone. Apple products in general, really.
AD: And deodorant! You can’t go without it.
DO: That’s so true. Definitely need that after a show.

HH: What about the rest of the band? Any weird requests?
AD: (Laughing) [Massucco], Joe [Weiss], and Josh [Lyford] are all into burning candles.
DO: They put the candles in the cupholders of the bus so they stay safe.
AD: They’re really into new scents. (Laugh)

HH: Describe your favorite moments or experiences on the road.
AD: Nature hikes.
DO: Yeah, those happened a lot in Canada.
AD: Actually, two of the best ones were accidents—the brakes of the bus started smoking and we were in a hilly area. We pulled over and just kinda started wandering into the woods. We found a postcard-like waterfall.
DO: Literally looked like something off of a postcard. It was beautiful.
AD: The fact that we like them because they’re fun, relaxing, and get us away from reality, just for a moment.

HH: You guys seem to do these concerts. How much time do you spend on the road?
AD: We pretty much spend all of our time on the road. We do a show almost every day and get one day off every two weeks. We’ve spent about seven months out of the year touring for the past three years. Every two to three months, we head back to Worcester.
DO: Yeah, you start thinking of time in tours. It makes time pass so fast.
AD: Yeah—exactly. Say like, if I’m going on vacation in July, it’s like, ‘Oh, only one more tour until vacation!’ It definitely makes things seem like they go faster.
HH: What’s next for Four Year Strong?
DO: Tours, tours, tours.
AD: More tours, tours, did we say tours? Touring—
DO: A new record.
AD: Then more touring for the first record. (Laugh)
AD: Hopefully, we’ll be able to keep doing this for many years. We’re thankful every day, because we know it’s our success something we could lose just like that.
DO: So if we can keep going for another ten years, that’d be awesome.
HH: Okay, last question. Why are you so awesome?
DO: (Laughing) It’s not easy.
AD: You’re born that way. You gotta work on it.
AD: Yeah, you can’t help if you’re born with it. If you have a certain gene. You just gotta let it bloss­om.
DO: (Laughing) Exactly. It’s a 24 hour job, being awesome.

A sit-down with the Strong kids
Living with Celiac disease

RWU students with food sensitivities can find options to eat

Colleen Connolly Herald Contributor

"Follow me,"
Noon isn't the ideal time to quickly find the upper commons at Roger Williams University, but we're hungry.

Kristen Valentino, a twenty-year-old RWU sophmore, navigates me, a sophomore commuter, through the commons in search of a gluten-free lunch. Unfortunately, we can't eat most of what we see.

Last year, both of us found out we had Celiac disease, and said goodbye to our favorite foods. A genetic pre-disposition, Celiac disease is the body's inability to tolerate gluten, a protein found in wheat, rye, and barley, according to Mary K. Goldberg, a registered dietician with SouthCoast Hospitals Group.

Struggling with stomachaches, joint pain, and severe achaches, joint pain, and severe achaches, joint pain, and severe achaches, joint pain, and severe achaches, joint pain, and severe achaches, joint pain, and severe achaches, joint pain, and severe achaches, joint pain, and severe achaches, joint pain, and severe achaches, joint pain, and severe achaches, joint pain, and severe achaches, joint pain, and severe achaches, joint pain, and severe achaches, joint pain, and severe achaches, joint pain, and severe achaches, joint pain, and severe achaches, joint pain, and severe achaches, joint pain, and severe achaches, joint pain, and severe achaches, joint pain, and severe achaches, joint pain, and severe achaches, joint pain, which she said had a blood test and found out she had it, too.

"Last year I'd walk in the commons, look around, and seriously, I'd want to ball my eyes out. I didn't want pasta again," Goldberg explained.

"I asked my roommate if I could have gluten-free food. She said yes, but she had nothing else. I didn't want pasta again," Valentino said.

"Why the monotony?" The only thing I would tell them is that we're not the only students not either experimenting or investigating more because each and every station there is something that gluten-free," said executive chef Bob Lavoie in the upper commons.

"In the Student Garden, a junior, thinks the commons have gotten better because they have added stations and they're setting aside more gluten-free areas, which he said has helped. But does have a severe wheat allergy. "We're trying to incorporate more component within the wheat food itself and may not be truly Celiac-safe," Goldberg explained.

Lauren Buckley, a junior, has recently been diagnosed with gluten intolerance. "I think they provide us with numerous options, but it does depend on who is working that day." She suggested including students with diets similar to hers talk with dining staff before the semester and politely ask if they could purchase some of their favorite foods.

"Food is important. I would bend over backwards, if at all possible, to get that product," James Gu­bata, General Manager of the Bon Appetit Management Company at RWU, said.

"Let's face it: students pay good money for this diet plan. We've got the number is very high, but not all students have shared this information with us."

Kathryn Swenson, a sophomore, was diagnosed with Celiac at fourteen. "It has gotten to the point that I don't eat even a small portion of food that I have such extreme pain that I sometimes miss class to be in bed recovering."

When asked if any common's staff member has helped her, she replied, "Eric, whom I have deemed my personal chef. There has been more than one time that he has used his own money to go to a gluten-free store just to see the specific food I like."

Swenson proposed the possibility of a separate meal plan for people with Celiac. "It eats mainly one or two meals per week in the commons. I would like to see options for meal plans that include meal swipes to be used outside of the Commons," she said.

Valentino hopes for a kosher for Celiac students. "I went to Keene and they had a section just set aside for the gluten-free people where they could toast their bagels."

"They may only have to wait until next fall to see a gluten-free area on campus," Valentino, left, and Connolly, right, pose in front of the upper commons lunch menu.

"In the E-Store at North Campus Residence Hall we are looking at using one of the coolers exclusively for gluten-free choices," Gubata said.

"Celiac central is found more now because of blood testing, "Ten years ago, a small needle biopsy of the small intestine was needed, and most physicians would not subject patients to that. It would go totally undiagnosed." A quick look at celiaccentral.org, The National Foundation for Celiac Awareness, shows its prevalence has increased to 1 in 133 Americans.

Griffin Lhabbane Herald Staff Writer

At the student body flows into a traditional dinner, a select group of students head to the pri­vate dining room for a unique and intimate experience.

On Thursday, April 15, Bon Appetite and Roger Williams University held their first Slow Dining din­ner in the commons. This event was ini­tiated in the hopes that students could experi­ence a quiet and open environment at Dining Commons Manager Josh Hennessy de­scribes.

"Types of events like these allow for groups of students and professors to in­teract in a quiet open environment," Josh Valenti­no, a junior, has re­ceived.

"In the Student Garden, a junior, has re­ceived.

"Towards the end of April, Bon Appetite will open to all students on a first-come, first-serve basis. Students who chose to served dinner off of the clas­sics menu with an added twist," Valentino said.

"Sophomore Tom Glazebrook, an advocate of a select group of students to in­teract in a quiet, open environment," Josh Hennessy said. This dining event was open to all students on a first-come, first-serve basis.

"The food that was served: "The food was fantas­tic. Having filet mignon on the menu was also great," Valentino said.

"I had hoped that I could go to this event, everyone seemed to enjoy themselves overall," Hennessy said. Celiac students are happy with the positive things to say about the event. "I feel very impressed." Glazebrook said.

"It looks to put on more events, students should be on the lookout for adver­tisements of events such as this one in the coming semesters." Connor Gentilecore Herald Staff Writer

The people behind the Student Gar­den are preparing the garden in­volved for the upcoming growing season.

On Monday, April 16, the first day of Earth week, an event was held at the garden for all who attended to cover the history of the garden's creation and the organic farming philosophy behind the garden's design. James Gubata, the general manager for Bon Appetit, dis­cussed the interest that attendees such as Scott Yovan of the Recycling and Sus­tainability Committee, Bon Appetit staff members and multiple professors and students have in the Student Garden. Gubata discussed thegnore the head of the group as it has grown now to include an additional ap­prentice position.

Angie Possinger, the Student Gar­den Manager, spoke about the impor­tance of crop selection and placement in the garden to best utilize practices used in organic, sustainable agriculture. The Student Garden was designed to take advantage of these growing practices that employ knowledge about certain planting relationships to portray the value of small-scale practices in prevent­ing the use of pesticides.

Along with speakers describing the history of the project and the inner workings behind it, compost was ap­plied to the garden to increase soil fertil­ity. It is said that certain areas of the garden will be supplemented with natural nutrient amendments, including more compost, people familiar with the matter said.

The group that attended this event, which included about 15 volunteers, weeded a portion of the garden as well as the Sustainability Garden. We're looking forward to the next few weeks at the garden, when potatoes and radishes will be planted and turnips and leeks will be transplanted" said Possinger.

Slow Dining offers quiet, cell phone-free environment

King created a dining experience that I re­ally enjoyed," Glazebrook said. RWU, in their drive to expand social and civil awareness on campus, created this event so that students and professors could discuss different events without the distraction tradition­ally found commons. "This event pro­motes open discussion about current, and campus events, and really just allows for cell discourse," Hennessy said. An­other twist to the dinner was that students and professors were asked to leave their cell phones, pagers and iPods at the door when they came in so that there wouldn't be any distraction during the meal.

Hennessy said he and the entire din­ning staff see this as an "event that can be transformed into a tradi­tion at the university. "The good thing is that the students and staff both were at the event, everyone seemed to enjoy themselves overall," Hennessy said. Celiac students are happy with the positive things to say about the event. "I feel very impressed." Glazebrook said.

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Photo courtesy Scott Yovan
Goodbyes from Editors

Will Bosses
Assistant Sports Editor

On the morning of Aug. 25, President Kean addressed thousands of students en- gulfed in a frenzy of moving as nervous young 18-year-old freshmen, the new meat on campus. I know that everyone on that day was nervous and excited both at the same time, I know we were mass rush of emo- tion, you were leaving your parents for the first time and going on your own and taking one step closer to becoming a walking, talking member of society. How, fast for- ward 1,351 days until now where a good handful of us (the college) will now be leaving this place that we called home. For so long. My father once told me to close your eyes and think of your life, a part of it is amazing, and who knows what lies in store for you, what you could become. Your memories have almost gone, but no matter how hard you try, you won't erase them. "You will run into in the near time to think of your time at RWU."

Kelleigh Welch
Editor-in-Chief

Like the majority of my per- sonal experiences, I wanted to start with a quote from my favorite movie, "Big Fish." "See, most men, they'll tell a story straight through. And it won't be interesting...either," Truth is, The Hawks' Herald, and my experience with it, is complicated, and is very interesting.

I remember when I was a fresh- man, after writing a few articles for the requested to be in the office with their editors Sarah Couny, COURTS, and Mike Harley, I thought they were going to tell me how horrible of a reporter I was, that I should give up on journalism and choose a differ- ent career path before it was too late.

They did the exact opposite. In- stead, they outlined my purpose with the paper for the next four years, explaining how I would be trained to eventually become the editor-in-chief. It was in my three years on the editor- board, I have held every posi- tion. I've spent 50 nights up until the early hours of the morning, edit- ing 50 papers so that the student body could get the news they needed. I've written hundreds of news stories, and despite the frustration and stress that this publication has given me, I have loved every minute of it being a part of it.

When people meet me, one of the first things I talk about is my involve- ment with the paper. I have always been linked to this "Big Fish," and it has become part of my identity. I've seen it grow, and I know that this was the greatest- est aspect of my time at RWU. Even when I was abroad, I wrote frequently for the paper. When I was home, I knew that despite the time change, I could still instant message someone at the paper, because let's be honest, edi- tors never sleep.

I met my best friends through the paper. Spending hours upon hours together, racing chairs down "Distance" by Michael Bolton to give us that extra push to make it through the night, and practically falling asleep on the bean bag chair, but I wouldn't trade it for anything. I feel I have created my own family. The Hawks' Herald taught me that I couldn't be a journalist. I have enjoyed every sec- ond of writing and editing for this paper, and I know that this is what I want to do for the rest of my life. I always say that because of my connection with another staff the way I did told me to apply to the board of 2007, 2008, 2009, and 2010.

As I write my final article, I can only say how happy I am that I could be involved with The Hawks' Herald. This has been the highlight of the past four years, and I know it's going to be impossible to forget. When I look back on my time at RWU, I will smile knowing that I was a part of what The Hawks' Herald produced on a weekly basis. We wrote some great stories, and made some awesome redesign, and I am so proud of everyone who has been a part of my family at The Hawks' Her- ald.

"As I write this, "Big Fish," I can tell stories so many times that he becomes the stories. They live on in me, seeing him and in his eyes when he founds cor- isnals." I'm leaving the Hawks' Herald, but I'm leaving my friends, I'm scared to leave my family and I'm not happy that on a gradu- ate student loan budget, won't be able to afford a puppy.

But even though I'm scared about what's going to happen, I'm pretty happy when I think about what's happening to the happen to the paper. This year we accompli- shed so much, I don't know if we'll ever be able to do it. The Hawks' Herald of all the tous, we have seriously improved the content and I'm not ready to leave. As much as I complain about this place, it's my home. And from the very first day I walked through the door of the cozy, oddly shaped Herald offices, the real world is look- ing pretty scary, and I'm going to graduate school - I don't even have to worry about finding a job yet. I know my place here.

I know the people, I know what I can get away with, I know what I'm good at, I don't know what I'm good at in the real world, or in the gradu- ate school world, or if I'll be good at anything? And what if I never find a few of dollars in coins, I can't even count the hundreds of dollars in coins, I can't even count the hundreds of dollars in coins.

So I know I'm sup- posed to be ready to graduate, but re- ally, I'm so happy when I think about what's going to happen to the paper. This year we accomplish- ed so much, I don't know if we'll ever be able to do it. The Hawks' Herald of all the tous, we have seriously improved the content and I'm not ready to leave. As much as I complain about this place, it's my home. And from the very first day I walked through the door of the cozy, oddly shaped Herald offices, the real world is look- ing pretty scary, and I'm going to graduate school - I don't even have to worry about finding a job yet. I know my place here.

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Opinion

Letters to the editor, commentary and editorials

Why I can’t help but like ‘The Man’

Allison Collins
Managing Editor

I walked into President Roy J. Nirschel’s office on Wednesday afternoon expecting to be chastised for writing a WTF of the week suggesting that he didn’t know student names. Instead, we (Keleigh Welch and Ben Whitmore, and I) were greeted with handshake, lemon-flavored water and seats on a pretty comfortable couch.

The office is big—bigger than most of the classrooms in CAS, and is covered with pictures from the places Nirschel has traveled (which, in case you didn’t know, includes the top of Mt. Kilimanjaro). We sat down with Nirschel, lemon-flavored water in hand, to ask him about the commencement speaker and ten of our other questions.

He answered what he knew about quite thoroughly, but as the president, there were some other questions. Though maybe that day outside.

The concert’s cancelation, it was “the Man.” I’m supposed to question “The Man,” and his motives ... right?

And though I did question him, it’s really hard to dislike, distrust or question Nirschel’s motives.

It’s so proud of this place.

From the improvements in the food, which “was bad” when he first got here, to the new buildings and academic reorganization, Nirschel appears to really want to make RWU a better place.

Even if you don’t like a certain policy, and there are many I’m not so fond of, it’s really hard to question his motives.

So, to the man who sent President George Bush an RWU jogging outfit, climbed Mt. Kilimanjaro and is constantly pulling up his socks, thank you for letting us into your office. And please seriously consider our request for you to sing “Bad Romance” at our graduation.

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Dr. Nirschel.
May 6, 2010

Letters to the editor, commentary and editorials

Opinion

The emperor without clothes

Although I am reluctant to contribute to the possible empowerment of this individual (as may result in his name being mentioned in this newspaper, again), I feel an extreme urge to comment on the visit to our campus by Jason Mattera, a 2005 Roger Williams University grad, author, outspoken Republican and speaker at a recent campus event. I am an ardent Democrat and, obviously, disagree on many of the political fronts presented by Mr. Mattera. Yet it is not mainly the political points that I have issue with in this case.

As a school that aims to "bridge the world," we often invite speakers of different views, and it is invaluable to expose RWU students to different perspectives. In inviting Mattera, though, all that we have established is that a 21st century college grad can get away with apparently disregarding appropriate social interactions, use false, outdated and completely made up data, use ungraceful, inarticulate, childish and derogatory language, completely make a fool of himself, and still can have a best-selling book and be regarded as a serious voice within the political spectrum. This young man cites creatures lifted from a preschooler’s imagination, uses juvenile terms (pimp-slap, "lie their ass off"!) and is apparently completely unaware of the basic political values, statements and voting patterns of our two parties (cutting taxes for the rich is a "scam" made up by liberals, anyone!).

Mr. Mattera is nothing more than an example of how a person can go through an undergraduate program in a respectable school and sleep through the classes that address how one needs to act to be taken seriously. Obviously our core history class was not enough to bless Mr. Mattera with even a preliminary understanding of the social meaning behind the song "Amazing Grace" (beyond his exposure to it as church music), the business courses he took were not enough to inform him of the use of accurate statistics and his attention in Journalism class must have lagged when issues such as privacy, control, politics and reporting were being taught. (Can he seriously believe that there is no oversight on Facebook? Does he live under a rock?) Speaking for "all young people," Mr. Mattera succeeds in nothing more than establishing how undereducated, sensationized, misinformation and falsely self-aggrandizing many members of our generation are despite having "earned" an undergraduate degree, and how partial we are to over-dramatized stimulation while we lack energy enough to check our facts (even if we’re making a speech, apparently). You have to really attempt to be obnoxious to make it necessary for public safety to escort you places on our extremely peaceful campus, and I can only assume that a disregard for accurate information, correct quoting, listening (to the opposition, to your own party) communication techniques etc. translates to an under-accomplished academic career. There are many RWU students today who will likewise miss the meaning behind important American songs and movements, whom think that just sleeping, Facebooking, or card playing through classes automatically qualifies them as "educated" individuals. Sure, they’ll survive, they can "boo" it through life; they might even come back to speak with a complete sense of authority about things they are too lazy to confirm, it is when these ignorant dudes and dudettes argue ardently for cutting my and others’ only way of having access to the American school system that I struggle to stay polite. Those that did not take the time to learn in school should be careful in addressing who should and shouldn’t have access to education, and Mr. Mattera represents this frequently exposed contradiction through his speeches and book. I think that the College Republicans, RWU and our society at large can do a whole lot better than this.

A minority, "brainwashed zombie" who is paying her way through school and learning a shit pile more about Democrats, Republicans, communication, history, affirmative action, scholarships, the world and basic etiquette than Mr. Mattera ever did, wasدى to simply google.

- Tracy Jonsson
Kelleigh Welch
Editor-in-Chief

On April 24, Bristol residents were welcomed to the southern end of the East Bay Bike Path by 34 silhouetted cutouts. This project, which depicted people climbing out of the water onto the path, was meant to elude to the Bristol area’s involvement in the slave trade. As an assignment, the students were separated into groups and given a site, and then tasked to create their project. Bridgehead Hagan, Jim Browning, and Erica Wiggin were some of the students part of the group assigned to the water site. "We felt that it was important to comment on the history of the site," Browning said. "They wanted to highlight that many of Bristol’s public spaces are not just a place to hide stories." Rohm said, "It is more interesting to make them obvious." The students put up three sets of cutouts, showing figures climbing out of the water, each displaying a barcode on its chest. According to Browning, these barcodes were meant to reference the treatment of the slaves. "When the slaves came here they were literally branded and sold as goods," Hagan said. "The barcodes give the project a contemporary twist." Wiggin said. One silhouette also had a written description on it, explaining the purpose of the project. "It included small facts about Bristol and Rhode Island’s involvement in the slave trade," Browning said.

According to Maldonado, the purpose of the project was to teach students about the interaction with public space, and the confusion that occurs when you change something in that space. "People will notice it and form opinions," Maldonado said. "It’s a way to get reactions important," Rohm said. "The idea of change and how people react to change affects everything." According to Hagan, most reactions from passersby were positive. "I thought [public reaction] was very mixed. Everyone that passed by but two were overwhelmingly positive. There were a couple of people who were not into the idea and thought we needed to do more research," Hagan said.

On April 29, the Bristol Phoenix ran an article describing the confusion Bristol residents felt over the project. According to the Bristol Phoenix, "Jack Evans, the town’s code compliance coordinator, and his colleagues did not know why the figures were there. Furthermore, he did not understand why there were barcodes painted on them. He questioned it as an anti-LNG terminal statement." The article also mentioned that Bristol Director of the Recreation Department, Walter Burke, had originally given permission to display the project, however later in the article it states that Evans had never given permission and removed the remainder of the figures on April 28.

"The article in the Phoenix had incorrect facts," Hagan said. "It alludes to the fact that we didn’t have permission to do this, but we did." Hagan also mentioned that one regular commentator on the Bristol Phoenix’s article said the project was blaming white Bristolians.

"We weren’t blaming any one," Hagan said. "It was an awareness thing." According to Rohm, this reaction was part of the learning process in regards to public space. "It’s amazing the reaction because here we didn’t invade useable space, but only visual space," Rohm said.

However, according to Maldonado, students at RWU showed a great amount of support. "They all worked together," Maldonado said. "There were a lot of comments by other students that a sense of community. Students were showing support even when they weren’t there."

The students placed the figures in the water starting at A.M., and removed them starting at sunset when the tide came in and began taking the figures away. "One of the reasons I thought it (the project) was successful was because it was a nice day on and on the bike path. We had lots of passersby because they wanted to be outside," Hagan said.

"To redo this project again, I would do it when no one could see you put them in," Maldonado said.

RWU welcomes 9th graders to campus

Petra Van Meter
Hererald Contributor

Over 250 freshmen students from Mount Hope High School looked forward to getting a glimpse of the possibilities that may lie ahead in their futures. Thanks to a Partnerships for Success Mini-Grant, the students were given the opportunity to visit Roger Williams University for a day filled with excitement, information and teambuilding exercises. The 9th Grade Day started out with a warm welcome from Roger Williams Sr. Vice President, Enrollment and Advancement. After an information session on visiting college campuses by Jessica Windthrop Oney, Assistant Director of Freshman Admissions, the students split up into two groups for rotating sessions of admissions presentations, junior jumpstarts and campus tours guided by admission ambassadors.

While the 9th graders had the chance to get to know RWU campus and get information about college applications in general, the Mount Hope Mentors, juniors and seniors who are part of the Freshman Mentoring Program led by their RWU mentors from the LEAP program, got to practice leadership team building exercises for all of their afternoon sessions. After lunch it was their time to shine by facilitating leadership activities builders for all of the 9th grade mentees on the RWU quad. One would have found it hard to not stop to watch the animated students playing games from dump tag, marching to "This is how we do it." 9th graders had the benefit of getting to know each other and solving challenges as a team. "Thank you!" go to everyone involved in the planning and execution of 9th Grade Day. Special thanks to Amanda Marsili (RWU) and Petra Van Meter (RWU) without whom 9th Grade Day would not have been possible.
Spring is here! Enjoy water views & sunsets with a great selection of local seafood or Take Advantage of our Mid-week Dinner Specials

MONDAY & TUESDAY
Dinner for 2
with a bottle of wine
$32.95
Includes Entrées
c and House Salad

WEDNESDAY
Seafood Festival
Our entire menu of fresh seafood
with a salad
Fish & Chips Only $9.95
$15.95

THURSDAY
Prime Rib Night
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Caesar salad or chowder,
potato & vegetable
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Directions: Take Route 24 to Exit 2 Portsmouth. Go left at stop sign. Go straight through traffic light to end. Turn left onto Park Ave. We are located one mile on the right.

Sunday
May 9th
Reservations Suggested

A Special Menu will be Available in Addition to our Regular Menu including: Prime Rib, Baked Stuffed Lobster, Fabulous Desserts Plus Much More!

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To serve fantastic food with premium ingredients at a value price.

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Must be at least 18 years of age.

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Or apply in person at: 21 Penn St., Falls River, MA 02724

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College Freshmen...

ADVANTAGES

PLUS If attending college locally, work part-time during the school year

PLUS May qualify for Management Internship

PLUS May be eligible for $1,500 Scholarship

PLUS Opportunity to earn end-of-summer bonuses

PLUS 1-2 hour shifts must be able to work nights/weekends/holidays

PLUS 3 day workweek during the summer (4 days off)

PLUS 81.00/hr shift differential for night work (6pm - 6am)

PLUS Earn $14.55/hr after 60 day training period

ADVANTAGES
10 questions with President Nirschel

Kelleigh Welch, Editor-in-Chief
Allison Collins, News Editor
Ben Whitmore, Assistant News Editor

Your Campus
Stories that spark your interest

The editors of The Hawks’ Herald had a chance to sit down with President Nirschel recently to ask him questions about his plans for the university, his students, and his own future. Though Nirschel could not speak to some questions, the president gave candid responses to pressing questions. Here’s what Nirschel had to say:

1. What keeps you up at night? What are you most concerned about as president?

“I actually sleep pretty well,” Nirschel said.

But what really concerns him most he said, is how the university will function in the current economy, with fewer students from the northeast attending college and competition from universities that are much older than RWU, he said.

Nirschel emphasized on the importance of building a reputation for the university through new faculty, buildings, and classes, and then having to deal with the change in economy.

“We’ve become a much better and bigger university and then the competitive set has changed,” Nirschel said.

Running a university is complicated, Nirschel said.

“You’re re-rerouting a city,” Nirschel said.

2. What do you think of safe rides?

Nirschel said he has “a lot of confidence in the students” that proposed the safe rides program. He does recognize that they face a challenge in trying to maintain enough volunteer support to sustain the program. “It is an experiment, and like other experiments, we’ll see how it develops over time,” Nirschel said. “It’s not the job of the university, however, to chauffeur people to bars. That’s really what we signed up for.”

3. Are you really planning on leaving in two years? If not, do you have a plan to leave RWU at some point?

“When is no longer fun, when we’re no longer making progress, when I’m no longer excited about doing what I’m doing. I’ll just leave the keys in the desk for someone else,” Nirschel said.

The average term of a college president is 8 years. Nirschel said. Nirschel has been at RWU 9 years as of this August, he said. So he’s above average.

“I’ve long term presidents are rare,” Nirschel said. He’s not sure how long he will stay at RWU he said. He’s also not sure what he’ll do when he leaves. Nirschel could see himself as the president of a university again.

“If I could see myself doing it a third time, he said. But he could also see himself writing or working as a volunteer.

“I don’t want to limit myself,” Nirschel said.

His advice to students: “You’ll never know what cards you’ll be dealt. Don’t narrow your horizons. Ever.”

4. Why do student activities, programs and newspaper distribution seem to be overly monitored during accepted students days, parent students days, etc? Do we not want visiting students to get a real sense of the RWU community?

“I don’t think anyone is trying to hide anything,” Nirschel said. He didn’t know any specifics about programs having to be rescheduled or newspapers having to be hunted down and replaced, Nirschel said. But during accepted students days “you want a full and good RWU experience,” Nirschel said. There are standards that the university uses to determine what is appropriate for different occasions. Nirschel himself does not, however, “get involved” with this type of decision making, he said.

“Here’s how universities work: I get to be the president, so my purview is largely strategic,” Nirschel said.

5. In your eyes, how has the academic reorganization coming along? Have there been any bumps in the road? If yes, what were they?

“The most gratifying thing is the number of students who think he’s really cool,” Nirschel said.

“Nobody likes change. People are used to their departments,” Nirschel said.

Nirschel said a lot of the issues were because students “didn’t know” what was exactly going to happen. “You have to say it 35 times before it clicks,” Nirschel said.

He also said that some professors are able to knock down academic barriers to create new classes. “It will create an effective, efficient, better learning environment,” he said.

The entire process has occurred over three and a half years Nirschel said.

“I think it’s really cool,” Nirschel said.

6. What did you think of the April Fools’ edition of The Hawks’ Herald?

He didn’t see it, he said. But he did hear about the water tower story.

7. What does it mean now that RWU is an NGO? Will that change anything for us?

“Our students can now participate in UN activities,” Nirschel said.

According to Nirschel, there are 10 universities in countries that have been designated as a non-governmental organization through the United Nations. These NGOs have been recognized for outstanding commitments to ecological sustainability. With the university’s new NGO status, students can potentially attend meetings of the UN security council, hear UN briefings, and participate in the learning pathways program, an international study cooperative, Nirschel said.

“It’s a real cool for our international relations students and people interested in things global. So it’s another way that someone externally has said RWU has taken this learning to bridge the world thing seriously,” Nirschel said.

8. What’s going on with the Internet? Are any steps being taken to increase the speed for students on the wireless network and in residence halls? Why or why not?

“I know more about technology than the average president, and I don’t know anything,” Nirschel said. He said the issue is very complicated and that the editors of The Hawks’ Herald should speak with Joe Pangborn, Vice President and Chief Information Officer.

9. How do you think the new alcohol policy went this year? Do you anticipate it changing or remaining the same? What have been some of the consequences of the new policy from an administrative standpoint?

“I think it went pretty well,” Nirschel said.

“Some students are looking at non-alcoholic or alternative activities and I support those as well,” Nirschel said.

Nirschel said that some students claim they left because of the strict alcohol policies, along with many other students, but the university’s data does not support this.

“No plan is perfect, but after that initial flurry of activity and... after that concern about ‘it’s going to be a dry campus and everyone is going to get arrested for drunk driving in the community,’ data suggests that that hasn’t been the case at all,” Nirschel said.

According to Nirschel, there has been no indication of an increased occurrence of drunk driving in the surrounding community by RWU students after the new alcohol policies were implemented.

10. How do you feel about RWU students studying abroad being trapped in various countries because of the volcanic eruption? What did the university do to help these students?

Only six students reported back to the university that they were stuck abroad, Nirschel said. The university tries to prepare students before they go abroad in case something like a volcanic eruption happens, Nirschel said.

Welch, Collins, Nirschel and Whitmore, from left to right, pose in the president’s office.
Women's track and field win TCCC meet

Lauren Tienrey
Herald Staff Writer

The Commonwealth Coast Conference Invitational Track and Field meet was deemed a success for Roger Williams University Women’s Track and Field Team. The Hawks came out on top by a wide margin, winning the meet by 121 points.

“Our team was able to score 91 points in last year’s conference meet despite the lack of depth. This year we scored 243,” Head Coach Sean Livingstone said. “I think the adversity we faced with the weather and the lack of our own facility made them a tougher, tighter team. They don’t have the luxury of having any home meets and running in front of home crowds, so that can be a little frustrating.”

Sophomore standout Kristin McCall was voted one of the top performers in several categories for the Hawks, earning 31 individual points and adding 20 points from her contributions on the winning relay teams. McCall earned three individual titles.

“Just like last year, Kristin McCall kind of led the charge, winning multiple events and breaking a couple of school records,” Livingstone said of his sophomore captain. “But we had huge performances across the board.”

Freshman Kathryn Swanson earned a spot at the New England Division III Championships with her second place finish in the 100-meter hurdles. Swanson qualified with a time of 17.37 seconds, shaving time off the school record she set earlier in the season.

The Hawks dominated in the 400-meter dash and 400-meter hurdles, sweeping both events. In the dash, Metcalf set a new school record at 50.22. Maria LoBalbo was close behind with a 50.37, followed by freshman Maggie Binn with a 50.64. Binn came in first in the hurdles at 1:12.2, cutting time off her own school record. Swanson and Gillian Collins followed at 1:13.20 and 1:13.27 respectively.

Metcalf, Emily D’Iorio, LoBalbo, and Lindsey Joyce won the conference title in the 4200-meter relay with a time of 5:11.62, breaking the previous record by 38.2 seconds.

Kaitlin Florin and Binn were standouts in the field portion of the day. They both earned the top slots and qualified for the New England Division III Championships. Including freshmen Binn, Florin, D’Iorio, Joyce, Swan, Katie O’Koren, Lauren Ricardi, Libby Rafter and Sophomores Lauren Ashby, Alex Korbalski, LoBalbo, Katie Kofka, Metcalf, and Meghan Krauss. The meet was held at Tufts University on April 29 and 30.

Thanks for the memories

Dan Malkin
Sports Editor

I began to write for The Hawks’ Herald during the first semester of my junior year. As a communications major, I have enjoyed writing for a long time and wanted to write a sports column on a weekly basis.

During my first year as a sports writer for The Hawks’ Herald, I wrote many articles about our school’s teams and other college sporting events across the country.

One of my fondest memories as a Hawks’ Herald member was our trip to San Diego for the yearly journalism conference. We had a great time at each of the conferences and the city had so much to offer. One of the best nights in Diego took place at the Gas Lamp district where I and a fellow staff member roamed the streets late into the evening hours. We had a great time taking in the nightlife and enjoying some unbelievable fish tacos. We had such a great experience that this fellow member was even a little too ‘hawkish’ to wake up in time for our early morning conference the next day.

This past year I served as the newspaper’s sports editor and I had a great staff throughout the year and would especially like to thank Abby Cunningham and Will Bookas for their hard work. I introduced Roger Williams to “Malkin’s Mind!” and as a team we continued to cover all of the sports at the University.

All in all, my experience as a writer has been wonderful and is one I truly enjoyed. I had a great time getting to know some amazing people throughout my time. I will definitely miss our time together next year, so good luck to everyone involved with the paper and thank you for the memories.

Playoff basketball heats up

Dan Malkin
Sports Editor

With the second round of the NBA playoffs on the horizon, it is an exciting time for basketball fans around the country. The Celtics and the Mavericks are the top performers in their respective conferences.

The Magic will host the Hawks and the Celtics will take on the Cavaliers in the Eastern Conference. Atlanta has struggled immensely against the Hawks, but with the presence of Andrew Bogut, I predict Joe Johnson and company will be too much for them to handle.

One of the most exciting set of games has been between the Spurs and the Mavericks. The Mavs were able to win a key game at home and will not have an easy time getting a win on the road in San Antonio. The Spurs should win game six and will be able to move onto the next round to take on the Hawks.

The biggest surprise in the Western Conference this year has been the series between the Nuggets and the Jazz. Coming into the playoffs I thought Denver would have a little too much for the Jazz and they most likely will be sent home in the first round.

The Spurs’ Tim Duncan series has been very enjoyable to watch. Brandon Roy shocked the basketball world when he took the court after only having missed eight days after undergoing knee surgery. The Trailblazers should be able to win game six at home and send the Spurs back to Phoenix. The Suns will prevail in the final game and move on to the second round to take on the Jazz.

In the second round, the Magic have to prove dominant against the Hawks. Dwight Howard will dominate throughout the series and it looks like we will be seeing him and the Magic prevailing in six games. The series between the Celtics and the Cavs should be one of the best of this year’s playoffs. The aging Celtics squad proved that they can be a force during the impressive performance against the Heat. However, the Cavs are young and LeBron James is the best player at this point in time. It should be a great series and I see it going the distance where Cleveland wins in seven games.

The Spurs have looked great against the Mavericks but they are a very old team. They could become tired against the Suns and I see Nash and company taking their games to another level during this series. In the end, the Suns will move on to the next round in 6 games.

On the other side of the series, the Lakers will host the Jazz. The Lakers are a deep team and we are very experienced when it comes to the playoffs. I think Kobe will take his game to another level and dominate throughout the series. The Jazz are younger but do have the talent to get the job done. The Lakers are just too good and have home court advantage should win in 5.

It should be a great second round of this year’s NBA playoffs for us to enjoy. So sit back and stay tuned for another great set of basketball games.