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The Messenger -- March 4, 1986

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The Messenger

VOLUME VI, ISSUE I I

March 4, 1986



by Stephen Martovich

Mt. Hope Bridge Closing

by Mary Ellen Johansson

The sign is placed strategically at the approach to the toll booth and squarely faces the bridge commuter. It's bold black letters stand out against the orange background; the Mt. Hope Bridge is closing March 10 for repairs. Despite protests from local businesses and residents, the Bridge Authority has gone ahead with its plans to resurface the road bed. The loss of this vital link to Aquidneck Island directly affects the RWC community.

RWC Director of Security, Safety and Energy, Edward T. Shaw attended the latest meeting held in Bristol concerning the closing, and he has received two letters from the Rhode Island of Transportation informing RWC as to what steps are being taken to lessen the effects on commuters. According to the letter dated February 3, 1986, DOT is offering a FREE Rideshare Matching Service which will "assist groups and individuals in finding others who have similar home and work locations and wish to form a carpool or find out about available bus service." When the commuter fills out the form and mails it to DOT, the information is entered into a computer which then matches the request with other

similar requests. Shaw has received some of these forms and has distributed them to the various offices within the college.

Shaw emphasized that the DOT and RIPTA cannot respond to the needs of RWC staff and students unless they fill out this form and return them to the DOT. Not only can RWC commuters be matched for potential ridesharing but if the response indicates that RIPTA needs to provide different schedules or additional buses, "they are more than willing to change the schedule if there is the demand." RIPTA published its first revised bus schedule that will take effect at 6:00 am on March 10 but the company is remaining flexible so that as patterns of ridership develop, schedules can be changed.

NOTE: Included in this issue of the *Messenger* is the following information on the bridge closing.

1. Free rideshare matching services form
2. Bus schedule to and from the Architecture studio.
3. Partial listing of RIPTA schedules
4. Listing of Park and Ride Sites
5. Detour information

You may wish to save the above information for future reference.

GEC Issue Here Sparks Conflict

by Tim Towey

An issue at present is causing friction between the Administration here at RWC and some of its Academic divisions, particularly the Business Division. The problem stemming from the proposed implementation of a General Education Curriculum.

The notion behind General Education is to ensure the undergraduates with a well-rounded structure of classes in liberal arts; fine arts; sciences; and professional studies.

In a memo dated Feb. 14, 1986, the Business Division addressed Dean Schiavo, President Rizzini, Judge Paolino, and Full-time Faculty with the problems(s) of the GEC. The Business Division has found much at fault with the matter:

- * Selection process of a minor
- * Selection of courses to be included in the GEC
- * Financial feasibility of implementing the GEC

- * The GEC and the requirements of the employment community.
- * Business majors denial of elective courses

The Business Division contends that a "serious rift" is dividing it from the college's Liberal Arts areas. According to the memo "... the General Education plan has tainted that respect between (liberal arts and professional studies) to the point that curriculum decisions have once again split us apart academically and in some cases, course decisions are personality based instead of content based."

As a solution(s) to the "problem" of the GEC the Business Division suggests:

- * Course proposals should be evaluated by an outside independent group (since the political atmosphere at RWC prohibits this)
- * Consider the GEC to be optional
- * Study the cost/effects

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SAPB Trip Questioned

by Kathy Cohen

On February 15 through 20, five SAPB members and one Student Senate member attended the NACA's (National Association of Campus Activities) Annual National Convention in Washington, D.C.

According to Director of Student Services William O'Connell, the Student Senate was disturbed that the SAPB sent so many members. In the past, two members, usually chairpersons, are sent by the Senate to cover the convention.

Originally, Chairman Rick (Stegs) Daniels approached then President of the Student Senate Michael Marran with a proposition of sending members from both organizations to Washington D.C. with the goal of improving relationships. Marran approved Daniel's proposition but was not in office to see the idea through. This was the first time a senator was sent to the convention. Now the Student Senate says that the trip was a waste of time and money.

"There have always been conflicts between the SAPB and the Student Senate because the Senate funds half (42%) of the SAPB's budget and SAPB does neat things and gets immediate gratification," said O'Connell. "The Senate is put in a position of saying no to certain things."

The trip cost the SAPB \$3,000 to send five members and the Senate spent \$600 to send one member to Washington D.C. Daniels proposal was to send four SAPB members and two Senators but the Senate voted against sending two of their members because they could not afford spending \$1,200.

"There's justification for people to go but it's still a lot of money," stated Acting Student President Elaine Simard.

According to an SAPB member,

Acting Student Vice President Mark Busny feels the convention was a bad idea and a waste of money and verbally abused Daniels after a February 5 meeting. He warned Daniels that he would not get away with such misuse of money and threatened to freeze their budget.

"I don't think that the Senate will freeze their budget. All it would do is hurt the students. It's not a good alternative," said Simard.

NACA's 26th Convention offered 180 educational classes in a five day period averaging 36 per day and open to all delegates. RWC's students attended such classes as: Get Organized, How To Do Business in the Exhibit Hall, Basic Concert Production, Improving an Organizations Image, Cooperative Buying, Communication Workshop and Decision Making, according to Daniels.

"We were there to learn for the benefit of the campus community," said Daniels. We were not wasting money."

According to ex-co-chairman Donald Ferry two members were originally sent to the convention but six was a "misuse of money."

The new constitution will state that the SAPB will have to submit a proposal of what funds they need for events. In addition they would have to plan ahead as most clubs do.

"The new constitution will give them a chance to put the money to more important things," said Simard.

Under the old constitution the Student Senate could not freeze the SAPB's budget yet now that the new constitution has been voted in the Senate will have the power to freeze budgets if they find there is misuse.

Black Psychologist Visits Campus

by Evan Evans

On Thursday, February 13, 1986, 250 Roger Williams College students, faculty and friends attended a lecture in the school cafeteria, Celebrating Culture Diversity: Awakening the Dream, by Dr. Alvin Turner.

Dr. Joyce Stein, Roger Williams College Director of Counseling and Student Development and the guest speaker's host for the evening, introduced Cerise Best, a member of the campus Culture Club, who presented the speaker to the audience.

Turner's presentation, to a predominately white audience, addressed individual consciousness of whites towards blacks, towards themselves, and differences between blacks and whites. He read black poetry and showed a series of slides to support his topic.

Turner accused this generation of having no sense of permanence, no sense of anything

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The Barn To Open in April

by Allison Ficken

Vice President McKenna and director of the physical plant, Matt White, are anticipating April as the completion time of the RWC barn. The main problem of the delay, according to McKenna, is excessive cost overruns.

There has been a contract awarded, indicated White, for the hook up of water and sewage mains and as soon as the water main is in, beginning in March, then the plumbing, heating and painting can be completed. There is also a water pressure problem, effecting the entire campus, that poses a problem for the sprinkler system of the barn as well.

RWC is now negotiating with suppliers for a temporary 8,000 gallon water tank to be attached to a pump enabling pressure to be hooked to the sprinklers in the barn.

The tank will be used until the campus water pressure problem is

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Editorial: HOW LO CAN U GO?

Nobody asked any questions; nobody said, "how do you feel about this?" it just happened. The school needs a new logo. Since the school needs a new logo, Ms. Voll was notified and she, in turn, bought a picture of a dead spider to represent our school. How long has the administration known about this serious "image problem" from which RWC is suffering? Why was Ms. Voll the only one notified about it? Is this whole course of action a result of the famous Alpha Report? What on earth is changing the logo going to do to combat this undescribed "image problem?"

There was never any deliberation on the topics of; a) how the image is doing; b) should we maybe consider doing something to improve our image?; and especially not c) if we are going to change our logo, who's going to design the new one? These questions were never put before the faculty or the students. Talk about insulting. It sure is reassuring to know that the administration does not care how the students feel about issues of which they are an integral part. They are quick to take the money but when it comes time to take a little input, "sorry, he's gone for the day." did they ever stop to think that there might be some people right here on campus who might come up with an acceptable revision or replacement, if need be, for the existing logo?

If, in fact, the image of the school is so horrible, what does this mean for those people who have graduated or are about to graduate under the present logo? It seems that they're going to suffer for having not graduated from the new and improved Roger Williams College. It's almost inconceivable that this whole thing boils down to packaging the school the same way you package laundry detergent. Even if you change the logo or the label, you really haven't done a whole lot to change the contents.

The logical response to that point would be, "you're quite right, we haven't changed the contents, only the way people view us." Okay, but

Editorial:

The United States has been referred to as the "melting pot" for humanity. Thousands of immigrants have thrown off one shroud or another and blended into this country's mass of humanity with as little effort as changing a difficult - to - pronounce name. The notable exception is one group which did not come to this country of their own free will. What group is this?

Black is the answer. You know, the bad guys wear black (what else?) hats. Black magic. Black hearted. Black cats. All implying that the closer one can come to whiteness, the closer one comes to purity, wholesomeness and goodness. The local drugstore shelves are full of items that support this theory: bleaching creams and hair straightners and various spin-offs of these products are highly visable.

The evolutionary chain that corrupted the word black is lost in history, however, the legacy of word corruption has funneled down to cloud the meaning of our present work black. The true meaning of the word black is lost. The present word carries around generations and generations of corruption. We routinely associate black with bad!

The same evolutionary chain produced a certain mindset in humanity that required a color barrier, Blacks were kept apart could not blend into the "melting pot".

Little wonder that blacks have an identity crisis. However, like a dirty house periodically one must take down the screens and clean them and at the same time dust the place Nonblacks must look within themselves and purge their minds of word corruption. Remember Black is beautiful too!



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PROPOSED LOGO DESIGN

now you're asking them to view an abstract collection of lines in a circle, the preliminary interpretations of which include; books and waves, a book floating in the bay, a bunch of seagulls, a spider walking upside down, and a dead spider floating in the bay. Now one must admit, and there can be no question about it, that the positive effects of this new logo will be observed immediately.

As if the inherent lack of specificity isn't enough, Ms. Voll goes on to explain that the logo or drawing or picture really isn't supposed to be defined. She claims that we are supposed to see in it "what we will." At the risk of over-explaining the situation, what we have here is a school whose image is suffering. So in order to counteract this, we're going to do away with a logo composed of a discernable picture and a few easy to read, pertinent words, and replace it with a few carefully arranged, yet undefined lines. which we leave to the interpretation of the person, with whose view we were so initially concerned.

What this seems to leave us with is a nondescript or a noncommittal logo. It's a logo that says whatever the viewer wants or see; a logo that says everything; a logo that says nothing. It is, at best, ironic, for the very word, "logo", comes from the Greek -logos - meaning a word or speech. It is a word that seems inherently descriptive or informative. Yet, in this next context, it is a word that has as many meanings as their are interpretation of an abstract drawing. So when all is said and done, Roger Williams College will have for its logo a sketch of, well, that's really up to you now, isn't it?

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Letters to the Editor

To the Editor:

This letter is in response to the WROG - FM article which appeared in the February 18, 1986 issue of *The Messenger*. As General Manager of WROG - FM I would like to provide a more accurate and informative rendering of what is happening at the radio station. I feel that some of the information I gave to the reporter was misunderstood and some quotes were used in the wrong context.

To begin with WROG is broadcasting at 88.3 FM with a stereo signal new to the radio station. This new signal, in culmination with the new equipment in the broadcast booth, produces a sound quality that rivals such stations as WBRU and 92 PRO - FM. The audio processor used by WROG - FM now is the same make and model as the processor used by the forementioned stations as well as several other stations in the Rhode Island area.

Currently, the power output of WROG - FM produces the strongest FM signal on campus and only on campus. However, our signal does enter into southern Bristol and northern Portsmouth. The strength is greatly decreased as a result of the distance traveled.

Not only has WROG - FM undergone equipment changes, the format is new too. Now the radio station plays just about every category of music. Primarily, the type of music played is rock. The rock ranges from classic to punk with a heavy emphasis on Top 40. There are two hours daily of jazz. Monday evenings have been dedicated to heavy metal and Saturday nights for funk. WROG - FM will issue a detailed program schedule in the near future so that everyone will know when to give us a listen.

WROG - FM is still waiting for the FCC to process our application for 100 watts of power. When I last spoke to an FCC representative, I was told we can expect a reply "by the end of the quarter." The end of the current quarter is March 31. Given how accurate past quotes have regarding FCC deadlines in the past have been, that is all I will say about our application.

To end with I would like to add that "mind disorienting drugs" have never been legal or tolerated at WROG - FM.

Patrick J. Delany
General Manager WROG - FM

Dear Editor:

The Foreign and Domestic Teachers Organization needs teacher applicants in all fields from Kindergarten through College to fill over six hundred teaching vacancies both at home and abroad.

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Our information is FREE and comes at an opportune time when there are more teachers than teaching positions.

Should you wish additional information about our organization, you may write The National Teacher's Placement Agency, Universal Teachers, Box 5231, Portland, Oregon 97208.

We do not promise every graduate in the field of education a definite position, however, we do promise to provide them with a wide range of hundreds of current vacancy notices both at home and abroad.

John P. McAndrew, President
Foreign & Domestic Teachers

PR CONTROLS RWC IMAGE AND LOGO

Roger Williams College recently announced that the Director of Public Relations Nondas Voll is responsible for promoting the image of Roger Williams College and for marketing its programs to prospective students. Any use of the college's name, seal, or logo to be viewed by the college's external public(s) must be approved by the director in writing in advance of printing or manufacture.

The following rules shall apply:

1. all requests for use of the college's name, seal or logo must be stated in writing and sent to the Director of Public Relations for written approval.
2. no merchandise shall be approved which competes with Roger Williams College Student Services, such as the Bookstore or Food Services.
3. all requests which are approved in writing by the Director of Public Relations shall require that final mechanicals be shown to the Director for written approval before imprinting is authorized
4. ignorance of this policy shall not constitute freedom of the consequences of using the college's name, seal, or logo without permission
5. all use of the college's name, seal, or logo shall be granted only when promoting a positive image for Roger Williams College

This policy became effective July 1, 1985.

Fairchild Recalls Trip to Saudi Arabia

by Mary Ellen Johanson

At the invitation of SCECO, the Saudi Consolidated and Electric Company, RWC faculty member Dan Fairchild and former head of the International Student Center Dr. John Christina traveled to Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, in 1984, to tour SCECO's main facility there.

The company then employed 9,000 persons, 2900 of whom were in the Engineering department. They have their own technical institute situated on a portion of the SCECO complex. There, they train employees in the construction and repair of electrical facilities and lines. Fairchild remarked on the tremendous growth in electricity produced by SCECO - from 3.5 megawatts to 3,000 megawatts in 25 years. This had led to a demand for trained personnel and that is what apparently brought RWC and SCECO together.

The brightest students at the Institute are offered complete scholarships along with full salary if they come to the United States to study. At one point, SCECO had 60 students studying in the U.S., 20 of whom were at RWC. Fairchild and Christina met with SCECO's then president Ibrahim Al Munif and the Director of the Institute Sa'ad Al Salmein. Included in their discussion was the RWC technology degree and the fact that SCECO liked both the school and the Engineering Technology degree. They favored the hands on approach and the fundamental approach to other areas including computer literacy. They even brought up the possibility of more SCECO sponsored students attending RWC in the future.

Regarding this recent decision by the SAEM, Fairchild feels that the Engineering Technology major has been too often equated with the concept of technician and that this may be influencing the SAEM. Commenting on Riyadh and Saudia Arabia, he said that there is a tremendous rate of development as the government seeks to bring the country into the 21st century. Building projects are numerous and often quite large in scope. He felt that the ET degree suited their students and would satisfy the needs of both the government and industry.

There are a number of petitions circulating the campus asking the administration to stop the implementation of this proposed new logo. *The Messenger* asks that you read one. If you agree with it, sign it; if not, at least demand that your opinion on this issue be heard.

CAREERS WEEK - MARCH 10, 1986

Mon.: Careers in Business 11 am - 12 noon

Tues.: Careers in Government: Mayor's Panel 10:30 am
Careers in Communications: in the evening.

Weds.: Fashion Show & Buffet Luncheon

Thurs.: Careers in Theatre: in the morning
Jayne Lybrand - 7:30 pm

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ENTERTAINMENT

Meanwhile Back in the Reel World

Susana Kaufman

Once upon a time there were books, concerts, plays, and peasant whippings. These were considered forms of entertainment. Then, Thomas Edison invented Mary Pickford, Charlie Chaplin, and the Movies. Though success came slowly at first, Orville Redenbacher's newly invented method for popping outrageous prices for popcorn helped the movie industry immeasurably. Movies skyrocketed until they hit the unparalleled lows they lie mired in today. Now it's time for a brilliant and courageous young journalist to come forward and push for reform in the movie industry. Sadly, *The Messenger* was unable to find such a person, so the job is mine.

There are many types of films today and each genre has problems. For example, most movies made for adolescent audiences are terrible. Normally rated R (No admittance to anyone under the age of 17 or 4 feet tall, whichever will make more money for the theater), these movies have a plot that revolves around sex and how many gallons of booze can be consumed in 1 hour and 45 minutes. Inherent to each of these films are certain stereotypical characters played by 25 year old "adolescents:" 1) A Nice Boy. He is nice looking, moral, and intelligent. He falls in love with The Slut. She is the epitome of sleaze, yet she has nice eyes. She can't stand the nice boys and falls in lust with 3) The Stud. His entire life revolves around sex, drinking, and humiliating the Nice Boy. The Nice Boy normally gets beaten up by The Stud.

Then, Nice Boy gets drunk, beats up the Stud, and sends him to prison on a charge of bad acting. Finally, the Slut changes her hairstyle, chisel off her makeup, goes out with the Nice Boy, Madonna sings, and they live happily ever after (or at least until prom time). As I said try to avoid these movies. It shouldn't be difficult since the titles are recognizable. If a movie is called "Spring Break in a Florida Brothel," or "Studly Males in Jock Straps," it is doubtful that it is aimed at the yuppie audience.

Another example of poor moviemaking is that of the "Crazy Killer with Machete Slashes People to Death (or at least makes them real gory)" genre. In these films there are normally 8 teenagers (4 boys and 4 girls) who are obscene, drunk, sophomoric, and typical of most adolescents. They all go on a camping trip, go to camp, or go to the beach (it is necessary that there is water nearby so the girls can go swimming naked). After having an orgy on the beach, they all go to sleep. Later that evening, the first couple wakes and hears a noise. The dialogue is as follows:

Her: I heard an orchestra playing scary music.

Him: So did I. Maybe we should go outside and investigate.

Her: But what if there is a deranged killer out there?

Him: Ha! That's ridiculous. Let's go.

They go outside and get hacked to death by a deranged killer who has been dead for at least 20 years. The other campers are murdered as follows: the fifth one is shot, the fourth is speared, the third is axed, the second is drowned, and the first is hung from a pear tree. The sixth camper (Penthouse's newest centerfold) is chased by the killer for about 30 minutes and then escapes (with her bosom heaving, of course) by driving away in the car which had its engine running for about 30 minutes. All ends happily except for the fact that the killer will appear in a sequel such as "Friday the 13th - Part XII. Jason's Grandson Returns."

The two last types of films are the "dramas" and the "2 hour videos." I group them together because they are similar in everything except music. Dramas have music by Bach, Frank Sinatra, and musicians. Videos have music by Prince (gag) and Cyndi Lauper (Go babe!). the plots are normally centered around a character who must fight great odds in order to succeed. In drama, success might be defending a welfare cheater and rapist against the government. In a musical, success is winning 2 dance contests or getting a date with Sting. Occasionally the plots are the same in both films but the dialogue is different. For example in a drama the following might occur:

Sean: I don't care if you are poor. I want to marry you.

Jane: Oh Sean. I want to, but have you forgotten that I shot your parents and framed your sister?

Sean: I never really liked her anyway. Will you marry me?

Jane: Yes. (Frank Sinatra sings) The musical version would be as follows:

Nick: I don't care if you're poor. You have nice eyes and can dance.

Dawn: But I shot your parents and framed your sister.

Nick: Nobody's perfect. Marry me.

Dawn: Yes. (Madonna sings)

In conclusion, movies have a need to be reformed. At least they must be required to have good acting and a plot. It is possible for good movies to be made, but it won't be until audiences raise standards. Thus, any student wishing to join me in my sweeping reform program please contact me in the Messenger office. However, please don't expect me to protest until I have had a chance to see "Studly Males in Jock Strap." After all, somebody has to do research.

Movies! Movies!

by Priscilla Newhall

Assistant Director of Student Life Rob Lutomski is presenting movies in Dorm III's recreational room on Feb. 24th through the end of the semester to encourage non-alcoholic events starting at 8 p.m. on Sunday, Monday and Friday nights.

On Monday nights, the "Foreign Film Festival" will be shown. These films will be from different countries around the world, some with English subtitles. Friday nights, American award winning movies will be shown. Sunday nights, "Cinema by the Sea", will be back showing current hit movies. For more information, call the Student Life Office at 253-2161.

Book Review: The Color Purple

by Steve Martovich

(*The Color Purple*) by Alice Walker. *Washington Square Press* \$6.95

Take a look at the bestseller's list for paperbacks and it will tell something about the state of affairs in college leisure time reading. The serious competition is between *Garfield* and *The Far Side*. But away from the celebrity autobiographies is the last refuge of the serious writer: the fiction novel. The fact that *The Color Purple* is presently in the number one position shows that the public is still interested in meaningful literature. It also shows what a hit movie can do for a writer's career.

By "meaningful literature" I am saying that this book can teach you about yourself. Be warned, it may not be pleasant learning. Certain themes may be uncomfortable for less hardy readers. The rewards, however, are worth it.

Walker's book is written in an epistolary style. That is, it is written in the form of letter. Most of these are from the main character Celie and are addressed to God, for lack of a better audience. The letters become a diary revealing the events of Celie's life. It is a life constantly abused by men, until she is strong enough to earn her independence.

The letter are written in the slangy, accented speech of the character. The diction is therefore uneducated and may be difficult to read at first. But soon, you too will be talking like she does. And don't worry; there's not a "Yaw'l come back now y'her?" in the whole book.

Celie is a poor black woman living in the South in the early part of this century. She is abused sexually and physically by her father and the husband he gives her to. Celie works the cotton fields while Mr. _____ (she doesn't use his name) drinks lemonade on the porch.

Walker uses a world which could have easily slipped into very stereotyped grooves. She avoids this rut admittedly by creating a set of very real and believable characters. Not all the men are terrible and those who are are not without salvation. Male readers may be put on the defensive by the stereotypical male character that fills the background of the novel. But this is merely the blank canvas from which Walker develops her "people." Mr. _____ eventually mellows with age and becomes a respectable person. His son Harpo gives up trying to dominate the life of his wife, as was tradition, and is much happier for it.

The male reader has the most to gain from this novel. He is forced into the realization that those stereotypes are included in his own personality, which of course causes the defensiveness. But Walker does not strand him there. He is delivered from his own evils, as Mr. _____ is, with a clear understanding of himself and the female half of the world.

For the females, it is one under the belt. Another victory for their sexuality. Or perhaps it serves better as a history lesson for the generation which enjoys the profits.

Student Senate to Vote on PIRG

By the end of this semester, after a six semester effort, the Rhode Island Public Interest Research Group could have funding for a chapter on campus. The Roger Williams College Students for PIRG Organizing Committee is optimistic about the upcoming vote by the Student Senate.

"I think they understand us now," say Trish Kramarchyk. "They were skeptical, at first, like everybody is. But I think they know we're serious. I think they know we simply want to do something effective about pollution and consumer rip-off."

William Kuck agrees. "The Student Senate has never had to handle so complicated an issue. The types of problems we work on,

the potential of the idea, the funding mechanism, all take a bit of study to understand fully. I learn something new about it all the time."

Last Spring, the students voted by a two to one margin to fund a chapter. Now the Senate has to endorse it and bring it to the administration. The final say will come when the Board of Trustees votes at the end of the semester.

"We're dealing with the nuts and bolts now, the bureaucracy. I've learned a lot about the work that goes into something like this. But I also see a chapter doing a lot for the campus," says Andy Davenport, an engineering major, "especially on water issues. The whole school is surrounded by it."

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Saudi Students Face Loss of Scholarship Support

by Mary Ellen Johansson

"Most of us were furious about this," remarked Ala Eissa, as he discussed the Saudi reactions to a letter they received from the Saudi Arabian Educational Mission (SAEM). Eissa, a 1st Semester Senior majoring in Electrical Engineering Technology commented that the letter was vague and cited no reason for the decision. The letter sent to all Saudi students on SAEM scholarships indicated that "financial guarantee to the college you are studying in will be stopped 7/30/86." Students were urged to seek acceptance from other colleges by Fall 1986.

Eissa talked about the process whereby Saudi students receive their free education. It begins with their application to SAEM for scholarship assistance and requires that a major be declared. Once approved, the Saudi receives a 5 year scholarship, 1 year usually devoted to English proficiency and 4 years to attain his degree. If a Saudi decides to change his major he must take a formal application to SAEM who either approves or disapproves. Eissa felt that the letter was actually addressing the differences between the two majors: Engineering and Engineering Technology. He said that this problem surfaced a few years ago. At that time, he was attending college in Houston, and while at the SAEM Houston office, he discussed EE and EET differences with an official. He was assured by the official that although he declared EE as his major, he would have no problem transferring to a college offering an EET degree.

Two years ago, two SAEM

officials from the Washington, D.C. regional office visited colleges in New England including RWC. The officials discussed the Engineering Technology degree with RWC, and approved of the curriculum. Eissa recalled the visit and the assurance Saudi students received regarding the ET degree and, as a result, students continued their present curriculum.

However, when Eissa recently requested that his scholarship, which had expired, be extended, the SAEM informed him that only if he was enrolled in an Engineering program would he be granted the extension.

Saudi Club Reacts to Letter

Each state has a Saudi Student Club and in Rhode Island, the headquarters is in Bristol. AbdulRahman Al-Hamdani, President of the Rhode Island Club, called a meeting on Feb. 14, 1986. The letter was discussed and 2 decisions were made:

1. A committee of three Saudi students was elected to go to the SAEM office in Washington to discuss the sudden action. (Ala Eissa, Ebrahim Iskandarani, Mohammed Al Shigri)
2. A letter was drafted and sent to the SAEM expressing their concern over SAEM's letter.

Eissa as well as other Saudi students are worried that they will lose many of their academic credits if they are forced to transfer. They are especially disturbed over the fact that the reasons for SAEM's action were not given and, if it does concern the ET degree, why SAEM reversed its decision of two years ago.

SAEM and RESA Respond

In a telephone interview of 2-21-86 Dr. Taha of the Royal Embassy of Saudi Arabia, Washington, said he knew nothing about the letter. He knew several RWC administrators and would pursue the matter with them.

In a telephone interview that same day, SAEM Academic Director, Talal Yousuf explained that the letter was sent to those students who were studying for a major which they had not originally declared. This included students in ET programs who had originally been granted scholarships to study Engineering programs. It also included any Saudi students who had changed majors without government approval. When asked if RWC had been removed from SAEM's list of approved institutions, Yousuf emphatically stated that SAEM recommends schools that are accredited by United States Educational Associations and, according to the Embassy records, RWC is accredited. However, "The problems is with students who are not studying the major which they originally declared." He went on to say that SAEM and RWC had "a long history, and the Mission was grateful for the consideration the school has given the Saudi students." "Roger Williams is a fine institution and we are very satisfied with it" Yousuf said.

When asked if he was aware that the Saudi students did not understand the letter, he remarked that another letter was being sent out clarifying its intent. It will also

contain instruction for those Saudi students who have a problem when declaring their major. They will be asked to provide documentation which will be reviewed by a committee in Saudi Arabia who will either approve or not approve their request. The SAEM is doing this because they are aware that students will lose many credits if they transfer.

Faculty Reaction to SAEM's Letter

Dean Schiavo said that a letter has been sent to the Saudi Mission asking that the full intent of their letter be made known to the RWC administration. "We are not sure just what they mean and who it will affect. If we do not have an answer within a few weeks, we will go to Washington to discuss the matter."

Dr. John O'Connell, coordinator for the Engineering Technology department, commented that this problem had occurred previously with the ET degree and that an extensive course by course evaluation was reviewed by SAEM officials. They were satisfied at that time with the ET curriculum. "There has been extensive correspondence on this matter," O'Connell said and the "matter had been settled to everyone's satisfaction." He is awaiting further contact with SAEM concerning this latest Saudi directive.

Khalid T. Al-Hamdouni, RWC faculty member, also recalled this same situation which occurred where the Educational Mission brought into question the ET degree. He remarked that perhaps Saudi companies would prefer the Engineering degree. However, it was difficult to assess the actual intention of the letter.

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MAIN CAMPUS TO STUDIOS						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
2:00 P.M.	2:00 P.M. 7:00 P.M.	2:00 P.M. 7:00 P.M.	2:00 P.M. 7:00 P.M.	2:00 P.M. 7:00 P.M.	2:00 P.M. 7:00 P.M.	12:00 NOON
ALMEIDA TO STUDIOS						
2:05 P.M.	2:05 P.M. 7:05 P.M.	2:05 P.M. 7:05 P.M.	2:05 P.M. 7:05 P.M.	2:05 P.M. 7:05 P.M.	2:05 P.M. 7:05 P.M.	12:05 P.M.
STUDIOS TO ALMEIDA AND MAIN CAMPUS						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
11:00 P.M.	5:30 P.M. 11:00 P.M.	5:30 P.M. 11:00 P.M.	5:30 P.M. 11:00 P.M.	5:30 P.M. 11:00 P.M.	5:30 P.M. 11:00 P.M.	5:00 P.M.

Barn To Open

continued
resolved. With the temporary water tank the new Performing Arts Center should be opened after receiving a certificate of occupancy from the town of Bristol, White emphasized. He also added the use will be limited to half its occupancy.

GEC Issue

continued
of the GEC
* Find alternatives to the governance system at RWC to promote fairer representation
In response to the newsletter issued by the Business Division Dean of the College, Bart Schiavo rebutted by stating that the Business Division's memorandum "violated every principle of academic governance and invites an intervention in that process which is unbecoming of a mature and serious institution."

Psychologist

continued
outside of themselves. He closed his presentation by challenging those present to think about and ask themselves, "What do I know about Blacks other than skin color?"
Students comments ranged from "He's biased and a bigot", to - in answer to bias and bigot - "That proves it was long overdue".
Turner is a licensed psychologist, staff psychologist, and Assistant Professor of Education at the University of Delaware.

RWC Junior Cuts Record

by James Tackach

Cynthia Ballou never planned to be a rock star. "It took us a while to figure out we were going to be a band. We just said, 'This is fun,'" says Ballou, an RWC junior whose rock group, Dames, just released its first single.

What Ballou always wanted to do was write. "Ever since I could write, I knew I wanted to be a writer," she says. She wrote her first book of poetry at age five. She began taking courses at RWC in the summer of 1983, and in 1984 she formally enrolled as a Career Writing/Creative Writing major. Last year, she joined *The Messenger* as a staff reporter and photographer.

Ballou, who is 25 years old, did not attend college immediately after high school graduation. Although she was a good student in high school, finishing in 3½ years, and she was accepted at Brown University for early admission, she felt that she was not ready for college right after high school. "I needed to get out and see the world and come to grips with what I wanted to do in college," she says. "I had to do a few things that I would finally discover I didn't like before I could say there's something better, there's something I'm good at, and what I'm good at is writing."

Between high school graduation and enrollment at RWC, Ballou worked as a waitress, a delicatessen manager, and a secretary at a music store. She also began to hone her skills as a musician and performer.

Ballou first performed as a concert violinist with the Rhode Island Junior and Senior Philharmonic Youth Orchestras. In high school she played with a jazz-fusion group called TWITL, which stood for The World Is Too Late. Soon after high school graduation, she and her boyfriend, Seth Ballou, who is now her husband and Dames' drummer, travelled to California and tried unsuccessfully for three years to break into the music business. "We were basically naive, trying to learn about the music business," she says of the California experience. "But it was really important because I think a lot of kids my age now who are in the music business have a lot of fictitious ideas about making it in music. But I think we got rid of a lot of that baggage. We went to Capitol Records; we knocked on their door and said, 'We're here and you love us,' but they didn't. We didn't get passed the receptionist."

When Ballou returned to Rhode Island with her future husband in 1981, she played coffee houses and once subbed in his band when a lead singer was sick. She added the guitar to her repertoire and began singing and writing music seriously for the first time.

Dames began in 1982. A year earlier, while Ballou managed a delicatessen, she began working with Janet Dansereau, who was a piano player and singer. The two began playing music together just for fun. A short time later, Ballou ran into Gail Greenwood, a high school girlfriend who played the guitar, and the three began jamming together.

"The most important thing about our origin is that we were all intimidated about playing with guys

who were professional musicians," says Ballou. "When the three of us got together, we were all on the same level. We felt we could do whatever we wanted. We could experiment. We could be ourselves. We didn't have to be perfect. We had a lot of fun. It was our chance to learn under no pressure. Nobody could tell us what to do. We could do whatever we wanted."

A year after Ballou began jamming with Dansereau and Greenwood, Avery Piano, the music store where Ballou was then working, needed a band to play at a midnight sale. Ballou volunteered her group, and that's when Dames got its name. When Ballou's boss at Avery asked her for a name so that the store could advertise its sale, Ballou just said, "Dames."

"People told us we were sexist," says Ballou about the group's name, "but if they listen to our lyrics we're totally woman-oriented. Lots of our songs are about the things women could really identify with. What we're really trying to do is highlight a lot of the things that don't get talked about. I think a lot of music is male-oriented, and we don't hear the woman's point of view -- what it's like to be a secretary."

By then, the band had recruited a male drummer, Steve Sciucco, and they began playing the Rhode Island club circuit. In the summer of 1984, after Sciucco left, Seth Ballou joined the band as a drummer, and a short time later, Geoff Adams became Dames' saxophonist. The two men gave the group a new direction. "The whole sound tightened up," says Ballou. "These were two people who were playing all their lives, and there was no more room for sloppy rhythms or bad changes or out-of-tune instruments or vocals. They expected a lot from us, so we had to deliver a lot."

At first, the women of Dames were leary of having two men join the group, but Seth Ballou and Adams fit well. "Their attitude was to enhance us, not to try to take us over," says Ballou. "They were different from other guys in that they felt, 'We're here to back you up, not back us up.'"

Since the fall of 1984, Dames has played at the Living Room, the Cage, and the Last Call Saloon, Providence clubs, and the Blue Pelican in Newport. The group has played backup for nationally known bands such as the Waitresses and the Fools and for several popular New England bands, including Girls' Night Out, the Schemers, and the Persuasions.

When asked about the Dames' future, Ballou explained that the group's goals were immediate: to earn back the money spent on cutting the single, to book performances and get more exposure, to get air play on local radio stations, and to make new music. In the near future, the group intends to mass mail its single record to record companies in hope of landing a contract.

As for herself, Ballou says, "I'm kind of scatterbrained. I'm still in a discovery stage." She is doing a Career Writing internship with Save the Bay and believes she might qualify for a career in journalism or technical writing.

Harlow: The Right Stuff

by Sandi Masison

"For ten years I was the perfect little American housewife," claims RWC's Dr. Nancy Harlow. Today her posture is straight, her clothes neat, her office cluttered. She refers to herself as an "old liberal."

"I was living in the Midwest, raising a family, and had no particular ambitions. I used to bake a cake everyday, and clean house. When you're home alone everyday there's nothing to do but clean. I'm happy to say that my house now has dust balls."

In the Fall of 1970, Harlow landed her first job; teaching English and Film Studies at RWC. Sixteen years later she remains a member of this faculty. Why not move on? "It really is a good place to be," she says.

Harlow who has taught mostly Film courses during her career, claims that she has never taken a film course in her life. Also, that her interest in film did not emerge until she was doing her graduate work at Brown University, as an English major.

"I was writing a response to someone's paper (a classmate's) on Dickens and the Theatre, and I had a eureka experience -- that Dickens' work is cinematic." From there, her interest in Film grew and she went on to do her dissertation about film, based on what she terms, "good, solid literary training. Her bookshelves hold hundreds of volumes, most concerned with film and/or writing. "I've always been a passionate reader," says Harlow.

Has Harlow always aspired to be a college professor? "My first real ambition was to be an African explorer," she states. "I always wanted to do stuff, get out, and explore. My second real ambition was to be on the stage. I was always in plays, seeing plays, or reading plays."

Despite her dreams, Harlow grew up in an age where "girls weren't supposed to do anything," she says. Having gone through high school in the fifties, it was the norm for girls to marry early, settle down and raise families. Setting aside dreams of Africa and the stage, Harlow did what society expected of her; married and began a family.

"It was perfect for ten years," says Harlow. "Then I began to feel, I want to go to college. My family thought I was crazy. I had two small

children in grade school."

At age 27, living in Massachusetts, Harlow entered Bridgewater State College as an English major. It was cheap, a \$100 per semester, and close to her home. "I was a serious student," says Harlow with pride.

In the past sixteen years, RWC students have changed considerably. Harlow feels that these changes are, "very positive. Back then students were dealing with drugs and high half the time, now they're more serious. I see some signs of real social concern and think that's good. I don't think we'll ever return to the sixties, and probably shouldn't ever."

What does the future hold for today's college student? "The world of work is much more bleak, and always has been, then we've peddled it as a dream. I don't see the reality of saying that everyone can have power, success, money. We're not adequately dealing with reality. That's why Humanities is so important. Humanities helps to develop those resources, it's your private life that ought to be interesting. We lie to ourselves, and Reagan is a symbol of those lies."

"Take risks," Harlow advises the 80's student, "Don't play it so safe. Take a course that interests you rather than one you think you ought to take. Take a course with a teacher who has a good reputation instead of a gut course."

She feels that students "Shouldn't be trained for one little job." Rather, that college is a place to explore a wide variety of interests, an opportunity to learn about a whole spectrum of courses such as music, art, business, and the sciences.

She feels that 21 courses for an undergraduate major is, "too much, there are graduate schools if you later want to specialize and that your first dead end job is no job."

The role of the college today, according to Harlow, is to teach people, "The ability to write, think, talk, and to provide a solid opportunity to develop as a person."

She would like to see the college do more with computers. "Computers are the present and the future. It's such a liberating and productive tool, that I feel like going around and celebrating my computer!"



ATTENTION WRITERS ATTENTION WRITERS

ALDEBARAN is now accepting submissions of poetry and short fiction for its May issue.

All submissions must be accompanied by a self-addressed stamped envelope. (On-Campus box # need not be stamped.)

Submissions may be left in the ALDEBARAN mailbox in the Student Senate.

Deadline is April 15. Good Luck

GET PUBLISHED GET PUBLISHED



A black and white photograph of a young man with dark hair, wearing a light-colored t-shirt, playing an acoustic guitar and singing into a microphone. He is on a stage, and a cymbal is visible in the foreground on the left.

3/8/86 HOME OF THE 15-MINUTE TA



Miller Goes to Brown

by Andrew Miller

I would rather be at Brown University than Roger Williams. The obvious reply being, "Well Andrew, don't let the door hit you in the ass on the way out." Unfortunately I don't have the money or the academic prowess to convince Brown that it would be in their best interest to let me attend classes there. So I'll love the one I'm with. RWC. Good College. Let's talk about it.

Nice area, great view of the bay and haling from New Jersey I consider the air up here clean. Newport is close. So is Providence. Both are neat cities providing ample opportunity to hunt for records, shop for a weird outfit or find a nice quiet bar with a guitar player who will keep you company while you drink your beer.

The worst thing you can do to a complainer is to make him comfortable, for then he has nothing to do. At RWC the die-hard complainers pick on the food, the parking and the weekends. The reason I don't take these complainers seriously is because they don't complain about the classes. The rest of the stuff just isn't that important. My classes are good. If they weren't I would drop them and go tell President Rizzini I want my money back. Maybe I'd get it, maybe I wouldn't but I wouldn't sit and be bored in class for a semester while bitching about how little cheese the cafeteria puts in the omelettes.

So why do I want to go to Brown? I suppose that on the average Brown graduates start at better jobs and higher salaries. That's not why. Brown is generally ranked as the third most prestigious school in the country, but that's not why either. The main reason is because when I'm walking along Thayer Street in Providence or driving by the Brown off-campus housing in the Northern section of town I see young people. They dress weird and stay up all

night and strain for ideal causes and strive to look disinterested while browsing throughout the stacks at College Hill Bookstore.

At Roger Williams and everywhere I see people not yet twenty who get up at seven, every day, live by the same study schedule everyday, eat dinner at the same time and go to bed at the same time everyday. How did they get so old so fast? How come no-one ever showed them what staying up to watch the sunrise can do for your poetry?

Protest is often impotent and serves only to make the protestor feel a little better. But at least at Brown and Harvard and Clark they try. I laughed with everybody else when Brown students "arrested" members of the CIA who were on campus for recruiting purposes.

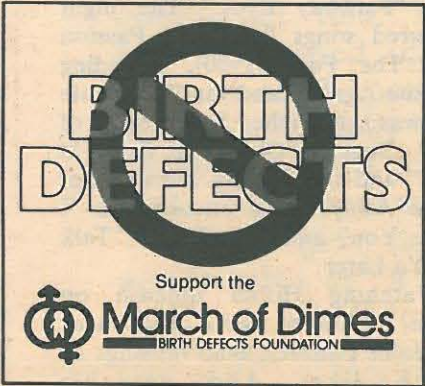
Sure a lot of the kids try to look like they've lived their whole life on West 4th Street in Greenwich Village when half of them have probably never been there. But isn't that what being young is all about? Straining all night over a book that you don't have to read for class. Having a great weekend without a penny to spend. Looking great in beat-up old clothes. I long for a little idealism, even if it is partly staged. It's better than some people I know who are solely concerned with being mature, consistent and live in constant fear of what others are thinking of them.

Maturity varies from person to person. Everybody makes up their own test and says, "When I pass this, I'll be mature." Doing what has to be done can be rejoined with the spontaneity and beauty of youth.

What separates complacent youth from actual old people like the ones we never see on the Charlie Brown specials? About the same as my chances of being suddenly invited to study philosophy at Berkeley on full Scholarship. Not much ...

Road Race to Benefit The March of Dimes

Densmore Oil and Westerly Jewelry will sponsor the third annyal road race to benefit the Rhode Island Chapter March of Dimes. The "Welcome to Spring Road Race" will be held on March 22, 1986. The start and finish of the 5 mile race will be Al's Cafe, 8 Mechanic Street, Pawcatuck, Connecticut (Westerly, R.I. border). Registration will be held at 8:30 am and the race will begin at 9:30 am. Registration the day of the event is \$5 per person. Preregistration is \$4 per person and may be obtained by contacting Rose Pingitore at 781-1611. The "Welcome to Spring Road Race" is open to males and females of all ages.



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Farkas	129
Abstentions	108
SOPHOMORE CLASS	
TREASURER	Total -86
May	81
Abstentions	5
CONSTITUTIONAL REFERENDUM	
Yes	Total -281
No	214
Abstentions	61
FOOTBALL REFERENDUM	
Yes	Total -295
No	182
Abstentions	113

CLASSIFIEDS AND PERSONALS

Debbie Simpson,
MOVIE
Syringe

Jody,
Is it wrong to yell
movie in a crowded
Firehouse?
MD

Krazy,
Have a little corn
with your salad.
Jett Black

"Eight Girls and One Bathroom!?"
is more than enough. Thank you.
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