

Roger
Williams
University

Saturday,
April 2, 2005
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THIS
WEEK



"Freak" Author
on Campus
page 3

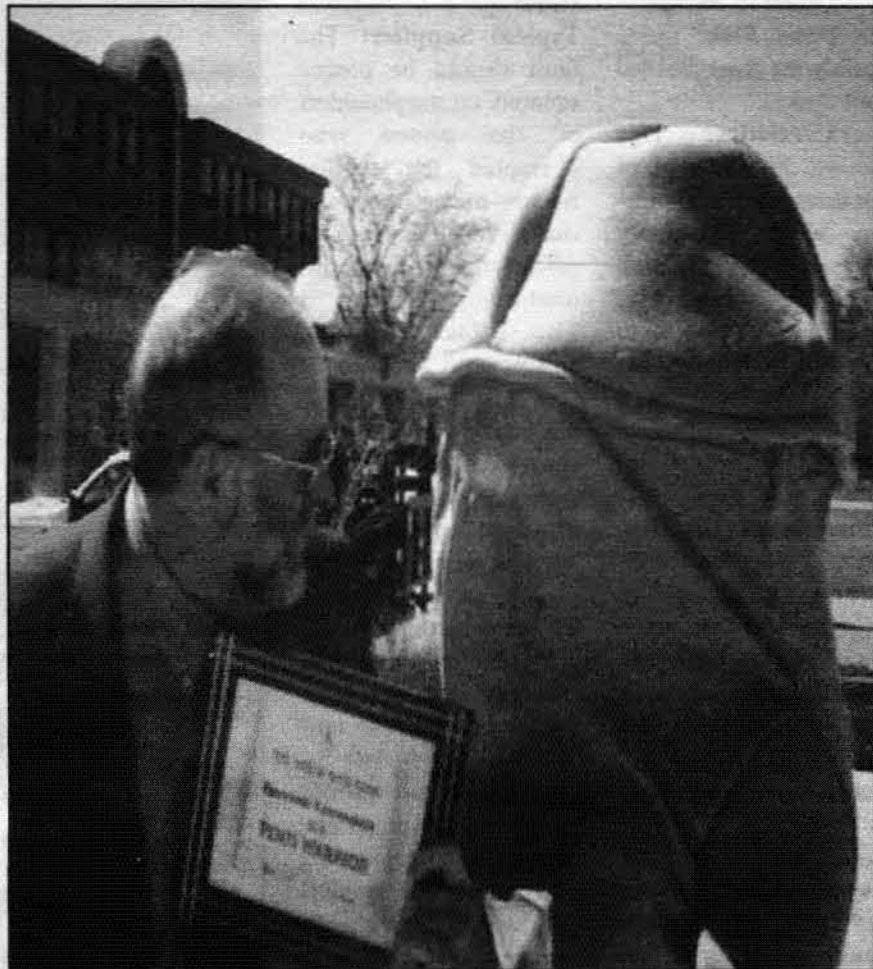
SPORTS



THE HAWK'S HERALD

an independent student newspaper

The Phallic Drama



Photos by Michelle Donabed

Meet Testaclese... In an effort to promote the "Penis Monologues," The College Republicans kicked off spring with Testaclese, who encouraged students to attend the April 5 lecture. Above left, Provost Edward Kavanagh exchanges words with the appendage; above right, students become acquainted with the human penis.

Dodge, duck, dip, dive and dodge!

Ashley Erling
Contributing Writer

It's Wednesday evening and "crunch time" on campus. While most students are writing papers and studying for finals, Jim Schnare, senior, has something very different on his mind: dodgeball.

Schnare and seven of his friends have a dodgeball playoff game this particular night, and while they could be writing papers, they are too excited about their game to focus on schoolwork.

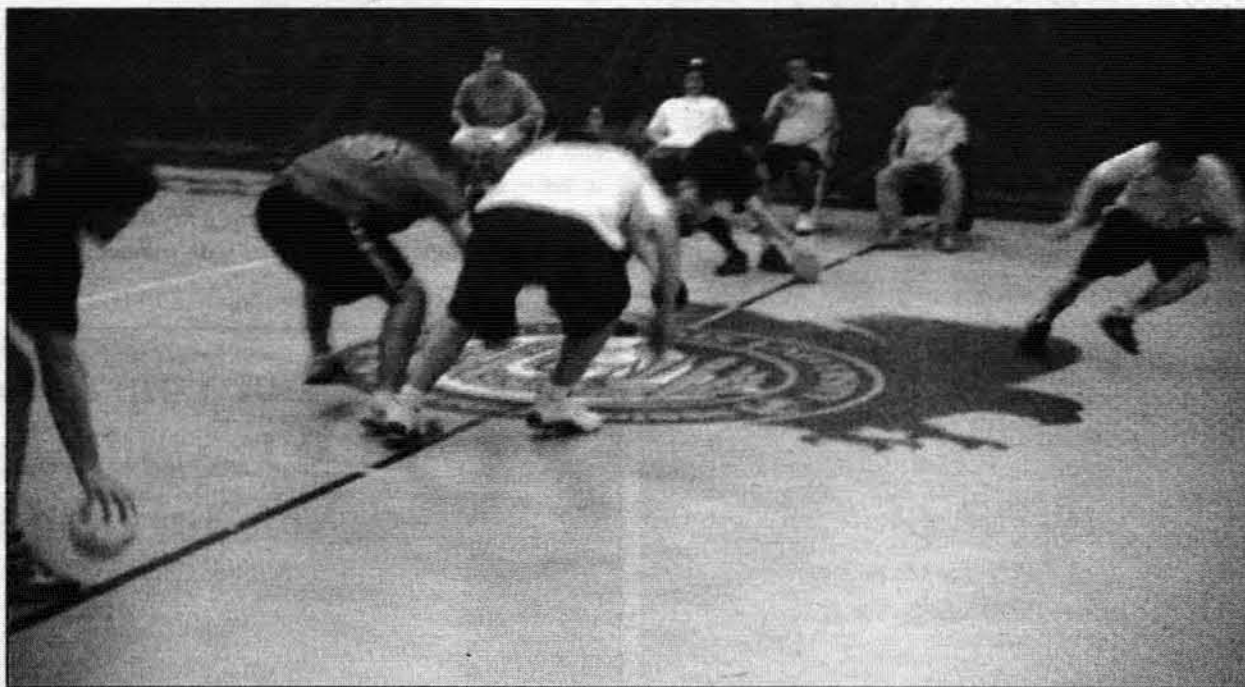
"When we're not playing dodgeball we're thinking about it, and some of us have had dreams about it," said Schnare.

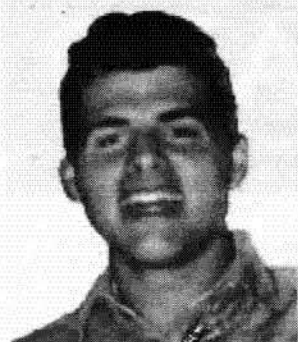
This is not your typical sports enthusiasm, and the excitement is not exclusive to Schnare's unbeaten "GFY" team. Since the addition of dodgeball as an intramural sport at RWU this semester, more than 30 teams have joined in the fun. What might be even more surprising is that

the obscure sport has become popular not only on campus, but nationwide.

Dodgeball came to RWU this year by student suggestion. Over the summer, Mike Gallagher, intramural adviser, was talking to some of the school's orientation advisors (OAs) when Chris Poles, senior, said that dodgeball should be an intramural sport. Gallagher thought about it and decided it sounded like a good idea. Gallagher looked to the National Intramural Recreational Sports Association (NIRSA) to research the subject further. He found that "several schools" either already had dodgeball as an intramural sport, or were about to introduce it. The list includes Providence College, Colorado College, Ohio State University, UCLA and Keene State College. It

SEE DODGEBALL, PAGE 3





Chris Villano
Contributing Writer

*Dedicated to the entire Westside
Crew and Clown House*

"Real friends hug."

Steve King

"New England the destroyer"—that's what I'm going to start calling this place now.

On one hand, this foul-weathered region can be proud of its destruction. Congrats, you now hold the longest NFL single season winning streak and in the same year managed to break "the curse of the Bambino." (Both of which have done wonders for New England pride.)

But on the other hand, (literally), you're killing me Smalls!

Thanks to living in this place I can no longer shake another man's hand for the rest of my life unless I endure long hours of therapy (continue reading and it will become more than obvious).

New England has completely destroyed the handshake for me. But wait, before you start saying things like "Chris, we didn't destroy anything, it's not our fault you can't shake hands like a normal human being," listen to what I have to say.

Don't you find it odd that in every episode of "Pimp My Ride," featuring a scrawny white guy, rapper Xzibit always manages to nail a complicated

From Providence, with love

"Subtleties of Life 2: "Master Shake"

looking handshake with them? Despite that fact the two are obviously from different sides of the track, it is no accident they can seamlessly connect (literally and figuratively) on an introductory level. Everywhere else in this country there's a common handshake or a "Master Shake," if you will.

Let me break it down for you. It's a slap, grip and a slide. Not that complicated bro.

This meeting of the extremities is done to imply that, 1) you're under the age of 30, 2) that you do not hold a full time job in "the real world," 3) you're in touch with the youth culture of America and 4) that in general, you're down. Basically this is a way of saying "what up." On the other hand, the full grip, three pump standard shake is a way of saying, "Hello Sir or Madam, I am pleased to make your acquaintance," and is normally reserved for adults.

Throughout middle school and high school I could operate the Master Shake with ease, and even wield slight variations with different cliques. But now, thanks to New England, I'm at a point where I fear meeting new people simply based on the fact that I have no idea what they're going to throw at me. Half the time I'm appalled at what I receive when I meet new people.

Here's a breakdown of what I've had to deal with since I came to college:

The Dead Fish: Quite possibly the most dreaded of all shakes.

Characteristics: This clammy, lifeless slab of tuna destroys first impressions like the A-bomb. The receiver has to do all the up & down work, while doing his best not to quickly withdraw his hand in disgust to wipe away the sweat and scales of his aquatic acquaintance.

Typical supplier: You normally find this nautical nuisance attached to someone who has given up all hope of figuring out how to shake hands in New England. Or, on someone who is black-out drunk, but still functioning on a basic semi-conscious level.

The Mistaken Identity: No one EVER sees this one coming.

Characteristics: This occurs when two people mistake the identity of each other's outstretched hand during that split second interval you have to determine what's getting thrown at you. One person goes for the Master Shake while the other goes for the regular shake. Much like a volatile chemical combination, this meeting is catastrophic. Two hands lost in translation ending in the realization that you either have to pretend like that never happened or

think of a quick and funny explanation for the screw up.

Typical Supplier: The fault should be placed squarely on the shoulders of the person who attempted the regular shake—never regular shake your peers. This person clearly has no idea what's up.

The Rock, Paper, Scissors: A variation of "the Mistaken Identity," this shake can't even be considered a shake. If it were a professional boxer it would be called the "aberration of introductions."

Characteristics: Oh man, this is the worst. One guy goes for ANY kind of outstretched, normal handshake while his counterpart throws out the pound fist (much like the way paper beats rock, hence the name). There is no way to avoid the awkwardness that is sure to ensue this massive violation of handshake etiquette.

Typical Supplier: An adult who is trying to be cool or just someone who has no clue what's going on. This is common during sporting events when the fist pound is most frequently used.

You know what; I'm just going to stop it at that. This has gone on far too long and is starting to traumatize me. If you try to shake my hand at a party, I'm just going to hit you with a salmon.

Editor's Desk

We're making A Call to Arms: Any arms. Any arms that can help prove Tim Mannion wrong.

This afternoon there was a heated discussion in the Herald office. Mr. Mannion proposed that there are no women, anywhere, that can beat any guy in any sport. Ever.

I beg to differ. Or, at least, I want to beg to differ. Badly. However, I am not the most proficient in sports history. Nor do I have any authority to command a battle of athleticism on the soccer field.

So, I'm asking the campus community to help me out. I need a sport where a girl dominates (and despite myself, Allie and Mona Hatoum's desperate attempts, Mannion does not consider cheerleading a sport. But keep in mind those "tiny" Rah-Rahs need to lift and throw twice their weight).

So let's hear it. Email me your answers at hawksherald@yahoo.com.

Corrections:

In the 3/19 issue of the Herald, we mistakenly printed that Shari Alvanas was a former creative writing professor at RWU. She still teaches at the University.

Also, in the article about Steph Plaud, to clarify: her book is called Rib Tunes, and the publishing company and where to find the book, is Publish America, found at www.PublishAmerica.com

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To contact the Hawk's Herald, email us at hawksherald@yahoo.com or call x3229.

Let Your Voice Be Heard!!
RWU Student Senate Elections
Vote for Student Senators and
Class Officers

April 6 and 7
11:00-2:00 p.m., 4:30-6:00 p.m.
Dining Hall

If you wish to run for an elected position, please pick up an application form at the Student Senate Office in the Rec Center.

Disclaimer: The views, statements, opinions, depictions and/or representations (expressions) contained herein are solely those of the Hawk's Herald and do not and are not meant to represent or be attributed to the expressions of Roger Williams University, any trustee, officer, agent, employee, student or representative of Roger Williams University and neither are such expressions authorized, accepted or condoned by the University.

Sugar-high writer shares love of junk food

Danielle Baldassini
Contributing Writer

If what you eat is a reflection of who you are, Steve Almond has us all beat in the sweetness department.

This dark, lanky author with a biting wit and a huge obsession with candy of all shapes and sizes, was a guest speaker on March 15.

Almond, the author of *My Life in Heavy Metal* and more recently, the oh-so suitably titled *Candyfreak*, is a former journalist from Somerville, Mass., who teaches at Boston College.

He began his lecture with a reading from *Candyfreak*, a witty, sarcastic take on some of his favorite candies as a child, such as Bubble Yum and Pop Rocks. His clever metaphors had everyone in the room chuckling, comparing being seen trick-or-treating with his parents when he was a kid to "admitting that you like Barry Manilow,"

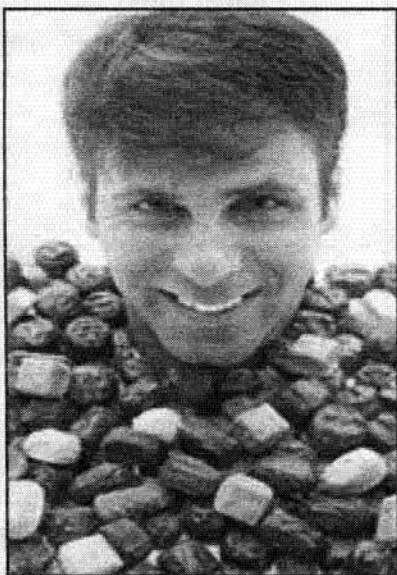
and comparing the texture of the coconut in a Mounds bar to "eating a cuticle." His imagery made some of the members of the audience cringe, while others laughed at the humorous descriptions.

Almond described his book as "sensually spe-

are popular in different cultures. As listeners disclosed their own personal favorite candies, such as Ring Pops and even Japanese candy, we learn that we all have an obsession, or at least a strong preference, for some kind of sweet treat.

Almond concluded the lecture with a short reading from his most recent book, *The Evil BB Chow and Other Stories*, a collection of short stories. The story he read, "A Happy Dream," was about two people on a "circumstantial" blind date. Once again, Almond's quirky, descriptive humor is evident.

We learned from Almond the relevance of something as simple as candy in our culture. Even if you don't think you have much of a sweet tooth, candy is "the sex, drugs, and rock-and-roll of our childhood," and that is something we can all relate to.



cific and a little bit nutty." He went on to explain the importance of candy, that which many overlook. We learn from Almond that candy is a "good way to examine life in the U.S. in the 20th century," as different types of candy

Almond candy-coats classroom

Elizabeth Liederman
Contributing Writer

To say Steve Almond's love and adoration toward candy is an obsession might be a wee bit of an understatement; in all of its different forms, candy—eating it, playing with it, and even merely observing it—is the driving force for all of Almond's thoughts and actions.

RWU students discovered Steve Almond's obsession on March 16, when he was a guest speaker in Professor Edward Delaney's Creative Non-Fiction class. Throughout the hour, the author revealed his "inner freak" and number one obsession by answering numerous questions posed by students.

Additionally, by Delaney's request, Almond explored the crafts and literary techniques applied in his prose, and explained (in a similar sarcastic tone used in *Candyfreak*) the motives that triggered him to write

this "candy-oriented" memoir. One example of craft found in *Candyfreak* is the unique, humorous tone of Almond's narration throughout the course of his "Candy land" journey. This wry, slight sense of humor depicted in his memoir is also a means of escapism in regard to the more painful and confusing aspects of his life, especially his past. And still, Almond finds a way to apply humor to pain and vice-versa: his obsession guided him from start to finish.

Almond believes when it comes to any sort of fixation, everyone everywhere can (and does) relate in one way or another.

"Everybody has a degree of obsession about sweets in some sense," said Almond. "It's crack. It's a powerful drug for children."

Furthermore, at sporadic times throughout the hour, the Candyfreak King would look

to confront his past in order to describe the period in his life when the book was written.

Almond sarcastically confessed, "[*Candyfreak*] was written at a time I was depressed; not 'can't get out of my bed all day' depressed, but 'can't get out of my bed for 20 minutes because the chocolate is in the other room' depressed."

He delved further into his "depressed" state when he emphasized an important and universal human truth: our pleasures are always linked to our sorrows.

Ultimately, the results of Almond's acclaimed *Candyfreak* were successful, and his year-long reflections worked to release his pent-up freak on paper, once and for all.

As Delaney's class came to an end, Almond accurately concluded his discussion by advising students that, "All good memoir is obsessive in nature... it should be."

A PERFECT 10



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Dodgeball

(cont'd. from page 1)

proved to be an increasingly popular trend, or as Gallagher put it, "the next big thing."

Intramurals kicked off their fall season at RWU with a viewing of the movie "Dodgeball" before it had been released to video. Immediately following the movie a tournament took place. Dodgeball, both the movie and the game, were hits. The students couldn't get enough.

"More and more people kept coming to sign up, I never expected it to be so popular," said Gallagher. Other popular intramural sports, such as soccer and basketball, generally carry about 30 teams. Dodgeball has 32 teams in all. Twenty teams make up the men's league and 12 teams create a coed league.

What is it about the sport that has suddenly made it so popular again? Undoubtedly, the release of the movie, which stars Ben Stiller, has sparked the interest of childhood dodgeball fans nationwide. The movie appeals to the underdog in us all, and, like the movie, it is the sport's vast appeal that draws crowds.

"It's because it's so simple, and it brings back the good old playground days," said Justin Huber, senior and avid dodgeball participant. The game reminds students, who are at the brink of the "real world," how much fun it is to be a kid.

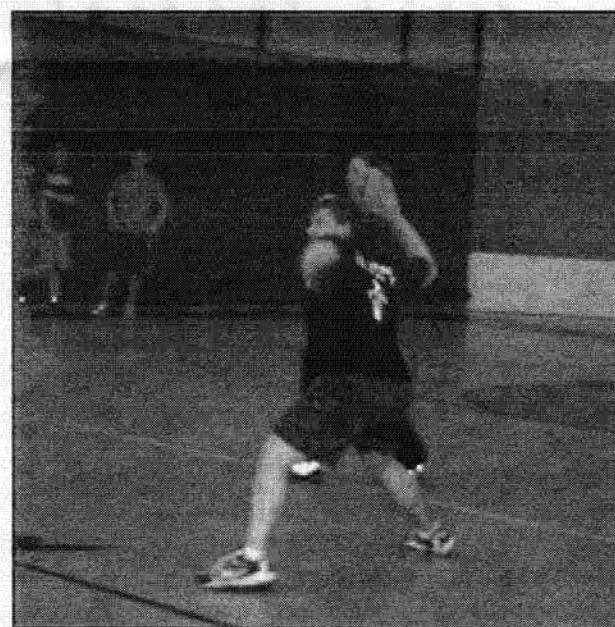
The international dodgeball federation (IDF) said, "It is a very inclusive sport with regard to height, weight, and sex of participants. You don't have to be [6-foot 5] to play, you don't have to be able to bench press 250 pounds, and

girls can legitimately compete with and against boys."

Gallagher agrees, "It's something everyone can do. You don't have to be a super athlete, and it's fun!" Gallagher was also happy to see females turnout for the sport. He says he is always looking for anything he can do to increase female interest in intramurals and is open for suggestions. He is hopeful that dodgeball may be the key to increasing female intramurals, and will hopefully be able to include an all-girls dodgeball league in the

again with all types and ages. There is actually a chain of dodgeball centers opening nationwide. The center goes by the name *Dodge-it* and their motto is "strike without hesitation." *Dodge-it* does not however cater just to children; adults are also welcome and encouraged to participate. *Dodge-it* centers include indoor and outdoor arenas, leagues running throughout the year and tournaments on special occasions. They even offer specials for corporate events and birthday parties.

Likewise, even adults



future.

The game even has health benefits.

"The sport teaches great hand-to-eye coordination and is an excellent aerobic exercise," says IDF. It is also a very safe sport. The "gator-skin" dodgeballs most commonly used are comparable to nerf balls. They are the ones normally used in grammar schools, unlike the rubber balls used in the movie "DodgeBall." The gator-skin ones are much safer and lightweight, and there have not yet been any ball-related injuries at RWU.

But it's more than just a comeback within colleges. Since the release of the movie, dodgeball has become popular

here on campus are getting back into the childhood favorite. Gallagher said he has been asked on numerous occasions by different RWU faculty to borrow the dodgeballs for tournaments with their staff.

And celebrities can't get enough. Ben Stiller and Christine Taylor co-chaired a celebrity dodgeball tournament. The tickets averaged \$75 and the tournament included Matthew Perry and The Backstreet Boys. All proceeds went to benefit the Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS foundation.

Dodgeball has returned to the intramural roster this spring: games began March 28.

reason & RESPECT

A JOURNAL OF CIVIL DISCOURSE AT ROGER WILLIAMS UNIVERSITY

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS Deadline May 15, 2005

Reason and Respect: A Journal of Civil Discourse at Roger Williams University invites submissions for the upcoming issue, which will address the broad theme of tolerance, with a specific request for essays describing the linkages between tolerance and faith, free speech, and/or justice. All members of the Roger Williams University community are invited to submit essays, book reviews, or film reviews that focus upon the broad theme and various linkages. We specifically encourage those in various disciplinary fields including education, business, liberal arts, the law, and justice studies to answer this call by placing specific emphasis upon the relationship between the themes mentioned above, in the context of their individual disciplines. The editors will also consider all essays addressing and exploring ideas of civility, reason, and respect in a civil society. Contributors should use the documentation style appropriate to their discipline. Deadline: May 15, 2005.

What to submit: Please send manuscripts electronically in Microsoft Word to either Professor Robert Engvall at rengvall@rwu.edu or Professor Kate Mele at kmele@rwu.edu.

On the manuscript include your name, department or major, e-mail address, and local phone number. In addition, do not forget to attach the .DOC file extension to the filename.

Tsunami Relief raises \$2k

Students, faculty and administration involved in the Tsunami Relief Effort raised \$2,000 for World Vision, an international relief organization that sought to rebuild homes, schools and water tanks in Thailand, as well as Southeast Asia.

The Relief Effort was organized by a group of student leaders representing student senate, IRHA, athletics, MSU, TEAM Care the Newman Club, as well as the student body at large.

Fundraising began in mid-February and ran for three weeks. Monetary donations were placed in water jugs that were displayed all around campus.

Sodexo and Dining Services worked with the Effort to organize a meal donation sign

away, where 350 students donated one meal for this semester.

The \$1,977 raised was matched by the Vice President of Student Affairs John King, as well as President Roy Nirschel.

The Relief Effort would like to especially thank Mary Abate, who works at Jazzman's and organized for herself and her co-workers to donate all of their tips for the full three weeks of fundraising. They'd also like to thank those who wrote generous checks to World Vision, and dining services for working with them on the meal sign away.

Finally, they would like to thank Danielle McKay at the Design Center of Campus Programs, who created the beautiful banners.

Joan Roth: A Singing Inspiration



Joan Roth, choir director at RWU, has been teaching for 25 years. Students who had Roth years ago still keep in contact with her. "I have made lasting friendships with many," said Roth.

Meghan Rothschild
Contributing Writer

As she walks toward the center of the room, the once noisy crowd turns into an obedient, and somewhat intimidated, group of students. Soon, the piano is playing, and without question the class begins singing "boa, boa, bow." This frequent warm-up for the Roger Williams University chorus members is grilled into their heads.

Joan Roth, choir director at RWU, has been teaching for 25 years and any student of hers knows she means business.

"I love working with the students and have made lasting friends with many," she said. "I still hear from some who graduated in the 80s."

Although Roth has become a household name around campus, RWU isn't the only place she has expressed her musical talent.

"I was a music specialist for the Little Compton, Rhode Island, school department when I came to Roger Williams College," she said. "I had also taught American History and

English, grades six through 11 in the Bristol Schools."

In 1985, Roth retired from Little Compton and began teaching part-time in Our Lady of Fatima High School.

"It was music two days a week, for a couple of years, while I was teaching at RWU," Roth says, thinking back a few years. "I also taught academic courses [during] nights, summers and inter-sessions, both January and June."

Roth, who was born and raised in Bristol, stumbled upon a teaching job at RWU in 1981.

"President Bill Rizzini hired me at the suggestion of Betsy Argo of the drama department," she said.

"She thought it would be helpful for those students who were interested in musical theater to have a place to use their voices when the department wasn't doing a musical."

Since then, Roth has provided students with a place to express themselves vocally, and a chance to get in touch with the surrounding community.

"She's very dedicat-

ed," says Brett Hobson, a junior international business major. "She definitely has compassion for what she does."

Jeff Fraser, a junior criminal justice major, feels the same way.

"She's a little devil," he says. "I've been in chorus with her for two semesters and she's one of the hardest working women I've ever met."

Roth isn't the only one in her family who is musically gifted. She has two daughters, Joanna, 47, and Kathryn, 43, who have both chosen to practice music. Joanna is a research biologist in Fairbanks, Alaska, and plays the harp.

Kathryn lives in Providence as a psychotherapist and also is a professional musician. She plays a wooden, eighteenth century baroque flute. Both are graduates of Brown University.

When Roth isn't conducting a music class, she's participating in some of her favorite hobbies.

"I have been a sailor all my life," she says. "And I have seen much of Europe and been to Alaska six times."

Almost every student of Roth's is thankful for the 25 years she's dedicated to making the RWU chorus a recognized part of campus. Every fall semester, her students prepare for what has been referred to as one of the most "established nights" in Bristol.

"In December 1981, the choruses of Roger Williams College and Providence College, along with the Bristol County Interfaith Choir, united to present the first in a series of holiday concerts," Roth explained.

"This almost immediately became an esteemed Bristol tradition."

Originally there was one performance, but in 1986 a massive audience, an overcrowded church and an angry fire chief forced the choir to add a second performance.

Over the years, the concert has gained popularity and allowed students at RWU to continue to be part of the Bristol community.

"It's a good opportuni-

SEE JOAN PAGE 6

FULL TIME

PART TIME

SUMMER

INTERNSHIP/CO-OP



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APRIL 6TH
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For an updated list keep checking back to HAWK'S HUNT

Attention Students: Still looking for Summer Work?

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Joan

(cont'd. from page 4)

ty for the audience to see and hear RWU students," she said. "There is also a good relationship developed between community chorus members and RWU students during rehearsals."

Although Roth has loved her time spent at RWU, her experiences don't come without complaint.

"The only thing that I really don't like is a lack of facilities and space with which to work, and it's been 25 years."

Roth, who has become extremely dedicated to the chorus, has been required to provide practice space at her own home. "It says something about the commitment of the university to music performance," she said. "If we are a university, the students deserve a university experience."

Roth may have concerns with the music facilities, but she couldn't be happier with her students.

"I am content that the chorus gives its very best with the music we choose together," she said. "Their holiday concert at Blithewold was one of the finest I've heard. I was bursting with pride and the audience loved it."

Bryenne Libby, a junior communications major, recognizes Roth's hard work and her ability to run a tight class.

"I was in Joan's class last semester," she says. "She's tough, but in the end you can see it in the performance."

Roth agrees that hard work and dedication is the key to a successful performance.

"One person who doesn't know what he or she is doing can destroy a performance," says Roth. "Choral singing demands that everyone be in the same place at the same split second, and that takes practice."

Roger Williams University Community Standards Brief

In an effort to communicate and be proactive with the community, the Office of Judicial Affairs and Community Standards will begin to highlight selected student discipline cases and statistics. For this particular report, we will review Fall 2004. We are listing the outcomes of only cases that resulted in suspension or expulsion from Roger Williams University. Please note that a suspension from the University, as detailed in the Student Handbook, typically is minimally for 1 semester up to an indefinite time and begins immediately. When a student is suspended, they have to complete educational sanctions such as counseling to return. Expulsion is permanent and begins immediately. Once found responsible, students are withdrawn from their classes. Both disciplinary suspension and expulsion are listed on the student's academic transcript and students are responsible for financial obligations for the semester when the sanction occurred. During suspensions and expulsions, responsible individuals are banned from University property. In accordance with state and federal laws protecting the privacy of student records, identifying information in the following report, such as names and genders, is excluded.

Fall 2004 Disciplinary Suspensions

- 1 student was suspended for, while under the influence of alcohol, pulling a false fire alarm in a residence hall. The alarm required hall evacuation as well as University personnel, Police, and Fire Department response.
- 1 student was suspended for disorderly conduct under the influence of alcohol and damaging property by fire. This student's behavior required University personnel, Police, and Fire Department response.
- 1 student was suspended for failing to comply with University personnel, theft of personal property, and violating housing ban and probation.

Fall 2004 Disciplinary Expulsions

- 3 students were expelled for distribution and possession of drugs. The students were found responsible for selling a quantity of marijuana. 1 student was in possession of hallucinogenic mushrooms. All 3 students were arrested.

We hope to continue to create an awareness of response to community disruptions as well as to educate students to think before you act, to please make good decisions that will benefit the community. Education and human development are our primary values and intended outcomes of the student discipline system. We seek to enhance the educational missions of the University and the Division of Student Affairs by setting and promoting high standards while treating each student with dignity and respect. As always, if there are questions about the process or behavioral concerns, please contact us at 254-3042 or contact an RA, Core, and Public Safety.

Wyclef Jean to headline spring weekend concert

Reggae-inspired artist Wyclef Jean will headline this year's spring concert.

The former leader of the hip-hop band The Fugees, Jean started his solo career in 1997, creating music that combines island and street rhythm.

Born in Haiti and raised in the Brooklyn projects, Jean studied jazz, took up the guitar and listened to rap as a child. Once he got involved in The Fugees, their 1996 album "The Score" set billboard charts on fire with their single "Killing Me Softly."

Jean's launch of "The Carnival" successfully created two hit singles: "We Trying to Stay Alive," recasting the Bee Gees' signature disco tune as a ghetto anthem, and the

Grammy-nominated "Gone Till November." The songs pushed "Carnival" to the Top 20 on the charts.

After collaborating with top artists like Destiny's Child and Whitney Houston, Jean went on to release four more solo albums, the most recent being "Welcome to Haiti: Creole 101" in October of 2004.

His most recent single "President" is a collaboration of hip-hop backbeats and Jean's notorious singsongy voice that's nostalgic of middle school bus rides where The Fugees were on every station.

Jean will bring his entire Refugee Camp to perform at RWU on Thursday, April 20 in the Rec Center.



Journalism Professor wins New England book award

Communications Professor Edward J. Delaney has been awarded the 2005 L.L. Winship/PEN New England Award. Delaney's second book, *Warp and Weft*, won in the fiction category. The award is given annually to an author from New England. Past recipients include: E.B. White, Andre Dubuis, Susan Cheever, Tracy Kidder and Anita Shreve. The L.L. Winship/PEN Award honors *Boston Globe* editor, Laurence L. Winship and is sponsored by the *Boston Globe* and PEN/New England.

Fashion should have stayed in closet

Kaitlin Evans
Contributing Writer

Unfortunately for CEN, MSU and the Career Center, this year's Fashion Show was definitely a miss.

It started out with a performance by Special Delivery, the a capella group, singing the national anthem. Next up were the MSU dancers with a hip hop dance performance, previously seen at their talent showcase in the fall. After that, the fashion part of the show started.

For Urban Wear, the look of the moment is

Broadway tune. The song was irrelevant to the show and didn't pump up the audience. It actually had the opposite affect and seemed to depress those who had chosen not to leave yet. Luckily though, Debra's short dress distracted the audience from her off-key singing.

Getting back to fashion, the show moved on to Club Wear. At a crucial moment involving the audience, the DJ failed miserably. Instead of playing the appropriate techno or hip hop, the DJ opted to play disco songs that are out-

onstage, greeted by confusion from the hosts, to demonstrate what not to wear.

The next fashion category was Business Casual: outfits more appropriate if you don't work in an office. The ladies wore green or khaki suits paired with matching pocketbooks and stilettos. They also paired light trench coats with floral print skirts and matching solid tops. The guys wore V-neck sweaters over button down shirts with an optional tie.

The next talent portion of the night was MSU

In an unsuccessful attempt to hold the audience's attention, the fashion show turned into a fashion and talent show, showcasing a real talent show's rejects.

definitely capris paired with stiletto heels or layered t-shirts over boy-cut tanks for a layered, but put-together look for girls. The guys dressed in oversized Polo and G-Unit shirts paired with baggy pants. Both girls and guys can wear faded jeans and wife-beaters for more of a dressed down, everyday look.

Next up was the Business Apparel category. Although the hosts announced what the models were wearing, they were too busy laughing at each other and the audience (for no reason) to explain what these outfits were appropriate for, so I will. Business formal looks are for interviews, meetings with a boss or working in an office. The men wore darker suits with pinstripes and metallic ties. The girls wore light-colored suits in shades of khaki with pearl belts and wide-leg pants.

In an unsuccessful attempt to hold the audience's attention, the fashion show turned into a fashion and talent show, showcasing a real talent show's rejects. In between runway models was a performance by Debra Brenner, singing a

dated and unheard of. Guys wore their usual button down shirts and distressed jeans while the ladies wore dark jeans and lighter tops adorned with sequins or beads. Next was the Neo Soul category. This was more of a hippie look with tie-dyed clothing, fading from dark to light. They also wore flowy skirts with loose shirts.

Getting back to the talent showcase, Special Delivery came back onstage to ruin the song "I'll Be" by Edwin McCain. Once again, the choice in song was irrelevant only this time it was highlighted by no harmonization and the dire need of a microphone. Fortunately for the audience, this was the perfect opportunity to visit the refreshments table.

In the Formal category, the guys modeled rented tuxes provided by Our Place Tuxedos. The ladies wore what appeared to be their old prom dresses from high school with the usual lace-up backs, uneven handkerchief hems and long, fitted trumpet skirts. In between fashions, Debra came back

dancers, performing dances from different cultures, including a tribute piece to Michael Jackson, honoring what I assume is American culture. Although the dances were good, they were performances previously seen in MSU's Talent Showcase in the fall.

The final fashion category was International Wear with traditional clothing from Syria, Singapore, Gambia, Kenya and Hawaii. The final performer tap danced to "Harder to Breathe" by Maroon 5. Sadly, the music was too loud so the audience was unable to hear the tapping.

Although the show was riddled with irrelevant and questionable talent, the one saving grace of the whole show was The Hot Sextet, a jazz ensemble that played incredibly and actually captivated the audiences' attention. Their sextet's energy onstage revived a very restless audience. They were a refreshing burst of talent in an otherwise lifeless show.



ASK MEG & ASH

Meg and Ash,

OK, there is this girl in one of my classes who is absolutely the most annoying girl in the world. Unfortunately, trying to be nice, I hung out with her a few times and gave her my cell and AIM name. As a result she is literally stalking me. I get IMs every time I'm online and if I'm not online I get a phone call. I was just trying to be nice! What can I do without hurting the feelings of this socially challenged girl?

-Always Attracts Losers

Attracts:

We have heard this story a million times! We'd just like to thank you for trying to be nice to your socially awkward peer; kudos to you for being a good person. These situations sometimes result in developing not a friendship, but getting to know a clingy weirdo. She needs to learn to make other friends, so maybe you could sit her down and talk to her. Tell her that she tends to be a bit overbearing and it turns people off. Perhaps all she needs is an attitude adjustment. If she is still annoyingly persistent, block her from AIM. She will have no idea you aren't just signed off. Or you could stop responding to IMs or tell her that you're busy with homework. You can do the same thing with the phone calls, but if it gets out of hand either report her to public safety or call the phone company. You can probably get her number blocked. She will continue to be a nuisance if you don't take these steps. Whatever you do, don't be afraid to put her in her place. If she's becoming intrusive you have a right to put an end to it.

Good luck!

Hi Meg and Ash!!!!

First-time emailer, long time reader of all your columns. I probably should start off by saying I'm a junior guy here at RWU. Everything has been going sensational this spring and I am excited for the summer to start so I can see my boyfriend. The thing is none of my friends know I am a homosexual and my partner wants to visit sometime after spring break. I've been hinting around the idea of getting a motel in Newport for the weekend, but he insists on meeting all of my friends (including my straight guy friends, YIKES!) I really think I'm in love with my partner but I'm so scared of what my friends will say, especially since my partner thinks I came all the way out of the closet with everyone I love. In reality I'm so much in the closet, except when I'm with him. Everyone I know here makes fun of me 'cause I speak French fluently. My partner is from France (I met him while skiing in the Alps) and has recently moved to the U.S. (New Hampshire). I don't want any of my friends to not like him because he speaks French more than he does English. I mean if speaking French is more comfortable to him then why should he speak English to please them, right girls? Well girls, I hope you can help me out, I would also love to hang out with the two of you some night you seem so spunky and fun loving.

In The Closet in Almeida

In The Closet:

We'd first like to say thanks for the invite; we do like to think of ourselves as spunky. Unfortunately, we can't accept private invitations: otherwise we'd be there in a heart beat! Now, onto your problem: we think it's time you sat down and told your partner the truth. He deserves to know about your situation. He will understand the difficulty of coming out of the closet, since he has gone through it himself. If you don't have a heart to heart, he's going to be suspicious when you keep trying to hide him from your friends. He'll probably think you're cheating or ashamed of him. That's the last thing you want to do to someone you love. Next, you should try and figure out why you haven't told anyone you're gay. We know this is a huge step, but it may be extremely helpful if you can get things out in the open. Besides, if you tell your friends and they flip, they're not worth it in the first place. There is a chance that those closest to you have already suspected you are gay. They may totally support you and want to meet your guy. In which case, your guy should try to speak English in order for everyone to communicate most effectively. Whatever you decide, don't try and hide your partner, it's hurtful to him and it will end up damaging your relationship. If he is one of your major priorities, than you know what you have to do. We wish you luck and confidence!

Got a question for Meg & Ash? Send an email to:
askmeg_ash@hotmail.com

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Men's baseball already in mid-season swing

Christopher Parish
Contributing Writer

RWU baseball is in full swing.

The team has high expectations for what may prove to be a successful year. At 7-6, the team has had a solid opening; especially considering the team only had three home games (two of which came in a double-header against Wentworth).

During the team's spring break trip to Chandler, AZ, they played nine games and finished a respectable 5-4. The team has since returned and played .500 ball (2-2), including a split in their conference match-up last weekend against Wentworth.

After dropping the first game 12-4, the team rebounded for an impressive 15-1 win,

where John Frizzell paced the team going 3-6 with 6 RBI. Matt Bernacki shut down the Wentworth offense with a four-hit performance, striking out two.

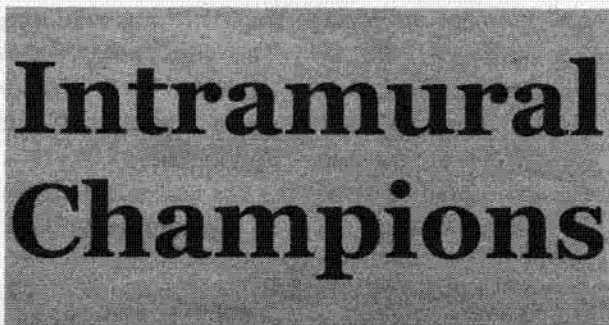
The team has a solid balance of offense, defense and pitching. Bryce Dumond's .426 average in 13 games heading into the weekend is outstanding. Frizzell leads the team in RBIs with 13, while Bobby Criscuolo and Andrew Dillon aren't far behind with 11 each. Dillon has already hit two of the team's three home runs (Frizzell tallied the other). Criscuolo is perfect in stolen base attempts at 3-3.

Bernacki and Matt Tyler have each started four games for the Hawks. Bernacki has

posted a 3-2 record overall while Tyler is 2-1. Tyler has an impressive 2.61 ERA while Bernacki has posted 20 of the team's 55 total strikeouts already this season.

The Hawks are 1-1 in the conference, having split the home games against Wentworth. No other team in the CCC has played a game in the conference, but RWU has the best overall record at 7-6. In fact, the Hawks are the only team in the conference with a record over .500 (Endicott, at 3-3, is second).

The Hawks look to continue their successful season with a stretch of conference games in the coming week, including a home game Saturday versus conference foe Anna Maria College.



Top, Men's recreational basketball team. Above, Co-Ed competitive soccer team. Below, Co-Ed recreational soccer team. Bottom left, Men's competitive basketball team.



Sports, My Way

Christopher Parish
Contributing Writer

Students at Acton Middle School in Massachusetts are petitioning the Red Sox and Yankees to shake hands before their game Sunday. The proposal, which included a Power Point presentation of previous brawls between the two teams and students mocking the scenarios, was a heart-felt gesture that intends to display sportsmanship and professionalism. How touching.

I don't like it.

Is nothing sacred anymore? Has the world become so immersed in political correctness that now these teams are supposed to be friends? How does that lead to the thrills of competition? The teams thrive on the greatest rivalry in professional sports, and it is fueled on hatred. We watch the Sox and the Yankees play because the games are great and the teams hate each other.

We watch because at any minute, Varitek could jump A-Rod with another mitt to the jaw, Schilling could throw one of those 95-mph heaters and hit Posada squarely in the back, or Manny could start swinging his bat recklessly at anyone who moves.

Remember that nobody watches the Heat/Lakers games because it's interesting; we watch because everyone's waiting for Kobe to talk trash to Shaq while Shaq unloads a right-hook to Kobe's wheel-maker. We live for this stuff. Why take it away from one of the biggest hotbeds of confrontation?

Apparently, teachers in Acton were worried about Yankees fans, who were being taunted on the playground for wearing Yankees hats, because their sacred team finally lost. Where were these teachers when Red Sox fans were taking their 86 years of beatings from Yankees fans on the swing-set, I ask? Just another example of Yankees fans who can dish it out but can't ever take it.

Field of Dreams *and* Screams

Timothy Mannion
Sports Editor

Spring has finally rolled around.

For some, the anticipation of warm weather and barbecues could easily send them drifting into an unconscious state during class. But warm days and warm hotdogs mean only one thing: baseball. Not warm baseball, though. Really heated baseball.

Let's take a look at what happened during the off-season.

The steroid debate has crept up like one of those kids back in high school who used to sidle up next to you in the hallway just to see

"what's up." Well, let's just say the kid is still there. Congress called upon the great sluggers of the game to give their side of the story.

From first glance—Jose Canseco must go tanning a lot. I mean, this guy almost looked like a rotten carrot. Sammy Sosa speaks English; he does not need a translator. Mark McGwire slimmed down so now he looks like he could only eat 25 pancakes in one sitting. Man, he got burned. That finger pointing Rafael Palmeiro did to prove his innocence was scripted. Frank Thomas, via satellite, really

added nothing to the conversation. People wasted time and money trying to hook up the connection only to see him say 10 words. Curt Schilling. This is the part I don't get. Schilling has nothing to do with the steroid debate other than the fact that he's a major league player with a big mouth.

After the players took their turn to speak, the commissioner and baseball executives were grilled on the topic. What started off as a slim hunk of beef was now a piece of burnt jerky. It only got worse from there.

Commissioner Bud Selig was repeatedly harassed by the committee to answer questions about the punishment for a player caught with steroids. You think he would have a decent answer. We ask for too much.

The steroid scandal has also weighed heavily on Barry Bonds. Apparently he's tired. Tired of all this steroid talk. Tired of the media. Tired of the game. Tired of his family. Just tired. Here's a thought: don't cheat. If you're so tired, go home, enjoy your mansion and sit on the millions of dollars you made. With all that

money you could probably buy a big mattress to sleep on.

Now we get to the best part—spring training. Mets, Red Sox, Yankees. East Coast bias in full effect. So what? It's the best baseball in America. This Sunday is opening day for Yankees vs. Red Sox on ESPN. Baseball execs are really milking this thing dry.

A note to Boston fans—these opening games don't mean anything. Don't take them too seriously. Baseball is won in the fall, you might know a thing or two about that.