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Hawks' Herald -- September 14, 2007

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THE HAWK'S HERALD

Bristol, RI

Vol. 18
Issue 2

Town, school reach \$42M agreement



Phil Devitt

President Roy J. Nirschel signs a deal with Bristol Wednesday for payment in lieu of taxes. From front left are Chairman Kenneth Marshall, Nirschel and Town Administrator Diane Mederos. Councilors David Barboza and Halsey Herreshoff look on.

Phil Devitt
News Editor

The university agreed this week to pay the Town of Bristol for providing the campus with emergency services, ending years of heated negotiations between the tax-exempt institution and a town that wants to be compensated.

President Roy J. Nirschel signed an historic agreement with Town Council Wednesday to make voluntary payments in lieu of taxes (PILOT) to the town, totaling \$150,000 annually over the next 20 years.

Nirschel ratified the agreement at the Bristol County Statehouse on High Street after a brief meeting in which Town Council unanimously approved it.

"It's hard to believe we've finally come to an agreement," Town Council Chairman Kenneth Marshall

said. "It took a lot of effort, but it's good to see the agreement come to fruition. It took a while coming down to a formula that both sides could agree upon in terms of how much should be paid."

Town Council Vice Chairman Ray Cordeiro recused himself from the vote because he is the community relations coordinator for the university.

Nirschel said the agreement was worth nearly four years of sometimes aggressive negotiations between the two parties, which had considerably different ideas regarding how the town should be paid.

"This is the next chapter in a four-decade relationship between the Town of Bristol and its hometown university," Nirschel said to the audience of town officials, university administrators and Bristol residents

See PILOT p. 4

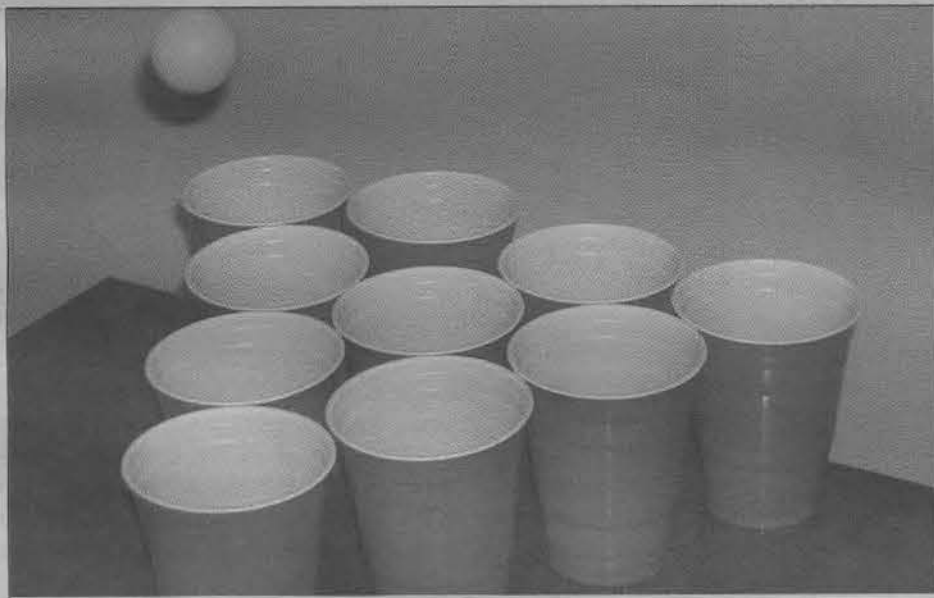
Stricter alcohol sanctions in place

Sarah Cournoyer
Editor

For many college students, the movie "Animal House" identifies their ideal college experience, including fraternity sponsored toga parties with unlimited amounts of alcohol. While there are no organized fraternities on Roger Williams University's campus, the amount of drinking that occurs appears to also be extensive.

Sixty-six percent of RWU students binge drink according to an RWU CORE survey, which is a much higher percentage than the national average of 30 percent.

Since the data obtained by these surveys is consistent each year, the Alcohol and Drug Task Force decided to reevaluate and revise the policies that were already put in place.



Elizabeth Nye

"Year after year, what we were doing wasn't working," Dean of Students Kathleen McMahon said.

According to the mandated biannual survey's findings, more educational initiatives needed to be put in place for those students who were written up, along with other consequences.

"Students didn't

feel any teeth in the policy," McMahon said.

The survey also indicated that most students were affected by secondhand drinking on a regular basis. Second hand drinking refers to actions such as vandalism, vomiting, noise and harmful behavior.

According to McMahon, the survey has showed that the rate of binge drinking has not

been reduced enough to be considered progress.

The survey also asked students what consequence of being written up impacts them the most; the overwhelming response was Residence Hall removal.

"We need to get to the point where students that don't drink feel their rights are re-

See POLICY p. 5

Emergency system updated

Jake Dumond
Herald Staff

In the wake of the Virginia Tech tragedy last year, schools across the country are revamping their emergency plans and taking the necessary steps to try and prevent such a horrific event on their campus. Roger Williams University is no exception.

One problem that occurred at Virginia Tech was slow communication to not only the proper authorities, but also to the students of the university. Not many people knew about the first shooting and continued on with their day.

RWU has taken a huge step to make sure students are informed as quickly as possible when it comes to any type of emergency on campus. They have joined a system called Connect-ed which will connect with every student on campus through many different forms of media in a very timely manner.

According to Vice President of Student Affairs John King, "many Colleges and Universities realized through the Virginia Tech tragedy just how important it is to get messages out through as many medias as possible."

With the new Connect-ed system, students will receive a message not only through e-mail, but also on their cell phones and on their screen names. There will also be a message that will reach students' parents or their emergency contact supplied

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Women's
Tennis

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We
e Qussa



Letters to Lorin

Dear Lorin,

Lately I have been having thoughts about my sexuality. I really don't know what to do because I'm questioning whether I'm a homosexual or not and I know that a lot of my family and friends would disapprove. I haven't told anyone, but how should I go about doing it? And how can I better explore my options?
-Finding Myself

Finding Myself-

There is a gay/straight alliance club on campus called SAFE. To find out more information about this club you should go to the Student Programs and Leadership Office, located on the second floor of the Student Rec Center (the office is right behind the WQRI station). Maybe by joining this club you can meet people who might feel the same way you do. Although it may be difficult to express your feelings to family and friends, if they are true they will support you in whatever decision you make. You sometimes have to do what is best for yourself, and you might get a sense of relief once you figure out your sexuality. The Counseling Center on the top floor of Center of Student Development (CSD) is also available for consultation all the time if you want to figure out how to express the situation to your family and friends. Good luck!

Dear Lorin,

I am new as a freshman and I have met a great group of people to hang out with and go to parties with all the time. I have been dating this guy *Mark* from another dorm. Everything seems to be great, except that I hate my roommates and they absolutely hate Mark. In my forced triple, it is really hard to ever get any space to myself and my roommates were best friends before they entered college. Pretty much I just need to get out of here. I want to move into my friends' dorm, but I don't even know where to start. What do I do?
-New and Confused

New and Confused-

It sounds like you are experiencing what so many people go through their freshman year- roommate conflicts. You might want to try setting limits with them about when you can have your boyfriend over, or when you can have some space to yourself. This way, they don't always have to be around Mark.

At the same time, this really doesn't change the conflict with your roommates. If you have definitely decided you want to move out, you should make an appointment with your CORE (the main person in charge of your building) whose office is located in Department of Residence Life and Housing (the building across from Cedar). They can set up an appointment with you to talk to someone. Another idea is to go to your resident assistant and speak to them about your concerns as well as a Peer Educators with Expertise in Referrals (PEER) or Health and Wellness Educator (HAWE) in your building. They can help set up roommate mediations, or can listen to you vent your feelings.

Lorin is a junior communications major and a PEER in Cedar.

Got a letter for Lorin?
 E-mail us at hawksherald@gmail.com

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RWU'S WTF OF THE WEEK



Why is it that in the new Learning Commons, the school has nearly 50 up and running computers... and then one printer? Even the computers on the 2nd floor print downstairs. Watching the hords of people wait in line for their 2-page document to print while the person before them has decided to print 25 copies of a Business Weekly article is just funny. In fact, it has made me wonder... WTF was the Learning Commons thinking when they agreed to this?

-Greg from Bayside

Got a WTF of the week? Send suggestions to hawksherald@gmail.com

EDITOR'S NOTE:

The editors regret the grammatical errors that were introduced to Provost Laura de Abruna's quote in the article "Programs aim to increase diversity." Her quote should have read "The fact that the question of diversity on campus is raised means we still have work to do. There is a group of people among the faculty who are interested in adding to the curriculum to make it more diverse."

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The 10-Spot: RWU's newest social outlet

Athena Aguiar
Herald Staff

While many RWU students are accustomed to attending events sponsored by CEN, IRHA and other clubs and organizations on campus, a new event series will allow another department to engage students and get them involved.

The new 10-Spot Series, created by Student Programs and Leadership, will be held every Monday night in the Hawk's Hangout. With a different activity each week, the series seems to have something for every taste.

Speed Dating kicked off the 10-Spot series last Monday from 8-10 p.m.

The "Iron Chef" event, taking place Monday, September 17, is a play on the popular Food Network television show and will challenge

three chosen students to create dishes in front of an audience using a secret ingredient and a microwave. The winner of the competition will receive a prize.

The 10-Spot Series will continue throughout the semester and possibly throughout the entire academic year.

Student Programs and Leadership Program Assistant Allie Bird is excited about the new series, saying it is "a good way to network and meet new people."

In the hopes to encourage increased involvement, the series will feature interactive events, as well as events where students can sit back and be entertained. The event on Monday, September 24 promises to be an exciting show; the 10-Spot Series will present former pocket billiards world champion and renowned trick shot artist Jack White.

On October 1, "Bad Movie Lock-In" will take place. Students will pay three dollars at the door to see three films. For each film they stay through, they receive a dollar back. If they make it through three films, it is a free event.

"The movies shown are movies that are 'bad' but you find yourself watching them," Associate Director of Student Programs and Leadership Josh Hiscock said. "There will be movies such as 'Glitter.'"

Student Programs and Leadership hope that the 10-Spot Series will allow for students to meet and talk to new students. The series is not targeted toward any particular group. Rather it is intended for all students to enjoy.

Bird says she believes the series will accomplish its purpose to allow "students to have something to do

during the week" and says she hopes that "because the programs are different, they will appeal to different crowds."

Each week, the featured event will be advertised on flyers throughout the campus. Student Programs and Leadership hopes, however, that through word of mouth, the series will grow to become a part of students' weekly activities.

Currently in charge of the 10-Spot Series are Hiscock, Assistant Manager of Event Operations Clayton Roth and Bird, with assistance from Hawk's Hangout.

Any student who has a suggestion for an event they would like to see in the 10-Spot series is encouraged to e-mail Student Programs and Leadership at studentprograms@hawks.rwu.edu with their ideas.

University anticipates arrival of common reading speaker

Kelleigh Welch
Assistant Features Editor

Before kissing their family and friends goodbye, that first night away from home, or experiencing their first 8 a.m. class, Roger Williams University freshmen are assigned to a common reading book.

The assignment, simple and to the point, is for all incoming freshmen, staff, faculty, and any upperclassmen associated with freshman programs to read the selected book during the summer.

"What is nice about the common reading book is that it allows freshman to enter school with a first educational experience that is common to all," said Associate Professor of the School of Business and Common Reading Selection Committee member, Brett McKenzie.

For the 2007-2008 year, the common reading book selected was *A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Boy Soldier* by Ishmael Beah. This story tells the first hand account of Beah fighting in Sierra Leone during a civil war when he was only a boy. Through his gruesome detail, Beah gives a vivid picture of the terrors of civil war and the honesty behind child soldiers.

"This book is a very compelling story told by a young man looking back on an intensely lived life," McKenzie said.

The selection process of the Common Reading book happens through a committee of 13 people, including RWU staff, faculty and one student. The process begins in February when the committee generates a list of recommended books from all university faculty. Then, the committee narrows the list down to six books, and carefully reads and reviews each book to select one for the University's Common Reading program.

"One of the most important criteria is that we find a book that is being called to read, so that Roger Williams students can find it more enjoyable and stimulating," explained Vice President for Student Affairs and Co-Chair of the Common Reading Committee John King. "This particular book seemed to be a real page-turner."

One important aspect of the selection criteria for the Common Reading book is the connection freshmen have with the chosen work.

"I think our freshmen students

will connect to the author," said English and Creative Writing Professor and Co-Chair of the Common Reading Committee, James Tackach. "Most students come from the United States and live in safer places than where Beah did. Beah is roughly the same age and students can live vicariously through him."

McKenzie also said "one of the criteria we looked to on reading selection is to reflect the core values at Roger Williams. This book can reflect these values. Beah had a love and passion for learning, which just shows how learning and education can make a difference. We also want to make sure the author is living so that he or she can come to speak."

Besides Beah's book, other considered books were *The Glass Castle* by Jeannett Walls, *The Tortilla Curtain* by T.C. Boyle, *Three Cups of Tea* by Greg Mortenson and David Oliver Relin, and *The Long Road Home* by Martha Roddatz.

"Another part that went into the selection process was audio clips and video clips to see how engaging the author is as a speaker," King said.

Beah has been featured as a guest on "The Daily Show" with Jon Stewart, and his interview can be viewed on YouTube.com.

On October 4, Beah will come to RWU to speak to the community. The event will be located in the gym in the Recreation Center at 7 p.m.

"Roger Williams University is very excited to have Beah come to campus," said King. "He is very popular and is in demand as a speaker and would be very engaging for our students."

Most of the hopes of students and faculty for having Beah come to speak are to hear more about his education and experience beyond his book.

"I would like to hear how Beah acclimated into American culture after going through all of that," said freshman Brittany Condon Henry. "I would also like to find out if he met up with his friends ever again and if he tried to return to his home to help them."

"What I am more interested in is Beah talking about how he got out of that lifestyle and became a "normal" teenager again," said Tackach.

For freshman Alejandra Cross, hearing Beah speak is more of a question of reality. "The whole reality of the book seems a little surreal to me.

I would like to actually meet Beah to understand that everything really is true," she said.

"Not only do we expect Beah to further discuss his thoughts on children being used in war, and describe what a modern civil war is like, but also to share the chapters in his life that are not written in his book, such as his educational achievements and his life in the U.S.," King said.

By hearing Beah speak about his book and his experiences as a child soldier and after his immigration to America, new discussion topics will open for students and their professors.

"What I look forward to is listening and discussing with my students about the book to help me understand the world they live in and how they view their world," said McKenzie. "We have all read the same book, but all have very different reactions to it."


For Tackach, he said he hopes to see a lasting impact on the students. He said, "Part of what I hope students gain is to know that books are exciting. They need to understand that the book is still the key academic tool in life."



alongwaygone.com


Beah's arrival on October 4, is highly anticipated and will be an event hard to miss. His speech will be both educating and inspiring and is encouraged to see by all students. For those who have not had the chance to read Beah's book, *A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Boy Soldier*, they still have a chance. The campus bookstore is selling copies, and the library has about half a dozen copies available.

"One of the values of Roger Williams is global awareness," said Tackach. "I think this book takes students from their safe home to another part of the world and teaches them about that place."




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Parking price increase irks some students

Florentine Lehar
Herald Staff

As the price of higher education continues to rise, many students expect to shell out more money than ever in order to attend the college or university of their choice. On the other hand, the 100 percent increase in parking permit prices in the past two years has left Roger Williams Students shocked and upset.

"I can't believe they jacked it [the price] up again this year," junior Jack Fuller said.

The parking permits that allow students to park on campus cost \$100 this year, a \$25 increase from the \$75 the permits cost last year. The increase in parking permit prices is the result of the new parking deck that was built in Lot J by the North Classrooms.

Students are upset that prices increased mainly because they do not

think that the amount of parking on campus correlates with the price of permits.

"I have to park in J Lot and can never find parking," senior Adrianne LaFrance said. "I shouldn't have to pay \$100 for that."

According to James Noonan, Vice President of Finance and Chief Finance Officer, the parking deck cost about \$5 million to erect and was built in order to handle an additional deck. The university took out a loan for this project that will most likely be paid off by 2013.

The price of parking permits, which used to fund road construction, now goes towards paying off the parking deck. The Board of Trustees approved the increase of parking permits.

"We took the position that the students who use cars should pay for the parking," Noonan said. "We charge students who eat here for food,

students who live here for housing, so the students who drive should pay for parking."

Junior Ama Merrill agrees that students should pay for parking, "but \$100 seems extreme."

Noonan said that another deck might be added to the parking garage in Lot J by 2009. The university may

also add on at least one or two more decks in Lot J, as well as a deck in Lot A on Old Ferry Road.

The building of these parking decks will most likely not affect parking permit prices, but Noonan said that the price could possibly increase five percent next year.



Shaun Hogan

PILOT: \$42M over 20 years for Bristol

Cont'd from page 1

gathered for the ceremony.

"I hope that decades from now, as the university grows and prospers, and the town grows and prospers, we can share in the bounty mutually."

Along with the annual payment for emergency services, the university agreed to give the town \$100,000 every five years to purchase first-responder equipment and vehicles, and an additional \$25,000 per year for civic activities such as the town's historic Fourth of July Parade.

The agreement also states the university annually will offer three four-year, full-tuition scholarships and two four-year \$10,000 scholarships to local high school graduates. A full-tuition grant to an older town resident without previous college experience will also be offered.

The town expects the university to shell out nearly \$42 million in total under the 20-year agreement. The money will come from a \$150 million budget of unrestricted funds

managed by the Board of Trustees. Tuition and room-and-board costs will not be affected, Nirschel said.

Bristol Police Chief Russell Serpa called the agreement that will pump thousands of dollars a year into the police department a welcome relief for Bristol residents.

"Any little bit helps. Times have been tough and the taxpayers have been squeezed hard. This [agreement] will help defray the costs for services and help the people in town."

The agreement also calls for the establishment of a cooperative committee, made up of six school administrators and six town officials. The committee will meet quarterly to discuss the town's relationship with the university, as well as the university's plan to expand over the next 20 years.

"Today is a good day for Bristol and Roger Williams University," Town Administrator Diane Mederos said at the ceremony, crediting the "unwavering resolve" of Town Council and Nirschel in completing the

agreement.

Mederos signed the nine-page deal, along with Marshall and Nirschel.

The PILOT pact is the first agreement of its kind between Bristol and the university in the nearly 40 years the campus has been open.

Negotiations started in 2003, shortly after Providence College, Brown University, Johnson & Wales University and the Rhode Island School of Design signed agreements to pay the capital city \$50 million under a similar 20-year plan.

The town was in talks with the university to make annual \$150,000 payments in 2006, but negotiations stalled when the school hired a consultant to review the plan.

Town Council grew impatient, calling on Rep. Raymond Gallison Jr. to introduce a bill that would strip the school of its tax-exempt status, forcing it to compensate the town.

"The elderly people who live next to me, the widows who live down the street, pay for services to go to Roger Williams University, just as any

other Bristol taxpayer," Gallison told the *Herald* last fall. "All the council and I are saying is that the school should make a contribution."

The bill died when it reached the Rhode Island General Assembly in the summer of 2006.

At the same time, a report released by a research company hired by the university estimated that the school generates more than \$200 million for the East Bay each year, through the creation of jobs and money spent at area businesses.

Town Council remained persistent, continuing to negotiate with the university through this year.

"In any relationship, there are ups and downs, but we at the university are proud to call Bristol home and I'd like to think that the vast majority of Bristolians appreciate the positive impact the university has already had in the community," Nirschel said.

"We believe it's important to be a good neighbor, above and beyond your requirements."

EMERGENCY: Modernized plans in works

Cont'd from page 1

by the student. The message would be prerecorded and will inform the student and their emergency contact about exactly what is happening.

According to Public Safety Director David Smith, the message will provide specific instructions about what course of action to take.

"This could include a notice to wait for another message with more detail or may be very brief and direct everyone to evacuate from a building or possibly the entire campus," Smith said.

It is very important that students learn about the Connect-ed system because the students themselves are going to be the key to making

this system work, according to King.

"We are asking students to populate the system," King said.

It will be the student's job to enter their information into the Connect-ed system.

Students will be able to do this through my.rwu.edu under the Service tab. According to Joe Pangborn, Vice President and Chief Information Officer, "the self service entry of contact/emergency information into our data system via the service tab should be ready by the end of the month."

Students will enter their own information in order to provide students, faculty and staff a quick and easy way to enter their data into the sys-

tem. Once the data is entered into the system, the system will be implemented.

"We plan on updating the system each night in order to keep up with contact and phone number changes," Pangborn said.

Another problem that occurred with the Virginia Tech tragedy was that the student who killed peer and faculty members was believed to have suffered from psychological problems in which the correct actions to report and help the student were not taken.

King says that the counseling center, lead by the Director of Counseling Jim Azar has informed professors and faculty, "how to identify and refer students at risk." This

way students can receive the necessary help they need without calling that person out or making them feel different.

There have also been improvements on the natural disaster and hurricane evacuation plans. In case of a natural disaster or hurricane, there may be cause to evacuate the campus.

There are steps to take before evacuation. Bristol has so many hours to be under watch and so many hours for it to be under warning before a decision can be made to evacuate will take place.

In regard to hurricanes, "the goal is to inform everyone a few days ahead of time if possible," King said.

According to King, if an

evacuation does need to occur students will be advised to drive home or go to a friend's house away from the disaster or hurricane. For all students who are unable to go home or can not go to a friend's house, the school would use the Recreation Center as a safe place.

Additional phases to the new emergency and evacuation planning are still in the process of being modernized.

"It is unfortunate that these systems are necessary," Smith said. "For Roger Williams University, it is just another example of a commitment to the overall efficacy of safety on campus."

POLICY: Attempt to curb binge drinking

Cont'd from page 1

spected and feel comfortable being at RWU," Vice President of Student Affairs John King said.

One of the major changes in the policy include removal from housing for a weekend after a second violation.

McMahon said that removal from housing is intended to give students a "flavor" of permanent removal from housing which will happen after the third violation.

McMahon also said that the policy is much more specific, setting a minimum sanction for each violation.

Some students believe that the new alcohol policies will have a positive impact on the RWU student body.

"The attitude of campus has already changed," Health and Wellness Educator (HAWE) Alex Perry said. "People are more responsible. There has only been one or two incidents this year."

Willow 43 RA Jessica Ellis agreed.

"The new policies are beneficial to the students who follow the rules and are continually affected by the negative repercussions caused by students who are out of control and damage things at everyone else's expense," Ellis said. "The new policies seem harsh to people familiar with the old ones but they are actually very lenient compared to other universities."

Others believe, however, that the policies are too harsh.

"If you've never been written up, it's tough to be kicked out of housing on first sanction. First

time should be a warning," HAWE Casey Barber said. "However, I do think it's going to be effective in teaching them to slow down."

The task force's future agenda includes limiting accessibility to underage drinkers. According to McMahon, the members on the task force intend to meet with Bristol police to find out how they deal with underage buying and fake IDs.

"Decreasing access is the ultimate goal in the piece with the Bristol community," McMahon said.

According to King, RWU is not on the path to becoming a dry campus.

"We support responsible and legal use of alcohol, but we must take action against binge and underage drinking," King said. "We are concerned about potential for student tragedy."

McMahon agreed. "Becoming a dry campus is not a best practice that fits our institution," McMahon said. "It is not on our agenda right now."

The Alcohol and Drug Task Force is prioritizing initiatives that will help students of age learn to drink responsibly.

McMahon said that the intention of the policies is to create a climate change that will convey to people that they have to know they cannot get away with irresponsible drinking. According to McMahon the change must extend even out to the impressions of potential students when they first arrive on campus for a tour.

Minimum Sanctions for Violation of the Alcohol Policy:

Conduct	1 st Violation	2 nd Violation	3 rd Violation
-Alcohol Related Health & Safety Violation -Alcohol Paraphernalia (including empty alcohol containers) -Minor in the Presence of Alcohol	- Formal Warning - \$50 Fine or Educational Sanction	Dependent upon student's conduct history, see below	
Alcohol Use, Possession, Public Intoxication, or other Alcohol Related Incidents	- Formal Warning - \$100 Fine - Wellness Educational Sanction (AIR, program, paper, etc.) - Parent Consultation	- Removal Warning - \$150 Fine - Residence Hall Probation - Wellness Referral - Parent Consultation - Weekend Removal from Housing	- University Probation - Wellness Referral - Parent Consultation - Semester Removal from University Housing

Next violation may result in removal from Roger Williams University

Minimum Sanctions for High Risk/High Level Alcohol Behavior:

Conduct	1 st Violation	2 nd Violation
Use/Possession of a False Identification (in an alcohol related incident)	- Additional Fine - Confiscation of False Identification - Additional Educational Sanction - Appropriate Alcohol Sanctions	- Additional violations, distribution, or production of false IDs may result in removal from housing or suspension from the university
Large Alcohol Gathering OR Distribution of Alcohol to Minors	- One Week Removal from University Housing - Appropriate Alcohol Sanctions - Additional Educational Sanction or Residence Hall Program - Residence Hall Probation - \$200 Fine per Room Occupant - Designation of Residence as a "Dry Space" for a Set Period - Loss of Guest Privileges for a Set Period (student & non-student guests)	- Semester Removal from University Housing - University Probation - \$300 Fine per Room Occupant - Appropriate Alcohol Sanctions
Violation of Alcohol Quantity Policy (includes empty containers) Students 21 or older	Treated as violation of RWU alcohol policy regardless of student's age. Sanctions will be determined based on severity of the incident.	

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Clubbed over the head

One man's search for something crazy

Michael Hurley

You've heard it God knows how many times here at RWU: "There's always something to do!" From your first day at orientation, that message is embedded deep into the wrinkles of your brain.

And, certainly, there is a multitude of activities to keep yourself entertained here. You're probably familiar with most of the standard, boring ideas (going to class, sleeping, eating, taking naps, etc...) so I went on a pursuit at this past week's Involvement Fair to find some of the clubs that are flying under the radar.

The first bizarre club I spotted was the school newspaper. Do these people not get enough homework? Why would they want to write *more* than is required of them? Sickos. You would have to be insane to join this club, so I immediately ran away from them.

I looked around and I saw a lot of extreme clubs (the Bike Club, the Ski & Snowboard Club, the Surf Club, the English Literature Club) but I decided that people interested in extreme sports don't need me to find them some extreme action. So I moved on.

I walked around a bit more, and I found something you probably would never have imagined: you can try out to be Swoop, RWU's official mascot.

Think about the stories you would have for the rest of your life. As you bounce your great grandson on your osteoporosised knee, you could brag to three generations that you once dressed in a hawk costume and

acted like an absolute idiot on a nightly basis.

Curious to know what it takes to be the next Swoop, I talked to Josh Hiscock, Associate Director of Student Programs & Leadership.

"A potential Swoop is someone who is spirited, spontaneous and can interact with the crowd," he explained. "They have to have a lot of school spirit and a lot of love for Swoop."

But you can't be lame.

"They also have to be creative enough to make up their own ideas and routines," Hiscock said.

Figuring I found my club for active people, I thought I'd look for a club for those who enjoy relaxing. That's when The Cigar Club entered my life.

According to Phil DiCanzio, the club's treasurer, "The Cigar Club is a place where kids can get together, smoke cigars and talk about cigars."

Simple enough.

When I spoke with Phil, more than 30 students had signed up, and that was just 45 minutes into the fair.



By the end of the day it looked like two pages were filled with names.

The club meets at Premium

70/70 Cigars in Westport, Mass., but it is my understanding that the cool way to say it is "The 77." The club goes there about once a month to buy cigars and smoke in the lounge, which has TVs and leather couches.

They also meet in the gazebo on campus weekly or bi-weekly to dis-

cuss cigar-related goings on.

Now that I was on the right track, I went searching for that one club that truly stood out among all others. I ran into (almost literally) two living statues from the Stage Company, but they had no comment. They smelled like spray paint anyway.

I got excited when I saw the Computer Club (I had visions of endless nights of The Oregon Trail and Mavis Beacon Teaches Typing), but I was disappointed when it was, actually, the Commuter Club.

Alternative Entertainment's Nintendo 64 was tempting, but I resisted. I started walking up to the Martial Arts Club table, but then I thought better of it. Never trust a ninja, that's what Ma always said.

And there it was, staring me in the face. The Squirrel Viewing Entente.

Before I could grasp the full meaning of the club, I had to look up "entente" in a dictionary. I got, "a friendly understanding between political powers." Whoa! This club is clearly more epic than I originally anticipated.

As I spoke with Jon Nash, the club's president, the mystique of the Squirrel Viewing Entente grew evermore.

JN: "We go squirrel fishing at Colt State Park."

MH: "Squirrel fishing? What's that?"

JN: "We put peanut butter and nuts on a string, and try to touch the

squirrels."

MH: "...You really do that?"

JN: "Yup."

MH: "That is awesome."

Aside from fishing for squirrels, the club, which is entering its fourth year, tends to some serious business.

"We're founded on the premise that we're searching for the elusive black squirrel, and we think it's in Boston," Nash told me.

To hunt for the black squirrel, the group makes an annual trip to Boston.

"So far, we've failed," Nash said. "But maybe this

year..."

Maybe this year, indeed.



(Clockwise from top) A living statue from the Stage Company smiles for the camera during the Involvement Fair, the black squirrel sits (luckily for this guy he has yet to be fished), and the Cigar Club promotes their All-American values of gambling, smoking, and lounge games.

How to lose 10 grand in one day



Courtney Nugent

(Above) Senior Mattie DiGiacomo Something acts as though he has been arrested for a DUI during the Involvement Fair Wednesday, the Health and Wellness Educators (HAWEs) put on the "Mock Arrest" and handed out the "\$10,000 Hangover" handout featured right.

MOCK ARREST

What you've just seen is an enactment of a DUI arrest
DUI, the \$10,000 Hangover

- Cost to Tow your car.....\$150
- Car storage fee per day.....\$25*
- Cost for Chemical Testing.....\$50
- Bail Fee.....\$150
- Defense Attorney's Fee.....\$2,500
- License Reinstatement Fee.....\$60
- Court Fee.....\$800
- Alcohol Education Class.....\$500
- Community Service
- Supervision fee.....\$75
- Auto Insurance Increase.....\$4,500
 (\$1,500 penalty for three years)
- Probation Supervision Fee.....\$600
- Minimum Fine.....\$500

Total: \$10,400

Sponsored by the HAWEs and Public Safety

Iraqi interpreter returns to campus

Eric Sullivan
Herald Staff

"We will not forget you!" These words rang true as Qussay Al-Attabi began his epic journey from war-torn Iraq, through several regions, before finally being embraced in the U.S. by a true friend President Roy J. Nirschel.

On Thursday, Aug. 30, Al-Attabi arrived at TF Green Airport in Providence, welcomed by Nirschel. This was, however, not an easy journey for Al-Attabi.

He originally visited RWU in February, 2005, as a member of the Iraqi student delegation.

Al-Attabi is not just an academic, but a man who helped serve his country as well as his new home in the United States. Al-Attabi, an interpreter for the U.S. Military Police and later embedded in task forces of the US Army helped the U.S. in bringing forth a sense of stability to Iraq.

During Al-Attabi's first experience as an interpreter, he assisted Iraqi police in Sadr City. According to Al-Attabi, Sadr City is influenced with an iron grip by a radical Shiite cleric, Muqtada al-Sadr, and despite

their work, many people "remained loyal" to Muqtada over Iraq.

"[Iraqi] Policemen were viewing us (the interpreters) as being 'infidel spies,'" Al-Attabi said.

After Iraq, Al-Attabi was stationed in Baghdad where he worked with Bravo Company, 3-15 IN, 3rd Infantry Division in which he played a role in bringing a sense of stability to Baghdad.

During his work as an interpreter, Al-Attabi witnessed "numerous firefights during my work as an interpreter, and I was one of the teams hit with RPG's, hand grenades, and Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs)."

Despite the danger however, Al-Attabi said "we were able to conduct wonderful missions and fulfill tasks that brought the activity of the militia to the lowest level that its leaders were on the run," Al-Attabi said. According to Al-Attabi, it was around this time that he began to receive death threats.

"When I began receiving serious threats, I wrote to President Nirschel," said Al-Attabi. Nirschel wrote back to Al-Attabi: "I told you earlier that we would not forget you, and we will not!"

According to Al-Attabi, among



Courtesy of RWU Public Relations Department

Qussay Al-Attabi arrives at TF Green airport after escaping from Iraq. (Above) President Roy J. Nirschel greets Al-Attabi who will be teaching a course in Arabic and working on his Ph.D. at Brown University.

his colleague interpreters and friends, Nirschel is known as "Qussay's Savior."

Despite the danger in Iraq, Al-Attabi said, "I would definitely go back to Iraq, but will always have in mind how warmly I was received in the States!"

Back in the U.S., Al-Attabi said that he will "concentrate as much time as possible into some projects

and initiatives that would help 'bridge the world,' a vision that President Nirschel is well aware of its importance and working so hard to achieve."

Al-Attabi will teach an Arabic language course this semester at RWU while he works on a Ph.D. program in English literature at Brown University.

Remembering September 11



Elizabeth Correa

A number of students volunteered their time late Monday night to place 3,000 flags on the quad. Each flag represented an innocent life lost in the 2001 attacks. The memorial was sponsored by the Student Senate and the College Republicans. Below, a student passes the memorial as he makes his way through the rain on a wet September 11.



Michael Hurley



Michael Hurley

On Thursday night, 9/11 survivor Earl Johnson shared his story with students in the Marine and Natural Sciences Building. Johnson was in the North Tower during the attack. The event was also sponsored by the College Republicans.

In pursuit of the 'Butler' body

Will Grapentine
Herald Staff

When leaving the latest blockbuster as the end credits start to roll, several things stick: the good-looking cast, the trendy wardrobe and the entertaining plot. All are ingredients in films' recipes for success. But as hitting the books have taken a front seat to hitting the box office, and the "Freshman Fifteen" starts creeping up on the college crowd, many are clamoring for the latest fitness frenzies used by the stars to bring their characters to life.

One of the films to showcase the diet and training regimen to the stars include this year's spring hit, now on DVD, "300." According to Yahoo buzz, "the popcorn-popping, soda-slurping fans, who earned the flick a whopping \$70.9 mil in its opening weekend, pumped up the searches on its workout. Blown away by actor Gerard Butler's ultra-defined abs and Hulk-like pecs, e-searchers boosted buzz for the exercise plan that got Spartans ready for battle as demand for '300 workout' and 'Gerard butler 300 workout' heaved many hits on Google and yahoo."

To some, the results of the silver screened six-pack are attainable. In an interview with PRWeb, Jerry Hill, owner of Alexandria-based CrossFit Challenge, said "the exercises and workouts shown in the Spartan training Yahoo video can be adapted for your own personal indoor workout. We can easily make appropriate substitutions for an indoor gym workout, and get the same results the actors did through functional and intense workouts."

These workouts, touted heavily by Hollywood personal trainers, are a lot closer than some would think.

"There are so many exercises out there to help you get the look you want," said Mark Andreozzi, fitness coordinator at RWU. "From basic things like lunges and pull-ups, to ball exercises and cardio, there are many ways to help add on size."

But the Spartans aren't the only megaplex-ers muscling their way to silver screen, as many of today's most popular diet and exercise draws come from Hollywood's superheroes-in-training. For "Spider-Man" star Tobey Maguire there was a rigorous training schedule to adhere to in time for filming.

According to People magazine, "Maguire exercised for at least 3.5 hours, six days a week, with his regimen varying depending on how sore he felt.

Mornings were spent improving his flexibility with yoga and splits, along with building strength through abdominal and lower-body exercises on an oversize ball." As for the Spider-Diet, "vegetarian Maguire focused on a high-protein shake that included nuts, essential oils and vitamins, lunch often marinated tofu with broccoli and walnuts and dinner a big veggie burger with brown rice."

For the college crowd, Andreozzi says the look of lean and toned is just as attainable. "If you want the "Spider-man" look — lean and sleek — that look is gotten with a combination of extra cardio and a good diet." But cardiovascular exercises go much farther than a run on the treadmill.

"There's the traditional treadmill or exercise bike, cardio workouts or the more popular circuit training which incorporates the core and ab muscle group...both routines get the intended results."

On the Maguire diet, Andreozzi

says there is a grain of truth to vegan-based power foods. "They say the less legs the better the results as far as diets go." Andreozzi said that eating clean carbs and protein — such as low fat egg whites and cottage cheese — is a powerful in attaining super-heroic stature. But how much you eat depends on what look you want.

"If you're going for more size eat more calories," Andreozzi stressed. "But if lean abs is the look you want, be sure to eat the same foods but with smaller portions sizes."

But some of the best and most effective ways to get your daily, film-worthy workout come from pure ingenuity. According to the "Batman Begins" DVD special feature entitled "Shaping Body and Mind," much of Batman actor Christian Bale's physical stature came from mastering the Keysi fighting method. According to director Chris Nolan, "Keysi reflected quite nicely the film's approach in terms of script and design, of seeing Batman not as a glamorous sort of branded figure, decorative figure, but as a functional entity." The same idea can apply to students.

"Martial arts are an ancient physical activity used for a variety of reasons" Andreozzi explained. "By helping to find inner peace outside in, and its

use for self defense, helps to condition the body to work with the mind and get used to a hard physical workout using both muscles and cardio". But with such a vast selection of martial arts styles, how does one know which one to start with? "I don't think there is any one style a person should go for" Andreozzi added. "You want better help, pick the style that best interests you." Outlets, such as Kickboxing and the school martial arts club, are good on-campus places to start if you're interested in learning ways of the warrior.

For example, a new fitness class has started that combines the already popular power yoga and spin classes.

So the next time you want to look like your favorite Hollywood hero, taking these tip-offs will help to make you the star of your own blockbuster.



ARE YOU WORRIED ABOUT HOW YOU LOOK?


- Do you think about your appearance often?
- Do these thoughts upset you?
- Do these thoughts interfere with your life in any way (for example, work or dating)?
- Do you wish you could do something about this problem?

If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, we may be able to help.


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Yes, summer is over. But believe it or not, there is an upside.



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Must show valid college ID. Restrictions apply; visit store for details.

Middletown
Middletown Square
1313 West Main Rd.



Couple of the Moment:

Katie Blythe and Bobby Carlson

Reporting by: Courtney Nugent

Bobby

What was your first impression when you met Katie?
A friend introduced me to Katie at the end of freshman year. It was easy for me to be myself around her. I was really drawn to her smile and knew that I wanted to get to know her more, however, the summer came and we did not finally start getting to know each other until the beginning of our sophomore year.

How do you manage a relationship in college with busy schedules?

We call each other during the day just to let the other know that we're thinking about them. We also set aside time to cook dinner, watch a movie or go out and do something just the two of us without the distractions of college life.

What is your favorite thing to do together?
Our favorite thing to do together would be to spend time doing an activity such as going to dinner, an amusement park or going on a trip. We are on the go most of the time with our hectic schedules, but always make time to just hang out on the couch, and maybe watch a movie. Sometimes the best quality time we have together is when were sitting back, doing nothing and enjoying each other.

What is the sweetest thing you have done/do for Katie?
I think the sweetest thing I have done for Katie is visiting her unexpectedly when she is in her apartment or during the summer surprising her by driving down to her house. Also, I surprise her every so often with a small gift, or a special dinner. I love the expression on her face when I surprise her with something.

What is her favorite color/ ice cream flavor?
This is easy. Her favorite colors are pink and yellow. Her favorite ice cream is Rocky Road.

When you fight, how do you make it up to her?
I make it up to her by telling her how much I care for her and when I'm in real big trouble, I cook her favorite meal. The key to making up is to openly communicate our feelings to each other and coming up with a solution to prevent the argument from recurring.

Sum up your relationship with Katie in one word.
Special.



Katie

How did you meet Bobby?
I met Bobby spring weekend of freshman year. I worked with a friend, Patti Behan, at admissions and she wanted me to come over and hang out and he was there.

How long have you been dating?
We have been dating on and off since November of our sophomore year.

What was one of the first things you were attracted to?

He just seemed like a really nice, sweet guy and of course I thought he was really cute.

What are you most attracted to now that you have been dating?

He is one of the nicest people I have ever met. He would do anything for anyone. He just genuinely cares about people and I think that is the most attractive quality anyone can have.

What is the sweetest thing Bobby does/ has done for you?
He does a lot of sweet things. He remembers the small stuff and that is the most important, like picking up a movie that I mentioned was one of my favorite [sweet things he has done] just because he saw it and it reminded him of me.

Is it hard to make time for each other while in college and with busy schedules? We've both learned to make each other a priority. We are both really busy but when you want to see someone you just find ways to make it work.

What's your favorite color?
Pink and yellow.

Ice cream flavor?
Rocky Road.

Describe Bobby in one word.
Amazing. Snuggly (haha)

Common Reading Essay Contest

The Common Reading Committee invites full-time RWU undergraduate students to submit essays for the 2007 Common Reading Competition, based on Ishmael Beah's memoir, *A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Boy Soldier*.

What messages does *A Long Way Gone* have for students raised in a stable democracy where most citizens have adequate support, resources and educational systems available?

All submissions should adhere to the following guidelines:

Essays must be double-space typed on standard typing paper with pages numbered.

Pages should be paper-clipped or stapled.

A cover page providing the essay's title and the student's RWU identification number should be attached to each submission. The student's name should not appear on the cover page or any other page of the manuscript.

Hard copies of essays must be submitted by Thursday, September 20, 2007, at 5:00 p.m. to Prof. James Tackach, CAS 137.

Essays should be 1,000 words or fewer in length and should respond to the following question:

Essays will be judged on both the quality of their content and the effectiveness of their style.

1st Prize:	2nd Prize:	3rd Prize:
\$150 in UniCard dollars	\$75 in UniCard dollars	\$25 in UniCard dollars
Invitation to special dinner with Mr. Beah on October 4	Invitation to special dinner with Mr. Beah on October 4	Reserved seating at Mr. Beah's lecture on October 4
Photograph with Mr. Beah	Photograph with Mr. Beah	
Author-signed copy of <i>A Long Way Gone</i>		

The prize winners will be notified by RWU e-mail and announced to the RWU community on Monday, October 2, 2007. The decisions of the judging committee shall be final. The committee reserves the right to award no prizes in any category.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Saturday

Campus Events

Battle of the Halls
Architecture Field
1 p.m.

Concerts

The Starting Line,
Four Year Strong,
Permanent Me,
Sound the Alarm
Lupo's, 6 p.m.
\$15

9/15

Monday

Campus Events

10 Spot: Iron Chef
Hawk's Hangout
8 p.m.

9/17

Tuesday

Campus Events

"Common Places"
by Brian Healy
School of Architecture
6 p.m.

9/18

Wednesday

Campus Events

Penny Arcade Film:
Matrix
CAS 152
7 p.m.

Concerts

The Tossers, The Vacancies, The Brimstone Assembly
Living Room, 9 p.m.
\$10

9/19

Thursday

Campus Events

Game Night
The Commons
8 p.m.

Expression Session
Hawk's Hangout
9 p.m.

Concerts

Finger Eleven, Sick Puppies
Living Room, 9 p.m.
\$17

9/20

Last week's solutions

3	4	1	8	9	2	5	7	6
8	6	7	3	5	4	1	2	9
2	9	5	7	6	1	8	4	3
9	5	8	1	7	6	4	3	2
4	1	6	2	3	8	9	5	7
7	3	2	5	4	9	6	1	8
1	2	4	6	8	7	3	9	5
5	8	9	4	2	3	7	6	1
6	7	3	9	1	5	2	8	4

A	D	Z		S	A	L	T		P	O	K	E		
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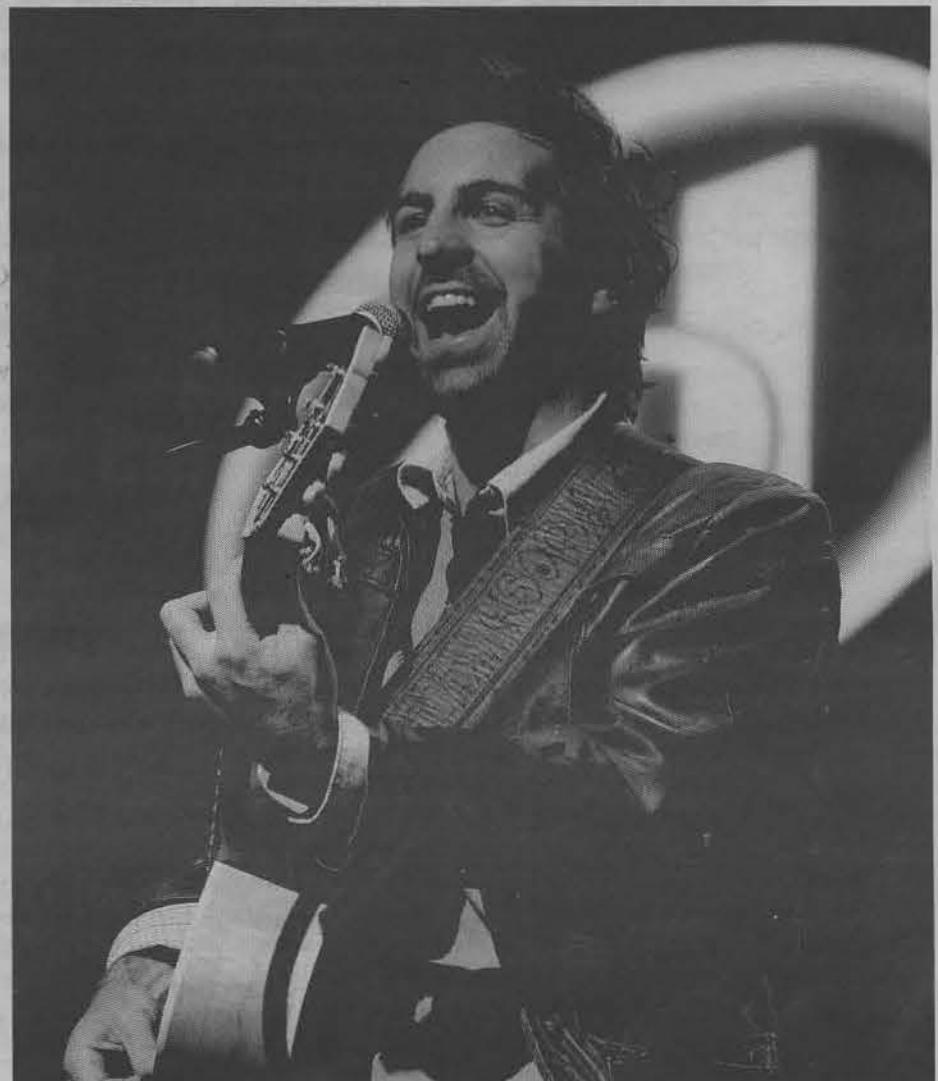
Concert at the Bean

On Wednesday, September 19, singer-songwriter Josh Kelley will join The Pat McGee Band for a show at Judge Roy Bean Bar on State St. in Bristol, according to a press release from Beatrice Bugnosen.

Kelley plans to release his newest album, "Special Company," in late 2007 or early 2008. He is also producing and starring in his documentary, "Making the Modern Day Label."

The Pat McGee Band released their seventh album "These Days (The Virginia Sessions)" on July 6, 2007.

Doors will open at 7 p.m. and the show will begin at 9 p.m. Tickets are \$15. The show is 21+.



VOLLEYBALL: Off to a positive start

Continued from p. 12

Now in her fourth year with the team, Mauer is very close to breaking RWU's all time kill record. While Lecca is entering her third year as the team's starting setter.

"She [Lecca] has done really well for us in the setter position," said Stothart.

Of the new players Stothart said freshmen Rebekah Dion, Britney Sullivan and Jill Hurd have all shown a lot of potential.

Dion, Sullivan and Hurd currently lead the team's freshmen in number of kills with 44, 55 and 26 respectively. Stothart also points

out that they have seen the most playing time of the new recruits.

Stothart said he feels the skills of the returning players when combined with the talents and athleticism of the freshmen will make the team much stronger this season.

Stothart said that because of the depth of the team there is a lot of competition for spots in the starting lineup during team practices.

"Our practices are much more competitive than they've been in the past," said Stothart. "When we

play six on six scrimmages now in practice, both sides are on the same level.

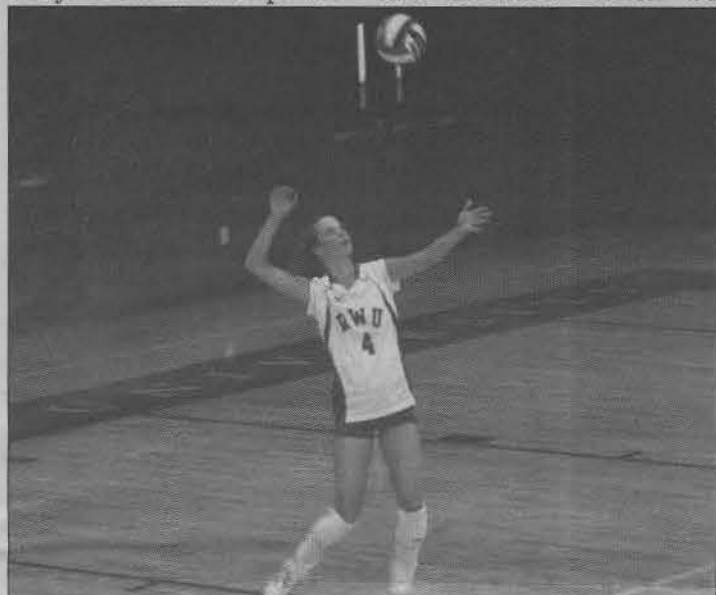
"So I think everybody's game is brought up and everybody knows that they've got somebody trying to get in. So they need to come out and play hard during practice."

The volleyball team will host their first Commonwealth Coast Conference match of the season on Saturday September 15 at 3 p.m., when it takes on Western New England College.

Stothart admits that Saturday's game will be a challenging one for the team, as WNEC is currently 8-1 overall in their season. Stothart said WNEC is only one example of the challenging matchups the CCC has in store for the volleyball team this season.

However, he said based on the competitiveness of the team's practices he feels they have what it will take to win against equally matches schools and make it to the CCC finals.

"We're at 3-4 right now, which isn't a great record," said Stothart. "A couple of those losses were two point losses in the fifth game, which are tough. But it's still a long season, so we still have a lot of work to do."



Shaun Hogan

Senior Amy Maurer serves in Tuesday's match. Maurer has a shot at breaking the the Volleyball Team's kill record.

TENNIS: successful so far

Continued from p. 12

along for the future as well." The Hawks began the 2007 Commonwealth Coast Conference season with a 9-0 victory over the Wentworth Institute of Technology on Thursday evening.

Nettelfield teamed up with Ribchinsky for her number two doubles match against Wentworth sophomore Lydia Caserta and freshman Jeanine Stover, which they won. Nettelfield then defeated Wentworth sophomore Angela Brandt in her number four singles match.

Manners emerged victorious from her number on singles match against junior Alex Dupnik before teaming up with Leone to win her doubles match against Dupnik and sophomore Angela Brandt.

The team officially began the 2007 season on Friday Aug. 31 with a 3-6 loss to Babson College a team that the Hawks have historically been unable to beat said O'Brien.

"It pretty much came down to the last three matches on the court, they were all very tight," said O'Brien. "It is the closest we've come to beating Babson, so I think that it was a pretty exciting to get so close to beating a team that is so good."

In doubles action against Babson, Manners and Leone fell 8-4, Ribchinsky and Net-

telfield lost 8-0 while McCraven and Parente defeated seniors Jamie Burke and Annie Chrys. In singles Manners lost two out two matches, Leone two out of three, Ribchinsky two out two, and Nettelfield two out two.

While Parente defeated Liz Sheerin in two out three matches and McCraven defeated Burke in two out two matches.

On Monday Sept. 10 the team played in the Salve Regina Grass Court Doubles Tournament at the International Tennis Hall of Fame in Newport. The team had two finals appearances in three flights that allowed them to ultimately earn a second place finish at the tournament.

O'Brien said the second place finish is the best the team has done in the tournament since he came to RWU.

"Finishing second [at the Salve Tournament] is the best we've done since I've been here," said O'Brien.

O'Brien said he feels the team's performance so far this season shows that they are ready to take on the CCC teams on their schedule this year.

"Looking at the conference, I think that we should do very well this year again," said O'Brien.

BEST BETS: The teams that might make you money

Continued from p. 12

#3. Know the spread. Being 100 percent sure one team will beat another is not always a smart way to bet. For those of you who don't know what a spread is, it is the difference of points that Vegas or whatever odds makers believe a team will win by. Last week the Patriots were at -6.5. What this means is they start the game at Pats -6.5 - Jets 0. You can also give the points to the Jets and say the game starts at Jets 6.5 - Pats 0. Either way it meant that the Patriots had to win by seven points to win the game. If they won the game 21-17 and you bet on the Pats, you lose, because once you minus 6.5 off the Pats they lose. Confused? Look it up and learn. Not confused? Good, you shouldn't be, it's easy.

#4. Don't go crazy during the whole game; wait until the last five minutes. You need to keep your sanity. Don't freak out every time the other team scores or you fall behind in the spread. It's a crazy game, you never know what to expect. The last five minutes is where you need to panic if it's still close. If your way up with five minutes left, congratulations, switch the channel and check in on the next game.

#5. The more you bet the more you win. Sure you could say well if I don't bet I can't lose, but where's the fun in that. Take it from me, it makes the game so much more interesting. Just imagine how excited you get when that stud Tom Brady is leading his team down the field to another victory, now imagine watching the same drive and knowing you're going to make some money off it.

Save these rules because I will not go over them again. Here are my picks for this week. By the way I make these picks on Tuesday so if the odds change, for example your starting linebacker has a stroke, I apologize.

The lock pick. St. Louis Rams -3 over the San Francisco 49ers.

I guess the spread is so low because the Rams lost and 49ers won in week one, but let me tell you something.

Steven Jackson is not going to rush for only 58 yards probably ever again. Expect Jackson to have a huge game and besides Frank Gore, the 49ers are terrible. They have nobody who could stop Jackson, and although Alex Smith will be great in 3-4 years, he's not there yet.

The you'll sweat it out but come out on top pick Seattle Seahawks -3 over the Arizona Cardinals

Again I feel the spread is too small. The Seahawks will dominate the Cardinals on both sides of the ball. Expect two touchdowns from Sean Alexander and at least two turnovers by the Cardinals. This one has the makings of being a good game for the first half and scaring you a little, but in the end, the Seahawks are just too much and will prevail by at least a touch down or two.

The Browns really are that bad pick. Cincinnati Bengals -7 over Cleveland Browns

Brady Quinn might start next week. Enough said. (On a side note bet against Notre Dame every game this year, no matter what the spread)

The Patriots cheat pick. New England Patriots -3.5 over the San Diego Chargers

This has the makings of an upset with LaDainian Tomlinson in the backfield and the Patriots scandal lingering over their head, but I believe opening day at Gillette Stadium will serve to be too much. If this were in San Diego I'd go Chargers, but the Pats really are that good. Expect to see this same match up with different outcomes in the AFC championship game.

Monday night makeup. Washington Redskins +7.5 over Philadelphia Eagles

This is your chance to make up for everything you lost on Sunday. I may just be making this pick because I am a Giants fan and therefore hate the Eagles but I like the Redskins this year. This game is going to come down to Brian Westbrook. If the Skins can stop him they easily cover the 7.5 spread even if they lose, if Westbrook has a big game, ehheh who cares there's always next week.

News and Notes

The women's junior cross-country team finished fifth in the Trinity College Invitational. With a time of 19:19. They will be back in action on September 15 at the Umass Dartmouth Invitational.

The men's cross country team finished fourth in the Trinity College invitational. Falling only three seconds shy of placing in the top ten. They will be back in action on September 15 at the Umass Dartmouth Invitational.

The women's soccer team went 3-2 on Saturday against Curry College and 2-1 against Wentworth Institute of Technology on Tuesday. Their overall record stands at 4-1.

The men's soccer team tied 1-1 against Curry College on Saturday and lost 1-2 on Wednesday. Their overall record so far is 0-4.

Women's volleyball: Serving up tough competition

Shaun Hogan
Sports Editor

Despite a winning start to the 2007 season with victories over Clark University and Husson College, the overall record of the women's volleyball team slipped to 3-4 on Tuesday with a 2-3 loss to Connecticut College.

"Tuesday night was not a good match for us," said head coach Bret Stothart. "We started out really well, but then it was really just a matter of I think our passing.

"We broke down and they [Connecticut College] really just took us off the court," Stothart said.

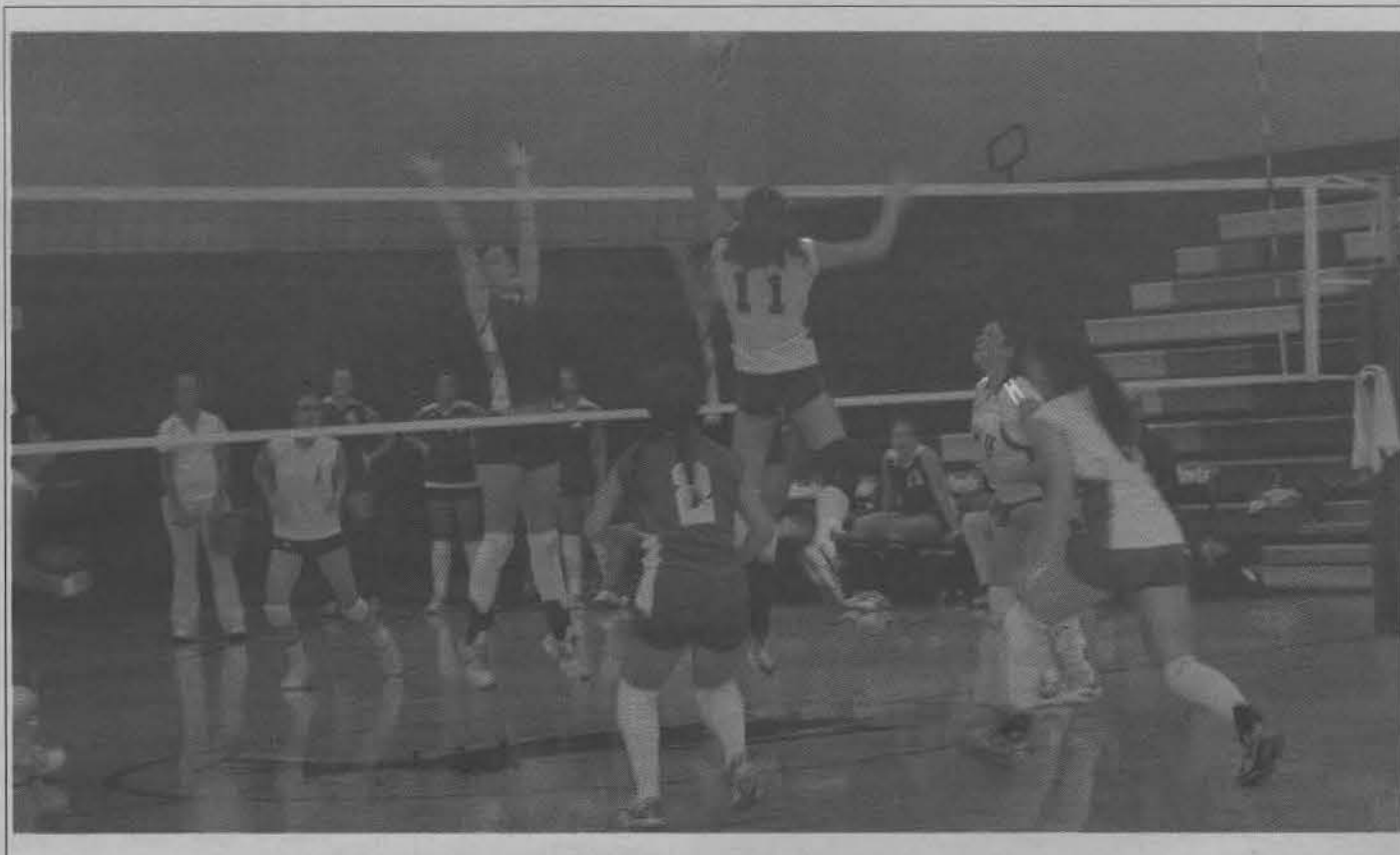
At the start of the match, it looked as if the Hawks might break Connecticut College's four game winning streak. The team came out full throttle during the first set, making 13 kills to keep the game tied.

However, the tie would not last for long. Connecticut College outshot the Hawks in the latter half of the set for a final score of 30-26.

Although the team's defense would make a season high 39 digs in the next two sets, the Hawks could not recover offensively making only 17 kills. Connecticut College gained a 30-19 victory in the second set and a 30-21 win in the third.

"We need to do a better job of staying mentally focused and staying in the game when things start going down for us," said Stothart.

Sophomore Kristina Dolan would



Shaun Hogan

Sophomore Kristina Dolan jumps as she tries to spike the ball back across the net and past the hands of the Connecticut College defenders on Tuesday Sept. 11. Dolan finished the match with a season high nine kills. The Hawks lost the match 2 - 3.

make a season high nine kills during the three sets, hitting .571. Dolan has a total of 40 kills so far this season.

Even with the loss, Stothart said he is very pleased with the performance of his team so far. He points out that there is an almost even split between new freshmen players and more experienced junior and senior

players, which he feels will help make the team stronger.

"I think we've got a great group," said Stothart. "There are a lot of new people and the team has done really well at coming together and starting good team cohesion, which is important, especially in volleyball."

The team has six new freshmen,

six returning sophomores, one junior and three seniors.

Of the returning players Stothart said that senior captain Amy Mauer along with sophomore setter Caryn Lecca have distinguished themselves the most so far this season in his eyes.

See VOLLEYBALL, p. 11

Women's tennis season starts well

Shaun Hogan
Sports Editor

Going into the 2007 season, the women's tennis team is looking to repeat the strong performance they showed last year when they surprised the Division III tennis world with a 5-4 victory over Salve Regina that gave them the Commonwealth Coast Conference Championship and a spot in the 2006 National Collegiate Athletic Association tournament.

The team's season ended with a loss to Skidmore College

in the first round of the NCAA tournament. Two games into the 2007 season, head coach Chris O'Brien said he feels the team has a strong chance to make it to the finals again this season.

"We have almost all of the team from last year coming back which is pretty exciting considering we won last year," said O'Brien. "What we lost, we definitely gained in freshmen this year so the season outlook is pretty good.

"I expect to see us finish in the top again this year," said

O'Brien.

At the end of the 2006 season the team lost seniors Caitlin Coddling and Ami Yaguchi, O'Brien said he is going to rely on the team's three new freshmen to fill any gaps left on the team by their departure. All six of the team's returning players are seniors. O'Brien also points out that the team gained three new sophomores through open tryouts.

Seniors Caitlyn Leone and Jessica Manners will start at number one doubles, while Joanna Nettelfield and Kelsey Parente will be vying for the number three singles position. O'Brien said senior Haley McCraven will have a top spot in doubles play again this season and that Katie Wilmes will likely see more time in a starting position.

Of the three freshmen, O'Brien said he feels Leah Ribchinsky will be a major contributor and that she will definitely play in the team's lineup. O'Brien said freshmen Megan Harrington and Lily Osowski along with sophomores Caroline McGrath, Mellisa Perry and Katelin Richard although they are not in the starting lineup will see some playing time as well this season.

"The depth looks really good this season," said O'Brien. "I hope we will have some people

NFL picks: Advice from a veteran

Jake Dumond
Herald Staff

It's September, which can only mean one thing, throw on your jersey, open that bag of chips, crack a beer, and empty your wallet. For the next 17 Sundays football fans around the globe will be glued to the TV either rooting for their favorite team to win, their most hated team to lose, or just for some other team to cover the spread.

We know you bet. Whether it's for fantasy football, a game with your roommate, or you put up a dollar every week against your grandmother that the Patriots will lose (I lost 12 times last year). No matter how you bet, online, with a small bookie, Vegas sports rooms, or with a mob boss, I'm not here to judge, I'm here to help.

There are five very simple rules to betting every week.

#1. Know how many games to bet on per week. Don't bet on just one game because if you lose you'll be pissed, but don't bet on every game because I promise you will lose the majority of them. I like to go with 4-5 games on Sunday and no matter what you MUST bet Monday Night games.

#2. Don't bet on your favorite team just because you honestly believe they're going to destroy everyone. This one's for you Patriots fans. Yes we all know they have a great team, obviously. Last week the Pats were -6.5, a safe bet. However as weeks go by and teams figure out how to play them, you have to be realistic about how good other teams are and how much they can actually beat people by. Just remember, cheaters never prosper. If they are so good why do they have to steal signs? However, I will make a Patriots pick every week for all you cheaters out there.

See BEST BETS, p. 11



Shaun Hogan

Sophomore Haley McCraven plays doubles in Thursday's CCC match

See TENNIS, p. 11