

the anchor

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Death Toll Climbs to 97 from Rhode Island Club Fire

By Elizabeth Zuckerman
Associated Press

Great White was rocking through its first song, "Desert Moon," and the fans were cheering as fireworks sprayed the stage with sparks. They kept cheering even as flames shot toward the ceiling. Within three minutes, many of them were dead.

At least 97 people died in the nightclub Thursday night, burned or crushed in their frantic fight to escape the old wooden building. Nearly 200 more were injured, 35 critically.

Club officials said they had not given the band permission to use pyrotechnics, a claim echoed by at least three other venues where Great White played in the past month. The band disputed the accusations, and Rhode Island Attorney General Patrick Lynch said authorities were investigating.

Many concertgoers were caught off-guard as they slowly realized the fire wasn't part of the show. Many were badly burned and others were trampled in the rush to escape, in large part through a single door.

"I never knew a place could burn so fast," said Robin Petrarca, 44, who was roughed up in the scramble to escape. She said the smoke was so thick she couldn't see an exit just 5 feet away.

It was the deadliest U.S. nightclub fire since 165 people were killed at the Beverly Hills Supper Club in Southgate, Ky., in 1977. It also came less than a week after 21 people were killed in a stampede at a Chicago nightspot.

The capacity of the Station Concert Club was 300, but the number of victims and survivors indicated more were inside. The death toll rose steadily Friday as firefighters picked through the smoking ruins of the single-story building.

"This building went up fast — nobody had a chance," said Gov. Don Carcieri, who rushed back to the state from a trip to Florida.

Under the glare of floodlights, a dozen firefighters and other law enforcement officials used rakes to sift through the rubble Friday night

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Steve Szydlowski/PJB

Tuition Flap Shrouds Rhode Island Program's Promise

By: Marion Davis
KRT Information Services

Ten years ago, 2,746 third graders who dreamed of attending college pledged to study hard and avoid alcohol, drugs and teen parenthood, all for a chance to get scholarships and guidance.

The Rhode Island Children's Crusade for Higher Education, then in its infancy, hoped the pledge and the promise of a reward would keep youngsters focused, helping them make it to college and discouraging dropouts.

Each year, a new class has been enlisted, and Rhode Island now counts some 17,000 Crusaders in Grades 3 to 12.

But with the first generation finally in college, a big question has emerged: Can Crusaders really count on those scholarships? The issue has pitted the Crusade against a key partner, the University of Rhode Island.

The Crusade's commitment to students was to provide scholarships equal to the value of full in-state tuition at URI (\$3,580 this year), or if they enrolled at Rhode Island College or the Community College of Rhode Island, full tuition there.

Only youths at a certain level of financial need qualified: those who, under federal guidelines, would be expected to contribute less than \$2,400 toward the cost of their education.

For eligible students, the Crusade offered the scholarships on top of any other

aid they received. If a college waived their tuition, for example, they could use the money to pay for books, fees, room and board.

For the majority of the 223 Crusaders who enrolled in college last fall and qualified for aid, that's what happened. But not at URI.

Full tuition, URI officials argued, means full tuition. So students who also qualified to have their tuition covered by URI's Centennial merit scholarships, or through the Talent Development Program, got only one or the other, but not both, as Crusade leaders had expected.

RIC and Pine Manor College, in Massachusetts, took the same approach, according to Mary Sylvia Harrison, the Crusade's executive director. But while Crusaders at those colleges have not complained, URI has come under fire from parents and the Crusade's leaders alike.

Last month, Harrison and a URI Crusader's mother, Mary Laferriere, complained to the Board of Governors for Higher Education that URI was short-changing students.

Laferriere's son, Drew, qualified for a full-tuition Centennial Scholarship because of his academic achievements, she told the board. Because of his financial situation, he also qualified for a Crusade scholarship.

As a single mother, Laferriere said,

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Some African Americans divided on Black History Month

By: Eric Gorski
KRT Information Services

The Rev. Promise Lee thinks it's important to carve out time to acknowledge the contributions of black Americans, "to keep it in our consciousness, so we don't forget."

But for the past couple of years, the Colorado Springs pastor and community activist has declined all requests to speak at Black History Month events.

The gospel concerts, soul-food dinners and poetry readings that fill each February exemplify what Lee calls celebration mode in black culture.

Those events have the potential to "self-medicate" blacks and distract from pressing issues such as fair housing, transportation and education, Lee said.

Lee's boycott might be a strong example of Black History Month backlash, but his mixed feelings are not unusual.

The observance, which began as Negro History Week in 1926 and was expanded to a month in 1976, is meant to document black contributions to U.S. society and culture and make those contributions a source of pride for all Americans.

But within the black community, there are reservations.

Some don't like shoe-horning 400 years of history into one month the shortest month of the year, at that.

Others complain Black History Month highlights the achievements of the same people every year: Martin Luther King Jr. and Malcolm X, but not less-recognizable figures.

Most black Americans, experts say, support the notion of Black History Month while sharing the hope of Carter G. Woodson, the Harvard-educated historian who founded Negro History Week. He envisioned a day when black contributions would be recognized year-round, rendering his creation obsolete.

If anything, Black History Month appears to be gaining momentum.

No longer is the organizing left only to black churches, the Urban League or the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. These days, Colorado Springs schools, government, military bases and libraries institutions that aren't predominantly black take the lead.

"I have issues with it being the shortest month of the year, but I'm taking it," said Pam Shipp, a senior program associate at the Center for Creative Leadership in Colorado Springs. "It's on people's

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improves
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with love...
from Russia.

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Take A Professor To Lunch Program

The Take A Professor To Lunch Program will continue this spring. It will be held during the week of March 3rd, 2003. The object of this program is to facilitate closer student faculty-staff interaction in order to get students to become more engaged learners. Students will be able to invite a faculty/staff member of their choosing to a free lunch during that week. In order to participate, students must go to the Dining Center office located on the mezzanine level of the Donovan Dining Center to fill out a form and pick up a slip to be used with the cashier. The lunch is not limited to one student and one professor/staff member; a small group of students may invite a professor or staff member as well.

Volunteer Opportunity

Southside Community Land Trust is a non-profit organization whose mission is to promote community gardening, facilitate environmental education, and act as a catalyst for related community needs. The Land Trust encompasses 12 community gardens, an extensive school-based environmental education program, City Farm, a certified organic farm, and the Shared Harvest Farm, located in Western Cranston. Volunteers play an instrumental role in all programs doing such things as working at City Farm, leading environmental field trips, and assisting at community garden workdays. They also host large groups of volunteers for workdays at City Farm, the community gardens, and at the Shared Harvest Farm. For more information about volunteering at Southside Community Land Trust, contact the volunteer coordinator at (401)273-9419 or email at scsvolunteers@hotmail.com.

Recruiting & Teaching Opportunities for Seniors

On-campus recruitment for graduating seniors has begun for the spring 2003 semester in the Career Development Center. Cranston Public Schools, St. Joseph Health Services, Metlife

Financial Services, Peace Corps, and Key Program. Contact CDC, Craig Lee 054, ext. 8031, for details. The first recruiter will be here mid-February. Also, DeKalb County school system in Georgia is anticipating 1,000 vacancies in their school system. For more information visit www.dekalb.k12.ga.us.

New Service Available at Health Services

Student Health Services is now offering Women's Health Care (including smears and birth control), STD (sexually transmitted disease) screening for males and females, pregnancy testing, emergency contraception and full lab services on campus. Call 456-8055 for an appointment. All services are confidential.

On-Line Alcohol Screening

The counseling center now offers on-line alcohol screening for members of the RIC community. It is a 10-15 minute evaluation and you will receive immediate confidential on-line feedback as well as ideas on where to go for help. Just go to www.ric.edu then click on campus life. Click on counseling center. Click on alcohol screening. It's free, and fast!

Everyone Welcome

Everyone is welcome to weekly open discussion AA meetings. They are held every Wednesday from 12:30-2 pm in CL 231. For more information call The Office of Health Promotion at 456-8061.

Mindfulness Meditation

Meditation has been shown to have substantial benefits for the mind and body. This group will offer some beginners some basic instruction for beginners and will give more experienced attendees a regular sitting practice. No appointment is required and it is open to the whole college community on Thursdays from noon-1 pm in CL 130 with Tom Lavin.

RIC Women's Center

The Women's Center is now selling Durex condoms: 10 for one

dollar! We also sell pads & tampons for 30 cents each, plus workshops are frequently held during the free period on a variety of subjects. The Women's Center the lower level of DDC, room 9, and can be reached at 456-8474.

Writing Center Tutors Available

The writing center will have writing tutors available Monday-Wednesday from 9am-7pm, Thursday from 9am-4pm, and Friday from 9am-3pm. There is also information concerning writing issues given out in free pamphlets. For more information call 456-8141.

Depression Screening

Now the RIC campus can be screened for depression on the RIC Counseling Center's web page. This is confidential and will only take a few minutes to tell you whether or not professional consultation or evaluation would be helpful to you. For any information or an appointment call 456-8094.

Aquatic Programs and Special Events

The cold, gray days of winter make a lot of people feel kind of down, lacking energy. Get revved up with exercise. A little bit of exercise can make you feel a lot more energetic. The Recreation Center Pool is a refreshing 82 degrees and is open 7 days a week for your exercising convenience. Aquatic Exercise classes are scheduled 6 days a week. Pick up a schedule at the Front Desk.

If you have any ideas for new aquatic programs or questions about any current ones, call Alan at X8227 or Janice at X8238.

Pool Hours - For recreation and lap swimming

Monday & Wednesday
7:00 AM - 10:00 PM

Tuesday & Thursday
10:00 AM - 10:00 PM

Friday
7:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Saturday
8:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Sunday
5:00 PM - 10:00 PM

Aquatic Exercise Classes

Mon, Wed, Fri, Sat

9:00 AM

Mon - Fri

12:00 PM

Mon - Thurs.

5:00 PM

No need to sign up. Check the Front Desk for a current schedule that includes aerobics, strength training, boxing, Pilates, deep water and yoga.

Recreation Programs

Video Taped Swim Stroke Analysis, Wednesday, February 19th, 12:00-1:30 PM. Whatever you do there is always room for improvement. If you are a regular lap swimmer, or would like to be one, improving your technique can add to your swimming enjoyment and reduce your risk of repetitive motion injury. This clinic can be your ticket to improvement!

Awesome Aqua Games- Wednesday, February 12th, 1:00-2:00 PM (no sign-up, no fee). Inner tubes, squirt guns and water balloons will be used for a variety of pool and deck games. Just the thing to catapult you right out of those winter Blahs!

Water Way to Relax - Friday, 1:00-1:30 PM 3/7 (no fee)

The second half of the semester will offer more of the same, plus Water Volleyball, a Canoe Trip, Water Carnival, boating instruction and a triathlon training clinic.

If you need more information or have suggestions for new programs, please call Alan at X8227 or Janice at X8238.

Catholic Mass

Sunday evenings at 10 p.m. in the President's House. Fr. Pescatello is the celebrant. President Nazarian has been providing refreshments after the Mass. For more info, 456-8168.

Bible Study

Tuesdays from 12:30 - 1:30 p.m. in the Campus Ministry Office, Donovan Lower Level/Unity Center. Rev. Larry Nichols conducts our weekly study with Deacon Mike Napolitano fill-

ing in when Larry cannot be here. Bring your lunch (soda, water are provided), your Bible (we can provide one if needed), and enjoy the discussion. Call Larry at 456-8169 for more information.

Christian Student Organization

Wednesday evenings from 5 - 8 p.m. in the Campus Ministry Office, Donovan Lower Level/Unity Center. Kirsten Therber (one of our Peer Ministers) leads this weekly meeting. Please email her (kirdy7@yahoo.com) with suggestions of topics you would like to hear discussed during a meeting. The meetings are loosely structured to meet the needs on a particular week. Basically you introduce yourself and have a chance to discuss problems or issues in your life.

Rabbi Available to College Community

The Campus Ministry would like everyone to know that Rabbi Ben Lefkowitz will be available to the community in our office in Donovan Lower Level/Unity Center on Mondays from 10:15-11 a.m. or by appointment. Contact him at rabbibenl@yahoo.com to schedule and appointment with him or call Campus Ministry at 456-8168.

Attention Smokers!

Ready to quit? Tired of spending all that money? Health Services can help. Free nicotine patches, lots of information and quit tips. Call 456-8055 for further information.

Help is available at the Counseling Center

We live in stressful times. Help is available. Given current world events, our individual and collective stress level is likely to be on the increase. The Counseling Center would like to extend an invitation to students who are feeling stressed about current events to come in and speak with a counselor. Stop by Craig-Lee 130 or call 456-8094 to schedule an appointment.



Hi Honey,

Great to see your new friend. Remember, make kindness your habit and happiness will follow.

Love,
Mom

To:

My Favorite Student
Rhode Island College
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Providence, RI
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the anchor

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Tuition from cover

she needed all the help she could get, because URI's room-and-board rates are much higher than tuition (\$7,028 a year), and there are also books to buy, and fees to pay.

But URI only let Drew get one scholarship.

Laferrere felt betrayed. For Drew, she said, URI's policy may mean having to move out of his dorm midway through his freshman year, because she can't afford to keep him there.

Altogether, 49 students who qualified for Crusade scholarships have enrolled at URI, according to Harry Amaral, head of financial aid.

Forty-six had their full tuition covered by Crusade scholarships, Amaral said; of those, 29 who enrolled through Talent Development also received \$670 grants. Another three Crusaders qualified for \$2,000 each in Centennial Scholarships, so they got only \$1,580 in Crusade scholarships, to cover the rest of their tuition, Amaral said.

At least three Crusaders earned full Centennial Scholarships, Amaral said, and they received no Crusade money.

But is that fair?

"The University of Rhode Island did exactly what we said we were going to do," Amaral said. "This is a tuition scholarship. You can only remit tuition once."

Ironically, it may be URI's generosity with Crusade scholarships that put it at the heart of this controversy.

Since its creation, in 1989, the Crusade has sought scholarship pledges from colleges, and over time, it has gotten commitments from 62, Harrison said. But while URI pledged 75, the others gave only 5 each.

The way the Crusade works, students who enroll at a college that doesn't offer Crusade scholarships get grants directly out of the Crusade's pockets. If a college offers 5 Crusade scholarships and 10 qualifying students enroll, the first 5 get the school's money, and the rest get Crusade grants.

The latter is what happened at RIC, Harrison said: 48 Crusaders enrolled there, and 5 got RIC scholarships, while 43 got cash grants. Ditto with Brown University in Providence, R.I., where 8 students enrolled; Salve Regina University in Newport, R.I., where 7 enrolled, and Johnson & Wales University in Providence, where 11 enrolled.

At URI, however, there was no need for cash grants. As a result, the policy discrepancy affected many more students.

Upon being alerted to the situation, the Board of Governors asked Crusade and URI officials to meet and work out their differences. "We can solve the problem," chairwoman

Sarah T. Dowling said.

Four weeks later, the meeting has yet to occur.

But even if URI and the Crusade reach a compromise in this case, the flap has exposed a fundamental difference in their approach to financial aid that should catch educational leaders' attention.

At the Crusade, Harrison argues that students need substantial grants that can really make a difference for them reduce the burden of loans and after-class jobs.

Speaking to the Board of Governors, Harrison cited a 1995 study by the Institute for Higher Education Policy that found that for low-income students, having to borrow an extra \$1,000 to pay for school resulted in a 3-percent increase in the dropout rate. Getting an extra \$1,000 in scholarships, however, reduced the dropout rate by 14 percent.

If a college has limited resources, as URI does, Harrison said, it should target a smaller number of students and ensure that they're properly cared for rather than giving too little to many students.

URI's Amaral said he can't do that.

As a state university, Amaral said, URI has an obligation to be "as inclusive as possible," so that nobody especially no Rhode Islander is shut out because of the costs.

Amaral said he always lobbies for more money for financial aid, and URI has built up its scholarship endowment, but resources are still tight. Within those limitations, the school's priority is to cover tuition, he said, because "our goal is to help students to be able to attend class." Room and board, on the other hand, are "optional," especially for Rhode Islanders.

Asked whether URI should cut the number of Crusade scholarships and give more generous grants, Amaral said that would send the wrong message.

"It's very important for us, as the state university, to encourage low-income students to go to college," he said. To offer five scholarships, as other colleges do, "is not an encouragement," he said; "75 is."

Narrowing the scope of financial aid in the big picture would be even more harmful, Amaral argued. It's a numbers game: URI needs a certain number of students to keep costs in check, and to raise money that can be applied to financial aid. With too few students, the whole system would collapse.

Not that Amaral isn't sympathetic.

"Many of our students borrow a tremendous amount of money," he said. "Our parents go through tremendous sacrifices to send their sons and daughters to school. We try to help them, but we can't do it all."

consciousness. Other times of the year, some people might not be as aware. I like the visibility."

Shipp agrees the social issues raised by Promise Lee are important. But she thinks the past is important, too.

"It's nice we can think of some of the contributions of our ancestors and elders," said Shipp, vice chairwoman of the Black Leadership Forum, formed in 1999 to build a stronger voice for blacks in Colorado Springs. "That, in my mind, keeps hope alive that we don't have to just be defined by some of the darkness in our existence, that there's a lot of brightness in who we are."

Lu Lu Pollard remembers the Ku Klux Klan burning a cross in the Hillside neighborhood in the 1930s.

She remembers how her brother, Dolphus Stroud, a Phi Beta Kappa at Colorado College in 1931, couldn't get a teaching job but was offered a janitor's job.

Pollard became the first black to work in the Fort Carson personnel office in 1951. She was told not to associate with whites, and she quietly complied. She eventually headed the accounting division, supervising whites.

"I've always thought it ought not to be Black History Month but blacks in the history," said Pollard, who co-founded the Negro Historical Society of Colorado Springs in 1982 and serves as its president. She is in her 80s. "We are part of the United States, and we should be in the history, not separate from

it. There's no need to separate time for anything in the United States."

In 1998, the Journal of Blacks in Higher Education devoted an article to the debate over Black History Month, highlighting criticisms that emerged in recent years.

Among them:

Singling out a month reinforces white beliefs that black history is not worth general recognition.

Large corporations such as Phillip Morris, Anheuser-Busch and Coca-Cola make token efforts to promote black history to sell blacks more products.

Book publishers stockpile black-themed titles for sale during February after many consumers are spent from Christmas shopping sprees and shelve the topic the rest of the year.

Clarence and Peggy Shivers think Black History Month can do nothing but good.

Peggy Shivers was a music teacher and classical singer who won lead roles in San Francisco Bay Area opera.

Clarence Shivers was one of the famed Tuskegee airmen of World War II, the nation's first all-black military fighter squadron. He is a painter and sculptor.

His sculpture of a Tuskegee pilot stands at the Air Force Academy.

In 1983, Miller Brewing Co. asked Clarence Shivers to draw a series of civil-rights era portraits for a calendar honoring black history.

Station from cover

as they searched for evidence and belongings of the victims. A corner of the building was still standing, along with the marquee, still advertising Great White's appearance.

Authorities warned it could take time to identify the victims. At hospitals around the region, anguished relatives pleaded for help in finding loved ones they feared were lost in the club.

Patricia Belanger stood trembling outside Rhode Island Hospital, clutching a photo of her daughter, Dina DeMaio, who was working at the club as a waitress to earn some extra money for herself and her 7-year-old son.

Belanger said she had not been able to find her daughter and was unable to tell her grandson about his mother's possible death.

"He knows his mother didn't come back," she said.

The fire was apparently touched off by pyrotechnics moments after the '80s hard-rock band kicked off its show. A TV cameraman doing a story on nightclub safety recorded the unfolding disaster, beginning with the fireworks, followed seconds later by bright orange flames climbing curtains and sound-proofing behind the stage. In moments, the stage was enveloped in a bright yellow haze; among those missing late Friday was guitarist Ty Longley.

Lead singer Jack Russell said he started dousing the fire with a water bottle but couldn't put it out. Then all the lights went out.

"All of a sudden I felt a lot of heat," Russell said. "I see the foam's on fire. ... The next thing you know the whole place is in flames."

At least 25 bodies were found near the club's front exit. Fire Chief Charles Hall said some victims were trampled.

"They tried to go out the

same way they came in. That was the problem," Hall said. "They didn't use the other three fire exits."

Fire officials said the club had passed a fire inspection Dec. 31, but didn't have a city permit for pyrotechnics. The building, which is at least 60 years old, was not required to have a sprinkler system because of its small size.

The pyrotechnics were used without permission, said Kathleen Hagerty, a lawyer representing club owners Michael and Jeffrey Derderian, who are brothers.

"No permission was ever requested by the band or its agents to use pyrotechnics at the Station, and no permission was ever given," she said.

Russell said the band's manager checked with the club before the show and that the use of pyrotechnics was approved. Paul Woolnough, president of Great White's management company, also said tour manager Dan Biechele "always checks" with club officials before pyrotechnics are used. Biechele could not be located for comment.

The owner of a well-known New Jersey nightclub said Great White failed to tell him they were using pyrotechnics for a Valentine's Day show.

"Our stage manager didn't even know it until it was done," said Domenic Santana, owner of the Stone Pony in Asbury Park. "My sound man freaked out because of the heat and everything, and they jeopardized the health and the safety of our patrons."

Concert organizers also said Great White used pyrotechnics during a Feb. 7 show at the Pinellas Park Expo Center near Tampa, Fla., and a Feb. 13 show in Allentown, Pa., without dis-

He drew Martin Luther King Jr., Asa Philip Randolph and Medgar Evers.

Shivers said he doesn't feel exploited or belittled. Many large corporations do "cause-related marketing," usually at the urging of black employees.

In 1993, the Shivers founded the Shivers African-American Historical and Cultural Collection of the Pikes Peak Library District. The collection has grown to 284 titles, from a history of reggae to a book on lynchings.

At the Shivers' insistence, the books, videos and books on tape are scattered throughout the library, not "in a little black area," as Peggy Shivers puts it.

"It's not a matter of us saying, 'We have done this,' but acknowledging the fact that our people have made a contribution to this country," Clarence Shivers said.

Despite efforts to spread awareness throughout the year, few blacks believe the country is anywhere near a time when Black History Month can be phased out, as Woodson wished.

Debbie Wilson, president and chief executive officer of the Urban League of the Pikes Peak Region, likens the keep-it-or-get-rid-of-it discussion about Black History Month to the debate about affirmative action.

"Ideally, you wouldn't need it if you were dealing with a colorblind society where everyone is given an equal opportunity," she said. "I just don't think we're there."

cussing it with promoters or the venue.

The Rhode Island show was part of a nationwide tour. Officials at other clubs said Great White asked before using pyrotechnics and complied when they were turned down. One of those venues was the Oxygen Nightclub in Evansville, Ind., where the band played Feb. 3.

The club has ceilings 20 feet tall "but we still did not want to take the chance," club owner JJ Parson said. "We said we'd prefer they not to, and they went along. Everything we asked them to do, they'd do."

The governor criticized use of the pyrotechnics, saying it was unwise given the age of the building and the low ceilings inside. "I would say that using pyrotechnics inside that building you were asking for trouble," Carcieri said.

Nearly 190 people were taken to hospitals in Rhode Island and Massachusetts, with burns, broken bones and complications from smoke inhalation. The ages of the victims ranged from the teens to the late 30s.

The governor praised rescue workers for their professionalism at the emotional scene.

"Every time they bring someone out, they stop, take off their helmets, with the chaplain and they are praying over each individual person," Carcieri said.

The worst nightclub fire in the United States came on Nov. 28, 1942, when 492 people died at Boston's Cocoanut Grove nightclub when they couldn't get out of blocked and poorly marked exits.

Early Monday, 21 people were killed and more than 50 were injured in the Chicago melee, which began after a security guard used pepper spray to break up a fight. Mourners started burying those victims Friday.

**We're glad
you're OK,
Andi.**

More College Students Giving Textbooks A Pass

By: Susan C. Thomson
KRT Information Services

Ron Mozelewski teaches introductory economics pretty much by the textbook, one chapter after another. In his informal lectures, he refers often to specific pages where students can find information they'll need for tests.

Yet more than a week into the new semester, only about half of his students have brought the assigned book to his class at St. Louis Community College at Florissant Valley. Some say they simply left it at home. Others plead good intentions, saying they plan to buy it.

Mozelewski's experience tells him, though, that five to 10 students in this class of 25 or so will never get around to getting the book. He says that's the way it's been for several years in his classes and those of some of his colleagues. And they're worried about it.

So is the National Association of College Stores, which estimates that about 20 percent of undergraduates nationwide aren't buying, renting or otherwise acquiring the books their professors expect them to have. In surveys, only about 42 percent of students have told the association they think textbooks are necessary.

The association is running a test campaign on 18 campuses to bring the situation to the attention of faculty members.

"Faculty believe that having textbooks correlates with student success," said Laura Nakoneczny, spokeswoman for the group, said they don't realize that more students "are just saying no to purchasing required books."

No question that many students are put off by cost. The price has been rising rapidly as publishers have updated content, printed books on better paper, added color and graphics and, in some cases, packaged them with compact discs.

Gary Shapiro, a senior vice president of Follett Corp., which operates 680 stores on 550 college campuses around the country, puts the average price of a college textbook today at \$72.83.

And that's only the average. Joya Deutsch says she paid \$145 for an abnormal psychology book at Washington University this semester.

The text for Mozelewski's class less than an inch thick and with a paper cover goes for \$83. "If I don't have to buy the book, I'm not going to spend \$80," said Joe Finazzo, a student in the class. It's a course-by-course decision with him, depending on the professor and the subject. He says he would never, for instance, try to go text-free in a mathematics class.

Steven Saville of Webster Groves, Mo., is a student at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He says some students there take the wait-and-see approach to textbook buying. "They don't get the textbooks at all, or they wait until they need them," he said.

And sometimes they don't. Saville recalls a physics course, for instance, in which all of the

important material could be gleaned from lectures and class discussion. In a computer programming course, "it ended up being that the book that was recommended was just there for reference," he said. "I bought it but I took it back."

Nobody is predicting that textbooks will go the way of slates and quill pens, but this is the digital age. Today's college students learn not just from the printed word but from television and the Internet. Savvy professors have learned to supplement books with new media.

"I have a sense that we are losing the attention of these younger people by being too book-oriented," said Van Reidhead, associate professor of anthropology at the University of Missouri at St. Louis. "I think we have to learn how to re-engage this shorter-attention-span group of people."

Reidhead, like many professors now, requires less book and more online learning than he used to. He says he likes the Web for the flexibility it gives him to create links to topics of special interest that come up in class.

Even so, Reidhead emphasizes to his students the very first day of class that he expects them to buy the text. Mozelewski expects the same, but he also accompanies his lectures with PowerPoint presentations summarizing the text's main points.

Students even arrive at medical school, having gotten through college mainly by going to class, taking notes and using Web sites, says Dr. Randy Sprague, professor in the departments of pharmacology and physiological science at St. Louis University's School of Medicine. He describes their attitude as: "What do you need a textbook for? Half the textbook is on the Web anyway."

Not all of the book nonbuyers are doing without altogether. Florissant Valley student Justin Apenbrink went in with a friend on an accounting book. "The book was, like, about \$90, so we just decided to split the cost," he said. The arrangement works, he says, because the two of them are taking the class on alternate days.

Deutsch, who returned that \$145 psychology book for a full refund, says she'll get through by borrowing a copy from a roommate who bought the book last year. She's guessing that only about half the students in her large lecture class will shell out for their own book.

Kate Miller, another Washington University student, uses the library to the extent possible, reading texts that professors have put on reserve there or checking them out. She calculates that by doing so, she spent only about \$100 buying books this semester.

Shapiro, of Follett, said students who don't buy books also may be getting the material in them illegally, either by making copies of important pages and chapters or by stealing. "We have shrinkage in our stores, so some of them are getting (books) in ways that aren't ethical," said Shapiro.

Grading Inconsistencies Frustrate Students

By: Philip Walzer
KRT Information Services

One English instructor grades essays without a blueprint, looking mostly for the big ideas. Another employs a detailed checklist, including "smooth transitions" and "properly placed modifiers."

A university offers plus and minus grades, but one of its professors decides not to use them.

A 90 in one course can net a student a final grade of A. In another class at the same college, she would end up with an A-minus. In a third, a B-plus.

Across academia, the process of grading depends on the idiosyncrasies of the professor, with little oversight or regulation from the university.

That's as it should be, say a chorus of professors and even some students.

"All classes can't be evaluated in the same manner," said Elsie M. Barnes, acting vice president for academic affairs at Norfolk State University. "How can you tell fine-arts people that you've got to use the same grading standard as people in criminal justice?"

Michael J. Smith, a University of Virginia professor of political thought and chairman of its Faculty Senate, said the variety provides good experience for students. "These kids are going to have a range of work environments to which they have to adjust," he said. "Some bosses will be easy; some bosses will be hard. I don't think it's appropriate to approach grading any differently."

But the lack of consistency bedevils some undergraduates, who have to adjust to a new grading style with every faculty member.

"I'd like it to be a little more standardized," said Wayne Jarvis, a senior from Maryland at the College of William and Mary. "I'll be taking a course with one professor while you'll be taking the exact same course with another professor..."

"And I'll do half the work and get a better grade," his friend Ryan Kelly, a senior from Pennsylvania, finished the thought.

College catalogs and Web sites tend to offer little guidance on grading, other than numerical translations of letter grades. Old Dominion University's catalog prints one-word definitions of grades A is "superior," C is "satisfactory" which is more than many colleges provide.

University officials say, however, that grading doesn't occur in a vacuum.

Professors usually provide a syllabus at the start of the semester clarifying how grades are determined.

Their chairmen or deans question faculty members whose grades seem overly high or low though they aren't often required to change their habits.

Most universities provide an appeals process to challenge grades though few students use it and an infinitesimal number win their appeals.

A few colleges, including Virginia Military Institute and Virginia State University, have universal grading scales: 90 and above automatically equates to an A; 80 to 89, a B.

Most schools leave that up to the professor. Their variations can be small, but significant.

At U.Va., politics professor Larry J. Sabato uses a tough scale:

90 to 92 is a B-plus, 93 to 95 an A-minus and 96 and above an A.

Robert H. Holden, an associate professor of history at ODU, also demanded a 93 for an A-minus when he arrived at ODU. "I got clobbered by my peers," Holden said. Now he awards an A-minus for 90 to 92 and an A for 93 and above.

Some departments or colleges that have tried to standardize grading practices ended up with mixed results. A decade ago, NSU's history department adopted a uniform scale. A 95 or above earns an A, 90 to 94 an A-minus. Below 60: an F.

Among the faculty, "nobody has really challenged this," professor William H. Alexander said. "From the point of view of the student, they ought to be able to know an A with one teacher is similar to an A with another teacher."

Should it go university-wide? "It would be useful," he said, "but it would be a difficult battle to fight. Some people are used to certain scales."

Kenyon College, a liberal-arts school in Ohio, tried to coax professors toward uniformity with a "suggested" grade spread. In the '70s and '80s, its faculty handbook published a "desirable" distribution, ranging from 20 percent A's to 2 percent F's.

The suggestion disappeared in 1990. "It didn't seem to have a lot of effect because there continued to be some grade inflation," Kenyon economics professor Bruce L. Gensemer said.

Virginia professors recoil at the idea of suggesting, let alone requiring, a set percentage of grades. "That would generate a lot of unfairness," said Robert B. Archibald, an economics professor at William and Mary.

Ability levels vary widely, even among sections of the same class. Archibald recalled two sections of intermediate macroeconomics he taught in the same semester: In one, nine of 20 students received A's. In the other, one of 35 did.

Several also cite "academic freedom" to resist intrusion into grading. "Grades are tied to your goals and objectives for a course," said Elaine M. Justice, an associate professor of psychology at ODU. "Only a faculty member can decide what they are. It's part of academic freedom."

But Valen Johnson, author of a forthcoming book on grade inflation and an advocate of more uniformity in grading, calls the argument a red herring.

"Academic freedom is something that's given to professors so they can profess their views without reprisal," said Johnson, a professor of biostatistics at the University of Michigan. "To characterize grading as a form of academic freedom is nonsense."

In a multiple-choice test or a math exam, grading might seem pretty cut and dried. But how do professors judge essays?

It's not an exact science.

Jesse P. Bohl, an associate professor of philosophy at William and Mary, looks for students to "make sense of the stuff they have read and see how it connects with the previous material."

"An 'A' paper does both of them excellently," Bohl said. "For a real 'A' paper, I'm looking for a way of putting the pieces together that surprises me. An A-minus is a small surprise. A B-plus has no surprises, but is pretty elegant. When you get down in the B range, you begin to see missed things."

And F's? "An 'F' paper shows no awareness of the class discussion," he said.

Louis A. Bloomfield, a U.Va. physics professor, teaches "How Things Work," a popular introductory class for non-science majors. Students must often make connections between everyday objects and actions and the physics behind them.

In A-worthy essays, "these people are doing physics the entire time," said Bloomfield, who gained international attention last year after using a computer program to detect dozens of instances of plagiarism. The B's "wax in and out of physics. 'C' papers just beat around the bush. They point at physics, but they don't tell you how to do it."

Curving is another aspect of grading that divides campuses.

Never, says Justice, the psychology professor. "If you want to find out what students have mastered and your test reflects that, you shouldn't have to curve grades."

Always, says W. Dean Harman, a U.Va. chemistry professor whose average test grade is about 60. His exam questions "require a significant amount of problem-solving skills," Harman said. "The expectation is that not every student will be able to answer every problem."

So how do professors curve? Again, no consensus.

Harman totals the final numbers and allots A's to roughly the highest 35 percent, B's to the next 30 percent and C's to the next 30 percent. He'll tilt higher for a particularly bright class or a bit lower for a slower class. "I allow myself a bit of freedom as to where I draw those cutoffs," Harman said.

Amin Dharamsi, a professor of electrical and computer engineering at ODU, does something similar for his electromagnetics class.

He plots the final numbers in a dot chart, studies the clusters, sleeps on it, and studies them again. The midpoint usually rests in the middle-C range. Dharamsi looks for "breaks" between the clusters, corresponding to cutoffs between grades. That doesn't always happen.

Last semester, a final number in the 60s turned into a B-minus; an 81 was an A-minus. "Sometimes it can be a judgment call," Dharamsi said.

Nancy L. Wade, an associate professor of biology at ODU, does it this way: If the highest grade on a test is 96, she adds 4 points to everyone's score.

"I'm guilty of grade inflation, too," said Wade, considered one of ODU's toughest graders. "I do it so that students know that their competition is not with my knowledge but with the knowledge of the individuals in the classroom."

But that philosophy troubles Ryan Ponton, a U.Va. pre-med junior from Virginia Beach. "It's not testing: Do you know the material?" Ponton said. "It's testing: Do you know more than the other person?"

Eli DeJarnette, a junior at U.Va. from Culpeper, also sees problems with curving. Sometimes, he said, professors curve downward, giving students an ugly surprise. In chemistry, "I ended up with a C-plus when I averaged an 84 on the tests."

"They make it extremely complex," said DeJarnette, who is majoring in psychology and politics. "They never tell you how you're doing."

Join the Anchor, or Micheal Jackson will eat you.

Statement By Nightclub Co-Owner Jeffrey Derderian

The following is the complete text of a statement read Saturday by Jeffrey Derderian, co-owner of The Station nightclub, at the Sheraton Airport Hotel, Warwick:

First of all we'd like to thank you for being here tonight.

This horrific human tragedy has devastated my family and I as it has to all Rhode Islanders. The incredible grief we are feeling cannot truly be expressed by words.

We realize there is very little we can say that will provide comfort to the thousands of people that have been affected by this horrific tragedy. Please know that you are in our prayers. We are struggling with and during the unbearable shock and sadness with you.

This tragedy has claimed the lives of our friends ... people who are husbands, wives, mothers, fathers, sons and daughters. We will somehow live with this grief like so many other people for the rest of our lives and will never forget those who have been needlessly lost.

It was a total shock to me to see the pyrotechnics going off when Great White took the stage at approximately 11 p.m. Thursday night. As we said in the statement released yesterday, at no time did my brother or I have any knowledge that pyrotechnics were going to be used by the band Great White. No permission was ever requested by the band or any of its agents to use pyrotechnics at The Station and no permission was

ever given.

It was very difficult to express what I experienced at the club that evening, trying to get people out safely. Please know I tried as hard as I could. Many people didn't make it out and that is a horror that will haunt my family and I for the rest of our lives.

On behalf of my entire family I'd like to express our gratitude for the heroic efforts of fire, police and medical personnel who quickly arrived on the scene and to those throughout Southern New England who helped save dozens of lives that night. We also want to thank Gov. Carcieri and other federal, state and local officials who have displayed tremendous leadership during this time of suffering. We are also grateful for the outpouring of support we have received from so many of you in the hours since this tragedy. It means so much more to us than you will ever know.

There are many questions surrounding the tragedy that need to be answered and like you we want the answers as well. I was interviewed on the scene Thursday night by state and local authorities and have provided all the information requested.

As you know there is an investigation underway and because of that investigation, we cannot answer any questions from the media at this time.

Finally, my family and I continue to pray for the victims and their families from this horrible tragedy.

Thank you.

The Following is a List Released by The State of Confirmed Dead Due to Thursday's Fire

Richard Cabral,
Attleboro, Mass.
Alfred Crisostomi,
Providence
Rachel DiPietro
(Florio), Providence
Albert Anthony
DiBonaventura,
North Dighton, Mass.
Lori Durante, West
Warwick, R.I.
James Gahan,
Falmouth, Mass.
Laura Gillet,
Pembroke, Mass.
Scott Griffith,
Mission Viejo, Calif.
Andrew Hoban,
North Kingstown, R.I.
Michael Hoogasian,
Cranston, R.I.
Lisa Kelly, Swansea,
Mass.
Tracy King, Warwick,
R.I.
Keith Lapierre,
Worcester, Mass.
Dale Latulippe,
Carver, Mass.
Stephen Libera,

North Kingstown, R.I.
John Longiaru,
Johnston, R.I.
Ty Longley, North
Ridge, Calif.
Andrea Mancini,
Johnston, R.I.
Judith Manzo, North
Providence, R.I.
Katherine O'Donnell,
Seekonk, Mass.
Carlos Pimental,
West Warwick, R.I.
Robert Reisner,
Coventry, R.I.
Donald Roderiques,
Fall River, Mass.
Joseph Rossi,
Pawtucket, R.I.
Bridget Sanetti,
Coventry, R.I.
Dennis Smith,
Pawtucket, R.I.
Shawn Sweet,
Pembroke, Mass.
Jason Sylvester,
Coventry, R.I.
Everett (Tommy)
Woodmansee, Alton,
R.I.

Have You Heard About



For further details and information contact:

Dr. Jamie Taylor

London Theatre Program Coordinator

NCPA 135

401-456-8639

JLTaylor@ric.edu

(Application Deadline is March 3, 2003)



* **NEW!!!** *

Political Science/Geography Club

Meetings: Every Wednesday During the Free Period 12:30-2:00
Political Science Lounge Craig Lee Rm.217

All Majors and Interests Welcome!!

The World According To Jimmy This Year's Boston Red Sox (Oh, Boy!)

By: James Bessette
Anchor Staff

This will be my tenth season of following the Red Sox in depth. In my nine years prior, I had at least some hope into seeing the Sox finally stop the skids and bring us home that pretty trophy of golden flags with a crown built in the middle that the Yankees are able to get almost every year. I had hope of being able to at the faces on some New Yorkers on that one October night where they are watching people wearing articles of clothing with the words "Red" and "Sox" giving each other the Korbel Shower, while holding high that World Series trophy. The hope normally arrives around February 1st before each Spring Training. This year, I haven't yet experienced that hope. Instead, the only part of "Spring Training" that I'm looking forward to is the "Spring" part.

For starters, instead of going after players when the free agent market opened for season, the Sox spent that time looking for a General Manager. Yes, they needed a GM. However, they could have also looked for players to talk with at the same time. It's about being aggressive, and when a team like the Red Sox is competing with the Yankees for a World Series, you don't have a choice. Now, they have their General Manager: 28 Year Old Theo Epstein, and this will be his first year as a GM and it's with the Red Sox. I've got three words for Theo's situation: Baptismal by Fire!

I know for sure that the people who are associated with the Red Sox didn't watch their share of Geico Insurance commercials, especially one in particular where it was based on that Gecko getting "Employee of the Month." There was one guy talking about this "Great Employee," saying, "He's all about this (giving a 'writing' hand gesture) and not about this (giving a 'talking' hand gesture), mentioning that just talking and no working goes nowhere. The Red Sox did lots and lots of talking with high profiled players in Major League Baseball, such as 1B Jim Thome, a 40+ Home Run hitter (signed with Philadelphia for 6 years), 2B Jeff Kent, 30+ Home Run, 100+ Runs Batted In player, able to beat down Barry Bonds on occasion, (signs with Houston), and Pitcher Bartolo Colon, a 20 Game Winner who can throw 95 mph (traded to Chicago White Sox). Any one of these guys would have been huge for the Red Sox this season, especially Bartolo Colon, a third 20 win pitcher behind Pedro Martinez and Derek Lowe. But no, new owners, same all - talk - no - walk mentality to give New Englanders false hope. I'm not saying that Pitcher Ramiro Mendoza, a relief/starter, 1B/DH David Ortiz, power hitter, and 1B/OF Kevin Millar aren't good

additions to the team, but a better job could have been done without question.

Another thing that I have noticed about the new owners is that since they bought the team last year, they have put more money into adding seats to Fenway Park than adding personnel to the team. Their method behind this is to create more revenue for the team. FYI, Fenway Park is the smallest, oldest stadium in Major League Baseball (34,000 capacity). I'm not saying that putting seats atop the Green Monster in left field won't be cool, but adding seats and putting millions into a stadium that is still being decided on whether to be renovated or replaced, I don't think is worth it. Also, a method to add revenue to a team is acquiring high profile players. Jim Thome, Jeff Kent, and/or Bartolo Colon would have created high revenue. That's what happened when Pedro Martinez and Manny Ramirez came to Boston. Ticket sales went through the roof. With high profile players also stirs the fans' mindset that this could be the year, thus making them want to see a baseball game live.

However, all the money and all the talent in the world can take you so far. The Red Sox payroll has exceeded over \$100 million the last four years and the team has not made the playoffs in the last three. Team morale is still very low. Pedro is now saying for the team to "pick up my final year on my contract or trade me." There is still no team leader on the Red Sox. What I think the owners and Grady Little, the team's manager, should do is to have the team sit and watch the movie "The Replacements," the Keanu Reeves movie where he is a replacement player quarterback who becomes part of a football league where the original players are on strike, and helps lead a team with all replacement players to the post season. There is one part in that movie (sorry to spoil it for people who didn't see it) where a reporter asks the head coach of the Washington Sentinels, played by Gene Hackman, "What does the team need to do to improve in the second half of this game?" Hackman's response: "We need heart. Lots and lots of heart." The meaning of the movie is that you don't have to have big time players on a team. You got to have a group of people who can work together and who wants that championship title and will do anything to get it. That's what the Patriots and the Anaheim Angels had last year, lots and lots of heart. They wanted it, they got it, and they earned it. The Red Sox wanted it for the first two months of last season and then slacked the last four. Yes, the Red Sox needed to emphasize on the "Red" part, however it's not the uniforms. It's the heart, and that's something you cannot buy.

Sports Gal's Sports Update Uh-Oh! Here Comes the Feminism Article!

By: Tiffany Ventura
Anchor Editor

Yikes.

The title says it all. Thank you, those of you faithful male readers who are still reading. For those of you who aren't, I'm disappointed. This is good stuff, and it doesn't reek of "I am woman, hear me roar" or bra burning. I just had to grab your attention.

Before I begin, I have something to confess. This week, when I sat at my computer, the sounds of Sports Center or the Game Show Network behind me on my television, I had writer's block. Quite frankly, the world of sports has been boring. Spring training? I've already written about it and the Red Sox soap operas are pretty mundane at this point. Mike Tyson's fight? Who cares? The only thing that I could think about was a conversation my father and I had.

One night, I was reading the sports page and read that Annika Sorenstam, one of the greatest female golfers on the LPGA Tour, was being invited to a PGA golf event. I asked my father what he thought of this. He said he liked Annika Sorenstam and thought she was a great golfer. But, he asked, why couldn't men play at a female golfing event? Is it fair that a man would have to not play at this event just so Annika could play?

Say what?

Now, don't get me wrong. When I say I am feminist, I am my own breed of feminism. I could care less if I can be a member at an exclusive, private club like the Augusta National Club, where the PGA Masters are played each year. Martha Burk, in my opinion, is wrong for trying to force women into this men's only club and she has no legal grounds to force a private club to let women into it. Men's clubs and female clubs exist today. What would Martha Burk do if a man wanted to get into a female club? The same principle applies.

I have no problem with single-sex schools. I think it would be fine for men and women. If a woman wants to be a police officer, fire fighter, or a military officer, that's great. But she should be held to the same expectations as a man because we should earn on that equal basis, and not because we needed "help" or lower standards. This is the brand of feminism that I believe one of my idols, Gloria Steinem would approve. Women want equal opportunities and the ability to do anything we want in life. That said, I am also not a whiner. I do

not blame men for anything I fail at nor do I hate men. I happen to love men very much, actually. I do not think men are the cause for my problems.

The sad part is, saying I'm a feminist shouldn't make me have to establish that up front. But, this is what happens when women in charge of national feminist groups twist feminism into something it's not.

Moving right along, with that basis, I am my own breed of feminism. But I am also good at common sense. I remember telling someone recently, "You don't know the meaning of sexism unless you're a woman." And I believe that, fully.

Think about it this way. Those of you who believe that Annika is getting an unfair opportunity and is holding other men back consider this: aren't the basics of capitalism such that everyone is entitled to make any amount of money they choose through legal means? Therefore, why shouldn't Annika play in a men's event if she can handle the course? It's a known fact that men get paid more than women in this country, regardless of the job or that nearly every other European country pays their women equally. Annika could make more in three male tournaments coming in second place than she likely could make as a champion in six women's events.

So my father's question struck me as ludicrous. Why would a man enter a woman's event, a woman's league, or anything of that nature? Why get paid less to be in first than you would for coming in second?

To me, this issue isn't about whether Annika can handle the course, or whether or not she can play with the "boys." I could care. I'm quite sure Annika can take it. And I'm quite sure that a lot of the men, judging by her looks, aren't going to care that she's on the course. The issue to me is simple: Maybe we wouldn't need this type of event as an "attempt to make it seem like things are equal between men and women" if we would all get paid the same amount for the same thing.

Example: Tennis tournaments. Women's tournaments routinely get less money, yet the greatest talent today is on the women's tour. Who cares about the aging Andre Agassi and maybe the promise of Andy Roddick? That's it for the men's tour. The women have Serena and Venus Williams, Lindsey Davenport, Anna Kournikova, and many better rivalries and

deeper talent. Yet...men's tournaments get more money.

If it sounds like I'm complaining, on this point, I am. I've said time and time again to male friends that all I want is equal pay to that of a man's for the same job. That's it. No laws that make it okay for me to have no shirt required in convenience stores like men can, because sorry, the free world does not need to see my breasts. I want nothing outrageous and nothing contagious. I just want equal pay. I think female athletes, considering that they put just as much of their bodies on the line as men, deserve the same huge amounts of money that men do, plus endorsements. If it's okay for Michael Jordan, it's okay for Lisa Leslie or Annika Sorenstam.

I'd love to see the day when women could make five million dollars a year playing professional basketball. Half the time, those games are better played than the crap in the NBA. I'd love to see the girls buying Bentleys and Escalades, being on MTV Cribs, having the "bling bling" and the big houses, instead of getting paid a mere 60,000 per year. If it's good for men to make that money, it's good for women. They both work as hard. I concede that the WNBA would have to be exactly equal to the NBA, with an 82 game season and a full playoff schedule. And of course, the league hasn't grown enough yet for this to happen. But when it does, they deserve equal pay. Why aren't we worth it?

One of my dreams growing up was to be a professional football player. In my mind, nothing could be greater than the excitement of being like my idol, Jerry Rice, and to wear number 80 and play the same position he did. To have millions of fans adore me, want my autograph, and to be rich and famous would be incredible for me. Of course, dreams aren't worth discarding, no matter how unrealistic they may be. If you don't reach for the stars, you'll never make it to the rooftop. Maybe the world isn't ready for a WNFL, where I could make thirteen million dollars a year. If it's not my time, I'll accept it. I suppose I'll settle for being a rich and famous sports writer instead. But that dream doesn't die just because it never gets off the ground. Or because it takes a few years to get off the ground.

Maybe, it won't be me that makes the thirteen million dollars a year playing pro football.

Maybe it will be my daughter.

Riley and Lopez Earn Pilgrim Wrestling League Honors

By: Scott Gibbons
Sports Information Director

Rhode Island College senior Mike Riley (Lowell, MA) and freshman Carlos Lopez (Lowell, MA) earned Pilgrim Wrestling League honors for their performances last week.

Riley went 4-0 last week leading the Anchormen to their first-ever Pilgrim Wrestling League title. Among his wins, he defeated the #2 ranked wrestler in his weight class, Anthony Montes from Johnson and Wales University. Riley is 26-3 at 133 lbs. with 107 points, 116 take-downs, five reversals, 29 escapes, 15 near-falls and one

pin. Riley has won his last nine matches and is ranked number one in New England at 133 lbs. (Div. III). He placed first at 133 lbs. at the Roger Williams Invitational (11/16) and second at the Doug Parker Invitational (11/23).

He is a finance major and a 1997 graduate of Greater Lowell Technical High School.

Lopez also went 4-0 for the Anchormen in their championship week. He is 28-11 at 157 lbs. with 111 points, 81 take-downs, two reversals, 34 escapes, eight near-falls and four pins. Lopez has won his last eight matches.

He is an industrial technolo-

gy major and a 2002 graduate of Greater Lowell Technical High School.

The Rhode Island College wrestling team captured their first-ever Pilgrim Wrestling League title by sweeping a tri-meet at Johnson and Wales University on Tuesday, Feb. 11. Head Coach Jay Jones' team won their opening match vs. Coast Guard, 28-12, and defeated the Wildcats, 26-18.

The Anchormen are currently ranked ninth in New England among all institutions and fifth among Div. III programs. The Anchormen are 14-10 overall, 9-6 in the NECCWA and 6-0 in the Pilgrim League.

Even if you don't join the
Anchor, Michael Jackson prob-
ably won't eat you. We're
kinda lonely up here.

O'Brien: Improving Herself, and Those Around Her

By: Paul J. Spectrini
Anchor Staff

You know, sometimes it's just hard to stay focused and keep modest when you're having so much success. You see it in sports all of the time. One minute, an athlete is on top, and the next they've hit rock bottom. And the worst part of it all is that, when asked what lead to their collapse, they often say it was because they were a success in the first place.

As an athlete, you learn to live in a world of clichés. There's always your typical "You win as a team, you lose as a team." "We have to take it one game at a time," and the ever favorite: "On any given day any team is capable of beating another team." While many athletes go through these rounds of clichés because they have to, RIC's sophomore Ashley O'Brien has good reason to stick by them.

As a freshman, O'Brien found that the transition to college level sports isn't as easy as some might think. "I struggled a little freshman year. There were times when you would want to give up, it's very discouraging." Luckily for the Anchorwomen, O'Brien refused to go about her business in a lazy fashion. That's just not her style. She worked hard for what she has gotten, and she isn't about to give up on it now.

"I've changed a lot this year. It's just a lot different. I've had a lot more success because I've changed my attitude and have become very self motivated." Ashley's desire to win doesn't look like it is going anywhere. This year she is averaging scores an all around score of 35.930, and was named ECAC Gymnast of the week on January 29th.

The award was a long time coming for this young lady. Just like most competitive gymnasts, Ashley started at a young age. "I was 6 six years old when I start-

ed practicing. My mother used to teach me while I learned how to do everything right. Up until the end of high school, I never had any other coaches...the award was a big accomplishment, and it is something that I am very proud of.

Personal accomplishments aside, Ashley knows that what really matters is how the team itself is doing. "We're very focused this year. The team has improved a lot since last year, and we've become really competitive. Everyone on this team wants to win, and we're always finding new ways to push each other to do better every time we go out there."

RIC's gymnastics team is having a decent season. After going 0-9 last year, the Anchorwomen have improved to a 2-3 record thus far, with outstanding contributions from O'Brien, and several of her teammates.

Freshman Staci Freedman is having a great season, averaging 9.020 on the Beam. Sophomore Caren Normandin is averaging a 9.100 on the Vault; showing little has changed since her MVP performance last year. Senior Shannon Hughey is also having a great year, averaging 9.250 on the Floor.

All in all, it appears as if RIC's gymnastics is back in the swing of things. After several sub par years, this team may finally be ready to take it to the next level. "Our goals for this year are no different than before. All we really want is to stay healthy and keep improving. We're still young, so we have a long way to go."

With eleven out of twelve members on the team being able to come back next year, the future is bright for this team. With young leaders already mature enough to stay focused, there is no telling if anybody is going to be able to stop this team from reaching whatever goals they set out for themselves.



By: Paul J. Spectrini
Anchor Staff

Ah, the beauty of the minor leagues. The one time when a person's overall performance is judged by wins and losses. In these leagues, it is not how you do, but how your team does, and whether or not you can prove yourself to be a real leader. Unlike the major leagues, where the only thing you can count on is getting paid, players in the minor leagues have to prove themselves on and off of the ice in order to show that they have what it takes to make that next step.

While some people may not view professional hockey as corrupt as some of the other sports, the theory is just the same. It is always fun to sit back and watch players in the AHL compete with one another. At any given moment, a star can arise, and these players have to be ready when the time comes. Because of this, AHL games are often more enjoyable than their professional counterparts, and there is rarely a dull moment to be had by fans in attendance or at home.

Ok, so I'll admit it. Hockey isn't for everyone. Perhaps the only reason I'm writing this article is because of personal reasons. I am a San Jose Sharks fan, and they are not doing too well, but I won't abandon them. Instead, I will look to the minor leagues to provide me with all the drama and storylines I need to keep my small interest in hockey alive.

And now...introducing...your Providence Bruins. Anyone who has ever gone to a Providence Bruins game knows for a fact that it is one of the best things you can do in Providence for under \$20 bucks. And not only that, but it seems like this team goes the

extra mile to make it worth your visit.

This year's "Baby-B's", as they're so affectionately called, are showing that maybe they are not the farm team everyone expects after all. While their

less), it's easy to see how much consistent players can mean to a team. In games held last week, both Hilbert and Herr contributed with game winning goals in the final period of regulation, and that doesn't even begin to scratch the surface of the overall leadership affect that both have had on each other and the rest of the team.

As the snow begins to melt and the Bruins prepare for play-off time, one thing is for certain, they will have enough fan support to guide them there and beyond. Maybe it is because of our love for sports, or our desire to root for something.

Either way, the Providence Bruins have become a staple in Rhode Island. They have represented what is right for sports and have set an example on how athletes should behave.

While the P-Bruins may not have seen a lot of struggles this year, that is not true for the people they represent in Providence and Rhode Island. As many of you know, there was a fire on Thursday Night at The Station on Cowesett Avenue in West Warwick. That fire cost the lives of close to a hundred people and caused irreversible damage to many people who live in this area.

To show that they really are more than hockey players, and that they are part of the community in general, the entire Providence Bruins team sends condolences to the victims and the families of those lost in that tragic accident. All weekend long, the team collected donations for those involved, and on February 25th, will collectively donate blood from 1:15pm-3:15pm at the Rhode Island Blood Center. All are encouraged to follow suit, and help support those in need in times of crisis.

More Than a Team, Part of A Community



friends in Boston struggle to make the playoffs (28-23-6, currently 6th seed in the East), this team is making it look like they are in a league of their own.

Coming into this weekend's action, Providence was 36-13-7, and dominating everyone in their path. Not only had they won 5 out of their last six, but they are doing it without Martin Samuelsson, Rich Brennan, and Ivan Huml, three of their most dominating players. All three have been called up within the past month, but it doesn't seem as if the Bruins had even noticed.

Providence won five straight following the recalls of Samuelsson and Brennan, with four of them on the road. One of the main reasons is the consistency they are getting out of centers Matt Herr, Andy Hilbert, Keith Aucoin, and right wing Lee Goren. These men may be the top four point scorers on the team, but in actuality, they are so much more.

Each man seems to provide a pivotal lift just when the team needs it. When you consider that the team has seen more than seven games decided by a goal or less (in the past two months no

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- Do you ever use alcohol or drugs to RELAX, feel better about yourself, or fit in?
- Do you ever use alcohol or drugs while you are by yourself, ALONE?
- Do you ever FORGET things you did while using alcohol or drugs?
- Do your family or FRIENDS ever tell you that you should cut down on your drinking or drug use?
- Have you ever gotten into TROUBLE while you were using alcohol or drugs?

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Two or more "YES" answers suggest a serious problem. A more complete assessment and the opportunity to question this information is available at:

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- Health Services, Browne Hall, 456-8055
- the Office of Health Promotion, Craig-Lee 127, 456-8061



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movies

Spring 2003

February 5, 2003
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Horace Mann 193 @ 9pm

February 12, 2003
WHEN HARRY MET SALLY
Horace Mann 193 @ 9pm

March 25, 2003
TWO WEEKS NOTICE
Horace Mann 193 @ 9pm

April 23, 2003
BLUE CRUSH
Weber Beach @ 9pm

April 30, 2003
8 MILE
Weber Beach @ 9pm

ADMISSION Free - Popcorn, candy and soda





by Heather Black

Roving Reporter

What would you change about Rhode Island College if you could?



Allen Vivier
Freshman
Undecided

The quality of food at Donovan.



Lauren Sacchetti
Freshman
Communications

Lack of activities available on the weekends for students.

Sarah Guilbauld
Junior
Social work

The fact that we have to get a blizzard to cancel class.



Tim Staskiewicz
2nd Year
Communications

I would want them to build more dorms and get more residential life on campus.



Derek Freitas
Sophomore
Secondary Education
History

More parking spaces, more student activities, and more dorms.

Kenneth Anderson
Sophomore
Communications

I would increase student involvement on campus because students aren't nearly as involved as they should be. Students do not realize the amount of time and effort put into events, programs and organizations that are available to them.



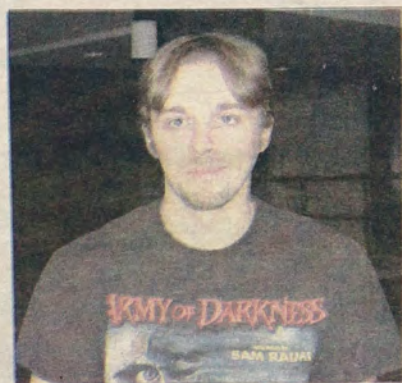
Ahem! Ahem!

Ok, now that I have your attention:

Do you feel that our questions lack oomph? Think you could do better? Well, now's your chance! Send an Instant Message (AIM only) to RovingReporter00 with a question and your name, and if we like the question, we'll use it, and give you the credit you so desperately deserve! Ok - well what are you waiting for? Go, submit already!

Matthew Ruggerio
Sophomore
Film Studies

More dorms, more parking, better food, and better parties and more booze.



the anchor remembers the station



Glen Osmundson/PJB



Chitose Suzuki/AP



WPRI-TV/Reuters



WPRI-TV/Reuters



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Chitose Suzuki/AP



Brian Snyder/Reuters



Bob Thayer/PJB

Military's Exclusion of Gays Will Hurt U.S. Efforts

By: Jennifer Vanasco

It might be gearing up for war, but the Marine Corps has decided that no matter how well they serve, gays aren't good when it comes to fighting.

So when the Corps issued a "Stop-Loss" order this month, it excluded gays and lesbians. That is, most Marines are prevented from leaving the service for the next year — but not if they're attracted to people of the same sex.

Gays and lesbians, it seems, are free to go.

It's curious that the Marines refuse to overcome these vestiges of national prejudice even during a time of impending war. After all, the military has been the great equalizer, folding in blacks during the Civil War, and Japanese-Americans (even when their families were in internment camps) and women during World War II.

The ability to fly a bomber or shoot a missile should be more important than who you love.

The Marine Corps policy is not only discriminatory, it also opens a loophole. Don't want to go overseas to war? Scared to face the threat of bio-terrorism? Just come out.

Charlie Moskos, who helped craft the Pentagon's "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy, recently identified this opening for soldiers and suggested that if the draft were re-instated, the hole should be sewn closed.

"You can't use a gay ban

with a draft because that would make it too easy for people to get out," Moskos said.

Even without a draft, it makes no sense that the military is content to release gay and lesbian soldiers — and anyone who is willing to pretend to be gay and lesbian — just because some anonymous straight men and women are worried about them.

After Sept. 11, at least seven Arabic linguists and two Korean-language specialists were kicked out of the military because they were found to be gay. They wanted to continue to serve. They may have figured that the military — hurting for Arabic speakers — would keep them around anyway. They were wrong.

A record 1,250 gays and lesbians were discharged from the military in 2001, according to the Servicemembers Legal Defense Network. This is the highest number since "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" was instated in 1993.

How is this preserving military effectiveness?

As Rep. Barney Frank, D-Mass., said, "For those who needed further evidence of how ill-advised the anti-gay military policy is, they now have it. Firing talented people who possess a scarce and sorely needed skill because some people don't like their choice of social companions puts prejudice ahead of national security."

The Marine Corps should change its policy. Preserving our national security is more important than preserving prejudice.

Justice for All in Russia

By: Michael Philbin
Member- Amnesty International

Perhaps one of the most important events of the late 20th century was the collapse of the Soviet Union (along with other totalitarian communist states) and the emergence of the Russian Federation. Although the relatively young nation has long experienced economic trouble, there have been many positive developments regarding individual political rights. Freedom of speech and religion has been adopted in Russia, and there have also been some positive social changes as well as with the moratorium of the death penalty and ratification of international treaties. Unfortunately, despite these positive changes regarding political freedom, widespread human rights abuses continue in Russia. Torture of suspects, the horrible condition of detention centers, "disappearances" in Chechnya, and the mistreatment of women, children, and the ethnic groups are but a few of the routine occurrences in Russia. These violations of the human rights standards are allowed to continue because of a lack of accountability for the Russian authorities responsible. As a major global power, Russia has a unique duty to abide by international human rights standards. It is also our responsibility to learn about these abuses and to urge the Russian government (directly or through the US state department) to take progressive actions that will help end these atrocities.

Although The Russian government ratified the UN convention on torture agreement, any person in the Russian Federation who is taken in to custody by police faces the risk of torture or mistreatment. It is most likely that suspects will experience torture during interrogation immediately after arrest but before they've been charged with a crime. Beating, electric shock, rape, and near-suffocation are the most common methods to torture used by the authorities. Olga Staroverova is one victim of torture in Russia. The pregnant woman suffered beatings, cigarette burns, and electrical shocks from the police in 1999 all of which is recorded in her official medical statement. Staroverova's experience, as with many others in Russia, was never investigated. The poorly-paid police who use torture not only don't face punishment, the government frequently pressures the police to

quickly get confessions from suspects indirectly encouraging the use of torture methods. It is absolutely essential that the Russian government refine their justice system in a manner that actually abides by the YN agreement they signed. Suspects must be protected from mistreatment and there must be negative consequences for those who use torture.

According to widely recognized global standards, children are entitled to special protection within the legal system. Despite ratifying the agreement of the UN convention of the Rights of the child, Russia has denied children some of the most basic protections against mistreatment and torture. Vast numbers of children in Russia are arrested every year and many are denied the presence of a lawyer or adult family member during interrogations. For months, children are held in pre-trial detention centers where they're forced to live in horrifying conditions. In 2001, almost 18,000 children were serving absurdly long sentences for relatively minor crimes. Children are the most vulnerable members of any society, and they deserve to be protected from the horrible conditions many experiences in Russia.

The economy that Russia has been experiencing for some time now has led to a considerable increase in family's experiencing poverty. A negative social aspect of this has been the dramatic increases in alcohol consumption by Russian men and the subsequent domestic violence occurrences that accompanies this. The terrible abuse of Russian women at the hands of their husbands is responsible for 14,000 deaths in 2001 alone, and yet the Russian authorities act on abuse cases, along with reports of the mistreatment of women by the authorities, it is a clear violation of human rights for women. Yet another agreement, the Protocol of the UN women's convention, was ratified by the Russian government and again they fail to abide by it. Russia must show a true commitment to women's rights by acting on reports of domestic abuse and mistreatment of women.

Ever since the current stage in the war in Chechnya began in 1999, it has been consistently characterized by credible sources as a hotbed of human rights abuses committed by both the Russian military and Chechen rebels. Civilians suspected of either aid-

ing, or being related to, Chechens rebels are routinely taken away during raids by the Russian military and detained in facilities where they are denied access to lawyers and face rape, other forms of torture, and even extrajudicial executions. Occasionally, Chechen civilians who have "disappeared" are found in unmarked pits and shot of them appear to have been shot. Chechen rebels, too, have consistently committed human rights abuses. There are several credible reports that Russian soldiers who have been captured by rebels are executed and that the Chechen rebels have engaged in terrorist bombing that targets civilians. While the war in Chechnya can be categorized as an internal conflict, and civilians almost always die in war, it is essential that both sides of the conflict respect and abide by the international humanitarian law. This includes consequences from the government for Russian forces that have taken part in human rights violations.

There are many other human rights abuses that occur in this nation of 145 million people, including blatant discrimination by authorities towards minority ethnic groups and the terrible conditions of detention centers. Three human rights treaties have been mentioned that the Russian government officially ratified, and yet there exist undeniable evidence of consistent human rights abuses that are allowed to exist in a climate of impunity. It is important that people from around the world take actions to convince the Russian government that the virtues of their new democratic system can be further validated by respecting international law. While such a task might seem insurmountable, there is reason to hope. One of the most famous political prisoners in Russia was Gregory Pasko, an activist who was arrested for uncovering a huge environmental disaster. Partly due to the efforts of human rights activist, Pasko was recently freed from prison. Such positive successes can be multiplied if people are willing to take actions that spread awareness of the human rights situation in Russia. Even here at Rhode Island College, People can take part in these efforts by attending the RIC amnesty's human rights Dinner on March 17, which will focus on women's rights in Russia. With your help, the goal of achieving justice for all people of Russia can be achieved.

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Letter To the Editor:

By: Kristen L. Swanson

I was quite pleased when I opened The Anchor and saw last week's edition of your "Roving Reporter" as it addressed an issue that was foremost on my mind: the clearing, or lack thereof, of snow on our campus. This issue happened to be on my mind quite prominently at the time as I had, but a mere fifteen minutes earlier, risked life and limb attempting to make my usual jaunt from Robert's Hall to the Craig-Lee building. I find it disappointing that those responsible for such matters have done such an abysmal job in keeping the walk-

ways safe for students, staff, and faculty members here at RIC. A most egregious example of this lack of care can be found directly in front of Robert's Hall where it appears as if there was no attempt whatsoever so clear the snow from paths that are used quite heavily during the day. Need I remind those whom it may concern that snow, especially when trod upon does eventually turn into ice, thick layers of ice that are not helped very much by tiny piles of ice-melt. I also noted in my brief travels (all my classes happen to be in the same building this semester) that the conditions around the Art Center and Craig-

Lee are also quite a bit treacherous. While I do worry that I might slip and injure myself, I am also concerned for those handicapped individuals to whom these slippery pathways often pose a more serious threat. This is my fourth year here at RIC and I know that a better job can be done in clearing the snow. I have seen the school do a better job at clearing the snow. What I'd like to know is why there has been such a lackluster performance in this area this year. Is it a financial issue, do they just not care or do it is just the area of the campus that I specified (even so that would still be unacceptable)?

Letter To the Editor:

By: Forrester Safford
Anchor Staff
ricconservative@yahoo.com

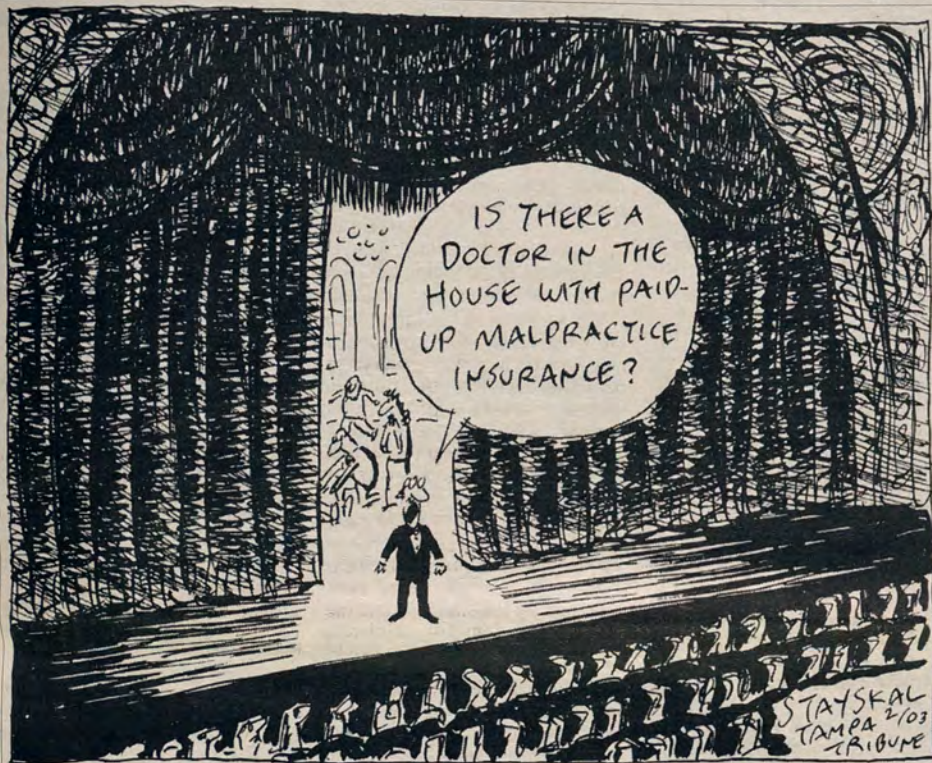
I am writing this letter in response to Mr. Stephen Hendrick's letter entitled "In Support of Gay Marriages on National Freedom to Marry Day." In his letter Hendrick states that there is an increase in the support of gays being allowed to be legally married. Mr. Hendrick also talks about a proposed bill in his home state of Montana that would allow gay marriages. He feels the bill will fail; however merely having the bill proposed is groundbreaking.

After reading the letter I wrote an email to Mr. Dinesh D'Souza, the author of "Letters to a Young Conservative," and I thanked him for giving me advice on how to respond to the legalizing gay marriage issue. The question is "why shouldn't gays be able to marry?" The answer: Gays *can* marry. Anyone can marry as long as they marry someone of the opposite sex. The right to get married is like the right to vote. The right is out there for everyone to use at their pleasure, however if you do not like the certain regulations

that go along with these rights, do not twist it around and say that you are not given these rights in the first place.

I am not of the mindset that two men or two women cannot be in love. I have gay friends as well as family members who are gay, and I know that they love their partners.

As we continue to evolve as a society and more special interests groups gain popularity for their causes we must stand firm by not legalizing all of their demands in order to preserve our country's integrity and basic morals. We also must consider the consequences of allowing extreme groups prevail. Look at our past. We have had the Black Panthers, the clash Ruby Ridge and continue to have a scattered Ku Klux Klan following. They believe that they are right in their philosophies; however we stood firm with the Black Panthers at Ruby Ridge and continue to stand firm against the Klan, even though they say that we are denying them "their rights." Each one of us has the God given right to have and embrace certain beliefs, however, we must not expect all of our beliefs to become laws.



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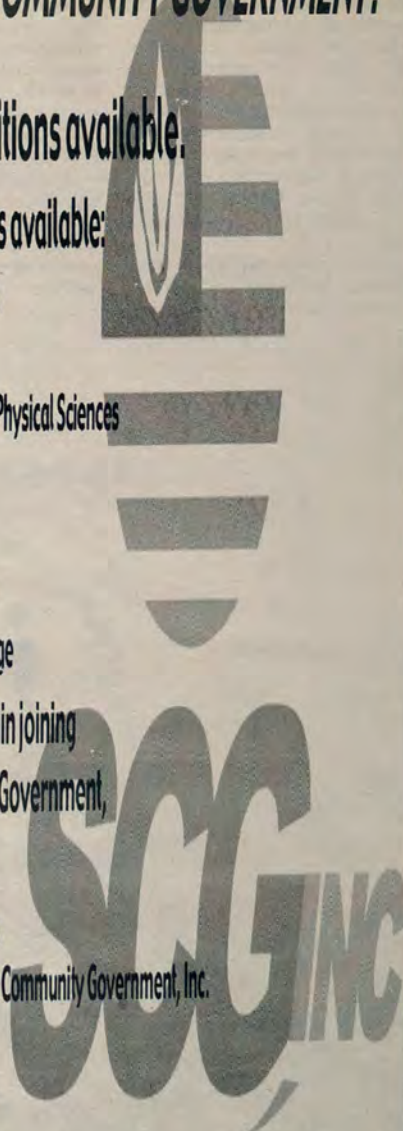
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Roberts Hall 115



Letter To the Editor:

By: Forrester Safford
Anchor Staff
ricconservative@yahoo.com

On September 11, 2001 our country was attacked by terrorists. Thousands of Americans died and the world, minus our enemies, mourned. Since that "day of infamy," our president has been working day and night to see to it that we will not have to go through another September 11th. Acting swiftly, Mr. Bush in a matter of no time identified Osama Bin Laden as the leader of the attack, and our military wiped out many members of al Qaeda. This led to a leadership in Afghanistan.

President Bush also labeled Iraq, Iran and North Korea as the "Axis of Evil." Our first target of this "Axis of Evil," is Iraq, which is led by the ruthless dictator Saddam Hussein. If Saddam does not disarm, our President warns that he will use military force. Our President would be right in doing so. Hussein is the evil one, who kills his own people. I have met people who have visited Iraq and they have seen people dragged into the streets and shot in the head, just for not having something as seemingly inconsequential as a picture of Hussein displayed in their home. This ruthless dictator has also murdered thousands of people by using gasses and other horrific measures of extermination.

The reason that our President wants to remove Hussein from power is not because he wants his oil. It is not because he is a racist, nor is it because he is a war hungry man who cannot wait to see people die. Mr. Bush wants Hussein taken out in order to protect us, the very people that he is sworn to protect. However, the President is receiving a lot of criticism. This protest is coming from Russia, Germany, France and extreme groups in the United States.

First, let's talk about why France, Germany and Russia oppose the war. For one,

although their opinion does matter to President Bush, he is not the not the type of leader that would let another country control what he does, when our country is in danger of terrorist attacks. These countries want to feel special, and in doing so they are making themselves look like complete fools. Three traditional allies main oppose military action in Iraq, what about the numerous ones that support our President? More countries support our President then oppose him. Some of these countries that oppose any military action have oil deals with Saddam. They are putting a man who kills his own people over a man standing up for freedom, democracy, justice, and for our survival as a human race.

Our President was obliged to go through the United Nations before going to war with Iraq and he has done so. He sought to get a resolution from the United Nations. The President was asked to provide "smoking guns," and a little more then a week ago Secretary of State Colin Powell did just that. Finally, our President has been asked to "give peace a chance." Our President has given peace many chances, in fact he is still hoping for peace. However, the reality is that Saddam Hussein will not disarm and we will be forced to take military action. Not because we want to, but because we have to.

Last week the United Nations did the smartest thing that it has done in a long time, they shut France out. Now at least they have a plan to protect Turkey in case it is attacked in retaliation for our impending attack on Iraq. They are now hopefully moving forward in writing up a second resolution, however if they do not, the President is right in saying that with or without the resolution we will disarm Iraq.

Now we get to the protesters in our own country. These protests are for the most part put together by extreme leftist groups, many of then associated

with the Communist Party. Why would anyone listen to a member of the Communist Party? Stalin was just as evil as Saddam.

Then there is this group called "Not in Our Name." On January 27, 2003 their spokesman, 21 year old Miles Soley appeared on The O'Reilly Factor. It amazes me that they actually put up the transcript of the debate on their website. Do they think he outsmarted Mr. O'Reilly? Anyone who reads the transcript, or saw the actual debate between Soley and O'Reilly can easily see that O'Reilly mopped the floor with Soley. It was quite comical how Mr. O'Reilly made Miles Soley look like, (and probably feel like), a complete fool.

Finally, look at the protests. All of the signs that they carry condemn our President. They call him evil, racist, oil hungry and everything else under the sun that is insulting. Where are the signs that say "Saddam Disarm!" or "Peace through Disarming!"? There aren't any. That is because all of the protests are not protests for peace, but personal attacks against President Bush. Mr. Bush is not the evil one ladies and gentlemen. Saddam is, and our president is doing everything in his power to see to it that we never have to go through another September 11th. If we do not take out all the people responsible for the attacks on the USA we will be the victim of many more attacks to come.

In closing, I would like to say that in our democratic society we take for granted many of our rights. This is evident with the type of protests taking place. These are not protests for peace. They are ignorant and demeaning attacks on our President. We need to take out Saddam Hussein if he does not disarm. We need to act fast. We will win, no matter how few countries support us. President Bush is making sure that our country survives. Disagree with him if you want, but do not imply that he is equal to the likes of Adolf Hitler or Saddam Hussein.

Colleges Must Try Creative Approaches To Budget Shortfalls

By: Leo Higdon Jr.

As state revenues dry up even more, public colleges are facing a crisis. Even when the economy improves, more cuts to public higher education may occur, and reductions already implemented might not be recovered. At the same time there are still thousands of additional students attending college due to a boom in the college-age population, estimated to increase 13 percent by 2010. And although there have been measures to deal with this, such as mid-year tuition hikes and removal of enrollment caps to handle the influx of students, the bottom line is the same: there is not enough money to support public higher education.

In a 1999 report published by the Center for Public Policy in Higher Education, analyst Harold Hovey predicted this crisis: Paying for other important public services such as K-12 education, roads, prisons and police would not only strip money away from colleges, but force states to curtail even current levels of service.

Colleges have always responded to past budget shortfalls by reducing costs, replacing full-time faculty with adjuncts, increasing class size and raising tuition. Then, if that failed to do the trick, they escalated to cutting programs and people.

But these measures can be counterproductive to the purpose of higher education, especially in light of today's knowledge economy. More than ever, we need an educated workforce to deal with increasingly complex business and social problems, and right now 80 percent of that workforce is educated in public institutions.

So this time the way in which colleges are funded must

undergo reform. The universities themselves and the legislatures must share the onus to ensure that both this and future generations receive the best education possible. And there is much more at stake here than the survival of our public institutions; also at stake is our economic growth and development, the development of an informed, involved citizenry and access to higher education.

The universities can lead by focusing on the institution's mission and the core academic programs necessary to support it. Any programs extraneous to that mission should be re-evaluated for possible elimination or curtailment; so, in some cases, this means moving away from the "academic supermarket" mentality of the 1990s.

This also means asking tough questions: Is a program within our mission, key to our future, and, if so, is it affordable? Is it a duplication of an existing program at another institution? Truthful answers may mean that the university's aspirations need to be tamed.

In this case, a consortium of institutions is one model by which core programs can be maintained, but the consortiums must be looked at creatively, whether they include sharing faculty, facilities and/or administration or collaborating with the private sector, to name but a few examples.

Financially, too, universities must ask the tough questions: Where will they be in five or 10 years? How can they plan for prosperity as well as the lean times? How much in reserves do they require to weather the downturns? The fact is, during the upsurge of the 1990s, many universities did not place funds in reserve, and some spent non-

see **Budget on 15**

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February is "Unchain a Dog Month"

By Kathy Guillermo
People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals

People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) has designated February as "Unchain a Dog Month." Our message: If your dog lives outside, bring him inside. It's where he'll be safe and happy.

Josie would tell you this, if she could. She is that breed infamous for being the incarnation of the cartoon Tasmanian devil and for seeing a normal household as a giant chew toy — a Jack Russell terrier. Magazines and newspapers the world over have warned people about what they're getting into if they want a dog like the one on the TV show "Frasier."

But they're SO cute. That's what Josie's first family thought. Mom, Dad and two kids adopted her from a shelter and brought her home to the suburbs to be their little "My Dog Skip" lap dog.

Within weeks, Josie, the dog with springs for legs and an insatiable appetite for chewing furniture and toys, was on the end of a chain in the backyard. There she sat for the next year. With no outlet for her immense energy, things deteriorated. When the kids came

out to pet her she got so excited she leaped up and knocked them flat. Eventually, Dad got mad at her "aggressive nature" and called a local dog rescue group.

The rescuers called me. I drove two hours to meet Josie, but I didn't find a vicious dog. She was a pathetic, lonely, shivering bundle of nerves without protection from the cold, desperate for a warm house and someone to love her.

But she was full of energy. When I got home, I had an unsocialized, unhousebroken, ball of energy who couldn't sit still for 30 seconds. The first thing she did was leap from the floor to center of the dining room table in a single bound. But no one can lay on the love like Josie does. She plastered herself to my legs, draped herself across my kids' laps and crawled under the covers at night. For weeks she wouldn't go out into the back yard by herself because she was afraid she would be left out there forever.

Josie's story ends happily. She is now a joyful member of the family, who gets lots of exercise, chew toys and attention, which were all she needed in the first place.

Other chained dogs aren't so lucky. Dogs left outside alone are

vulnerable to attack to anyone who walks by. They have been poisoned, shot, hung, set on fire and other gruesome things unprintable in a family newspaper.

Although Josie's high-pitched bark proved to be far worse than her bite, many chained dogs do become dangerous. Being left outside all the time with little or no interaction with people can drive dogs crazy. They often become overly fearful of intruders and protective of their tiny patch of ground. According to one study, more than a quarter of fatal dog attacks are by chained dogs.

In December, a 2-year-old North Carolina girl was mauled to death by her next-door neighbor's chained dog, just steps away from her front door. Some jurisdictions have outlawed or restricted chaining because of tragic incidents like this one.

If your dog is chained or penned outside, you're punishing him for your mistake, which is cruel beyond words. Bring your dogs inside. Give them lots of attention, take them to a positive-reinforcement obedience class, play fetch in the back yard, go for long walks and arrange "play dates" at the local dog park. Help dogs become the best friends they were meant to be.

Budget from 14

recurring funds on new programs, worsening the impact of today's crisis. Fund raising must take on more importance as well, and partnerships with alumni and the private sector must be increased. Above all, universities must communicate to the legislatures how their particular mission as distinct institutions impacts the education and economic goals of the state.

The states, on the other hand, can begin by having a dialogue about the distinctive role of each of their universities, and then tailor accountability measures based on these missions. Also, states must demand administrative efficiency from their public institutions. A conversation must take place to remove duplication among programs, eliminate bureaucracy wherever possible in reporting and compliance procedures, and provide regulatory relief. For example, the capital improvements process in South Carolina, with few exceptions, involves innumerable steps with a myriad of state agencies. A typical project can take more than six months before approval is granted.

States can further give universities greater tuition flexibility while eliminating unfunded man-

dates for increased enrollments. For example, the Virginia House of Delegates recently proposed a 9 percent tuition ceiling for in-state undergraduates. Yet state funding for public colleges in Virginia is down more than 22 percent since 2001.

Flexibility in tuition needs to be viewed differently, if not based more on market, then at least in a way that would raise funds in stable times to create a financial cushion in a downturn. For example, the State University of New York was unable to raise tuition during financially sound times in the '90s. Now that they are facing a severe downturn, however, the tuition increase has had to be much higher (\$1400) to absorb the shock after tuition restrictions were lifted.

Since the budget crisis is shared by all of us, the obligation to keep K-16 education on the agenda is shared by all of us as well. And because this problem is not going away, we are in critical need of a dialogue between the states and universities that will set the stage for true reform. Getting through will require creative solutions and nontraditional thinking, but aren't those the very skills we want to instill so that our children continue to prosper?

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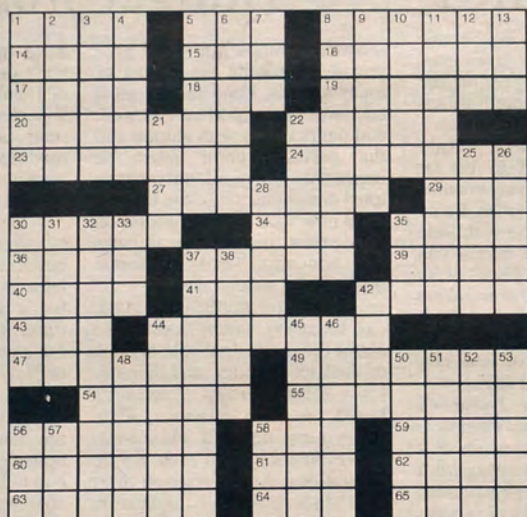
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Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Military base
 - 5 Karl Marx book, "Kapital"
 - 8 Female graduate
 - 14 Mimic
 - 15 Unwell
 - 16 Nosegays
 - 17 Ready for picking
 - 18 Bolger or Milland
 - 19 Dried plums
 - 20 Stuffed noshes
 - 22 Family car
 - 23 Nautically nauseous
 - 24 Closest to the ceiling?
 - 27 Dignified
 - 29 Visualize
 - 30 Is concerned
 - 34 Hasten
 - 35 "Lisa"
 - 36 God of war
 - 37 Tolerate
 - 39 Tiny bit
 - 40 pilaf
 - 41 Can metal
 - 42 Anjou and Bartlett
 - 43 Blond shade
 - 44 Flaws
 - 47 Pekoe element
 - 49 EST word
 - 54 Paper measures
 - 55 Object valued for its age
 - 56 Entertain lavishly
 - 58 Seaman's org.
 - 59 Naked
 - 60 Quick to learn
 - 61 Charge for services
 - 62 Even
 - 63 Birch relatives
 - 64 Peculiar
 - 65 Chipper



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02/25/03

What does this have to do with the price of pigs in China?



- DOWN**
- 1 Wrigley and Fenway
 - 2 Express a viewpoint
 - 3 Color of early photographs
 - 4 Lock of hair
 - 5 Straightforward
 - 6 Iditarod site
 - 7 Crafty
 - 8 Resorted
 - 9 Overbearing
 - 10 Customary
 - 11 Gopher State
 - 12 Born in Bordeaux
 - 13 Blockhead
 - 21 Sound of disapproval
 - 22 Beer mug
 - 25 Gaucho's address
 - 26 Sides in sports
 - 28 Clan chief
 - 30 Jewel weight
 - 31 Get up
 - 32 Energized anew
 - 33 Wind dir.
 - 35 West of Hollywood
 - 37 Soft-shell clams
 - 38 Petty disagreements
 - 42 Attention getter
 - 44 Casino
 - 45 Ended
 - 46 Browned by the sun
 - 48 Depart
 - 50 Hues
 - 51 Furnish
 - 52 More impolite
 - 53 In want
 - 56 Media business grp.
 - 57 Building extension
 - 58 Sci-fi craft

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☐ Services ☐ Personal ☐ Miscellaneous

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By Lasha Seniuk

horoscope

Aries (March 21-April 20). This week, business relations demand new definitions and solid progress. Late Tuesday, expect bosses or officials to present revised paperwork or agreements. Watch details and amounts carefully. All that is agreed to over the next few weeks will quickly become permanent. After Friday, social routines may also change. Friends and lovers may ask for greater intimacy or plan quiet, private encounters. Don't hesitate. Change is needed to ensure continued commitment.

Taurus (April 21-May 20). Workplace or financial negotiations may initiate important business changes. Monday through Wednesday, expect recent work ideas to be publicly discussed or finalized. Some Taurians will begin a new stage of ambition and group involvement. Watch for career interest and partnerships to increase. After midweek, lovers may be moody or unresponsive. Public actions, rather than private promises, are required. Go slow and expect meaningful change.

Gemini (May 21-June 21). Public appeal and group involvement are ongoing themes this week. Work officials may rely heavily on your ability to quickly resolve differences between co-workers. Some Geminis may find that secondary or more public

work duties captivate their time. In the coming weeks, valuable opportunities will come from new assignments. Stay focused. After Saturday, a close friend may leave a long-term romantic or family commitment. Offer detailed advice.

Cancer (June 22-July 22). Long-term relationships become demanding. Over the next few days, expect lovers and close friends to express strong feelings of love, intimacy and attraction.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Study new work projects carefully over the next few days. Before midweek, a proposed business venture may reveal highly complex or impractical duties. Be relentless. This is a strong time for clarifying difficult or vague assignments. Tuesday through Thursday, a close friend or relative may speak openly about a new love interest or attraction. Marital status and romantic obligations will change. Expect loved ones to explore exotic ideas or unique social introductions.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22). Early this week, previously withheld feelings may rise quickly to the surface. Before Thursday, expect loved ones to be sentimental and focused on new romantic goals. Many Leos will leave behind five weeks of restlessness or emotional frustration. If so, plan social activities carefully. Friends and relatives will also compete for your attention. Later this week, workplace negotiations work to your advantage. Let key officials know your limits and daily expectations.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Over the next eight days, a close friend may be nostalgic or emotional. Key issues involve lost

romance or yesterday's social triangles. Loved ones may feel a strong need to relive past events or contact long-forgotten friends.

Remain patiently supportive. This is an excellent time to release unproductive emotions or break from past loyalties. After Friday, an older relative may ask for special attention. Family expectations may change. Respond quickly to new schedules.

Scorpio (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Recent family disputes will be resolved. Early this week, expect loved ones to explain their actions or past disappointments. Traditional family roles or broken trusts between friends may be strong themes. Irritability will pass quickly; so not to worry. Do, however, avoid minor home confrontations and watch for sudden social reversals. After Friday, a new income source may arrive without

warning. Study long-term agreements for small errors or revised deadlines.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Financial planning will demand special attention this week. Romantic partners or close relatives may be doubtful of money promises or long-term security. Before Thursday, loved ones will feel unappreciated in the home or socially ignored. Expect financial stress, however, to be the focus of expressed anxiety. Early Friday, family or romantic invitations arrive unexpectedly. Remain open to group ideas and watch for a new era of emotional discussion to take precedence.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 20). Romantic attractions and sensuality have powerful appeal over the next few days. Short-term relationships will expand into long-term commitments. Expect lovers and marital partners to confidently state their feelings or needs. Physical energy and social intrigue are also on the rise. Plan unique gatherings or group encounters; you won't be disappointed. After Saturday, avoid new debts or overspending. Home budgets will require improvement.

Aquarius (Jan. 21-Feb. 19). Work duties may increase over the next eight days. After Monday, expect business officials or key customers to require extra attention or support. For many Aquarians, a recent period of

vague business instruction is coming to an end. Authority figures will expect more initiative in the workplace. Carefully study small details. Late Saturday, social restrictions may be annoying. Friends or lovers may announce revisions and demand a quick response. Stay calm.

Pisces (Feb. 20-March 20). Business relations are surprisingly cheerful this week. Over the next eight days, social acceptance between colleagues or students will increase. Expect key officials to let go of past expectations or criticisms. After Wednesday, social or romantic relations may also be affected. Expect intimacy to be brief, however, and watch for new emotional opportunities early in March. Remain dedicated. Love relationships will require revised rules and special attention.

If You Have A Birthday This Week

Plan extra family activities or social events in the home. Someone close may feel isolated or misunderstood. Over the next three months, intimate relationships will steadily expand to include unique home discussions and new family planning. Clearly outline all expectations and long-term emotional needs. After mid-June, a 28-month phase of complex business and financial communications arrives. For many Pisceans revised career options or new job training will require decision before the end of 2003. Remain open to creative business proposals or unexpected opportunities in the media, publishing or technology industries.

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Devil from back

stands out as yet another awesome song.

The best part of a soundtrack is that you are treated to bands you previously liked, and are introduced to many new and upcoming artists. Daredevil: The Album follows through with this by providing room for many new bands to showcase their abilities. The groups (Paloalto, Aegis, Boysetsfire, and Autopilot Off) each contribute a solid song to this piece. Each song is well crafted and are hopefully only a preview of what is to come from these young groups as they attempt to rise into superstardom.

To finish things off are some incredible songs from Finger Eleven, Endo, and 12 Stones. While Finger Eleven and 12 Stones have had some success in the past, it really seems as if they've put their best efforts on this album. Both songs ("Sad Exchange" and "Let Go" respectively) do well to wrap this album up and leave the listener with an awe stuck look on their face.

As previously stated, there is hardly a song on this CD that isn't worth listening to over and over again. But for all of the music, there is one band that distances themselves from all of the others. Evanscene, a little known rock band from Little Rock, Arkansas, steals the show hands down. They are responsible for two of the best songs on the album.

"Bring Me to Life" was the first single released for the Daredevil soundtrack. It has scorched every station that plays rock music, and is one the biggest singles on the charts. A fast flowing, hard hitting track, this song is the primary reason that Daredevil: The Album debuted at #11 on the Billboard 200 Music Chart. Their other song "My Immortal" is about as far as you can get from "Bring Me to Life", but is one of the most beautiful songs on the CD. Vocalist Amy Lee shows her long range of abilities by conveying a sad message of longing through-

out the track. Behind nothing but a constant piano beat, Lee carries the song the whole way and makes it unbelievably good.

On March 4th, Evanscene will release their debut album entitled "Fallen". If this CD is anything like the two songs they released on the Daredevil Soundtrack, then rock fans are in for a treat. Mixing hard rock with Tori Amos' style lyrics, each song will leave a mark on you one way or another.

While the jury is still out on Daredevil: The Movie, there can be no denying that the soundtrack is a must have for any music fan. It doesn't matter what type of music you listen to, there is something on here for everyone. If you find that you don't enjoy quality music, then this album will not suit your needs. Maybe you should exchange it for something a little less edgy. I'm sure your local music store has a section with Kenny G and Yanni. Until then, good luck. I'm going back to my radio.

RIC Dance Company Spring Concert

By Sara Farnham
Anchor Staff

The Rhode Island College Dance Company will hold its annual Spring Concert from February 27th through March 2nd. For two hours each night (and Sunday afternoon) the stage will be filled with emotion, energy, and passion as the twenty-four dancers perform seven pieces. A full year's work and lifetime commitment has been put into the show, which will take place in the auditorium of Roberts Hall. Tickets, including student prices, are available from the box office or at the door.

Six of the seven pieces have been choreographed by profes-

sionals expressly for the Rhode Island College Dance Company. One of the pieces, "America Think," was choreographed by Company member, Nikki Corraja, which she created last December.

After learning a new piece every couple of months, the earliest beginning in August, the group is ready to perform.

The show consists mostly of modern dance, though there will also be some contemporary ballet and jazz dance. "In Her," a piece by choreographer Reggie Glass, will feature techno-electronica music and four dancers.

All of the members execute a high level of excellence in their Spring Concert. "Fanciful

Fanfare," a piece by choreographer Colleen Cavanaugh, is the most difficult because of its technical aspect and the fact that four of the dancers move throughout the entire eight-minutes. Several of the pieces include difficult lifts, which are always strenuous on the Company since it is made up completely of women.

Though the Dance Company members practice eight to ten hours each week all year, the one compensation they receive is one credit, Spring semester only. "The only reward we really get is to have people in the audience and to show what we've done," says member Carrara.

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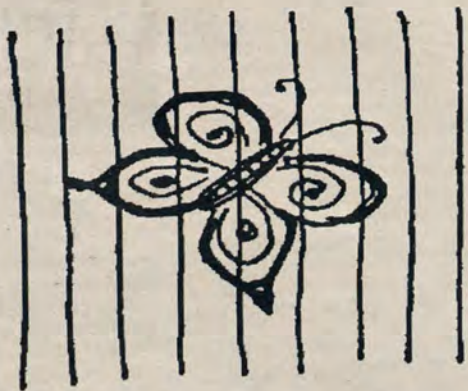
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"How far that little candle throws its beams! So shines a good deed in a naughty world".
-William Shakespeare



arts and entertainment

Sandman from back

even thought to look at before. Where else could you possibly find out how to shoot rodents out of a moving truck without getting arrested?

In this DVD, Comedy Central has selected five episodes that they believe are the cream of the crop. These episodes showcase Dave at his finest in five of the most prestigious cities in North America. But, that's not going to stop him from turning things wild. Within a matter of minutes, Dave turns these people of class into pieces of trash.

In one of the first episodes of the show, Dave tests the streets of New York. He gets everything he expected, and a lot that he didn't. "N.Y. is my hometown, and even though I've lived here for years, we still found a few surprises, like the Hellfire S*M club...if you're into chain wearing, masturbating old men named Barry, stop by. Trust Me," says Attell in his weekly diary on Comedy Central.com

In the windy city, Dave takes you to comedy clubs, sci-fi conventions, recording studios, and of course on a tour of the streets themselves. Along the way, you get to meet many interesting people. "I don't want you to think Chicago is only guys from Indiana and porn stars; there's also a drunk guy hanging out a

car window. Yes, Chicago is a real melting pot."

Dave doesn't limit himself, either. No, he takes his rodeo circus on the road north of the border. That's right, Insomniac hits the mean streets of Montreal, in a country which has produced many intimidating celebrities, most notably Celine Dion and Bryan Adams. It's enough to make you proud to be an American.

"I don't speak French. I didn't take it in high school, and I never went to Berlitz. All the French I do know I learned the old fashioned way - from watching bargain basement euro-porn." Well, all that studying sure paid off as Dave pulls out one of his best episodes in America Jr. He manages to find time to not only visit several bars, but also a sex convention and a Canadian rap studio. yes, that's right...a rap scene.

These episodes are just a small bit of what really goes on during this show. It is, by far, not complete. To really enjoy this show, you'd have to watch it on a daily basis. But, it's a proven fact. If you happen to watch this DVD, then you will know what many people already know: people are stupid, but it's funny to watch them make fools out of themselves.

Vagina from back

told the story of a woman who did not like herself or her vagina, but because of a man, she learned to love who she was and realize her beauty. Along the same lines, "The Little Coochi Snorcher that Could," performed by Jenn Demers, was about a girl who's life was not blessed, as she impaled herself on a bedpost, raped by her father's friend, but still managed to find happiness and love. It are these stories that gave the audience hope.

The Vagina Monologues were truly something to beyond. It educated on the horrible ways people have treated women, but it also showed that there is hope and things can change. Whether it be the innocence of a six year old who thinks her vagina smells like snowflakes or what some girls went through when they first got their menstruation, one thing is for sure: there was a flood of emotion for the bravery and spirit of women.

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Arts & Entertainment



No More Happily Ever After

By: Patrick Tierney
Anchor Staff

On the back cover of this book the author warns that this book is full of sadness and says "you should go read another book because this book is full of events to horrible to imagine." *The Bad Beginning* by Lemony Snicket is a story about the unfortunate happenings in the life of 3 children, Violet, Klaus and Sunny Baudelaire. It's the first book in the series of unfortunate events and it just so happens to be a *New York Times* Bestseller for over a year.

The plot is that these three children become orphans due to a horrible fire, which destroys the entire house including their parents and the children's favorite room, the library. With no apparent heir, the children are forced to move in with the closest relative. The children are to inherit a vast fortune though when Violet, the oldest, comes of age. This is probably the only good news they hear in this entire book.

The children arrive at their new home. They are told they have to live with an obscure relative (who is some thing like their aunts husbands brothers cousin.), Count Olaf. He has a band of evil thugs who help him in his evil plan to obtain the fortune from the children. He treats them badly forcing the children to cook meals, clean floors, and share one bedroom. Through out the whole book, the children feel he is always watching because his symbol is an eye and there is one tattooed to his ankle as well as hung everywhere about his home.

There is a movie in production now due to come out next year based on this book. It is set to star Jim Carrey as the villainous Count Olaf. Barry Sonnenfeld, who directed the *Men in Black* films, was going to direct it but due to budget difficulties, he has dropped out of the project. Hopefully they can get another director to get this project back on schedule.

As prospective teachers, this book is useful in many ways. It is a fun way to encourage children to read because they will enjoy this book. Activities including discussion guides, word puzzles and classroom decorations based on the books can be found at www.kid-reads.com



Touring the World, One Drink at a Time

By: Paul J. Spetrini
Anchor Staff

Have you ever walked down the street and were just in time to see someone do something extremely stupid? It can be something small, like singing loudly without knowing the right words to a song, or something really funny, such as walking into a building. Either way, the experience is always something memorable and leaves you wishing you had a video camera so you could show the people you know.

Well, if you've ever experienced this, you're in luck. This past month, Comedy Central decided to release "The Best of Insomniac Uncensored" on DVD. The show, hosted by comedian Dave Attell, turns a night on the town into something so much more in a half hour of unbelievable mayhem.

Right from the beginning, it was plain to see that this was something uniquely different than all of the rest of the shows. While it may occasionally act like "E! Wild on" or one of those type of shows, "Insomniac" is clearly in a league of its own. Where else can you find out about what goes out when the lights go out in cities across the country without the sugarcoating? After all, when you mix a fifth of vodka with the village idiots, you just know something awful is going to happen, and it usually does.

If you've got a sense of humor, or if you've ever been in an embarrassing situation, then there is no way you can watch this show without laughing your head off. Not only is the show funny, but it's also informative. It seems like there are at least three or four times per show that Dave explores some hidden crevice that no one has

see **Sandman** on 19



The Devil's Music

By: Paul J. Spetrini
Anchor Staff

Ok, before you read any further, let me warn you of something. This article is reviewing *Daredevil: The Album*. This has nothing to do with the movie. I have nothing against the movie, but this is a CD Review. I have not, and probably will not, see *Daredevil* in theaters.

Now, with that out of the way, let's get down to business. Usually I sugarcoat my articles, but this is not one of those cases. *Daredevil: The Album* is one of the best soundtracks ever sold to the public. This might just be my opinion, but if you've ever enjoyed listening to good music, then you'll find this album beyond enjoyable.

With most of the songs being written solely for this album, you can tell right away that it is a very consist compilation that is very well built and flows rather nicely. From the hard rock of Drowning Pool and Rob Zombie ("Man Without Fear"), the mellow sounds of Moby ("Evening Rain"), and even the hard rap lyrics put down by Nappy Roots ("Right Now"), there is something on this soundtrack that almost everyone can enjoy. And even though this might be a task for some CD's to pull off, *Daredevil: The Album* does it without a problem.

Right from the beginning, the tracks start the album off on a good note. With Fuel, Saliva, and Nickelback (all very established bands) you can always count on good music. All three bands have put out great albums, and their contributions to this CD are no different. Each song has its own style, and would stand out if they were by themselves. Unfortunately, the music on this soundtrack is so good that you may miss these hidden gems if you're not careful.

After straying away from the rock music for a couple of tracks, the album returns full throttle. Chevelle's "Until You're Reformed" starts off slowly, but really beings rocking mid way threw. That song provides a nice segway into Hoobastank's "Right Before Your Eyes". While some may argue it is not there best work, the song is still very good. After a couple of listen-throughs, it

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Big Band, Big Applause



By: Sara Farnham
Anchor Staff

As part of the Performing Arts Series, The Jivin' Lindy Hoppers and the Uptown Big Band joined together to put on quite a show here at Rhode Island College. This "Big Band Dance Party" took place on the night of February 20th in the auditorium of Roberts Hall. Almost every single seat was occupied with a smiling, audience member for the performance.

The show's program consisted of a living history of swing dance and the popularity of the big band beat. The audience was swept from the big band origins in the 1920's, to the survival of

the Great Depression of the 1930's, to the war of the 1940's, and finally into the ongoing revival up to today. Between songs, cast members told the audience of proud moments and famous names in dance party history.

Energy from all the performers was sky-rocketing from the stage. Though my seat was way back in row AA, I could see the sweat and feel the excitement that was going on before me. I was amazed at the skill and daring of the seven professional swing dancers as they twirled and hopped around the stage, flipping each other through the air.

Just as amazing as these physical feats was the unbelievable skill of the Uptown Big Band. Especially notable were the outstanding talent of the jazz trumpet player, Dennis Perricchio and the piano player/vocalist, John Colianni.

This show's purpose was not only to inform, but also to entertain, and that is exactly what it did! Audience members of all age groups were having a great time. I spotted many swaying in their seats or bobbing their head to the wonderful swing tunes. Among the music played were pieces by Glenn Miller, Benny Goodman, and Tommy Dorsey. Dances that were demonstrated consisted of the jitter bug, lindy hop, and more. For more information on the dancers, check their website, www.jivinglindy-hoppers.com.

Touching Upon the Monologues

By: J.D. Salisbury
Anchor Editor

On February 21 and 22, the V-Day Committee, an organization on campus dedicated to stopping the violence against women, put on a production of Eve Ensler's "The Vagina Monologues." Having only a little to go on, I decided to watch the production. It was quite unlike anything I've seen before.

The focus of the monologues was to tell stories...women's stories. Some were funny. Some were deeply moving. Some were uncomfortable. But what they all were was raw and real...and thanks to Tia Corliss's performance in "The Woman Who Loved to Make Vaginas Happy," I'm now going to doubt my abilities.

The evening started off with Andrea Yattaw dancing to "Amazing Grace," as sung by Tori Amos. After this, the event was in full force as the evening's discussion went on about anything, from hair to smell to rape to empowerment. The intentions and dialogue were not compromised as every word that has been used as a nickname for the vagina was said at one point. And every time, it was used to make a point: women are people, and through all their suffering, they've man-



aged to carry on.

All of the performances were great, but the subject matter was not. One particular monologue, "My Vagina was my Village," was a story told by one woman, but two performers. Tina Serino played a Bosnian woman before her village was invaded and she was raped. Ruth Wartenberg played the same woman after she was repeatedly raped. It was good, she was repeatedly raped. It was good, because the two performers looked and acted completely different, but represented the same person. It was moving, as everyone in the audience was transfixed to the story and the horrors the woman went through.

Not all of the stories were as depressing though, as some were uplifting, but still deep. Jamie Sousa performed "Because He Liked to Look at it," which

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