

the anchor

Vol. 76, No.20 • Rhode Island College's Student-Run Newspaper • February 24, 2004

Students Raise Voices

Campus Center Hosts Discussion With U.S. Representative



By: Jamie J. Pachomski
Anchor Editor

In recognition of "Raise Your Voice- A Month of Action," a program designed to increase and deepen student civic engagement efforts on college campuses around the country, RIC's Campus Center hosted an evening question and answer session with U.S Rep. Jim Langevin in the Student Union last Wednesday night.

Over the course of two hours, students and faculty had the rare opportunity to ask the congressman questions regarding current local and national political issues concerning terrorism, homeland security, the U.S. economy, taxes, the Patriot Act, defining marriage,

amnesty and voter registration. The congressman also lent some insight about his experiences as a politician.

"Being a congressman is certainly an endurance test," he said. "However, it has been a tremendous honor to be blessed with the opportunity to make a difference."

The discussion with Langevin was part of an overall effort put forth by a string of Rhode Island colleges and university presidents conjoined in "teaching the values of public leadership" known as the "Rhode Island Campus Compact." The organization is one of 30 state chapters of a nationwide Campus

see VOICES on 3

A Taste of Campus Life

By: Luzjennifer Martinez
Anchor Staff

The student union ballroom was definitely the place to be on February 11, as it held the 1st annual Student Organization Showcase from 12:30-2:00pm. The spacious hall was full of tables containing signs and displays of many on-campus activities offered at RIC, which ranged from academic organizations to specific interest clubs. Held indoors, away from the frigidly cold temperatures, the showcase also displayed warm interaction between the organizations, as they pulled together to present to the college community the welcoming and diverse atmosphere available to all.



"It was a chance to be able to get all of the organizations to meet, which is normally tough to do with the busy agenda of the students," I was told by Kristen Salemi, Director of Student Activities, who, with the Campus Center, organized the event in conjunction with the Student Community Government. "So, we went about setting up this event to provide a meeting place for all of the campus clubs to group together and interact." Salemi also mentioned the intention behind presenting the showcase for the 2nd time during the 2003-04 school year. "There are many new students that just arrived as freshman or even transfers to RIC who weren't able to attend the Showcase we held this past fall, and I think that it was fair to provide for them this chance to get in touch with campus life. Plus, there's also the opportunity for those not currently involved in any campus activities for various reasons to get the chance to once again see what's available, with the

see CAMPUS on 3

To Live There and to Not Live There.....

By: Jackie Crevier
Anchor Editor

Particular policies govern residential students, commuters and Rhode Island College students in general. For example, when a student is either on campus or representing the College at a given function, there are rules that govern student conduct.

"Possession or use of firearms, knives, explosives, incendiary or other dangerous or deadly devices on the campus is prohibited." (Student Handbook, p. 62) Animals are not allowed in any of the housing or dining areas. Anyone who wishes to bring an animal on campus grounds needs to get permission from the Student Life Office.

The policy that prohibits the use of drugs and alcohol on campus was adopted by the College in 1985. "This policy applies to all campus facilities including residence halls and at all activities and events presented on campus by a college sponsored or a non-college sponsored host." (Student Handbook, p. 63)

Students are expected to comply with lawful authority, which means following instruction of college authority, whether it be security, deans, etc. (Handbook, p. 62)

Student Life enforces these policies and others on the RIC campus. The Office of Student Life helps coordinate various services that benefit the entire college community. Some of these services include, Career Development Center, The Women's Center, Student Employment, Health Services, The Unity Center, International Student Advising, Disability Services and Minority Affairs.

Traffic rules and regulations apply to both commuter and residential students. Residential students are to register to obtain an appropriate sticker for his/her car. Dorm students are allowed to park behind the dorms in designated lots and along Dorm Lane, near the Fruit Hill entrance.

Commuters have restrictions as well. For example, the first six rows of Lot J (which is near the Murray Center) are designated for faculty and staff.

Now what exactly does "dorm policy" entail? Director of Residential Life and Housing, John S. Denio explained, "that the Rhode Island College Student Handbook covers policies that apply to all students while the Resident Student Handbook covers policies specifically related to living in the residence halls."

While the Associate Dean for Student Life enforces policy on campus, the Residential Life staff, including the Residential Life Directors and Resident Assistances, Denio and the Assistant Director of Residential Life and Housing enforces policy within the dorm halls. "One role I serve in regard to policy is to review the policies on a regular basis so they are current and applicable to the resident students," Denio further explained. "Each year our staff reviews the policies and makes suggestions for changes/additions to Vice President for Student Affairs, Dr. Gary Penfield for implementation." RSA and the hall councils have also assisted in the past. Denio gave an example of a policy that has recently been changed. Smoking was banned in all areas in and around the residence halls as of the summer of 2003.

Whether a student lives in Sweet Hall or Weber Hall, he/she signs the Residence Hall Room and Dining Center Contract. "It is the contractual agreement between the student and the college for the academic year," Denio added. In this contract, under Section D., it states that "each resident is automatically

see LIVE on 3

Decision 2004

RIC Students Get 'Up Close And Personal' With Presidential Candidates

By: Dave Cranshaw
What's News Intern

Rhode Island College students got a firsthand look at the presidential campaigns of the democratic hopefuls and experienced the excitement leading up to the first primary of the nation in 2004 in New Hampshire.

Nine students visited New Hampshire January 22-25 to hear the candidates' final attempts to persuade voters before the primary on January 27.

"It was a chance to take the theory and discussion from the classroom to reality," said Kay Israel, associate professor of communications, who accompanied the students on the trip. "It is one thing to look at a topic under a microscope, it is another to experience it."

The excursion offered students the opportunity to experience retail politics, said Valerie Endress, assistant professor of communications, who also planned both of the trips. "The New Hampshire Primary and the Iowa Caucus provides a unique opportunity to see the political process up close and personal. In the contests following, the media controls much of the coverage, she said, and it's less likely that citizens have the opportunity to interact with candidates."

After traveling around the state, the students determined that voter apathy would not be an issue in this election.

"Seeing hundreds of people wanting to hear candidates speak shows me that Americans are still passionate about politics," said junior political science major Diane Ascencio.

"I loved how everywhere you went people knew who the candidates were and asked for your opinions," said sophomore communications major Nicole Giambusso.

Plans are in the works for students who went to New Hampshire to take their knowledge of the political process to area high schools to educate future voters. Displays will be erected around the RIC campus to showcase 2004 election memorabilia. Those in Whipple Hall, Adams Library and Gaige Hall will showcase campaign buttons, signs, bumper stickers and pictures from the New Hampshire primary.

This was not the first time this election year that RIC students got a look at the 2004 election process in New Hampshire. Twenty-two students attended College Convention 2004 at New England College in Manchester from January 7-10 to hear candidates in their appeal to the younger generation. RIC was the only school in Rhode Island that was represented at the conference.

Seven of the then nine major Democratic candidates spoke to the contingent of about 600 high school and college students representing 38 states. The candidates included Senators Joe Lieberman (Connecticut) (who has since left the race), John Kerry (Massachusetts), and John Edwards (North Carolina), former Vermont Governor Howard

see DECISION on 4

On the Inside



Keanu meets a short, fake dude on page 10

Our New President? He can't be worse than Bush.. on page 12



50 Adam Sandler movies that are ALL EXACTLY THE SAME... on page 24



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"U.N.I.T.Y. - That's for Unity"

By: Jackie Crevier
Anchor Editor

"African Americans have helped shape who we are as a nation and continue to play important roles in fields ranging from business to education. Providence and the state of Rhode Island have a very rich Black History that should be explored by everyone. I encourage the entire community to take part in the celebration events of February and throughout the year."

Director of the Rhode Island College Unity Center, Aaron Bruce

The celebration of Black History Month on the Rhode Island College campus has led to the unification of the entire college community. Students, faculty members and staff representing an eclectic range of disciplines, along with various campus organizations were involved in the diverse set of programs that have taken place throughout the month of February.

"The joy of collaborating with a variety of different departments and student organizations to create a well-rounded calendar means that there is something for everyone. Together we can enjoy the fruits of our labor," stated Director of the Unity Center, Aaron Bruce. He explained "although the Unity Center at RIC has served as the center for the majority of the events, the entire campus has contributed to the success."

"The Unity Center is RIC's multicultural center," Bruce explained. The Center is dedicated to helping students maintain global awareness, knowledge of other cultures and "promotes opportunities for exploring human dignity, social identity and cultural equity."

Bruce noted that Black History Month events have been "well-attended." The on-campus celebration kicked off at an Opening Ceremony which was held on February 4, in the Faculty Center South. This year's theme is, "Our Community-Past,

Present and Future."

At the Opening Ceremony, President of Harambee, Tim Perry, gave a speech about his reflections on Black History Month. Professor in the English Department, Dr. Amritjit Singh, was one of the featured speakers. Dr. Singh pointed out "that Black History is everyone's history." A highlight of the ceremony was RIC student, Obed's accapella rendition of the song, "Lift Every Voice." Bruce described his voice to be "very moving."

Various events, including workshops, movies and live performances celebrating Black History have taken place on campus already. On February 12 and 13, there was a performance by Jazz Reach - The First 100 years of Jazz in Roberts Hall. Students were given the unique opportunity to be exposed to the sounds of a few African American jazz legends. Miles Davis, John Caletrane and Dizzy Gillespie were among the few.

On February 16, the film, "Remember the Titans" was shown in the Student Union Ballroom. Dr. Tom Lavin, from the on-campus Counseling Center and Aaron Bruce led a post-film discussion. "The movie starring Denzel Washington stimulated discussion and focused on lessons to be learned from the experiences of student athletes to overcome the racial divide in our community," explained Bruce.

"The history of Blacks in this country is part of the American story. It is a quilt woven with joy, sorrow and great achievements. It is an important story we should all know," Bruce concluded.

* Upcoming Events Celebrating Black History
February 28 - A Night of Black Enchantment
Dinner and a Semi-Formal

Student Union Ballroom (Harambee) 7 p.m.

\$15singles and \$25 for couples

March 20 - Harambee Step Explosion

Roberts Hall Auditorium 7 p.m.

VOICES from cover

Compact that "actively promotes public and community service as vital components of higher education."

"We've been a member for over 10 years now, said RIC Campus Center Director and Campus Compact Representative Brian Allen. "We generate ideas on how students can get involved in civic engagement and share those ideas with the other state compacts. It's all about students helping in the community," said Allen.

Rhode Island is the only chapter in the country to have statewide participation by every college and university.

From February 15 to March 20, the "Raise Your Voice- A Month of Action," program will include students speaking in a collective voice about the impor-

tance of promoting student civic engagement. Events will be planned and organized on over 250 campuses around the country that attempt to creatively activate students in the democratic and community-building process.

Langevin encouraged those interested in "raising their voices" to get involved in a political campaign to see the work that is involved. "It's never too early to start. Find someone you believe in and get involved," he said. "They all need help- before and after an election," added Langevin.

With events such as discussions on public issues and civic responsibility, on-line forums, a speaker series, celebrations of student civic engagement, teach-ins, voter registration drives, policy issue discussions, non-profit

fairs, and public officials meeting with students on campus, Campus Compact hopes to reach students who have not necessarily been engaged in public life, and who might connect service learning, politics, and civic engagement for the first time.

Campus Center Special Projects Assistant Suzy Alba explained the goal of Campus Compact. "Our vision is eventually for students not just to graduate, but to get involved in government, community service and civil engagements in the state of Rhode Island," she said. "It is our attempt at RIC to produce a more well-rounded student," added Alba.

*Please check out The Anchor for upcoming Campus Compact events at RIC as they are scheduled.

LIVE from cover

a member of their Hall Government and the Resident Student Association. Dues (\$14 annually) are established and administered by the Office of Residential Life and Housing must be paid before the room may be occupied."

The contract also indicates that the student must pay a \$100 damage deposit when reserving his/her room. "Residents are not allowed to make changes or adjustments to rooms or furnishings (i.e. deadbolt locks, construction of lofts, paintings of rooms and suites, etc.) without prior approval from the Office of Residential Life and Housing." (Section D, number 4)

There are policies regarding visiting students who live in the dorms as well. It states on page 65 of the Student Handbook, that the "residence halls have 24 hour visitation." The guest is to sign in at

the Front Desk of the residence hall, (with the exception of Willard Hall) between the hours of 7 p.m. and 2 a.m. Visitors are required to show proper identification such as a drivers license or state ID. The Escort policy states that visitors, whether they be non-residents or residents from other halls, need to be escorted at all times. "Residents are responsible for the actions of their guests." (Handbook, p. 66) Visitors are allowed to stay overnight. (Handbook, p. 66) However, they are allowed to stay only two nights within a seven day period and with consent of the other suite mates.

The Campus Police in conjunction with the Office of Student Life and the Office of Residential Housing and Life, make sure that policies are enforced on both the streets of RIC campus and in the halls of the dorms.

NEWS

CAMPUS from cover

option of joining anything that is of interest to them. It's also just really nice to offer a mid-winter activity to warm everyone up from the cold," Salemi said.

With the smell of fresh popcorn in the air and the scattered sounds of music and chatter, the ballroom became packed with many people visiting the eye-catching display tables, as the different clubs welcomed them, handing out brightly colored fliers with invitations to attend their club meetings. Among the countless activities in attendance were the American Marketing Association, the Communications Club, the History Club, the Political Science Club, a Student Graphics Club, WXIN RIC Radio, the Student Community Government, Exodus Yearbook, the Anchor Newspaper, the Outdoor Adventure Club, RSA Ping Pong Tournament, Intervarsity Christian Fellowship, the Latin American Organization, RIC TV, RIC Programming, and the RIC Physical Education Club. Each of the groups also displayed projects and community service efforts that are currently underway, like the Cape Verdian Student Association's Barros Bidon or barrel project, which is an effort to collect donations and school supplies for Cape Verdian schools. "We're still accepting donations and are inviting anyone interested in helping out to contact us and join," I was told by Aldevina Vieira, a member of the Cape Verdian Association. The Association meets in the Student Union Room 427, and can be reached at 456-2707 for more info on their project.

The RIC Angels, one of the many student chapters of Camp Heartland, a camp for children affected by HIV/AIDS, also displayed info on their past fundraising events organized, like Comedy for Kids, which was held at Evelyn's Villa in West Warwick, Rhode Island this past fall. The event included music and entertainment for all ages, with proceeds given to the Camp in an effort to help those affected with the AIDS virus and their families. "Our goal is to reach \$25,000 by Spring 2005," stated Melissa Howe, Treasurer of the RIC Angels. "So far we have reached \$21,000, and are planning more events that can help us reach our goal." For anyone interested in helping out the Angels and Camp Heartland, they are invited to drop a line to reach Amy Wallace, the club secretary at RICAngelsSecretary@yahoo.com.

I also came across the display for the S.O.S or Slightly Older Students organization, which provides those students with children and families a place to study and research their assignments, also inviting anyone on campus to come join their laid back social atmosphere. Located above the ballroom, the office offers a very convenient Emergency Contact System, which provides a way for students to be reached by their families in case of any emergency situation during class time, in which most students are told to keep a cell phone or any contact device off. "The system actually just requires whoever is interested to come down to our office, and leave their name and class schedules, which are kept on file so we know where they are at certain times during the day, which helps us find them in the event of any emergency occurring with their family or friends," I was told by Theresa, Secretary of S.O.S. Work-study positions are also available to work in the office.

While I wish I would have been able to write about all of the great opportunities available at RIC to help out and get involved on campus, I hope I was able to provide a taste of the flavorful creativity and dedication that all of the campus activities offer to the college community. For more information on how you can get involved as a student, you can contact Kristen Salemi at the Campus Center Office, which is located in the Student Union Room 408 at 456-8034. Judging by the fun success that this showcase was, I hope to once again hear of many more being presented here at Rhode Island College, for the chance at once again bringing together such positive and energetic interaction under one roof.

Help Wanted

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Email ExodusYearbook@yahoo.com for more details!

NEWS

DECISION from cover

Dean, former General Wesley Clark and former Ambassador Carol Moseley Braun (who all have since pulled out of the race) and Representative Dennis Kucinich (Ohio).

"We want to promote greater civic awareness and engagement among young people," said Wayne Lesperance, co-director of the convention.

Some RIC students received face time from local and national media outlets. PBS interviewed juniors William Senecal, Robert Kalaskowski and April Arnold, for a documentary on the impact of third party candidates on the presidential election. Kalaskowski also talked to a reporter from the Baltimore Sun, voicing his support for Clark. Sophomore Michael Philbin spoke to politicsNH.com about the role religion played in politics. Senior Jennifer Demers and Arnold were part of a piece that ran on College Sports Television (CSTV) that tied sports to politics. They were asked to identify the candidate they supported and, choose a sport the candidate would play if not involved in politics.

"The convention allowed students with all different morals, values and beliefs to come together to have the opportunity to appreciate and better understand politics and make the best decision possible to vote for president of the United States," said Arnold.

Lesperance said he hoped the participants would gain a greater awareness of the issues that affect them and the ability to interact with those candidates who seek the highest office in the land.

The two trips were a continuation of a course taught in the fall semester by Endress and Israel. The class, "Communication and the 2004 Presidential Campaign: Surfacing to the Primary," let students follow a candidate for the semester and become their "alter-ego." Each student chose a candidate to cover for the semester and ended the course with a presentation acting as that candidate's political consultant offering ideas and suggestions to improve the campaign.

The course is continuing this semester, as "Communication and the 2004 Presidential Campaign: Convention to Election." Victor Profughi, professor of political science, will join Endress and Israel in teaching the course. Plans are in progress to visit the Democratic and Republican national conventions this summer to be held in Boston and New York respectively.

POEMS

Untitled #1

By: Nancy Ferrante

Junior

Shivers

Little bumps of cold

Across bodies

Lain quietly

Alone

Waiting

For a spark of warmth

A gentle fire

To melt away the pain

Untitled #2

By : Nancy Ferrante

Junior

Forever

An injured soul

With a tiny point of light

Trying

To scatter itself across

A never-ending stream of tears

Life rippling undone and empty

Brief thoughts on War in Poem Form

By: Jonathan Vincent

Junior

The fields of flowers are wilting over there

There is no life to be had over there

The children cry over there, and die over there

Decompose over there

The soldiers wife sits at home and cries over there

She waits for the call, that horrible call, over-there

The war rages on RIGHT HERE.

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Chris Rosenquest

Student Union Café—1st floor

12:30pm—1:30pm

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Snow Tubing Yawhoo Valley

Friday February 20

4:00 - 9:00

\$9.00



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For more info, contact: Student Activities x8034

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RIC Students - Ages 18+
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NYC

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RIC PROGRAMMING SPRING 2004 MOVIE SERIES



Wednesday February 4
Student Union Ballroom
9pm



Wednesday February 25
Student Union Ballroom
9pm



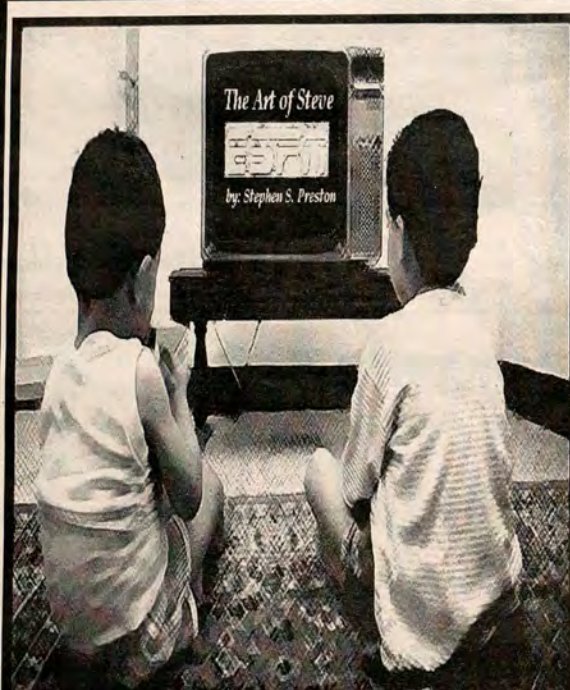
Wednesday March 31
Student Union Ballroom
9pm

Free Popcorn, Candy and Soda

ALL MOVIES ARE FREE

Sponsored: RIC Programming X~8045

SPORTS



By: Stephen S. Preston
Anchor Staff

Wow, what a week it was. Mascots getting kicked around, nationally ranked college teams going down, and Alex Rodriguez selling his soul to the devil. Of all the topics I could talk about this week, I decided to switch things up a little. Rather than doing the boring every week column I usually do, I am going to take about something a little more important, something a little closer to home.

This past week, a deal was set that will change people in Rhode Island for at least nine years. Yes, nine years. Cox Communications, the leading cable provider in this state, struck a deal with ESPN, the leading sports market in the country. Together, the two have agreed to terms to steal more of your hard earned money. While this was discussed previously in the Anchor, I feel it is my duty to explain why this is a bad move. You see, I like to watch sports. Don't get me wrong. If I didn't, I wouldn't talk about them. No, sports are a great thing to rely on to keep your minds off of the everyday hassles of the real world. You get to sit back and watch a bunch of sweaty men running around for hours, and not feel self conscious about it. You get to pretend, if only for a couple of hours, that everything is fine in your life. You forget about your tests, homework, taxes, etc. Whatever floats your boat. Sitting back and watching television is something the forefathers would have done if given the opportunity, and is a natural part of most people's life.

While I don't want to get off on a rant, I must say that I am quite disappointed with the way things turned out. Both companies, through a slew of media releases and insults, have lost touch with me, the average customer. It is hard to say that things are any better than when the separate companies took their battle to mainstream America. I can still remember heading over to work and hearing the infamous radio ad blasting Cox and anyone who likes the way they do business. I can still remember checking out the webpage Cox put up calling ESPN "an unreasonable company". What has changed in three months? Well, simply put, they figured out things are alright as long as they are both making money.

Yes, the new deal goes like this. ESPN is allowed to raise their rates up to 7 percent a year on the average. While that may sound like a lot, it is even worse considering they have the power to raise rates as much as they want during any given year. As long as it comes out to an average of 7 percent, then all is well. So, if they feel like it, it is acceptable for them to raise their rates 63 percent this year, and keep it at that price for the length of the contract. It may be a little overwhelming when put like that, but in reality it will only cost the average customer a little more each month.

But, that little more is a little more than I'm willing to spend. I feel as if the companies should pay me for having to deal with this over the past season. Every time I put on ESPN, it seemed as if there was another outcry to abandon Cox. Every time I read the newspaper, I saw an ad from each company, fighting for my support. They claim it wasn't about the money, so how does that add up considering they both agreed to take more of mine?

This week's column is going to be short and simple, with one prediction. The fans of ESPN and those cable subscribers who sat in the middle of this war are going to lose when all is said and done. It's just another case of two mega money business' bilking the average worker out of even more resources. But, as long as both companies are happy, I guess I can go back and watch Sports Center without feeling guilty about the fact that I mean nothing more than a few dollars to two enterprises determined to excel at customer service.

-UPCOMING GAMES-

-Men's Basketball-

Feb 24th-LEC Tournament Playoffs
Feb 27th-LEC Tournament Semi-Finals

-Women's Basketball-

Feb 24th-LEC Tournament Playoffs
Feb 27th-LEC Tournament Semi-Finals

-Gymnastics-

Mar 5th-Springfield College & Brown University 7:00 PM
Mar 14th-at Brown University w/MIT & U.Bridgeport 1:00 PM

-Men's Indoor Track-

Feb 27-28 Open NE Championships 5:00 PM
Mar 5-6 ECAC DIII Championships 6:00 PM

-Women's Indoor Track-

Mar 5-6 ECAC DIII Championships 6:00 PM
Mar 12-13 NCAA Championships TBA

-Wrestling-

Mar 5th/6th -at NCAA DIII Championships

-NEWS AND NOTES-

Rhode Island College freshman wrestler Mike Bonora (Nutley, NJ) was named the Pilgrim Wrestling League's Rookie of the Week for the second time this season. He won all three of his matches last week, including a 6-1 decision over Johnson & Wales' Anthony Montes, a key for the Anchormen in their 21-20 victory over the Wildcats that gave them their second consecutive Pilgrim Wrestling League title. Bonora is ranked fourth in New England at 141 lbs. Head Coach Jay Jones' team finished the regular season with a 16-8 overall record, an 11-5 mark in the New England College Conference Wrestling Association (NECCWA) and was 6-0 in the Pilgrim Wrestling League.

Women's Basketball Looks to Rebound in the Postseason

By: Tauquir Puthawala
Anchor Staff

The Women's Basketball team has finished its regular season with an astounding record of 15-10 overall and have surprised a lot of people in the Little East Conference with a conference record of 7-7. "We have done very well this season, accomplished a lot, and surprised a lot of people, including ourselves," comments Head Coach Spencer Manning.

Indeed they have, as the prospects for a winning team this season were highly doubtful. Due to either team members graduating or transferring to other colleges, the Women's Basketball team was only left with three players from their team last season. That means twelve of the fifteen players on the squad this year are new. In addition, former coach Michael Kelley stepped down after five seasons, allowing new Head Coach Spencer Manning to step up to the job. "There were many questions to be answered this season due to the new players and our goal was simply for the new players to adapt and to reach 0.500," states Manning.

The Anchorwomen, however, have exceeded those expectations, clearly evident by their record. Head Coach Spencer Manning used his past experience at other colleges, including coaching at the Division I level at Brown University, to gear this group of women into a winning team. He stresses physical conditioning as it enables his players to more easily beat their opponents when they are in

better shape. Due to the progress of the team, the players and coaches now have much higher expectations. "Our goals have changed since the beginning of the season. We now hope to be the third place team in our conference," states Manning. The Anchorwomen's goal was almost accomplished this past Saturday, but they came just short as they were defeated by Keene State College 68-63.

To do so well in the Little East Conference, the problem of integrating the new and old players had to be contended with. Apparently, team chemistry has not been a problem as the mix of veteran experience and new talent has proved fruitful. Together, they have built a solid full-court and half-court defense. Defense is also something, which Coach Manning stresses and it has clearly paid off.

Another reason the team has been doing so well is due to the hard work of the freshmen. "The freshmen are ahead of schedule," claims Manning. Although they may make some mistakes which experience players would be careful to avoid, Coach Manning believes that the freshmen are handling the shift from high school to college very effectively. In the coming years, Coach Manning believes the team will be just as good if not better. "We will lose experience but hopefully we will be able to recruit better skilled players next year," adds Manning.

The focus right now, however, is on this season. Starting on Tuesday, February 24th the team will play in the Little East Conference playoffs where they hope to really surprise a lot of people by taking home championship gold.

RIC's Kamran Alemdar Named Basketball Co-Player of the Week

By: Scott Gibbons
Sports Information Director

Rhode Island College senior guard Kamran Alemdar (Stockholm, Sweden) was named the Little East Conference's Co-Player of the Week for his performance in men's basketball. Alemdar shares this week's honor with Plymouth State's Nick Pelotte.

Senior guard Kamran Alemdar (Stockholm, Sweden) has played in 23 games, starting 22 of them. He is averaging a team-high 14.2 points, while also contributing 3.8 rebounds and 1.6 assists per game. Alemdar poured in a season-high 25 points, along with seven rebounds and four assists in the victory over UMass-Dartmouth. In his two games last week, Alemdar averaged 21.5 points, 6.5 rebounds, 3.0 assists and 3.5 steals per contest. He

now has scored in double figures in 17 of his 23 games. For his efforts last week, he was named the Little East Conference's Co-Player of the Week. He is a communications major and a 1999 graduate of Vasalunds Gymnasiet.

Head Coach Michael Kelly's team is 11-12 overall and 6-5 in the Little East Conference. The Anchormen went undefeated in their two LEC contests last week, both in The Murray Center, defeating UMass-Dartmouth, 75-61, on Feb. 11 and Southern Maine, 77-61, on Feb. 14. RIC has now won five consecutive home conference contests for the first time in school history.

In upcoming action, RIC will travel for two LEC games this week. First, the Anchormen take on Western Connecticut on Tuesday, Feb. 17 at 7:30 p.m., then nationally ranked Keene State on Saturday, Feb. 21 at 3 p.m.

The World According To....



Put A Lid, or "Cap" on It!

By: James Bessette
Anchor Staff

The superior officials of Major League Baseball have totally lost control of their organization. Since the 1994 Strike Year, the imbalance of player payrolls had become very significant. When the New York Yankees, the team that has had the highest payroll of all thirty Major League Baseball teams for quite some time acquired SS Alex Rodriguez from Texas, in exchange for 2B Alfonso Soriano and a player to be named later, it became clear that things need to change.

With the acquisition of Rodriguez, Kevin Brown, Gary Sheffield and about a million other moves, the Yankees' payroll for 2004 will push the \$200 million mark. The Red Sox, who have tried to compete with their division rivals in sheer payroll, will have a \$130 Million payroll, nearly \$70 million less. Next on the list is Anaheim, the World Series champions from a couple of years ago who will have a \$110 Million payroll in their attempt to get back to greatness.

This isn't good for baseball. It isn't the Yankees or Red Sox' fault that this has happened, because they are both following the current MLB guidelines of spending money. The Commissioner's office and the people in charge of Major League Baseball have allowed it to become out of control.

The excessive spending of a selective few creates an uneven playing field, where teams in major markets (N.Y., Boston, L.A.) can spend as much money as they want in order to be competitive, while the smaller market teams (Tampa Bay, Detroit, Colorado) go into Spring Training with no chance in hell for the playoffs.

Point blank, with Major League players asking for ridiculously large amounts of money, and seemingly, only either the Yankees or the Red Sox having the ability to afford such demands, it is obvious that Major League Baseball MUST have a Salary Cap.

Yes, I know, I am a Red Sox fan and the salary cap will affect my team just as much as the team that I hate the most, the Yankees. However, it will create the environment where every team in baseball goes into Spring Training with the legit possibility of playing in October. It will give teams like Tampa Bay, Detroit, Colorado, San Diego and Milwaukee the opportunity to spend the same

amount of money as other teams in order to be competitive for 162 games.

Toronto and Montreal will greatly appreciate the cap because they have the most difficult time dealing with money, being located in Canada. The Blue Jays and Expos take in Canadian currency, and having to pay its players in U.S. currency is very difficult, considering the attendance ranges from 3,500-15,000 per game.

It will eliminate the \$150-200 million contracts, where players can't create their own dollar figure in the search for a new team. Plus, the contracts become no longer guaranteed. If a team thinks that a particular player isn't playing to their full potential for the team, the manager can terminate him without fault.

It will also bring back the fans that were lost after the 1994 strike. With every team being involved in a playoff race, fans everywhere can become intrigued into who is going to beat out whom, rather than being fixed on the same two teams year in and year out, as well as bring back larger crowds to cities like Detroit, Toronto, Pittsburgh, Tampa Bay, and so on.

Here's what I propose for a Salary Cap. The maximum limit for a team to spend is around \$90-95 million. The Yankees, Red Sox, Mets, and Mariners can certainly afford that payroll, but also it is within the range of other teams, like Texas, Colorado, Philadelphia, Detroit, Tampa Bay, Pittsburgh, San Francisco, and so on. Neither the Yankees, nor the Red Sox will have every American League All Star player on their teams anymore.

However, there are MLB owners that enjoy pocketing money and running their teams as a business, rather than spend the money in order to put together a quality product on the field and contend for a championship. Meaning that an owner can spend absolutely nothing, and say that "Hey, I'm not violating the Cap," and we're back to square one.

So, here's the stipulation. The minimum amount for a team to spend is \$60-65 million range. The Commissioner's office will force the owners to make their team competitive and it will be better for the owners in the long run, because with the revenue being generated from the fans attendance will bring in more money to their respective teams.

If a team goes over the cap, that team has to either restructure a particular player's contract to get within the cap, or give the player their outright release. If a team goes into the season below the minimum payroll, Major League Baseball will fine that team and the owner may face other penalties for depriving their team from playoff potential.

If a team cannot meet the minimum payroll because of reasons beyond their control, they must show proof in writing of their issues, and they may be considered for special assistance.

You look at the NFL, and see how their Salary Cap functions, teams like the Green Bay Packers, a team located in a small town where Lambeau Field pretty much holds more than the town, itself, can compete at the same level with the New York Giants and New York Jets, and other major market teams. The Salary Cap in Major League Baseball will be better for the game. The line will be drawn down the middle and every team will have a legit chance for playoff contention. But until the day Commissioner Bud Selig actually puts effort into making baseball better, get ready for another baseball season of "Yankees versus Red Sox." Sorry Tiger fans, looks like your woes are still going to continue.

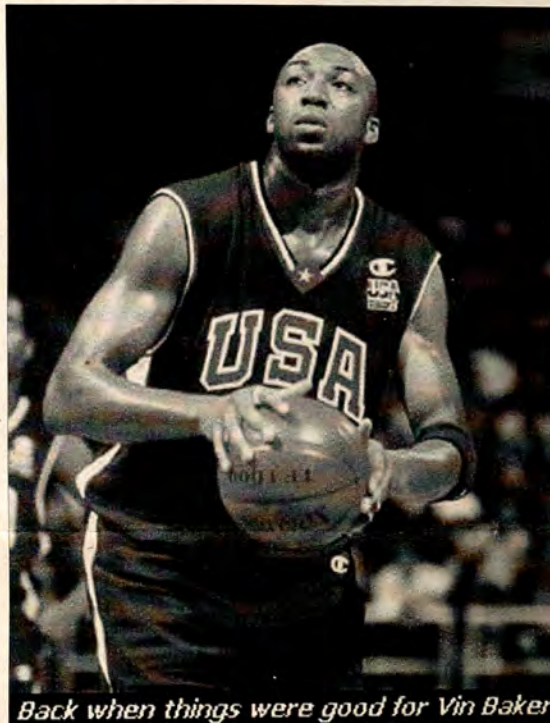
SPORTS

Bye Bye Baker

By: Alex Martin
Anchor Staff

The problems with alcohol abuse that have fallen on Vin Baker have been nothing short of a tragedy. It is sad and unfortunate that this disease has consumed him and has turned an all-star caliber player into a man about to be released from his contract.

Baker started the season out so promisingly and then he succumbed to the disease that has plagued the final stages of what was turning out to be an illustrious career. However, the impending release of Baker from the Celtics and subsequent termination of his contract cannot be completely looked at as a bad thing. In fact, it will drastically help both the Celtics organization and Vin Baker himself.



Back when things were good for Vin Baker

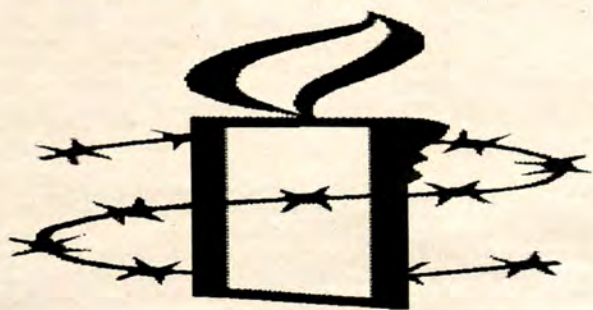
Baker has two and a half seasons left on a contract that will pay him about 36 million dollars. That is an incredibly large amount of money to bestow upon a player with declining skills and a major problem with alcohol abuse. Baker's contract is taking away the Celtics ability to move forward as an organization. The Celtics are strapped for cash and basketball is a business. Keeping Baker put the Celtics in a situation much like that of the Orlando Magic: a team who can't do anything due to the oft-injured Grant Hill's huge contract as their best player. Tracy McGrady, gets older every year, and with Hill on their back, the team is unable to move forward as a solid threat in the Eastern Conference.

The Celtics need to keep rebuilding and although Danny Ainge hasn't done very well so far, his inability to sign high-quality players is a direct effect of Baker's extremely high salary. Paul Pierce is only 26 and in the prime of his career. The Celtics need to be able to build a championship team around him before it's too late and he is unable to continue to perform at the already high level he does now. The reality of the matter is that players get older and their skills begin to go downhill. The bottom line for the Celtics as an organization is that they need immediate relief of Vin Baker's contract in order to continue to make their team extremely competitive for the upcoming years ahead.

This is a good move for Vin Baker as well. Although he is losing \$36 million he is gaining something very valuable as well. Playing on a professional basketball team and the duties and responsibilities that come with that can become grueling for a healthy player. The team travels around the country on road trips and a lot of the time players spend nights alone in their hotel room. It is unthinkable to relish the idea that Baker would be able to stop himself from binge drinking again in that sort of situation. It is not because Baker is a bad person. It isn't even because he has lost all of his willpower to fight the disease. It is because in a professional basketball environment the odds are extremely stacked against him.

Vin Baker needs to get away from basketball for a while and give himself the time to heal the wounds his alcoholism has given him. The Celtics also need some breathing room from Baker's contract in order to move forward as an organization. It is extremely unfortunate that what started out as a comeback player of the year season for Baker has been reduced to shambles. However mean it sounds, basketball is a business and the Boston Celtics can't afford to keep Baker and hope to stay competitive in an eastern conference that is getting better by the day. Likewise, Vin Baker can't afford to stay with Boston, not until he settles his personal issues first.

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SPORTS

Don't Plan That Parade Quite Yet



It's not about the money. Oh, wait, it is.

By: Michael A. Romano
Anchor Staff

Right now, I'm quite frustrated with baseball. There's so much that makes me sick to my stomach: greedy players who constantly act like babies, no salary cap, and lies about the usage of certain enhancers (*cough* STEROIDS *cough*). But, really, who am I to talk? I don't have to put up with 162 games a year plus playoffs, right?

WRONG. As a baseball fan, I have no other alternative. I'm stuck watching my favorite team, the Boston Red Sox; make a run for the playoffs in the first half of the season only to fall short in September (and maybe October, if they're lucky to get that far). To make matters worse, I'm also forced to sit back and let the American League All-Stars...I mean...the New York Yankees, spend a truckload of money to possibly buy another pennant, or maybe even a championship.

But, don't get riled up yet. Nothing is for certain. This past week, the Yanks brought in newly repositioned third baseman Alex Rodriguez to fill the hole created by the injured Aaron Boone, and to screw the Red Sox yet again. With the move, there are a lot of people that are already planning the Yanks victory parade in November. Hold the horses, because I don't believe it's over yet. Heck, the season hasn't even started. First, let me talk about some of the changes and new acquisitions that the Boston Red Sox have made. Are they for the better? Are they for the worse? Then, I'll discuss my take on the team as a whole. Both are ultimately for the fans to decide, but most of them don't have an opportunity to talk about it in a publication, now do they?

For Boston, the Second Baseman position will be completely different. Starters Todd Walker and Damian Jackson are the only significant losses for the team. Individually, these players were anything but superstars, yet they did provide their own strengths. Walker was a decent hitter, nailing a few round-trippers in the playoffs last year. Jackson had the glove of the pair but wasn't much of a hitter; generally the opposite of Walker. For the most part, Red Sox fans won't be crying about the departure of these two. The Red Sox signed both Pokey Reese and Mark Bellhorn to replace Walker and Jackson. The lanky Reese has a great deal of speed and should have some much needed range on the right side of the infield. He's got a lot of glove, but not a lot of stick. If anyone has an advantage in the hitting department, it would be Bellhorn, as he swings from both sides of the plate.

The Red Sox were in desperate need of another durable pitcher for their starting rotation. Enter Curt Schilling. The 6-foot-5, 235-pound hurler should be of great value to Boston's questionable pitching staff. With a mid-90's fastball and great stamina (UNLIKE FORRESTER), Schilling provides some much needed power and may be a force to be reckoned with this season. As long as Pedro stays healthy, the Sox may have a great 1-2 punch this season.

Ellis Burks and Brian Daubach are also two familiar faces to Red Sox fans. Burks played for Boston with Roger Clemens and Wade Boggs in the early 90's and provided the team with a power-hitting Center Fielder. Daubach was the streaky yet reliable starting First Baseman and occasional Designated Hitter of the Red Sox a couple of years ago. Burks will now act as a back-up DH (behind slugger David Ortiz) and Daubach will spend some time in the farm system to re-develop.

As a whole, staying healthy is the name of the game. As long as the starters stay away from the disabled list, Boston should be in good shape. I'd expect these guys to win at least 90-95 games this year. The defensive side looks a bit stronger, especially at Second Base. In addition, Boston should continue to light up the scoreboard, as they arguably have the best hitting lineup in baseball. If I remember correctly, Boston averaged about 6 runs per game last season, and it doesn't look like things will change terribly.

On a completely unrelated note, I hope Alex Rodriguez has a terrible season with New York and that George Steinbrenner has a stroke trying to keep his team in first place in the American League East. When the Red Sox roll up the boss and make him look stupid, Red Sox nation will finally be able to forget the ancient curse and get down the real important things...such as chanting "Yankees suck" all season long.

The All-Fun League

By: Paul J. Spetrini
Anchor Editor

You can take the Indiana Pacers and shove them. Put away your Spurs merchandise, Lakers hat, and your Timberwolves jersey. As a matter of fact, toss them in the trash. With football season over and baseball season still a ways away, a sports fan has to turn to drastic measures to get his or her fix on athletic competition. Frankly, basketball and hockey just aren't cutting it. The games are too boring and the season is too long. You already know from the opening tipoff and slapshot that the Lakers and Spurs will have the run of the NBA and the Redwings/Devils will be competing for Lord Stanley's cup. There's no surprises and no fun in watching these games, so until Nomar brings that huge nose of his to the plate, we're going to have to find something good enough to keep us occupied until the real sports start to pick back up.

Sure, you could spend Sunday afternoons with your parents, shooting the breeze about whatever was on your mind, but who really wants to do that? You could sit down and wait to get inspired enough to write a masterpiece work of art, but who has that kind of patience? No, rather, it would be much more logical for you to sit on your couch, eating potato chips and slouching around. I mean- it's a Sunday. It was created for the very idea of doing absolutely nothing, and NBC has delivered in helping you achieve your goal of absolute laziness.

Apparently not scared away by the way their last attempt to break into professional football went, NBC has partnered up with the Arena Football League to bring you hard-hitting action week in and week out. What? You don't remember what I'm talking about? Turn back the clock a couple of years and try to remember the glorious failure of the XFL. Football and Pro Wrestling, where did it all go wrong? Well, trying to bring a no name league from creation to stardom all within a few short minutes was probably a bad idea, and looking back on it, you could see that it was doomed from the start. Have you watched professional wrestling lately? As of this writing, Eddie Guerrero and Triple H were the respective champs and the best storyline they could come up with is a steroid freak that looks like he walked out of a bad Viagra ad. This time around, however, they seem to have learned their lesson. The network is hooking up with an already established football league to bring already exposed fans into the mix in an attempt to boost up ratings in the dull sports months of February and March.

The Arena Football League is a different type of football. It is geared to fans that love watching exciting, high scoring games with athletes not over obsessed with their own performances. This league is for the not so serious fan that just wants to see someone throw a Hail Mary touchdown pass on first down from his or her own end zone. The AFL is for fans that love arcade style sports. It is the NFL Blitz version of pro football and has things that the NFL couldn't dream to cook up.

There are three reasons to really love this league. Because the majority of the players involved have had some sort of experience, be it on an NFL team or in the college level, there still seems to be a sense of professionalism and seriousness in the games. Don't panic though...it's much more toned down than the NFL. These guys know how to have fun, with celebrations and play often so amazing you have to do a double take to believe what you just saw.

It's hard to say that the league takes itself as serious, with teams like the Grand Rapids Rampage leading playoff races, but it is not a complete joke either. The players know that, especially now that the league is growing in popularity, it is not far off that they could jump into the NFL and soon be living the dream of superstardom. Some players use the AFL as an under appreciated minor league system of the NFL, such as Tommy Maddox, Kurt Warner, and Jake Delhomme did, but there are other players who have excelled their failure at the NFL and taken to doing well in the arena league. Players of this caliber make the league what it is, fast, exciting, and very competitive. You don't have to go far to find these guys. Looking at almost every team will provide a list of these no name hard workers. Philadelphia Soul Wide Receiver Gary Compton is



*2003 Arena Football Champions:
The Tampa Bay Storm*

the AFL's version of a Jerry Rice or Tim Brown, amassing over ten thousand yards in his career. Compton is an everyday receiver with over twelve years experience, something not often achieved at any professional level sport.

Sherdick Bonner, a quarterback from the Arizona Rattlers, is a veteran of 11 years, and probably could have jumped ship to the big league if he had wanted to. In his career, he has a 115.96 rating, something most players couldn't accomplish in a game, yet alone a career. Whatever their reason, these players are what make the AFL an real close cousin of the big boys.

As I stated before, the AFL is an explosive league where anything can happen on the offensive side of the ball. Because of certain differences in style of play, such as the fact that the games are played on a closed in fifty yard field and receivers are allowed to get a running start behind the line of scrimmage, points are put up at levels that would even make the St. Louis Rams blush. Here are some of the numbers to emphasize this. The San Jose SaberCats, one of the most consistently superior teams of the past three seasons, put up a league high 60 points per game last season in a campaign that saw them go 12-4. Sixty points per game! Oh, and on top of that, they lost 4 games! How do you lose when you average sixty points per game? It just goes to show that the talent level is exceptionally deep. Well, either that or that the defense sucks enough to blow a game with a sixty point spot. But, being that this is a positive article, let's focus on the good things about this league.

For the fans that love competition, there is something to look forward to every year. The Arena Bowl, AFL substitute for the Super Bowl, rarely fails to live up to the hype. Each and every year, the big game at the end of the tunnel pits the top two teams in a clash of heavyweight prizefighters, each fighting for the ultimate payoff. The game is on par with the Super Bowl, with one exception: Nowhere near as much hype. Rather than two weeks of listening to the pre-pre-game ceremonies, and how much the team's quarterback likes to eat Meow Mix before a big game, you get to get right to the point and watch the game. No hype, just talent. It's exactly what the NFL would want their game to be, if not for the millions of dollars they get for point-less media coverage.

The final thing that makes the AFL one of the best things you can watch without Barbara Streisand is the fact that, above all, it is...FOOTBALL! Yes, it's football. You get to watch the game you know you love practically year round. If hockey, basketball, and baseball aren't enough to satisfy your need for organized competition, and you absolutely need to watch some action on the gridiron, the AFL is there for you. It's not as dull as the NFL can sometimes get, it's often more exciting, and it's only getting better. There's no where to go but up for the men of the arena football league, and it's only a matter of time before their stars (such as Aaron Garcia and Andy Kelly) become the big names in professional football.

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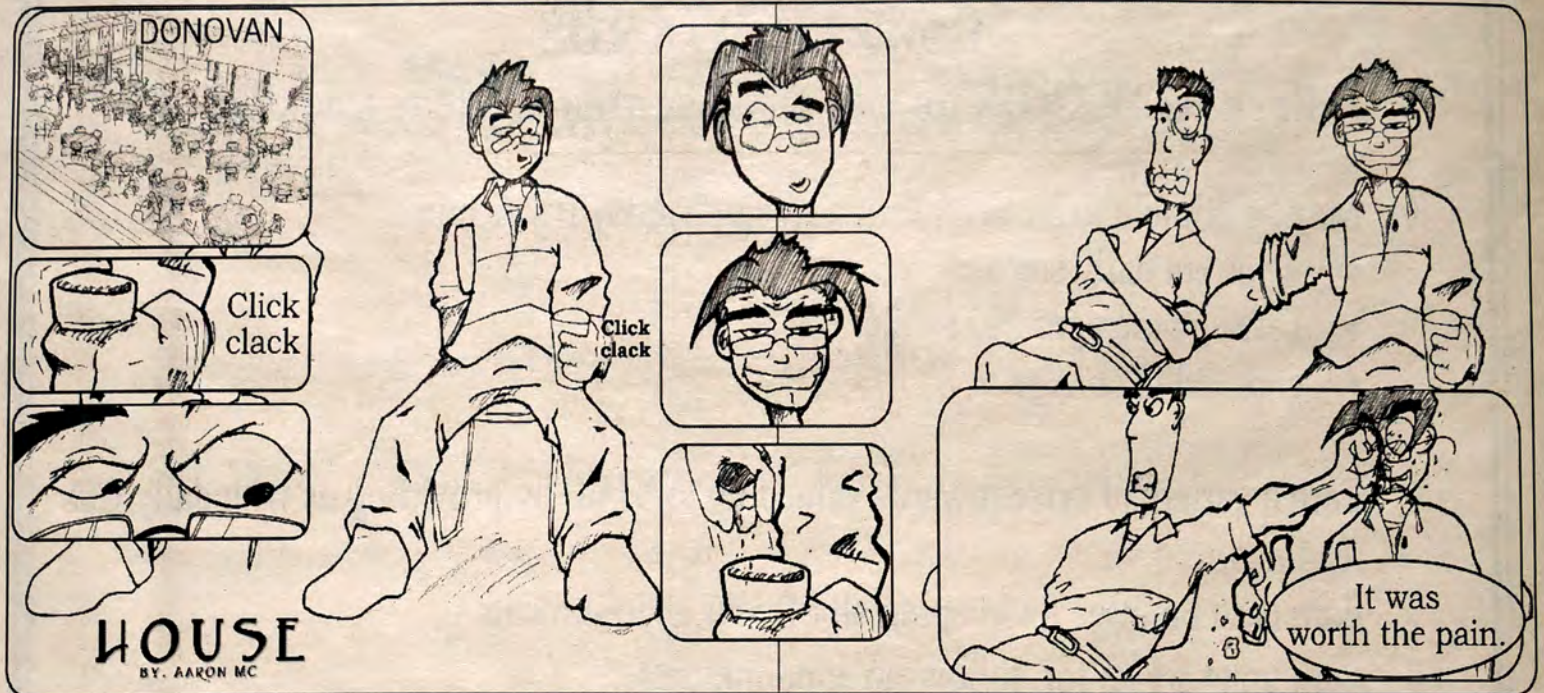
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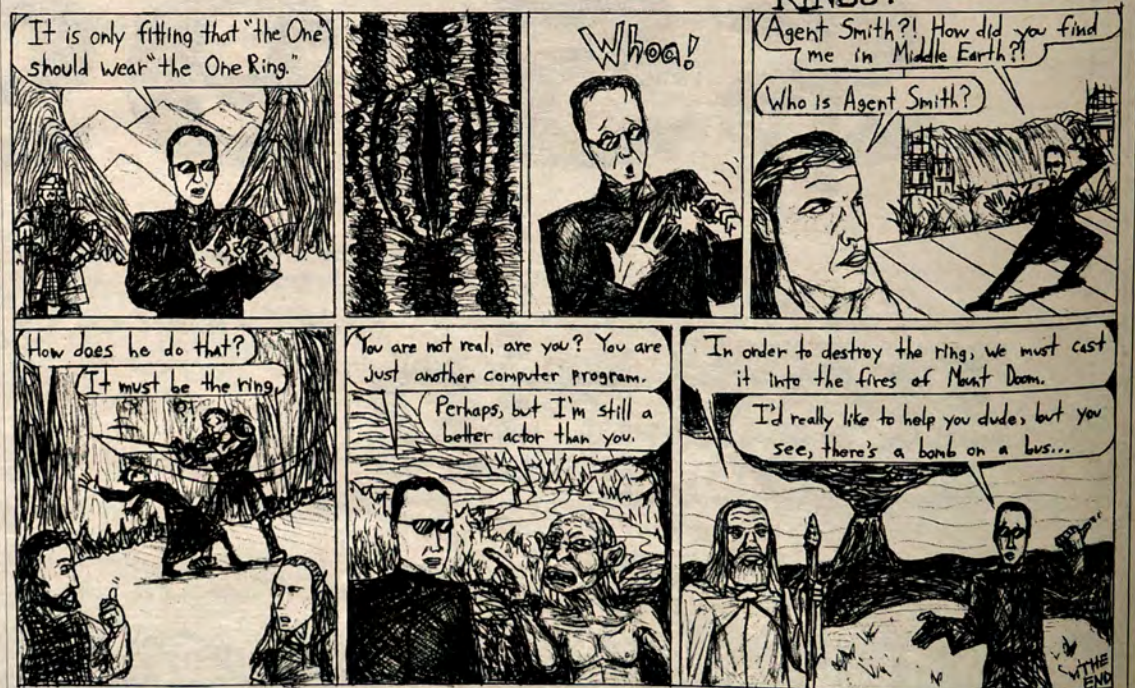
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mobile.

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night
brings me dreams of
Spam



What if Keanu Reeves starred in THE LORD OF THE RINGS? By Kevin Ferrelra



RELATIVELY IMMATURE COMICS



STUDENT DISCOUNT



COMIC BOOK DUDE & VEGETARIAN GIRL

BY: T. LEVIN & R. GORDON



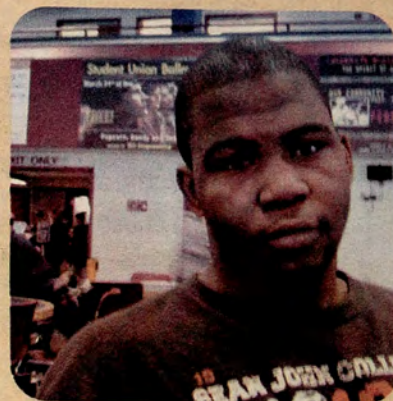
roving reporter

If you could elect anyone in the world to be president of this country, who would you choose?

By: Laura Colannino

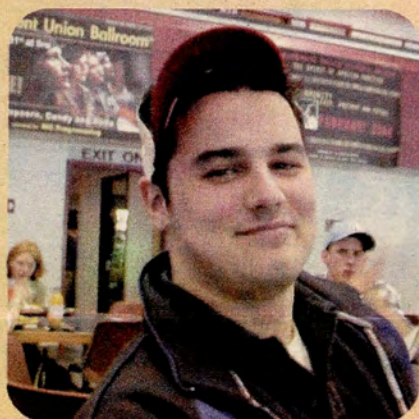


Luke Emmons
Junior
Business Management
Lloyd Christmas.



Olutosin Taylor
Freshman
Nursing

Scooby-Doo, because he knows how to have a good time, he has the munchies, and he always finds the ghosts.



Joe Graziano
Freshman
Undecided

Amy Gregoire.



Stefanie Paventy
Sophomore
Biology

Michael Philbin.



Jay Pagano
Senior
International
Management.

I would pick Henry Rollins just because he's a tremendously powerful and excellent person. He's very open-minded and he would physically kick the shit out of any other president and he means well.

Meghan O'Connor
Sophomore
Undecided

I would probably pick my uncle David because he is really informed, he pays attention to a lot of things and he has a good way of making you see things his way in regards to politics.



Christopher Dion
Junior
Finance

John Kerry or Bill Gates.



Frederick Crossman Jr.
Senior
Accounting & Computer
Information Systems

Myself, because at least I have more of a clue about economic reform than these buffoons that are running and it's pretty sad that a college student has more of an idea how to run a country than these people who are running for office. So, if you want to endorse me, go ahead. Thank You.

around campus



the anchor

remembers the victims, families and everyone
affected by the Station Nightclub Fire

02.20.2003

a day never to be forgotten

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Kevin Anderson, 37, Warwick, R.I.
Stacie Angers, 29, Worcester, Mass.
Christopher Arruda, 30, Coventry, R.I.
Eugene Avilez, 21, Burlington, Mass.
Tina Ayer, 33, Warwick, R.I.
Mary H. Baker, 32, Fall River, Mass.
Karla Bagtaz, 41, Randolph, Mass.
Thomas Barnett, 38, West Greenwich, R.I.
Laureen Beauchaine, 35, West Warwick, R.I.
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James Gooden, 37, Cranston, R.I.
Derek Gray, 22, Dracut, Mass.
Scott C. Greene, 35, Warwick, R.I.
Scott Griffith 41, Mission Viejo, Calif.
Bonnie L. Hamelin, 27, Warwick, R.I.
Jude Henault, 37, Lisbon, Conn.
Andrew Hoban, 22, North Kingstown, R.I.
Abbie Hoisington, 28, Cranston, R.I.
Michael Hoogasian, 31, Cranston, R.I.
Sandy Hoogasian, 27, Cranston, R.I.
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Derek Brian Johnson, 32, West Warwick, R.I.
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Rebecca Shaw, 24, Warwick, R.I.
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Victor Stark, 39, West Yarmouth, Mass.
Benjamin Suffoletto, 43, Glocester, R.I.
Linda Suffoletto, Glocester, R.I.
Shawn Sweet, 28, Pembroke, Mass.
Jason Sylvester, 24, Coventry, R.I.
Sarah Jane Telgarsky, 37, Plainfield, Conn.
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Kelly Viera, 40, West Warwick, R.I.
Robert Daniel Young, 29, Taunton, Mass.

OPINIONS

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Letter to the Editor

By: Victoria Enders & Stephanie Ubanja

The second annual opening ceremony at Rhode Island College for Black History Month was one to be proud of. Coordinator and director of the Unity Center Mr. Aaron Bruce had only but two weeks to plan the event. Most of the student workers from the Unity Center took part in both organizing and participating. When it all came together, it was the most moving and powerful event yet. It was a celebration.

"It was influential, and I believe that all cultures should participate and be aware of this opportunity to unite," said Quinn Bryan a Unity Center Worker. We're not sure if it was because of his persistence and determination that made the event a phenomenon, but whatever the case may have been, it was a job well done. The welcoming speech was presented by Mr. Aaron Bruce, followed by greetings from Dr. Scott D. Kane.

A talented student here at Rhode Island college, Obed Daphnis, joined in on the celebration by singing an incredible song of the black national anthem called Lift Every Voice and Sing. Another talented individual who joined in on the celebration was Tim Perry, the president of Harambee. "It was good, it was informative and it had good speakers," said Tim. He gave an incredible speech on our African-American history. When all was said and done, the most important speech of the ceremony was when Dr. Amritjit Singh took the stage. His speech was based on topics that were related to Black History Month. He talked about his experiences in the United States and his recent accomplishments in writing a new book on the ideas and influences of Wallace Thurman.

In conclusion, all the guest speakers took the opportunity to thank Aaron for his efforts in establishing a new Unity Center; others encouraged him to continue in his success. The entire event was nothing too extreme or intricate but listening to these people made us realize that the Unity Center is about something. Black History Month is about you and me. It's about our history. Together as one, we unite

Why No Republican Primary?

By: Forrester Safford
Anchor Staff

With Howard Dean, the onetime front runner in the Democratic primaries dropping out of the race last week, John Kerry and John Edwards are the last two legitimate candidates seeking the Democratic nomination to run against President Bush. Democrats should be happy with the two main candidates left. Both Kerry and Edwards are about as liberal as they come. The real disappointment should not be with liberals, but with conservatives.

What has President Bush done to spread the conservative ideology, besides banning partial birth abortions, nothing. Oh, he has cut taxes, but cutting taxes and then waging a war on terror do not mix; hence, our deficit. Bush has also increased the size of our federal government with new and useless programs many of which he expects cities and towns to foot the bill themselves, (i.e. the No Child Left Behind Act).

Two things that he brought up in his 2004 State of the Union Address should really have conservatives' heads spinning. First, he wants to make a grassroots campaign to alert students that the only way not to get a sexually transmitted disease is to

not have sex at all. This would be fine if he wants to tell people this "breaking news" over his radio show, however, the trouble is that he wants to use federal funds to tell kids that abstinence is the way to go. Don't our health teachers tell us that as far back as middle school? Why should federal dollars go to something that is already being done? The real kicker though, that President Bush hinted at wanting to do is adding a constitutional amendment saying that marriages can only be between a man and a woman. This would of course ban gays from marrying. Now, personally, I am against gay marriage, however, myself and conservatives everywhere would be hypocrites if they supported this type of constitutional amendment. Why should we get mad at liberal judges for saying that gays should get married, and be ok with a "conservative" for saying that they can't get married? We should demand statewide votes on issues such as gay marriage. States where the majority of the population support gay marriage should allow it, and states where the majority is anti-gay marriage should have the right to not allow it. We live in a democratic society. No judges, president, or legislative body

should be out dictators!

With all of Bush's big liberal spending and other problems, conservatives need someone else. There have been rumors that ousted Alabama Supreme Court Chief Justice Roy Moore is speaking more and more like a candidate every day. He has spoken at events thrown by the Constitution Party recently. One possible running mate for Moore is Alan Keyes. A Moore/Keyes ticket would truly be a conservative ticket.

The main problems with Bush and his administration is that they feel unbeatable. Instead of taking hard-line stands against liberalism, they accept liberalism at its worst. Ed Gillespie the GOP chairman would rather denounce a 20 year old junior from Roger Williams University who decided to make a statement about how stupid race based scholarships are, then support the 20 year old and his group for not being like the yellow spine Republicans who make up part of our government.

Bush, et al, seem ok with being one term politicians. Conservatives need someone to come out and pledge to bring the Republicans out of the left and back into the right! The Democrats already have their liberal candidates, now Republicans need their conservative candidate.

A Safer America?

By Kevin Ferreira



NASCAR Dads and Others Who Deserve to be Hanged

By: Aaron Martin-Colby
Anchor Contributor

I'm listening to a broadcast on CNN about the newest hot, voting block; NASCAR Dads. Yes, NASCAR dads. The broadcast described the NASCAR dads as blue collar, socially conservative, and low income. Well DUH! They're all morons. They're blue collar because they were too stupid to graduate from college. It's depressing to think that these people actually vote.

During an interview one guy proudly declared his self as a graying redneck. He's PROUD of that! If there was anything on earth to not be proud of, it's that. You might as well openly admit to incest. He went on to say that he watches NASCAR, and buys the things on the side of the car. Why would anyone buy the things on the side of the cars?? Those products aren't used in the actual car. I saw some guy proudly saying he bought a Monte Carlo after it won some race. I would like to point out how insanely stupid that is.

This man obviously knows next to nothing about cars. The NASCAR Monte Carlo is barely a car. It has literally nothing in common with its road-going cousin. Engines? The massive push-rod V8 in the NASCAR version cranks out 800 horsepower. The road going version has a 3.8 liter, overhead cam, V6 and needs a supercharger to muster just 240. The road version doesn't even offer a manual transmission. The only available tranny is a 4 speed auto. The NASCAR version is rear-wheel drive while the road version is front-wheel. The NASCAR Monte Carlo is a Chevy like Big Foot is a Ford.

The idea that this pack of gullible twits is

what the candidates in the upcoming election might be pandering to sickens me. What sickens me even more is the thought that this pack of gullible twits might win it for Bush! Now I understand why the founding fathers initially didn't want the general populous voting. The general populous is generally dumb.

Alright, I withdraw that last statement. I speak out of anger that Bush won the last election. I am then reminded that no, he didn't win the last election. Slightly over half the country did not vote for him! Still, watching a massive crowd of people, where it's probable that a great majority of them barely graduated high school, cheer for Bush like it was going out of style caused me brain hurt.

The greatest cause of brain hurt for me, though, when discussing voting isn't who is voting but who isn't; namely most of the country. I remember when I turned 18. I wanted to vote like a fat kid wants cake. It was my chance to officially say what I thought. It was my two cents. It was the power left to me by this country's forefathers. People disregarding this power doesn't just cause me brain hurt, it causes me soul hurt.

During the last election just under 55% of the voting population voted. (Sounds good? Countries embroiled in civil wars frequently see voter turn outs higher than that.) When race is taken into account, the story gets drearier. A scant 27.5% of Hispanics voted in the 2000 election. Blacks and whites were dead even with about 55% accounted for in both groups. Hispanics should be just as worried, if not more worried, than everyone else. The Hispanic minority has to fight a perception of inferiority that no other minority must battle with right now, (I'm not forgetting Muslims,

see NASCAR on 17

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OPINIONS

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A Primary Challenge

By: Michael Philbin
Anchor Contributor

The Democratic primary campaign for President has been a useful and inspiring show of force for American progressives. The issues that have been raised and the manner in which the candidates have conducted themselves is viable proof that the ultimate goal of it all can be achieved: the defeat of President Bush in November. It is essential, if the eventual nominee wishes to actually win, to steadfastly remain true to this spirit that has taken over the party. Democrats will not win by acquiescing to the conservative policies of the Bush Administration; a real choice must be presented to the American people and it seems so far that the Democratic nominee will be that choice.

It has been refreshing to watch the debates between the candidates on television, primarily because of the minor contenders. People like Senator Carol Mosley Braun, Congressman Dennis Kucinich, and yes even Reverend Al Sharpton have consistently and unwaveringly adhered to the progressive values that are at the core of the Democratic Party in all of these debates. Because of these candidates, who stand little chance of actually winning, the other major candidates have been forced to pay more than lip-service to liberals. Universal healthcare, criticism of NAFTA, support for civil liberties, and opposition to Bush's foreign policies have been consistent themes not just throughout the debates but in the campaigns of the several candidates themselves. While President Bush will be forced to defend his pre-emptive invasion of Iraq (which turned up no weapons of mass destruction) and has governed over a net loss of over two million jobs nationwide, the Democrats have been at the forefront in demanding a multilateral approach to international relations and rebuking the tax cuts for the wealthy. It is slightly worrisome that, as the Kerry campaign seems to be locking up the nomination, the Democrats are now concentrating more on the vague concept of "electability" as opposed to actual issues. This strategy cannot

win compared to confronting the failures of the Bush Administration and presenting viable alternatives. In an election season where people are losing their jobs and American troops are being killed in a land that turned out to be no threat to us, this should not be too difficult.

As stated before, it is the protest campaigns of Braun, Kucinich, and Sharpton that keep the whole field to task in the debates. But if one single campaign can be given credit for the overall enthusiasm and energy that has been generated for the Democrats, it is that of Governor Howard Dean. It is not only his message that can be blamed, but the manner in which he has conveyed this message. Dean started out in single digits when the media began to pay token attention to the primary election and his rise to the top in autumn of 2003 was matched only by his rapid fall. The primary reason for Dean's success was that he represented exactly how committed Democrats felt towards Bush. By staking out a tenaciously anti-war position and creating a truly grass-roots national organization, Dean's campaign represented anger and empowerment to liberal Democrats. As with the protest candidates, the Dean phenomenon forced the more establishment-based candidates to retool their own campaigns. Gephardt, Edwards, and Kerry were constantly forced to re-explain (sometimes in different manners) why exactly they voted for the Iraq War in Congress and many of them mimicked the internet-based structure of their campaigns as well. Through his creative campaign and by promoting progressive stances on many issues, Governor Howard Dean put a fighting spirit back inside the Democratic Party.

As long as the Democratic nominee advocates the need for a multilateral foreign policy and decries the Bush Administration's failure to put people back to work, he will be the best progressive alternative to the Republican Party. This does not mean, however, that all the underdog candidates for the nomination should immediately get behind Senator John Kerry. For one, by having contested primaries the Democrats are worthy

of media attention that would otherwise focus on the President's messages. It is because of this attention that the Democrats have been gaining an edge to Bush in recent polls.

Furthermore, it is contrary to the democratic process to assert that the people should not have a say in which man becomes the nominee. Although they would all make fine contenders against President Bush, there are important differences between the Democratic candidates. For example, at a time when job losses in the manufacturing sector are very high, it's unfortunate that Senator Kerry has voted in favor of unfair trade agreements such as NAFTA. Perhaps most importantly, and as was stated before, both Senators Kerry and Edwards (the final two remaining frontrunners, according to the media) voted for the Iraq War in Congress. Contrary to whatever political pundits might think, it would be beneficial for the Democrats to have an anti-war position. At a time when our government is pursuing a unilateral foreign policy that alienates close allies and authorizes preemptive war, it is not appropriate for the Democrats to try and have it both ways, which is exactly what Kerry and Edwards have been doing. Primaries represent an opportunity for the people to vote with their conscience, with someone who's not afraid to stand up for the basic values of their party. For the Democrats, this means voting for someone who is not only an opponent of the war, but led the Democratic opposition to it in Congress. For progressive Democrats, that candidate is Congressman Dennis Kucinich. While Howard Dean was certainly the guiding light of the anti-war Democrats when he was still running, Kucinich is now the best hope American leftists. On issue after issue, Kucinich firmly and articulately advances the path of individual rights and active government. This is also not a defeatist strategy for the general election, when Bush will attempt to divide Americans with wedge issues. Confronting the conservatives and presenting a liberal alternative to the American people is the best strategy for the Democrats to win back the government.

NASCAR. . .from 15

but they're seen more as a threat than anything else.) You have to get out there and make sure that our elected officials are working for your rights and concerns.

In many ways, perceptions of Hispanics are no fault of their own. It's the fault of Hispanic people that don't even live in the country and the people from other countries who pour into our country by the thousands every year. It almost makes me feel bad for Mexico, one of the biggest problem zones. We bitch because we're exporting jobs. Well Mexico is exporting workers!

While on the subject of exporting jobs, I feel the country should shut its collective pie hole. We bemoan the transfer of jobs overseas by the thousands and vilify the executives doing so as though they are just shy of the Antichrist. If no one has bothered to think about this, it's the epitome of capitalism. We're going to where the cheapest product or service is. That's the basis of our economy! We're just being pissy because others are willing to do the same work for cheaper.

The news media also has a hand in making pariahs out of companies that want nothing more than to get cheaper labor so they can provide the bloated, consumer masses of the US with products that are 5 cents cheaper, so they can haul the oil tankers also known as their butts off the couch and down the Wal*Mart, where they will promptly wait for 15 minutes to get a parking space 3 feet from the door. Either accept higher priced goods, or stop bitching because other people don't want absurdly high pay for menial labor. (My seething anger is directed primarily at people who handle telephone services such as tech support. India has become a hotbed to have services like that moved to, and US workers are crying their poor little eyes out because they can no longer earn 11-18 dollars per hour for sitting on their asses all day.)

It's really easy to break

things down. The US (I use the term "US" to describe the group of people against job exportation.) is saying that these people can't do these jobs because they're willing to do the work for too little. The basis for this argument is also immensely racist. It's, as mentioned before, racism that targets Hispanics almost exclusively. All of the poor people coming over the boarder, legally and illegally, from Mexico are willing to do jobs that no one else is, and we bitch. Indians are willing to do technical drudge-work that requires a grand total of 3 weeks to learn, and we bitch. Chinese are willing to manufacture electronics en masse for dirt cheap, and we bitch. We bitch, and bitch, and never stop bitching. If you want a better job, go to school. If you want higher pay, learn a better trade.

There are jobs out there to be had! You just have to get them! Stop being this undereducated, blue collar idiot who watches NASCAR like some kind of strange religion. Stop blaming Hispanics for your problems. And stop driving your Monte Carlo, built by Hispanics in Arlington, Texas, with computers made in Asia, and paperwork done in India, around the Wal*Mart parking lot waiting for a space so you can buy lots of cheap products made by underpaid people in countries that you can't pronounce.

In a comedy routine by Chris Rock, he made a comment aimed at Whites that is now applicable to the whole of America. "If ya'll are losing... who's winning?!" Who's winning indeed? Exporting America? Bah. America went overseas long ago, where it found cheap labor, cheap products, and itself.

Sources:
www.census.gov US Census Bureau (Voting info)
www.howstuffworks.com (NASCAR info)
www.edmunds.com (Monte Carlo info)
www.cnn.com/10u (Exporting America info)

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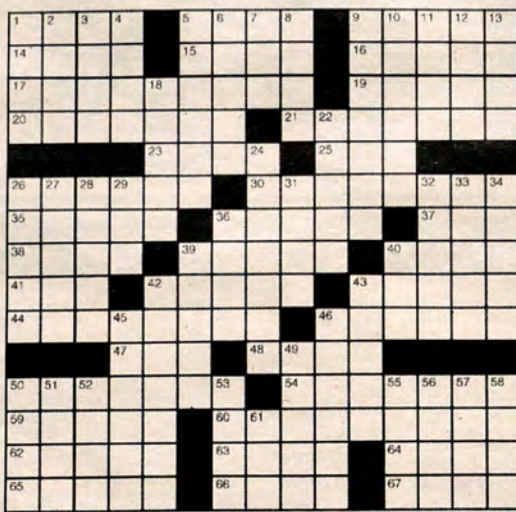


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Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Silver-tongued
- 5 Masticate
- 9 West Point freshman
- 14 Assistant
- 15 Bonheur or Parks
- 16 Pass along
- 17 Marine environment
- 19 Chicago airport
- 20 Act as chairperson
- 21 Explained
- 23 Singer Fitzgerald
- 25 Used spades
- 26 Dancer Irene
- 30 Dubliner
- 35 Made bovine noises
- 36 Armistice
- 37 Yale booster
- 38 Verdi song
- 39 Soft hat
- 40 Dog or fox chaser?



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02/24/04

- 41 in the bag
- 42 Unclouded
- 43 "Blame It on Rio" star
- 44 High-ranking Indian princess
- 46 Dairy product
- 47 Disfigure
- 48 Cherished
- 50 Musical intervals
- 54 Made certain
- 59 Public square
- 60 Follower of Moses
- 62 Card for readers
- 63 Compaq rival
- 64 Clearasil's target
- 65 Graceful birds
- 66 "of Eden"
- 67 Tide type

DOWN

- 1 Evidence shock
- 2 Falsifier
- 3 Unemployed
- 4 Wagers
- 5 Infant's bed
- 6 Monopoly building
- 7 Wind dir.
- 8 Political division
- 9 Copious
- 10 Bethlehem university
- 11 Panache
- 12 Naked
- 13 Looked over
- 18 Brandish
- 22 Decree
- 24 Attack by bombers
- 26 State as true
- 27 Main artery
- 28 Rustling sound
- 29 Pekoe or oolong
- 31 Man with regrets
- 32 Earn
- 33 By oneself
- 34 Saltpeter
- 36 Adolescent
- 39 Trumpet blast
- 40 Make lace
- 42 Scarflike ties
- 43 Blaspheme
- 45 Online
- 46 Volcanic rock



- 49 British noblemen
- 50 Makes a choice
- 51 Hammer type
- 52 Olympian
- 53 Facet
- 55 -Ude, Russia
- 56 Football great Jerry
- 57 Mediterranean volcano
- 58 Profound
- 61 Aegean or Caspian

Tuesday, February 24th, 6-10 p.m., Student Union Ballroom

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By Lasha Seniuk

Aries (March 21-April 20). Business contracts or financial promises are valid. Late Tuesday, expect friends and colleagues to propose



new money strategies or announce elaborate career schemes. This is a strong time for advancement, revised home planning and rekindled ambition. Don't avoid delicate or complex assignments. Wednesday through Saturday accent last-minute social invitations. Group events may prove unusually rewarding. Remain open to new romantic introductions.

Taurus (April 21-May 20). Home and romantic plans are accentuated over the next five days. Before Friday, expect loved ones to discuss long-term family aspirations, traditional roles in the home or costly renovations. Study facts, figures and paperwork for valuable clues. Restrictions of time, social responsibility or money may become bothersome. After Saturday, rest and enjoy private time. Physical and emotional vitality may be low. Pamper the body, if possible, and avoid excess social strain.



Gemini (May 21-June 21). Fair play and group dynamics are accentuated over the next two days. Watch for friends or colleagues to disagree on planned schedules, daily obligations or social events. Emotional ownership and possessiveness may be at issue. Go slow and ask loved ones for added support. Later this



week, business alliances may be temporarily delayed or strained. Limited resources or complex workplace politics may be central concerns. Don't confront; permanent change will take time.

Cancer (June 22-July 22). Before next week, ongoing social or romantic power struggles can be easily resolved. Expect renewed respect and added cooperation from loved ones. After Wednesday, workplace rules and regulations may dramatically increase. Watch for authority figures to set new standards, limit time schedules or demand fast results. Offer a consistent effort. Over the next eight days, key officials and trusted colleagues will rely heavily on your integrity, cheerful resolve and attention to detail.



Leo (July 22-Aug. 22). Complex travel or business plans will take on a dramatic tone over the next few days. After Tuesday, expect authority figures, work partners and close friends to present controversial ideas. Short trips and creative solutions are expensive but promising. Remain patient and watch for sustained progress. Thursday through Sunday, loved ones will expect detailed explanations of recent group events, family dynamics or romantic decisions. Remain open.



Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Before midweek, loved ones will search out emotional validation for their romantic goals or family ideas. Remain thoughtful and wait for detailed discussions. At present, friends and lovers may need to work through delicate issues of intimacy, privacy or trust. Wednesday through

Saturday, accent unexpected financial duties. Late payments, missed deadlines or long-term contracts may require new rules. If so, remain consistent. Authority figures will opt for simple agreements.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Romantic and social promises are highlighted. Late Tuesday, watch for loved ones to express a need for family sharing, emotional intimacy or sensuality. Be receptive. Love and a renewed faith in long-term commitment will offer powerful rewards. Thursday through Sunday, financial information may be misleading. Governmental agencies and large corporations may announce complex revisions. Remain patient. New income sources will arrive.



Scorpio (Oct. 24-Nov. 22). Previous workplace power struggles will fade. Over the next five days, watch for colleagues and friends to adopt a more creative approach to team problems. Areas strongly affected are seniority, age versus experience and minor disputes with authority. Don't avoid difficult decisions. Your actions and guidance will be quickly followed. Late Saturday, respond honestly to probing questions or subtle comments. Short-term romantic choices may be necessary.



Sagittarius (Nov. 23-Dec. 21). An emotional or social competition now fades. After Tuesday, expect moody friends to settle differences and find common understanding. Unusual discussions or comments



may also be accented. Watch for verbal power struggles to quickly evolve into silly antics. Later this week, business restrictions may temporarily delay vital projects. Key officials may limit schedules, reverse permissions or offer controversial instructions. Stay alert. Tempers may be high.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 20). Close relatives and romantic partners are highly motivated to discuss family patterns, traditional roles or outdated decisions. Past differences will no longer create restriction. Use this time to improve harmony, understanding and group awareness in the home. Thursday through Saturday, workplace ethics and minor financial setbacks may demand special diplomacy. Reassure friends and co-workers of your loyalty. Continued devotion will be expected.



Aquarius (Jan. 21-Feb. 19). Social relationships are unpredictable. Before Thursday, watch for sudden bursts of emotion or rare confrontations between friends. No serious or long-term affects are likely, so not to worry. Do, however, avoid detailed discussions concerning yesterday's promises or missed invitations. Friday through Sunday, a relative or romantic partner will offer unique insight into his or her private fears. Offer heartfelt advice. Long-term isolation or family disputes may be strong concerns.



Pisces (Feb. 20-March 20). Love affairs and long-term family plans may be complicated with last-minute time restrictions and outside responsibility. Monday through Thursday, loved ones may request special favors, demand added private time or advocate revised home rules. Refuse to be dissuaded from established routines. Romantic hopes and social decisions will be brought back into balance. Early this weekend, contact old friends. Your affection and loyalty are genuinely missed.



If your birthday is this week.



Business officials and older colleagues may be unusually temperamental over the next four to five weeks. Key areas of concern involve private family strain, marital discord or minor power struggles with younger co-workers. Avoid public discussions, if possible, and expect continuing complications. Before April 5, workplace changes and revised job roles may demand serious attention. Later this summer, surprising romantic and social opportunities may arrive. After mid-July, expect love relationships to quickly evolve into long-term commitments or complex lifestyle choices. Wait, however, until the end of September before taking on greater family responsibilities.

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["The Vagina Monologues" is] a work which is inescapably universal for women, and manages to be feminist without being man-hating, entertaining without being trite, and political without being earnest.

The London Telegraph, May 11, 2001

V-Day is a worldwide movement to stop sexual violence against women and girls and to proclaim Valentine's Day as the day to celebrate women and demand the end of abuse.

V-Day Rhode Island College is sponsored locally by Amnesty International and the Unity Center.

Proceeds will benefit Sojourner House.



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Spinach, Feta, & Tomato	\$2.50/slice
A delicious blend of tomatoes, spinach, and feta cheese.	
Southwest Pizza	\$2.50/slice
Monterey Jack cheese with seasoned beef, salsa, and red onion	
Buffalo Chicken	\$2.50/slice
Spicy chicken with mozzarella and blue cheese.	
BBQ Pizza	\$2.50/slice
Bar-b-que pork, sweet onions, and red peppers.	
Meat Seekers	\$2.50/slice
Bar-b-que pork, bacon, pepperoni, and sausage.	
Chicken & Pesto	\$2.50/slice
Grilled chicken with pesto and artichokes.	

Whole Pizzas are available for \$14.00 each.

TOPPINGS AVAILABLE

VEGETABLES	MEATS	CHEESES & OTHERS
Tomatoes	Pepperoni	Mozzarella
Summer Squash	Grilled Chicken	Cheddar
Zucchini	Bar-b-que Pork	Provolone
Broccoli	Sausage	Feta
Mushrooms	Bacon	Monterey Jack
Onions	Philly Steak	Blue Cheese
Spinach	Seasoned Beef	Salsa
Peppers		Garlic
Artichoke		Italian Herbs

EXTRA TOPPING PER SLICE	\$0.25
EXTRA TOPPING PER PIZZA	\$1.00

SANDWICH WRAPS

Veggie Ranch	\$4.50
A light herbed cream cheese with green leaf lettuce, tomato, cucumber, onion, roasted red peppers, and Sandella's Ranch Dressing.	
Turkey Club	\$4.50
Sliced turkey breast with bacon strips, sliced tomatoes, spring mixed greens, and Sandella's Ranch Dressing.	
Chicken Caesar	\$4.50
Grilled chicken strips with romaine lettuce, shredded parmesan cheese, croutons, and Sandella's Caesar Dressing.	
Honey Mustard Chicken	\$4.50
Grilled chicken breast cut into strips served with green leaf lettuce, sliced tomatoes, and Sandella's Honey Mustard Mayo.	
Chicken Milanese	\$4.50
Grilled chicken breast with roasted red peppers, tomatoes, fresh mozzarella cheese, and Sandella's Pesto Mayo.	
Roast Beef	\$4.50
Sliced roast beef with mushrooms, onions, green peppers, and Sandella's Specialty Mayo.	

DESSERTS

Bagel w/ Cream Cheese	\$1.50
Scones	\$1.50
Croissants	\$1.00
Éclairs	\$1.25
Maple Danish	\$1.50
Black Forest Danish	\$1.50
Cheese Danish	\$1.50
Biscotti	\$1.00
Donuts	\$1.00
Cinnamon Rolls	\$1.50
Cookies	\$1.50
Gourmet Cake Slices	\$2.25

BEVERAGES

Hot Beverages

	Tall	Grande
Starbucks Breakfast Blend	\$1.40	\$1.60
Starbucks Mexico Shade Blend (Reg.)	\$1.40	\$1.60
Starbucks Decaf Shade Grown	\$1.40	\$1.60
Starbucks Tea	\$1.25	\$1.40
Starbucks Flavor Shot	\$0.25	
Swiss Miss Hot Chocolate	\$1.25	\$1.40

Gourmet Beverages

Fuze Healthy Infusions		\$1.95
Clearly Canadian Sparkling Water	14 oz	\$1.75
Fiji Natural Artesian Water	16.9 oz.	\$1.50
V-8 Fruit Splash	16 oz.	\$1.50
V-8 Vegetable Blend	12 oz.	\$1.25
Jamaican Ginger Beer	12 oz.	\$1.50
Stewarts Keylime Classics	12 oz.	\$1.50
Stewarts Original Rootbeer	12 oz.	\$1.50
Smart Glacier Water		\$1.75

Fountain Quenchers

	MED	LARGE
	14 oz.	16 oz.
Coca Cola	\$1.00	\$1.25
Diet Coke	\$1.00	\$1.25
Sprite	\$1.00	\$1.25
Cherry Coke	\$1.00	\$1.25
Barqs Rootbeer	\$1.00	\$1.25
Nestea Ice Tea	\$1.00	\$1.25

Frozen Delights

	16 oz.	20 oz.
Bahama Blast Fruit Smoothies	\$2.00	\$2.50
Colombo Frozen Yogurt	\$2.00	\$2.50

A&E

Retta...from back

ance. Well, mistakes need to be made and they were.

Rhode Island College has booked four comedians for a four-month comedy series event held in the newly refurbished Student Union café-mailroom.

The Comedy Series didn't get off to the right start, and by right start, I mean it plummeted like a rock off the Fleet Building. The curtain was opened in January when they brought in Mike Birbiglia, a New York based comedian known for his work at the Improv. Mike, having a quick bit on Comedy Central, came into town under a lot of hype.

Sadly, Mike's jokes weren't strong enough, or even good enough, to hold up the hype.

There were enough stand-up comedian mistakes of that night to fill the Grand Canyon, and if he said, "No one's laughing" one more time, he would have won a free toaster. At one point, he began telling a bit about cell phones, and then paused, ineptly looked at the crowd, and then began a different bit.

He forgot his joke!

When you're job consists of repeating the same stories over and over from one town to another, the margin for mistake is only trekked on seldom. Hopefully the money he grossed in on by selling CD's that night, zero, might give him some inclination to never come back.

Birbiglia had a very weak, pitiful character to him. His jokes dragged the

audience through an hour of never ending one-liners and bad prop bits.

February is Black History month, thus in response the comedy series booked, Retta, a fairly well known black, under-mainstream comedian.

There's a whole lotta' woman in Retta, as well as a whole lotta laughs. Her jokes are both charming and creatively hilarious.

Retta's sense of humor and quick wit is almost as big as she is, and that's big. She does a routine on classical music, heavyset girls, and demon children. Her best bit was by far her take on the chicken in Kentucky Fried Chicken. Her timing is pristine while her jokes are down to earth enough to appeal to all audiences.

Retta's stand-up began a tad slow, but began to pick up as she dipped into her 'A' material that is usually heard at bigger televised shows. She addresses issues far more intelligent than most individuals in her profession. She has both an eye and ear for finding small details and turning them into an entire segment.

It's nice to find a real professional among the crowded sea of stand-up comedians.

Despite the wrong turn with Birbiglia, Retta really pulled the comedy series out of their brief slump.

The next comedy event in the café will be March 18, with Alex House. Topping it off with Jeff Burghart, on April 7.

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3. Have completed at least 30 credits at Rhode Island College

Full-time and Part-time students who fit these criteria are eligible to apply.

Applications are available in the Student Community Government, Inc. office, Student Union Room 401

RETURN NO LATER THAN: March 19, 2004 at 3:00 p.m.

COLLEGE LIFE

Night Guide


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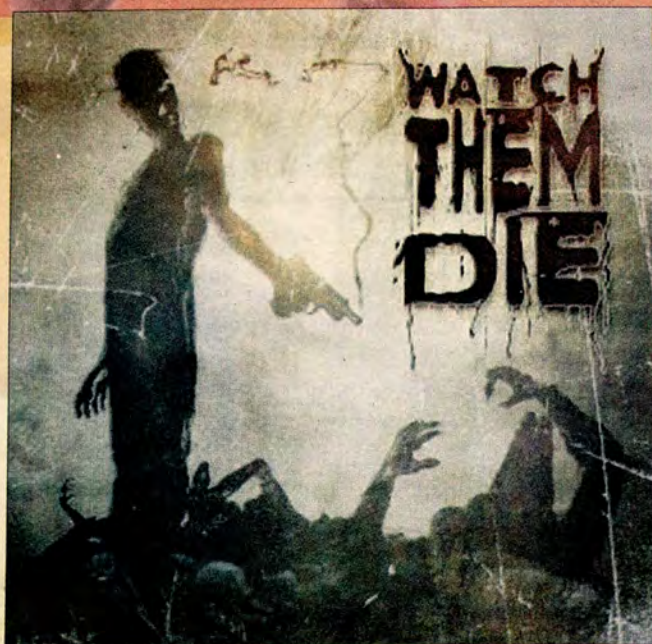
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I Want To 'Watch Them Die'

By: AJ Paglia
Anchor Staff

What do Jesus hating hardcore musicians do when they're not super-sizing your order? They make Jesus-hating music. The band Watch Them Die just released their self-titled album. The CD, seven tracks off from ample, drags listeners through the longest 40 minutes of their life.

Mixing a combination of gorilla tunnel screams and out of sync jigsaw puzzle lyrics, this album earns a top spot on the list of things that need to be loaded into a crate, and dropped into the deepest location in the Pacific Ocean.

It's hard to expect things from these types of bands. They are a hardcore, blasphemous, metal rock group. The best decision would be to not expect anything at all, or even better, avoid listening to them all together.

There has to be at least one or two fans that follow bands like Watch Them Die, but this just isn't a good purchase, even for the hardcore kids.

Looking for positive things in this album is like trying to get blood from a stone, difficult, due to the extreme amount of suck poured into it. The lyrics are mostly lines pulled out of a satanic bible you can purchase at any local Hot Topic, while the background music can be summed up with a loud bass drum, and a guitar played by a cockatoo.

With the stage presence of a piece of granite, Watch Them Die pushes the suck envelope to levels of music so slow, a competitive portion of lint could prove to be viable competition for them.

If by "hardcore band," they meant, "hey, we tried our best," I can forgive and forget. But there is absolutely no excuse for making anyone sit and listen to forty minutes of shrieks about crucifixion.

They try so hard to sound like Marilyn Mason and Rob Zombie, but they're so far gone, correcting their wrongs is like trying to repair that big hole in the ozone.

The best thing about listening to this CD, is it won't kill you



Retta to the Rescue

By: AJ Paglia
Anchor Staff

As the RIC Comedy series began to get frustrating, a jolly plump woman pulled us up from sinking in a sea of awkward pauses and wasted café time.

Usually at the start of a series event, one would want to open strong with a real pulling perform-

see Retta on page 22

Walruses are Taking Over!

By: Alex "Movieman" Martin
Anchor Contributor

Last Friday night I had the luxury of going to see Adam Sandler and Drew Barrymore's new movie, 50 First Dates. Being a big fan of Sandler's films (we'll forget Little Nicky happened), I went into the movie with relatively high expectations. I was happily not disappointed.

The film centers on the story of how aquarium veterinarian Henry Roth (Sandler) falls in love with Lucy (Barrymore) a woman living in Hawaii. Well, there are a few more things then that. After they first meet, Henry soon finds that not all is right with Lucy. He sees her again the next day and she completely forgets him. He continuously has to find new and creative ways to get her to fall in love with him again and again every day.

Henry meets her family and learns that she suffers from short-term memory loss. She injured her head in a car accident a year earlier. She has been living an entire year under the impression that it is still October, when she had her accident. Henry has to keep asking himself, with advice from other characters, how can he make this relationship work? He loves her so much and has decided to skip a trip to Alaska to study walruses he has been planning for months to stay with her. How can he have a long-term relationship with somebody who forgets him every day when she wakes up?

The movie is handled beautifully and the supporting work done by Rob Schneider, as Henry's island buddy Ula was used very effectively and produced some highly comedic moments. It was also quite a pleasure to see the rarely used Dan Aykroyd in this film as Lucy's doctor. I kind of miss the ol' ghost buster in movies and his comedic timing in this film was perfect as always. Also the use of walruses in many of the film's moments was an awesome touch. If you think of all the sea animals that they use prominently in films how often do you get walruses? You never do! That was the beauty of it and the walruses worked well in the story and they were wicked cool to get good looks of up close. With Dan Aykroyd and walruses how can you go wrong?

One of the greatest things I loved about this movie is how it doesn't sell itself short. The way they ended the film couldn't have been better. Of course I'm not about to ruin it for you and tell you what happens, but let's just say it's nice to see a movie that you think is going to end in a happy way, that ends in a happy way, but not the way you thought. I could have never predicted it and I think that is one of the best things about this film.

Sandler and Barrymore slide into their roles effortlessly and their performances are impeccable. Now this movie isn't going for any Oscars, but I sure liked it. It was sweet, funny and smart, while not being to sappy, or conventional. It was a movie that you could sit down and watch, laugh your ass off and have a good time. And really, what is better then that?



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