



## Election draws politicians to PC



TRACY DONADIO '06/The Cowl

U.S. Senator Jack Reed spoke to Providence College students on Monday, Oct. 18.

### U.S. Senator Jack Reed voices his opinion

BY CATE RAUSEO '07  
NEWS STAFF

As more and more students register to vote, the importance that the 2004 presidential election has on student life becomes greater. Last week, the importance of the issue trickled down to '64 hall. U.S. Senator Jack Reed, a Providence native, stressed the importance of the election during his address to PC students on Monday, Oct. 18.

Sponsored by the PC Democrats and the Political Science Department, the

senator talked about his own political views and who he supports in the election.

Expressing his disapproval of the current administration's economic, foreign, and domestic policies, the Democrat articulated his support for presidential candidate Senator John Kerry and vice presidential candidate, Senator John Edwards.

"This is such an important election. All elections are important, but this one has extraordinary consequences," Reed said, adding that, "This election will have huge economic implications."

Reed integrated the election

into student life by explaining its effects on student financial aid. According to Reed, the administration of President George W. Bush reduced funding for student grants and financial aid programs due to an increase in the deficit. Reed said he believes in the value of educating students today, for an improved situation tomorrow.

"If you invest in people, you don't know how high the payoff will be," Reed said, alluding to the ideals of his predecessor, Senator Claiborne Pell.

In addition, the senator emphasized the financial

SENATOR/Page 3

### R.I. Secretary of State stresses the importance of voting

BY JEN JARVIS '07  
NEWS STAFF

Students in Moore Hall last Thursday looked on curiously as a variety of bulky equipment was lugged in and assembled to form a mock voting

CAMPUS NEWS

site, complete with voting booth and ballot counter. The equipment was used to enhance the lecture on voter education delivered by Rhode Island Secretary of State Matt Brown and other members of his office.

Brown spoke at 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 14. The presentation was sponsored by the Political Science Department, the Feinstein Institute for Public Service, and the Providence College Democrats.

Brown began his talk by emphasizing the power young people have in their government, saying they have "energy, persistence, idealism, creativity." Then he commented on the low voter turnout of people ages 18 to 24, citing that only 30 percent vote, compared to 75 percent of senior citizens, who have the highest voting turnout.

Speculating on the apathy of young people in their government, Brown said that they do not think that what the government is doing affects their lives. "That's a very foolish notion," he said, naming wars, financial aid for college, schools, even clean water as government issues directly

associated with the lives of teens and twenty-somethings. "The idea that the government is not relevant to my life is terribly misguided," he said.

The second reason people do not vote is that they do not think their vote counts. But Brown wrote that notion off as "foolishness, or ignorance, or laziness, or all three." One vote is combined with others into groups, and "groups of people who vote have more influence than groups that don't," he said, citing the example of senior citizens.

"Sixteen percent of the population gets over 50 percent of our budget. Why? Because they vote," said Brown. "Is that fair? I think it is," he said. He spoke of a "contract" between civil servants and voters. According to Brown, voters have a great deal, in that they only have to show up at the polls for five minutes every couple of years.

Brown further emphasized this point by stating that local elections in Rhode Island are almost always won by fewer than 100 votes. Also, a handout passed out during the presentation gave examples of decisions influenced by one vote, including the election of President Rutherford B. Hayes and women's suffrage.

A student commented on how Providence College is in two voting districts, breaking up

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## Mob masses following Boston miracle

BY MALLARY JEAN TENORE '07  
ASST. NEWS EDITOR

Cries of victory rang loud and clear Wednesday night as students rushed the Quad in celebration of the Boston Red Sox win over the New York Yankees in Game 7 of the ALCS.

RED SOX-YANKEES

Adorned in Red Sox attire, hundreds of Red Sox fans flooded the

Quad, wildly cheering and shouting their contempt for the Yankees. Some blew horns while others opened champagne bottles and shot firecrackers into the air. Chants of "Who's your daddy," and "Yeah, yeah, good vibes," were heard throughout the Quad.

"I've been a Red Sox fan for my entire life and this is really a definitive moment in my life," said Shane Quinn '07. Megan Martinelli '08 said, "I'm glad I could say I saw the winning game during my first year of College."

With the Red Sox entering their first World Series since 1986, many students said this victory is just the beginning to another streak of wins.

When hope seemed lost last week



KRISTIN ELLIS '05/The Cowl

A large crowd took to the Quad following Boston's victory over the New York Yankees in the American League Championship Series.

with the Yankees in a 3-0 lead, some Sox fans thought the outcome would be dismal. "I lost the faith when we were down 3-0, but I got the faith back quickly," said Kevin Kelliher '05. "I'm in shock, this is just ridiculous."

Amidst the boisterous crowd of fans, small groups of Yankee fans chanted in

support of their team. Some of them lined up in front of Aquinas Hall while others ran in clusters around the crowd, as Red Sox fans yelled at them to "Go to bed."

Yankee fan Meghan Bianco '06 stood in front of Aquinas, shaking her head at the boisterous crowd of fans. "All I have

to say is 1918 and 1986. We're still the best," said Bianco. "They have won the battle but they haven't won the war."

Laura Donovan '07 was one of many students who stood on top of the stairs in front of Aquinas taking photos of the riots. Although a strong supporter of the Yankees, Donovan said she was aggravated by the performance of her team. "It's so frustrating because it's their fault that they lost. There's no excuse for this," she said.

As the Red Sox advanced to rebound from a 3-0 deficit, some students said they were so tuned into the game that they had little time for schoolwork. "The Red Sox are single-handedly making everyone fail out of college," said Crystal Bozigian '07.

Chris Comeau '05 agreed, saying that watching the games took precedence over studying for midterm exams. "I feel like I haven't done any work this entire week," he said. "I've done poorly on one midterm and I'm probably going to not do well on my midterm tomorrow."

About a dozen security guards, about

RED SOX/Page 3

#### COMMENTARY

Jon McGrath '05 offers up a defense of Michael Moore's controversial documentary *Fahrenheit 9/11*.

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#### A&E

Can Ben Affleck's career survive *Surviving Christmas*? Pat Egan '05 has the answer in his exclusive review.

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# NEWS BRIEFS

Compiled by Stephanie Barkus '05

### Student contributes to \$30,000 fundraiser

While many students went home to relax over the long Columbus Day weekend, Colleen O'Neil '08 was busy helping to raise \$30,000 for the Friedrich's Ataxia Research Alliance (FARA).

O'Neil and her family organized and ran a golf tournament and benefit, which took place Oct. 9 in Wakefield, Mass., the proceeds of which went to FARA. Along with the golf tournament, they held a silent auction and a 50/50 raffle. O'Neil ran the raffle with her cousin.

O'Neil said that in previous years, her uncle has held golf tournaments, though this is the

first year that the money went to FARA. O'Neil's cousin was diagnosed with Friedrich's Ataxia, which is a disease affecting the nervous system, 10 years ago.

According to O'Neil, the family plans to make the benefit a yearly event. Those interested in making donations can send them to: Friedrich's Ataxia Research Alliance, c/o The Savings Bank, 357 Main Street, Wakefield, MA 01880.

### ROTC team takes fourth place in Ranger Challenge

A group of students from Providence College's Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) took fourth place at the Eastern Region (ROTC) 1st

Brigade Ranger Challenge, held Oct. 15-17 at Fort Devens in Massachusetts. 24 teams representing schools from New England and New York took part in the event.

Cadets who participated have been training from 5:30 a.m. to 7:30 a.m., Monday through Friday, since the beginning of school, to prepare for events such as the 10K road march, hand grenade assault course, and physical fitness test.

Two teams from PC participated in the event. The members of Team Black, which placed fourth, were Will Cromie '05, Jonathan Schmidt '07, Chris Emmens '06, Mike Miller '07, Tim Aras '07, and Matt Vercollone '07, as well as

Rhode Island College student John Davis and Brown University students Scott Quigley and Mike McBride.

### Sailing Team organizes Walk to Support Survivors of Domestic Violence

On Saturday, Oct. 30, a 5K Walk to Support Survivors of Domestic Violence will be held. The event is being sponsored by the Sailing Team, in conjunction with the Rhode Island Coalition Against Domestic Violence. Proceeds from the walk will go to Sisters Overcoming Abusive Relationships (SOAR).

This is the second year the Sailing Team is organizing the event. Last year, about 100 people participated, according

to Justin Stang '01, coach of the Sailing Team. He said he expects more to participate this year.

The walk starts on Slavin Lawn, and follows a route to and from the area near Fatima Hospital. Registration begins at 11:00 a.m. and the walk starts at noon.

The registration fee is \$10 for students and \$15 for the general public. For students in a group of 5 or more, it is \$8 each. Those wishing to participate can sign up either at the race or beforehand, as members of the team will be in lower Slavin the week prior to the walk. Stang said that the first 50 people who sign up get free t-shirts.

## Campus Calendar for Oct. 22 to Oct. 28

Submit events to [sbarku05@providence.edu](mailto:sbarku05@providence.edu)

### 22 Friday

4 p.m. Student performance hour in Guzman Chapel.

8 p.m. Senior Night in McPhail's.

7 p.m. Caribbean Care Crusaders concert in Fennell Basement; \$3 or non-perishable food donation goes to the hurricane relief fund.

### 24 Sunday

2:30-3:30 p.m. Major/Minor Fair prep session presented by Career Services in Slavin 112.

3 p.m. Congressman Jim Langevin speaks to PC students in Moore Hall I.

4-5 p.m. "Resume writing made easy" presented by Career Services in Slavin 112.

### 26 Tuesday

3:30-4:30 p.m. Major/Minor Fair prep session presented by Career Services in Slavin G29.

6 p.m. Political Science and Black Studies movie lecture in Moore Hall III.

7 p.m. Lecture by Dr. Christopher Kennedy of the History Department in Moore Hall I.

8 p.m. BOP Coffehouse presents Spooktacular in Slavin G01.

1:30-3:30 p.m. Major/Minor Fair in '64 Hall.

3:30 p.m. The Office of Academic Services presents a note taking strategies workshop in Library 104B.

7-9 p.m. Tai chi lessons in Slavin G01.

### 28 Thursday

12:30 p.m.-3:30 p.m. Things for Thursday on Slavin Lawn.

3:30-5:30 p.m. Volunteer Fair in '64 Hall.

4 p.m. History presentation on Count Dracula by a guest lecturer in Moore Hall III.

4-5 p.m. Lecture by Dr. Aida Hurtado in the Feinstein Function Room.

7:30-8:30 p.m. "A Look at the Jesus of the Gospels in the Movies of the Last 100 Years" lecture series in the Campus Ministry Center.

7:30 p.m. A showing of *Fahrenheit 9/11*, followed by a discussion and question and answer period, in Moore Hall III.

### 23 Saturday

### 25 Monday

### 27 Wednesday

### SANCTIONS

Administrative Review  
Oct. 4, 2004  
Charges:  
Visitation: First offense - More than 60 minutes: Student Handbook: P. 12  
Guilty  
Sanctions:  
Fine: \$200.00  
Disciplinary Probation until Dec. 21, 2004

Administrative Review  
Oct. 4, 2004  
Charges:  
Visitation: First offense - More than 60 minutes: Student Handbook: P. 12  
Guilty  
Sanctions:  
Fine: \$200.00  
Disciplinary Probation until Dec. 21, 2004

Administrative Review  
Oct. 5, 2004  
Charges:  
Standards of Conduct  
Student Handbook: P. 36-37, II-1  
Guilty  
Disorderly Conduct  
Student Handbook: P. 37, II 2F  
Guilty  
Sanctions:  
Disciplinary Probation until Dec. 21, 2004  
Fine: \$350.00 - (suspended) subject to re-instatement if additional offenses occur

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# Senator: Unhappy with Bush Administration

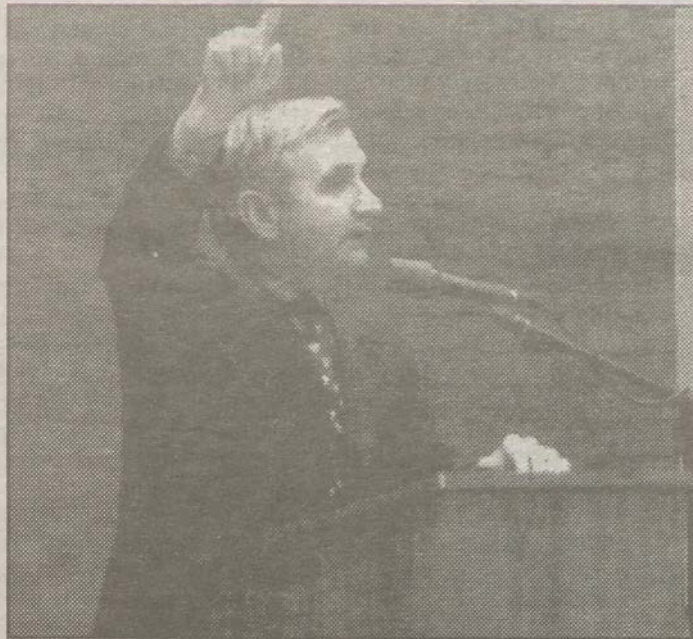
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burden which the lack of social security will leave on our generation. "...this means in 20 years you all will be supporting your parents as well as your children," he said.

Moreover, the senator addressed an issue that concerns many politically conscious student and parent voters—the fear of a draft. Reed expressed his hopes that the administration elected will focus on increasing incentives for military personnel before instituting a draft. "The first instinct is not to have a draft. I have been to Iraq three times, and the men and women there are doing a great job, what they need is more support," Reed said in his reasoning against a draft. "However," he continued, "it is a huge sacrifice for those in the reserve to leave their lives for an extended period of time."

Reed said that because the National Guard and Army Reserve have fallen in their recruiting standards, the government must institute incentives in order to gain more participants and keep the nation well armed. "Right now, our military sources are stretched so dangerously thin," he said.

Condemning the President's allegedly rash actions in Iraq, Reed explained his theory that the current administration left worthwhile endeavors in tracking down terrorists, in order to peruse, what he considers, a fixation with the destruction of the Iraqi



TRACY DONADIO '06/The Cowl

Senator Jack Reed spoke of his support for fellow Senators John Kerry and John Edwards during his speech at PC.

government. Reed made clear his belief that the invasion of Iraq was unnecessary in comparison to other issues surrounding the nation's safety. "We are still not doing enough to keep our nation safe," the speaker said of what he considers insufficient homeland security.

Serving in the Senate with Kerry for eight years, Reed had only encouraging words regarding the presidential candidate. "He is thoughtful and very intelligent," Reed said. "And despite what people may say about his military service, [Kerry's] experience makes him a very valuable commander-in-chief because he knows what its

like to be in combat...he is more prepared for this role than anyone I can think of."

Reed described vice presidential candidate John Edwards as an affable family man. "He comes from a humble background; like many of us, he was the first person in his family to attend college. He and his wife, who is a wonderful person, married right out of law school. He is just a very charming and likable man."

Reed, a 1971 graduate of the United States Military Academy at West Point, was an Army Ranger and a paratrooper, serving in the 82nd Airborne Division as an Infantry Platoon leader, a Company Commander

and a Battalion Staff Officer. Reed was elected as the 47th United States Senator from Rhode Island in 1996 after serving three terms as a member of the U.S. House of Representatives.

Throughout his eight years in the Senate, Reed has focused on issues regarding education, health care, campaign finance reform, international affairs, child care, gun control issues, and the promotion and strengthening of Rhode Island's economy.

Reed said he is confident that his party may be able to regain control of the Senate during the 2004 election. "I think we are in a pretty good position to take over the Senate. We could be picking up three Republican seats, and if it ends up being 50/50, then John Edwards [or Dick Cheney] will be the distinguishing member [of the Senate]." Subsequently, according to Reed, a victory for Kerry would prove to be, "good for the country and good for us [as Democrats]."

The senator urged students to look closely at each Presidential candidate. "Unlike other elections, this is not just two candidates arguing over details; it is two starkly different characters with very different world views," Reed said of Bush and Kerry.

Reed encouraged all students to exercise their right to vote during this crucial election. "It takes everyone to make a democracy work," Reed said.

# Red Sox: Fans take to Quad after victory

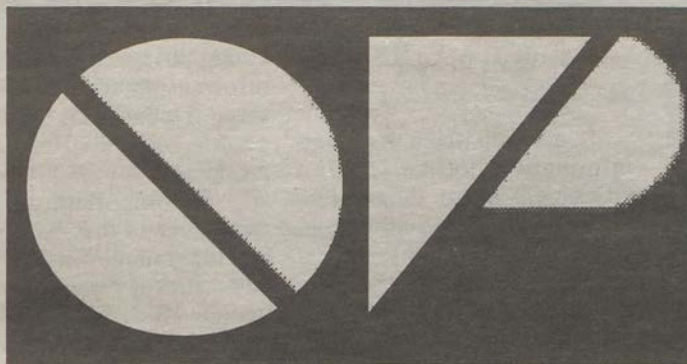
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half of whom worked a double shift because of the anticipated riots, were stationed throughout the Quad to try to prevent disputes between rivaling fans. Security officer David O'Connor said that despite the loudness of the crowd, no students were violent or overly disruptive.

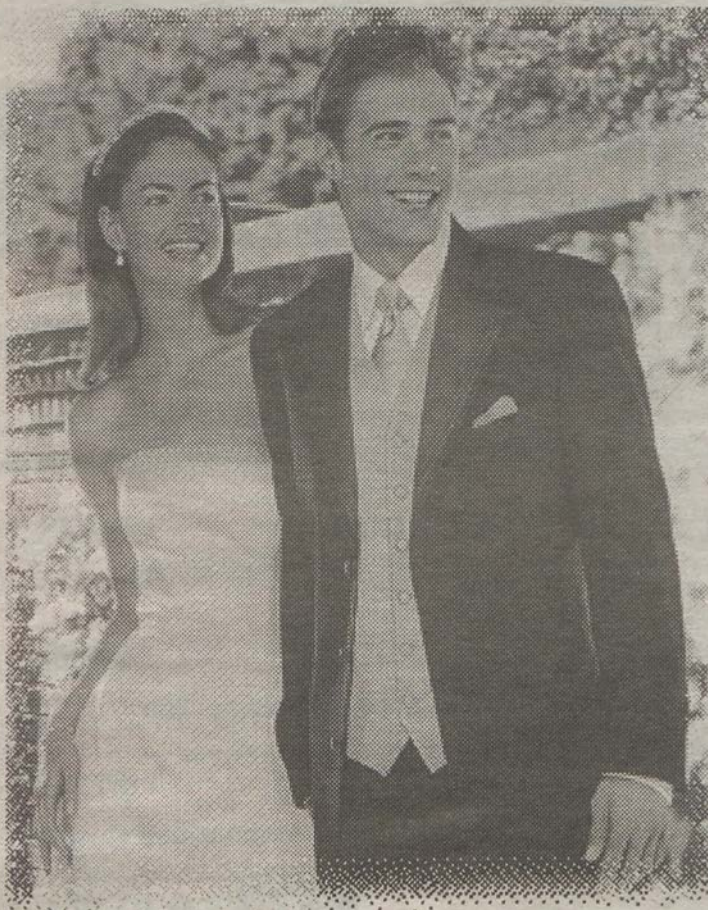
"It's nice to see that the kids are being nonviolent for the most part," he said. O'Connor was surprised that students cleared the Quad about an hour after the riots started, saying, "I've never seen such a large crowd disperse so fast."

McPhail's was a popular spot for students hoping to watch the game in the company of other students. Todd Incantalupo, assistant director of the S.A.I.L. Office, said he was expecting the game would draw a large crowd to McPhail's, and that he did not anticipate any fights between Red Sox and Yankee fans. "We like to offer a place where people can congregate and hopefully coexist," he said.

Whether they watched the game in McPhail's or in their dorm room, apartments or suites, Red Sox fans were all smiles at the game's end. "This just shows what dedication can do," said Lyndsey Ursillo '08. "This is everything I've been waiting for since I was a child. Now I'm just hoping they'll make it all the way."



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# Your right to know...or not to let them find out

BY ERIN ELLINGSEN '07  
NEWS STAFF

Remember that form about a privacy act that appeared in your mailbox at the beginning of the year? Perhaps you signed and returned it.

**COLLEGE NEWS**

Perhaps you trashed it on the spot. Perhaps you put it in your desk to look at later—and it's still sitting there, somewhere. That form was your official notification of your rights under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).

FERPA protects the privacy of student records. "It's a recognition that there's an inherent privacy in your personal information," said Gail Dyer, Assistant General Counsel from the Office of General Counsel at Providence College. She said that the act focuses on "balancing rights and obligations" of students and the administration, respectively. Schools are obligated to inform students yearly of their rights under FERPA. At

the college level, students' rights include the right to inspect and review their academic records, to request amendments to those records, to limit their disclosure, and to file a complaint with the Family Policy Compliance Office if there is a violation of any of the three previous rights.

According to the act's website (<http://www.ed.gov/policy/gen/guid/fpco/ferpa>), parents are granted these rights until the child becomes an "eligible student" by turning 18 or attending a secondary school. Dyer emphasized that all college students, regardless of age, are eligible students. "You can have a 17-year-old freshman, and they're considered an eligible student," she said.

The records protected by FERPA are, according to Dyer, "anything that personally identifies a student," such as a transcript, course schedule, disciplinary record, and financial aid information. So-called "directory information," such as name, address, telephone number, date and

place of birth, honors and awards, and dates of attendance are not included under the act and may be disclosed without the student's consent, according to the website. However, Dyer said that students may block the release of directory information by "filing timely written notice with the Office of Academic Records."

“FERPA provides guidance about the types of situations that would allow notification without prior written consent.”

Gail Dyer

The most common reason for a third party requesting access to a student's record, Dyer said, is when a student applies to graduate school. In this case, students sign a form allowing the College to send the requested records, usually a

transcript and sometimes a disciplinary record, to the graduate institution. If the student spent time on disciplinary probation, the College will only send notice that this occurred. It is the student's responsibility to submit an addendum to the graduate institution explaining the probation.

There are other instances when FERPA allows schools to disclose information without a student's written consent. School officials with a legitimate reason for interest, audits, court-issued subpoenas, and appropriate college officials are all specifically granted access to information on a need-to-know basis.

Parents or guardians, for example, may be notified of an alcohol-related incident if the incident requires "medical assessment and or transport to a hospital or detox center," according to page 42 of the Student Handbook. "FERPA provides guidance about the types of situations that would allow notification without prior

written consent," said Dyer.

Students have the right, upon reviewing their records, to "request that a school correct records which they believe to be inaccurate or misleading," the website states. If the school does not change the record, the student has the right to a formal hearing. If, after the hearing, the school still does not amend the record, the student may place a statement with the record stating his or her contesting view.

In case of a violation of FERPA, students have the right to file a complaint with the Family Policy Compliance Office, which would launch an investigation. If the investigation found that a school had indeed violated the student's privacy rights, in the most extreme case funding may be withdrawn from the institution that disclosed the information. Dyer said that cases rarely go this far. "There has to be a showing of pattern and practice" before such drastic measures are taken, she said.

# Brown: Making sure R.I. isn't the next Florida

continued from front page

any united voting power the students may have had. Brown said that this was probably done purposefully because many people do not want college students to vote. Some people have even tried to pass laws prohibiting college students from voting.

"They understand the power that you have should you choose to use it, so much so that they want to legislatively block you from doing it," Brown said.

Brown concluded his talk by describing what the Secretary of State Office does. In addition to voter education, it is in charge of preparing ballots, maintaining a central voter registry, and overseeing government information to "expose more of what's going on in government to the public," Brown said.



R.I. GOVERNMENT WEBSITE

**Rhode Island Secretary of State Matt Brown**

After his talk, Allyson Hawkins and Maria-Fernanda Escudero, from the Office of the Secretary of State, turned the attention to the machinery they had carried in earlier. They went through the actual process of casting a vote, from arriving at the polls and showing

identification, to marking the ballot, to finally placing it in the ballot counter. "It should take you all of five minutes" to vote, Escudero said.

Hawkins explained the procedure for collecting and counting ballots, and Escudero talked of some particulars about registering to vote. She mentioned the Help America Vote Act (HAVA), which was passed after the voting incidents in Florida four years ago. The act "basically has created provisions to make sure everybody has a right to vote," Escudero said.

For example, even if someone misses the deadlines to register to vote (which was Oct. 2), he or she can register and cast a ballot just for president on Election Day.

Dr. Anthony Affigne, Chair of the Political Science

Department, said this is good news for college students, who are "notorious for waiting until the last minute."

“Sixteen percent of the population gets over 50 percent of the budget. Why? Because they vote. Is that fair? I think it is.”

Matt Brown

In addition, there is a voter information hotline (1-877-GO2-VOTE) to determine one's polling place, registration status, and other voting information. Escudero also mentioned the website [www.nass.org](http://www.nass.org), the National Association of Secretaries of States' website, to learn their deadlines and if you're

registered.

Most, if not all, of the students in attendance at the presentation were registered voters who had voted before. Nevertheless, they found the talk engaging.

"I liked seeing the voting machines right in front of me," said Alyson Laferriere '05. Daniel Kachur '05, agreed, saying it was "good to see the voting process and also to get information on people who missed deadlines and how people can still vote for president."

The important thing to remember is that hardly any circumstance will give authorities a reason to turn a person 18 or older away on Election Day. If you make an effort to go out and vote, said Escudero, "no one has the right to turn you down."

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STUDENT TRAVEL & BEYOND

## Bringing Burma to Providence

BY SARAH VAZ '07  
ASST. WORLD EDITOR

Zin Kyaw Lin '08, a native of Burma, grew up with three TV stations, bamboo huts, and a military junta, but no Red Sox-Yankees rivalry or *Saved by the Bell*. Surprisingly enough, Lin is adjusting to life at PC just fine. The 20-year-old Burmese native is one of several foreign students on a campus renowned for its homogeneity.

Lin, a Buddhist, hails from Rangoon, Myanmar; the capital city of the country formerly known as Burma. Though some PC students may not have the slightest idea as to where this is, the small country has been a focus of world news for years now, and has come to the forefront of international affairs this week as political turmoil has erupted yet again.

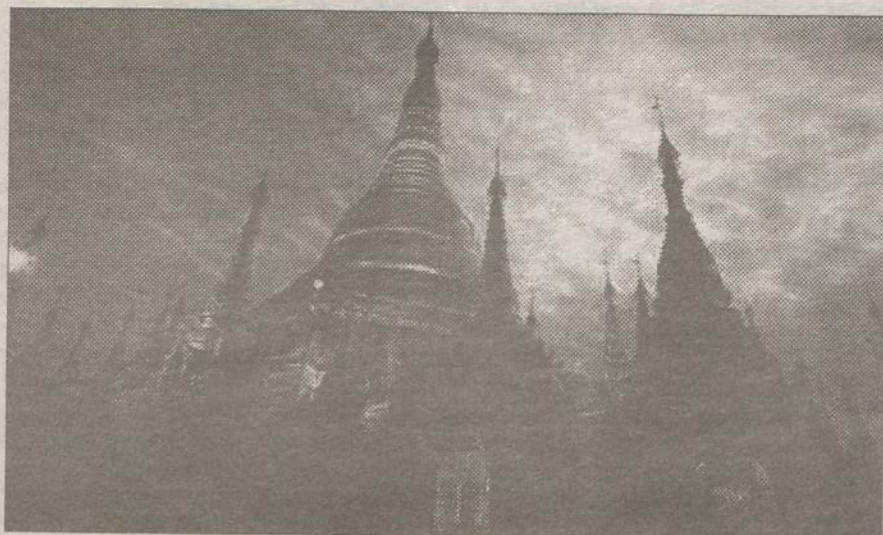
A former British territory, the Southeast Asian country won its independence only to be taken over by the military in 1962. Since that time, the junta, known formally as the State Peace and Development Council (SPDC), has controlled not only the economy but most aspects of daily life in Myanmar.

Myanmar's opposition party is known as the National League for Democracy (NLD) and is headed by a Nobel Prize winning laureate, Aung San Suu Kyi. The party won by a landslide when elections were held in 1990, but "the military did not respect the results," noted Lin.

Suu Kyi and many of her political supporters were later imprisoned, and there has been outrage from the international community over the possibility that these prisoners are being used as slave laborers.

"We had student riots for Democracy in 1988 and many people died there" said Lin noting how a generation of students all but disappeared, but adding that "right now we have gotten back to our normal situation, we have student organizations—universities were closed, but now are open again."

The United Nations has consistently ranked Myanmar as one of the most underdeveloped nations in the world. "I think we are one of the most poorest nations in the world, so I would agree."



Sule Pagoda, Rangoon, a 2,000 year old temple housing a relic of Buddha. CNN

notes Lin.

Myanmar has had a closed economy since 1988, and the harsh existing financial sanctions from the United States, the European Union, and the United Nations were just tightened this week in light of recent events; specifically, what the U.S. is calling a regression of progress on human rights. The U.S. has even refused to acknowledge the country as Myanmar, stating that the country's name change was an authoritarian act and not approved by a recognized government or process thereof.

In addition, the Myanmar Prime Minister's visit to India this week was precluded by the Second International Convention for the Restoration of Democracy in Myanmar, whose 142 delegates issued a declaration against human rights violations there.

Sanctions prohibit government-funding programs and involve blacklisting members of the military junta who wish to receive visas. Lin suggested that this economic situation is what continues to weaken the country.

Lin himself may play a role in the development of his country's economy someday; he is an economics major here at PC and wants to earn his PhD either in the U.S. or London in hopes that he can join the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and work on building stable economies in developing nations such as Myanmar. He hopes that one day Myanmar can be industrialized, and

sees that as a partial solution to the economic problems there.

Despite the political unrest in his country, Lin calls Burma home. He although life is very different. Here people are more "disciplined and organized," he noted. "Students here are very different from Burmese students in Burma. [Here] they work at a time, speak at a time, enjoy at a time; we don't have such a life in Burma, it is very busy."

Although Lin never spoke English before coming to Providence, he is enjoying his time in the U.S. "This is a nice country I think; of course, we are free," he said. "In Burma, a student can't work, there are no jobs for students. Here we have many opportunities. I can do what I want to." Although he says it has been difficult to adjust to listening to the language, most teachers and students have been "friendly, frank, and helpful."

At a time when the U.S. is producing its own political noise in a race for the presidency that remains neck and neck, Lin's presence on campus is an indirect reminder of the United States' role in international politics, and can help all PC students better their understanding of what it means to be an individual member of the world community.

Sources: CIA Factbook, Reuters, AP, Bloomberg

## Ask PC

Do you think Ralph Nader will be a threat to the Democratic Party in the upcoming election?



"No, I think Bush will win either way."

Kyle Anderson '05



"Yes, and I'm so excited about it."

Keeley Wray '05



"No. It's Nader."

Manny Vasconcelos '06



"No, I don't think so."

Jennifer Batista '05



"No, he wouldn't win if his life depended on it."

Tara Bubniak '06

COMPILED BY LAUREN DE MAURO '05  
AND MICHAEL J. MASSEY '06

## High hopes over Malaria vaccine

BY JILL SZARO '05  
WORLD STAFF

Scientists have made critical progress in the search for a vaccine for malaria. According to the British Lancet medical journal late last week, re-

**DISEASE CONTROL** searchers have been trying to develop a malaria vaccine for more than 20 years, however this is one of the first that shows real promise. If this vaccine is successful it would be the first human vaccine against a parasite.

Most researchers agree that in the foreseeable future there will be no vaccine that can wipe out malaria completely or provide lifelong immunity. However, if this vaccine has the potential to turn the disease into a mostly mild infection, the results would be tremendous. Malaria poses a threat to half of the people on this planet and kills a child every 30 seconds. About 500 million instances of malaria occur each year, mostly in the developing world. It also kills between one and three million, most of them African children under the

age of five.

The vaccine, developed by GlaxoSmithKline Bio was tested on 2,022 children between the ages of one and four in Mozambique, where the mosquito-borne virus is widespread. GSK's vaccine is against Plasmodium falciparum, the most severe form of the disease which dominates in Africa. The vaccine proved 30 percent effective in preventing all cases of malaria, and reduced the risk of getting life-threatening forms of the disease by 58 percent. According to Melinda Moree, director of the non-profit Malaria Vaccine Initiative, one of the groups behind the research, "This is a really huge breakthrough. This is the first vaccine that has ever shown that and that is what makes us really sit up and take notice."

However, the fight against malaria is not over yet because the need for further testing of the vaccine means it will not reach the public before 2010. More studies are needed to test children in other parts of Africa, to make sure the effects do not wear off, and to check that the vaccine does not interfere with other childhood shots. According to Moree, "if we

can get a vaccine that gets kids through their fifth birthday without serious illness, they might be able to build up their natural immunity to malaria." However, because of the variability of malaria, it is important to continue the research. If a vaccine is too strong against one strain, children could be more at risk for other strains that they do not have natural immunity to.

This possible malaria vaccine also has economic relevance. Until recently, pharmaceutical companies have had little incentive to develop vaccines for diseases that only affect the poor because they do not provide significant profits. Under this new arrangement, charity groups such as the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation provide funds for research with the precondition that any successful products be sold at low prices to poor countries. The Gates Foundation, which has made global health its primary concern, is working hard to fight the spread of malaria, AIDS, and other infectious diseases.

Sources: Associated Press, MSNBC, Reuters

# Week in Review

COMPILED BY NICOLE CHISMAR '07

## Local:

### Mutiny at the pound

Entering into a predetermination hearing Thursday, the director of Providence's City Animal Pound, Debra A. Isherwood, has been suspended without pay after a "turbulent" 11 month tenure. Police Inspector Luis Del Rio, serving as interim director, was called in over three months ago after a series of complaints about the animal operations and a severe quarantine for the parvo virus. Isherwood, who was hired last November, has fallen due to a host of problems with her employees.

After several harassing phone calls, Isherwood issued for police action. Inspector Del Rio has suggested that he found a hostile working environment at the pound, and since then he has held staff meetings in order to work things out. Ultimately Del Rio stated, "The employees were rebelling against her." Isherwood who declined to comment on the situation, plans to fight for a proper settlement within the upcoming week.

## International:

### Frogs' croaking causes concern

According to a comprehensive study by the online journal, *Science*, approximately a third of the Earth's species of amphibians are in danger of edging toward extinction. The study which in-

cludes frogs, toads, and salamanders estimated that up to 122 species have disappeared since 1980 and another 1900 are in danger of going extinct. Veering towards the equivalent of "tens of thousands of year's worth of extinctions," this decline has been caused by a range of factors that include pollution, climate change, deforestation, and habitat loss.

Unique because of their permeable skin, amphibians are especially sensitive to changing environmental conditions, and as a result 32 percent now face extinction. Through human tampering of the biosphere, "it is entirely possible that other groups of biodiversity may go down the drain," suggested Claude Gascon, a scientific advisor at Conservation International.

## Politics:

### Kerry touring key states

Hoping to reinforce his position on popular themes, Senator John Kerry (D-Mass.) traveled to Wisconsin, West Virginia, and Ohio. In a recent speech to 9,000 seniors at the AARP convention, Senator Kerry quipped, "Mr. President, after four years of jobs lost, families losing health coverage, and falling incomes, is that all you've got?"

On social issues, such as "partial birth abortion" and union of marriage, President George W. Bush attacked Kerry,

touting, "He calls himself the candidate of conservative values but described the Reagan years as a time of moral darkness." Nevertheless, with a little more than two weeks remaining until the election, both candidates are sure to focus their attentions on these aforementioned "battle ground" states, which will be the decisive factor of the final outcome.

## Science:

### Flu vaccine in short supply

British pharmaceutical company, Chiron, has announced this week a suspension of license to make the Flu vaccine due to contamination concerns. Failing to deliver a promised 48 million dose supply of the vaccine to the U.S. Federal Health Organization, Chiron has caused thousands of flu clinics to close across the country. This roughly cut the U.S. vaccine supply in half. However, health officials did announce a plan to allocate its limited 22.4 million doses on reserve. Despite this intervention, lines around doctor's offices and local grocery stores pile up as citizens wait in hope of attaining a flu shot this year. Health and Human Services Secretary Tommy Thompson stated, "the situation doesn't look promising."

Sources: Providence Journal, USA Today

## ODDLY ENOUGH

### Senior crushes car with crutch

A 63-year-old German retiree smashed the windows of a police car with one of his crutches this week after being stranded at a railway station and denied a ride home by police. After finding out the train did not run on Saturday, the senior citizen proceeded to the parking lot to blow off some steam. Police found the senior citizen by the vandalized squad car in the western town of Gronau surrounded by shattered glass and pieces of his crutch.

"That's what you get. I've made a nice mess of it for you," the elder yelled at police. Police estimate the damage to the vehicle totals 3,000 euros (\$3,700). German Police note that for 3,000 euros the senior citizen could have bought himself a small car. The man told police he would have done more damage to the vehicle had his crutch remained intact.

Sources: Yahoo News

—PHOEBE PATTERSON '06

### Quote of the Week

On the No Child Left Behind Act:

"When you put a child on top of the car next to your coffee that's a child left behind."

JON STEWART, of *The Daily Show*

## College News

BY ANDREW BLAYLOCK '05  
WORLD STAFF

The *New York Times* recently released a report finding that Amtrak has paid more than \$186 million over the past 20 years for accidents due to damaged track that it didn't own. *The Times* obtained records under the Freedom of Information Act. In each case, freight railroads were accused of not properly maintaining track which caused derailments killing 53 people and injuring nearly 1300, according to court records.

Amtrak was created by Congress in 1970 in an effort to preserve passenger rail travel. Private railroad corporations transferred passenger travel onto the semipublic corporation. The tracks that Amtrak uses are owned by private railroad companies and freight lines. In negotiating the terms for track usage, The American Association of Railroads, and The Freight Lines Group, did not want to be liable for Amtrak passenger injuries even if their track was the rea-

# Tracking Amtrak's train troubles

son for the injuries. Amtrak agreed to assume coverage for its passengers and employees. The freight railroads agreed they were responsible for their employees should they be injured by Amtrak trains.

In 2002, an Amtrak passenger train derailed near Crescent City, Florida killing four people and injuring 142. A post crash investigation concluded that the tracks, which were owned by railroad company CSX, had faulty track which had not been properly "stabilized" and it was further "concluded that management oversight maintenance had been lax." CSX was found to have no liability in the accident and Amtrak was the liable party responsible for the accident. Three months later another Amtrak train in Maryland derailed. In the investigation that ensued, it was again concluded that poor track maintenance by CSX was to blame for the derailment.

In 1997, after a federal judge questioned the legality of granting private railroads "blanket immunity," Congress rose to the defense of the freight railroads, passing a bill that reaffirmed Amtrak's

legal right to indemnify the freight lines. Two years later, Amtrak officials said they had no choice, but to pay \$63.8 million in punitive damages, including interest, after CSX was found to cause a fatal Amtrak crash in Lugoff, South Carolina. A judge overseeing the settlement called CSX's negligence, "borderline criminal." "It's a bitter pill to swallow," said Cliff Black, an Amtrak spokesman, "it hurts our bottom line. It hurts our treasury."

The freight railroads say indemnification protects them from risks they would not face if Amtrak did not use their track network. According to CSX, Congress "balanced that demand on private property by calling upon passenger railroads to bear the costs of insuring against potential liabilities." Freight lines have also argued that indemnities agreements are common in the industry; many companies run their trains on track owned by others. They dismissed the idea such agreements discourage attention to safety. "We suffer great economic harm when our freight trains have accidents, and we go to great lengths to prevent

accidents of all types," said Kathryn Blackwell, a spokesman for Union Pacific.

Elliot Newell '06, who travels via Amtrak regularly, said, "I am concerned because Amtrak is the only passenger rail in the United States, it's even subsidized by the government, there should be excellent tracks at all times no matter who owns them. The government should confirm the maintenance of the tracks because so many people travel on Amtrak, especially during the holiday season."

Jenn Magee '07, who has experienced train delays while traveling on Amtrak in the past, says, "the derailments and accidents further add to the problems that are often experienced when traveling Amtrak. I guess you really just take safety for granted when you are on the train."

Sources: *New York Times*, Associated Press

## Weekly Spotlight

BY RYAN BOWLEY '08  
WORLD STAFF

Before the election of 2000, Ralph Nader was most commonly associated with consumer advocacy and social justice. He was first recognized in the 1960s with an expose on the automobile industry, a book entitled *Unsafe at Any Speed*. Since then, Nader has championed manufacturing and food-processing standards, in an effort to better inform consumers of the quality of the goods they buy. He carried this theme to the corporate world, which he has often condemned for fraud and corruption.

As an activist, Nader has founded many organizations that deal with issues from automobile safety to environmental concerns and corporate responsibility. Nader ran for president in 1992 and again in 1996. He did not actively campaign in either election, and in the 1996 election, spent only a few thousand dollars. It was not until the

# Presidential Candidate Ralph Nader

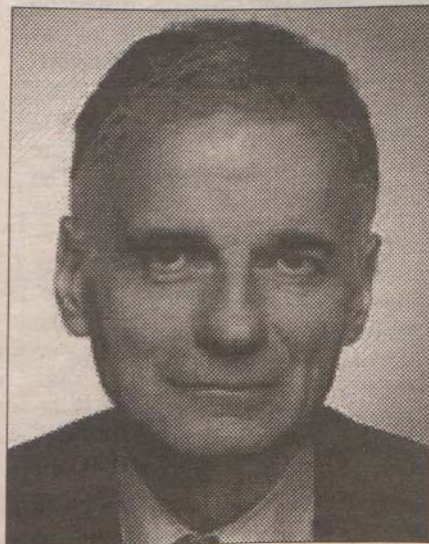
election of 2000 in which Nader fully took on the burden of a full-fledged presidential campaign.

As a third party Green candidate in 2000, he was on the ballot in 43 states and received almost 3 million votes. He is blamed by many Democrats for having cost Al Gore the election.

The Green Party is seen as one of the most liberal of national political parties. Their platform today includes issues such as "ecological wisdom," nonviolence, and "personal and global responsibility." The Green Party believes in a 'living wage' which reflects the real value of a person's work."

Today, Nader runs as an independent, and his prospects are much more bleak than they were four years ago. Despite this, Nader will appear on the ballot in New York, New Jersey, and in every New England state except Massachusetts, where he is asking for a write-in vote.

Nader and his running mate Peter Camejo are stressing a few major issues in this election. For education, they believe that it is the duty of state and local



Associated Press

**Nader, a promoter of the environment and the safety of consumers, is running independently.** governments to care for the public education system. The campaign rejects high-stakes testing and school voucher programs. With respect to solutions for

poverty, the campaign espouses what it calls "truly progressive taxation," "living wages for all workers," and seeks to "restore the critical social safety net." Like his campaign in 2000, Nader focuses much of his energy on a rejection of the two-party system.

Nader rejects the notion that he is simply a spoiler candidate. It is apparent that Nader would like to be seen as an independent voice for change, and an alternative to Republicans and Democrats. "We're all held hostage to this two-party, winner-takes-all dictatorship." His opponents claim that history will view him as a self-centered agitator who fights for notoriety for its own sake.

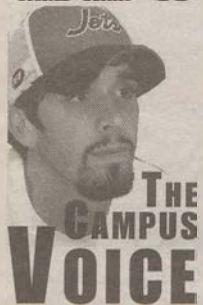
Ralph Nader was born in 1934 in Connecticut, the son of a Lebanese immigrant. He graduated magna cum laude from Princeton, and graduated from Harvard Law School in 1958. He then began the practice of law in Connecticut. He did not receive notoriety until his first book in 1965.

Sources: Reuters, Encarta, Biography

The Campus Voice:  
Gift me a break

"Raia, what's up? Why aren't you getting angry with people on campus anymore? I mean, come on, that's the whole reason we read your column. You actually write the things we think." I swear on the

MIKE RAIA '05



possibility of a John Kerry presidency that someone said exactly this to me on Friday night in McPhail's. Well, here it goes.

Only a college would presume the charity of its community. Only a college has the ability to make families eager and excited to spend the equivalent of an average American income.

Every college does it, so don't write letters saying that I'm unfairly criticizing the Dominicans or that I should transfer because I chose to come here. But, let's take a look at the options the Senior Giving Program committee gave the Class of 2005:

**Moore Hall renovations:** Make the CIV program more consistent with an actual liberal-arts program instead of a third theology requirement and this option might be entertaining.

**Financial support for the future fitness center:** Shouldn't the athletic department's supposed profit help cover this? Oh, that's right. Hockey hasn't turned a profit in years and the basketball team is too busy finding marketing firms to build a positive image after last year's (in-court) trials and (on-court) tribulations. It's OK, though, because the full-ride "scholar"-athletes already have their own weight room.

**A Rugby score board:** Half the team works at Louie's. Tell them to hold their own Drink-A-Thon fundraiser. If our gift should benefit any organization on campus, let it be one that will work toward building a media outlet that does not have an administrative Big Brother.

**Financial assistance for Albertus Magnus:** I think biology is stupid, but that's because I almost failed it in high school; so I wouldn't contribute to this. For the more tolerant (and smarter), this would otherwise seem like a legitimate choice.

**A fence along Eaton Street:** The "choice" we elected by a 57 percent mandate.

Am I mistaken, or is this College not already embarked on a multi-million dollar capital campaign to finance the renovation of this campus. We just opened a \$20 million residence hall. We're only a few weeks away from christening the legacy to our current president—his name is on the new arts center. Yet the College is still locked in \$6 million in debt.

Why are we voting on aesthetic campus renovations when the College is already committed to that project through the ongoing capital campaign? Where is the call for the betterment of the student body? Where is the push to make PC a more beguiling choice for students expecting excellence? Where is the outreach to future generations of PC graduates?

How about building an endowment for a full-scholarship assisting a student from Providence that would otherwise not be able to afford the \$30,000+ tuition?

We could put together a neighborhood improvement proposal to generate a friendlier town-and-gown relationship with the Smith Hill and Chad Brown communities.

Wouldn't the idea of social betterment be the more in line with the College's supposed sacred mission statement than cosmetic improvements? Guess not.

The entire idea of a senior gift at any institution is presumptuous, selfish, and demeaning. Melissa Harris '02, the program officer in the Office of Institutional Advancement, was quoted two weeks ago in this paper saying, "[We] hope that many seniors want to show their gratitude for what the College has given them."

We are gracious. But our families have already donated more than \$100,000 in tuition.

Ms. Harris, I know you're just doing your job, but stop presuming our gratitude.

Let me know how I did in the debate. Yell at my radical views. Come on, let's get a little feedback.  
CampusVoicePC@yahoo.com

Fresh food for thought at PC

BY CHRIS ACKLEY '06  
ASST. COMMENTARY EDITOR

How often do you think about the food you eat? Where it comes from? Who grows it? How they grow it?

These are all important questions that rarely cross our mind because the food is hot and we are hungry. This is especially true in a college setting. Many students are on a meal plan and have virtually endless supplies of food laid before them at the swipe of a card. They are completely detached from what they eat.

This is a common trend in our country. In only a few generations our country's relationship with our food has changed dramatically. 40 years ago, 50 percent of the population took some part in growing their own food. This growing varied in involvement from subsistence farming to backyard gardens, but growing food was a part of life. Some of my father's favorite childhood memories involve raiding the many gardens in his neighborhood, warring with over-ripe tomatoes, and fleeing from crazy Mr. Louis who would shoot at him and his friends with a rock salt rifle. Those days are gone and this once green-thumbed nation has lost touch with our soil. Now, only roughly two percent of the country produces their own food in any capacity.

This decrease in local food production has produced a highly complex system of transportation and

importation that is not to be taken for granted. Most cities in our country have a food supply of around seven days. Although this seven day stockpile is constantly being replenished and rarely comes into jeopardy, circumstances that could affect our country's food system are not unforeseeable. So how do we as a community adapt to these changes whether they are gradual or possibly immediate?

“ This once green-thumbed nation has lost touch with our soil. Now, only roughly two percent of the country produces their own food in any capacity. ”

The Providence Urban Agriculture (UA) initiative is a comprehensive, grassroots, multi-system approach to strengthen and demonstrate the impact of urban agriculture on community food security in Providence. The UA hopes to unite those in the community who are already involved with local food production and work towards even greater advancements. By the year 2007, it is the goal of the UA to have 1,000 Providence residents growing food.

One of the leading organizations in the UA movement is the Southside Community Land Trust (SCLT). SCLT is a non-profit organization in South Providence that already facili-

tates a network of 11 community gardens servicing over 200 families, a 3/4 acre certified organic farm which supplies food for three local farmers markets, numerous school gardens, and public education programs.

As you can see, there is a thriving food movement in Providence, and it continues to grow. So where do we fit in? We can be more conscious of what we eat and where our food comes from. We can support local growers and buy from weekly farmers markets in Providence. However, most importantly, we can get our own hands dirty and grow more food. We can do this individually with small scale window growing and backyard gardening, but the development of a school garden here at PC is ideal.

The benefits are many. First of all, creating a garden serves to beautify the campus or surrounding area. Second, a garden would create various opportunities for involvement, thus strengthening the PC community. Third, students could grow and eat healthy vegetables either supplementing their grocery bill or making their trips to Raymond Cafeteria less frequent. Finally, PC could call themselves proud members of Providence's "Guerilla Gardening" movement and do their part to overgrow the state.

Source: Southside Green

Reality bites, reality TV that is

BY COURTNEY ARKELL-FARGEORGE  
COMMENTARY STAFF

Reality shows seem to have taken over primetime television. Every season a new reality show is added to every major broadcasting station's lineup, based on a more ridiculous concept than any already existing show. The entertainment value of the majority of these shows normally comes from the spectacle of other people competing maliciously for some sort of grand prize. Whatever happened to the sitcom? Why have we replaced innocent comedies with vindictive reality television?

The first problem with reality television is that it does not really live up to its name. There is nothing that is actually real about any of the shows. They mostly consist of placing random groups of people in artificial situations. For example, the now classic reality show *Survivor* documents the lives of people who have been deserted by the show's producers in remote locations. Also, every week on *The Apprentice*, viewers see Donald Trump's contestants compete in mock business endeavors and get "fired" from a job that does not really exist.

What I consider to be the most disturbing characteristic of many new reality shows is that they are focused on body image. There are various plastic surgery reality shows, like

*Extreme Makeover*, but there are also competition-based reality shows that focus on achieving a certain body type. These shows are the most repulsive genre of reality television. *America's Next Top Model* is supermodel Tyra Banks' brainchild where young girls compete to get a contract with a top modeling agency. Banks claims to have "plus-sized" girls on the show but they are only plus-sized because they do not fit into a model's sample size. The "plus-sized" girls are greatly ridiculed about their weight on the show and none of them has ever won the competition.

The newest addition to this genre is *The Biggest Loser*, which is scheduled to premiere this week. On this show, overweight contestants will go through an intensive weight loss camp. They will compete with each other to lose weight and whoever has lost the most at the end of the season will win \$250,000. While this show claims to be working for the health of its contestants, it will most likely exploit the emotional and physical struggle of its contestants to become thin.

New reality shows like these continue to appear because there is a demand for them. Since reality television has appeared on the major broadcasting stations, ABC, CBS, and NBC, it has been well-received by the masses. Shows like *The Apprentice*, *Survivor*, *America's Next Top Model*, and *Extreme Makeover*

have been running for multiple seasons. People like to watch other people be humiliated and criticized on national television.

Reality shows are normally aired between 8 and 10 on weeknights where they take up the timeslots that used to be allotted to sitcoms and family programming. Sitcoms are now often poorly made and short-lived because they don't attract enough viewers. People seem to find laughing at the shortcomings and failures of others on reality television more amusing than the content of current sitcoms, and the quality of sitcoms may be declining because networks are more apt to put money into new reality shows which would probably be more successful.

Reality television shows have replaced sitcoms as the most popular genre of primetime television. The mean-spirited competitiveness of reality shows seems to appeal to more viewers than relatively mild-natured sitcoms. Viewers are fascinated by reality shows but are bored by the sitcoms that they used to watch religiously before the days of reality television. Most likely reality television will end up being a fad. This will be for the best since the reality shows that are on television now do nothing but exploit of the failures of others as entertainment.

# Letters to the Editor:

## The real source of the draft bills

PC Democrat President Dan Kachur's letter to the editor in the October 14 edition of *The Cowl* states that President Bush may be planning secretly to re-establish the draft. As evidence, he states that there are twin bills currently in Congress (HR 163 and S 89) that will reinstate the draft. Two minutes worth of Internet detective work reveals that Congressman Charles Rangel from New York submitted the HR 163 bill. Senator Ernest Hollings from South Carolina has submitted the S 89 (senate) bill.

It is somewhat amusing to note that both bill sponsors are democrats. Perhaps Mr. Kachur believes that President

Bush is secretly conspiring with the two democrats to push forward with his draft reinstatement agenda. Or maybe Mr. Kachur is deliberately omitting the party affiliation of the sponsors to mislead the readers. Either way, this bit of pestilence has become the common practice of today's media.

Part of our right to vote includes educating ourselves on the political issues. We have to do our homework and scrutinize both sides of every issue. This is the only way to be fair and balanced.

JAY DONADIO

## A special Thank You from a PC professor

I want to thank my many friends and colleagues who have called, sent cards and have said prayers for me during my recent illness. I had a stroke from a blocked carotid artery. I had an operation on my arteries and the surgeon nicked my vocal cords so now I can not swallow, eat or drink, therefore I have a feeding tube in my stomach and my voice is very weak.

I would like to write or call each of you individually and I will later but now I am just too weak to do that. I can hardly open an envelope because one arm and hand are immobilized. Now it is true what they used to say about me, "He can't fight his way out of a paper bag!" and "He can't even find his own socks!"

It is really gratifying to know I have

so many true and loyal friends and their support has been wonderful. It is just a bad way to find this out. PC has been very good to me, and although it has been a hassle being out of network with United Healthcare, they have been cooperative also. I am getting physical, occupational and speech therapy and am working hard to get better soon. I have enjoyed my 40 years at PC and I would not change my life for any other. I do not even look upon it as a job, but as the most enjoyable thing in my life. Love to all. And I did get some good news. I saved money on my car insurance.

HERR PRIMEAU

(OR AS SOME MIGHT SAY, HAIR PRIMEAU)

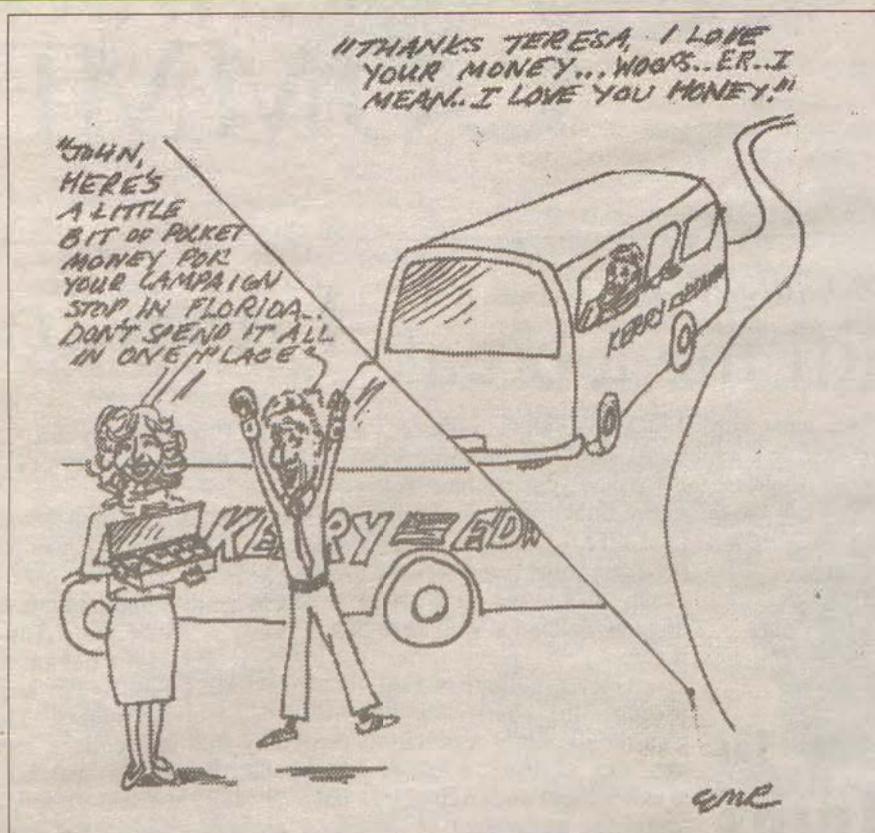
## A question for *The Campus Voice*

I definitely agree with the Catholic Church's opposition to embryo stem cell research. Since presidential hopeful Sen. John Kerry has stated he will pursue, possibly with federal funding (your and my tax dollars), this research more vigorously if elected on Nov. 2, one cannot help but wonder what *The Campus Voice's*, that is Mike Raia's '05 position concerning embryo stem cell research. Does he favor it or not?

A simple "yes" or "no" from *The Campus Voice* to Sen. Kerry's position will suffice in next week's edition of *The Cowl*. I sincerely hope that *The Campus Voice* will not be "chicken" and answer this letter. Veritas, *Campus Voice*.

Watch your backs, as terrorism is still with us. Support our military, and God bless America. Peace.

RUSSELL P. DEMOE '73



by Erin Rice '06

# Tangents and Tirades

**Not the usual Sunday drive** If Hell exists, I'm positive that my punishment would consist of driving through Boston for all eternity. I have not been there once without getting completely lost in its sinister web of one way streets and clueless residents. Believe me, I've used printouts from Mapquest.com and everything, but simple instructions like "stay on Massachusetts Ave." are thwarted by bends, turns and forks in the road. I think I'm more excited than anyone for the Big Dig to be completed. As far as I'm concerned, Boston has ruined itself above ground, perhaps it has a chance to redeem itself underground. — Jon McGrath '05

**Fence-sitters left of the fence** Has anyone else noticed that the so-called "fence-sitters" that the networks interview after each debate tend to have their minds made up already? It seems to me that the networks grab a bunch of Kerry-ites, stash them in a room, and tell them to claim they haven't yet decided for whom they are going to vote. And the questions they are given are loaded! "You're a member of the struggling working class, Ms. Ketchupbottle; what did you think of the Senator's promise to roll back the President's tax break for the wealthiest one percent of Americans?" Then the poor woman gets exactly five seconds to respond. And what's she gonna say? "Well, gee, I'm more of a proponent of the flat tax, myself..." No, she'll flash her pearly whites at the camera and mutter, "Oh I think that's just wonderful," through her steely grin. — Leslie Nevola '06

**Showing respect where it's due** It's not every day that a U.S. Senator visits Providence College. With that said, I was truly excited that Jack Reed took time out of his busy schedule to come visit us and answer our questions. Reed made some opening remarks and then answered questions from the students and faculty members. This was conducted in a constructive and respectful manner. When Reed said that he was to answer his last question, a student had the gall to ambush the senator on his voting record regarding gun control. The student's question was not asked in a constructive, respectful way, but was meant to embarrass the senator and make him defend his record. I think this student should be embarrassed by his behavior, and he should apologize to both the senator and the PC community for it. It's bad enough that nobody shows up to political events at this school; disrespecting politicians won't make them want to pay attention to this school any more or encourage them to take time out of their schedules to speak to us.

— Adam Roach '06

**Turn up your radio** As if the FOX network hasn't done enough damage to all of our lives, they are currently threatening to ruin one of the most cherished parts of American culture—playoff baseball. I didn't think that any baseball announcer could be less perceptive and more obnoxious than ESPN's Chris Berman, but FOX's Tim McCarver easily surpasses "Boomer" in both categories. McCarver ended one dramatic game by flatly saying "Did that man do it again? Yes he did." I think he stole that line out of a homeless man's change cup. —Chris Ackley '06

## COWL LETTERS POLICY

*The Cowl* welcomes guest commentaries and Letters to the Editor from all members of the Providence College community, as well as outside contributors.

All submissions must include the writer's name, signature, and a phone number where they can be reached. Articles will be printed as space permits. Letters should be no more than 250 words in length. Guest commentaries should be limited to 700 words in length and only one will be published per week. *The Cowl* editorial board and its administrative supervisors reserve the right to edit articles and letters for space and clarity.

However, if there is a portion you specifically wish to remain unchanged, please inform the Editor-in-Chief. Letters to the Editor are the opinions of the writer only

and do not reflect the viewpoint of *The Cowl* staff.

Submissions must be delivered, mailed or faxed to *The Cowl* office no later than 5 p.m. on the Monday before publication. Mail submissions to Box 2981 Providence, RI 02918, fax to 401-865-1202, submit online at [www.thecowl.com](http://www.thecowl.com), e-mail to [thecowl@providence.edu](mailto:thecowl@providence.edu), or hand deliver to *The Cowl* Office in Slavin G05. Call 401-865-2214 with any questions.

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# Keep an open mind for a different view

BY JON MCGRATH '05  
COMMENTARY STAFF

I finally got a chance to see Michael Moore's controversial film *Fahrenheit 9/11*, which opened this summer. To save you the suspense, I will come right out and say that I was not offended in the least by this movie. In fact, I thought it was done quite well.

**POLITICS**

Moore has been criticized for being extremely biased in his work and for only showing one side to issues. I completely agree with this statement, and in the past I have been offended by Moore's unfair journalistic tactics. For example, there is a scene in Moore's Academy award-winning *Bowling for Columbine* where Moore tricks actor and NRA president Charlton Heston into a sit-down interview at the Heston estate. Moore systematically humiliates Heston to the point where I, as the viewer, felt unnecessarily uncomfortable.

But I failed to see the same type of ferocity in *Fahrenheit*. Sure, there were a few overly emotional scenes. But it must be considered that we are talking about war and that people are out there losing family members everyday. I personally feel that much of the criticism aimed at Moore is unfounded.

I cannot understand what people are talking about when they say that the figures and statistics in *Fahrenheit* are inaccurate and that the movie lies to the viewer. Hardly any numerical figures were given in the movie, and if they were, I have already forgotten them. The parts in the movie that impacted me the most were the scenes explaining how the

Bushes are undoubtedly tied not only to Saudi money, but in many instances, bin Laden money. Both George Bush Sr. and George W. were employed by the Carlyle group, a corporation that deals in telecommunications and defense, in which the bin Laden family had large sums of money invested. You can probably deduce that the Carlyle Group stands to gain a considerable amount of money in times of war. On behalf of the Carlyle Group, George Bush Sr. met with Osama bin Laden's half-brother on the eve and morning of September 11.

These things happened, and they can be proven despite anyone's criticism. The Bushes, the bin Ladens, The Saudi Royal Family, Enron, Halliburton, and numerous oil companies are all connected in this web of questionable dealings. But I, like many Americans, did not know this information. *Fahrenheit 9/11* is not so much a documentary as it is a collection of facts and opinions that, when thrown together, makes President Bush look like a poor leader for our nation.

Is it biased? Of course it is. The point of the film is to show America just how horrible Pres. George W. Bush is, and I was aware of that when I rented the film. But just because it is biased does not mean it should be avoided.

I felt a need to write this article because *Fahrenheit 9/11* is an example of a growing problem in America — we are



not listening to each other. Conservatives will call this film completely false and unpatriotic, but the fact of the matter is that most of them have not even seen it. In my opinion, I think that many conservatives are simply afraid of the film. They are afraid to confront their decision to back Bush's distressing economic plans, and his unrelenting military

agenda. To my amusement, they support him even with his complete lack of public speaking skills.

Perhaps for those same reasons, I refuse to watch *Fox News*. Why should I watch *Fox's* programs when all it does is twist the facts to fit its conservative agenda? But I realize that my decision to avoid *Fox News* and similar media is detrimental to my overall understanding of key political issues. We may not want to, but we need to experience things that make us question our opinions.

After all, I was a happy little Republican before I studied abroad in London last year and realized that people hated me solely because George W. Bush is my president. That is the beauty of opinions — they are meant to change over time when new information presents itself. It is only when we refuse to take any type of criticism that we experience this cold political environment where people are afraid to speak their minds.

So do yourself a favor — regardless of your political stance, at least consider watching *Fahrenheit 9/11*. You do not have to agree with the film, but to avoid it altogether is to prove that a complete political insecurity exists in our country. As the election nears, we should try to open ourselves up to all perspectives so that when the day comes to choose a president, we can make a truly educated decision.

# Afghani women get first taste of democracy

BY ERIN RICE '06  
COMMENTARY STAFF  
AND  
CHRIS ACKLEY '06  
ASST. COMMENTARY EDITOR

It was just over a week ago when the women of Afghanistan made history by voting in the first presidential election since the fall of the Taliban. The right to vote was granted to the women of Afghanistan following the adoption of a new constitution back in January that "designates Afghanistan as an Islamic republic where men and women have equal rights and duties before the law."

**WORLD**

Of the 10.5 million registered voters in Afghanistan, over 41 percent of them are women. This does not include hundreds of thousands of refugees in Iran and Pakistan who were also able to vote; almost half of those voters were women. These large numbers are astounding since many women anticipated hostility and possibly even violence against them. Although the new constitution declares women and men as equals, there is a long history of social conditioning that has left a large part of the population still believing that women are inferior to men. These people believe that women should not be educated, nor given suffrage.

It is because of attitudes like this that women in Afghanistan have an illiteracy rate of roughly 80 percent and are largely uninformed about the election and its candidates. This is the biggest argument against the franchisement of Afghani women. However, those complaining are the very same people treating them as second class citizens and enabling this ignorance.

Despite this strong opposition, women have come a long way in Afghanistan since the days of Taliban rule. Amazingly, one of the 18



Above: a group of Afghani women wait for their new voter identification cards. Right: Afghani woman casts her first vote in the recent election. Below: a political leaflet celebrates this new right for women in Afghanistan.



news.bbc.co.uk



godoubleplusblessamerica.org

candidates running for president is a woman by the name of Jalal. BBC News Online interviewed several Afghan men before the election, and few seemed optimistic about a female in the election. A man named Nishanud from Khost, Afghanistan commented, "In general people are afraid, especially in rural areas. Nonetheless, I will vote for the female candidate because she did not take part in the war. I think women are more sensible and peaceful. My wife will also vote for her." A resident of Kabul

named Fridoon stated: "People here do not yet believe that a woman could become the president of the country. But it is a positive thing to have a woman among the candidates." Although it was unlikely Jalal would win the election, it is astounding that women are represented by a candidate in their first true election. Jalal remains a symbol of hope for future female generations and a sign that progress is being made.

While the women of Afghanistan have turned out in large numbers to

exercise their new voting right, there are still many women around the world who are not so lucky. In fact, there still remain over 20 countries that do not allow women to vote. I cringe at the thought of the many American women who take their right to vote for granted. These Afghani women faced violent threats when they vote, and yet they did it anyway. If the candidates in our own election are not giving you a reason to vote, then do it for the sake of the women who fought for suffrage, and for those women who still do not have the right to vote today.

No matter what the voter turnout for the women of Afghanistan in this coming election, there will be positive ramifications. The struggle for equality will take time, but recent trends in female voter turnout in our own country bode well for Afghani women.

Historically, men have voted in higher numbers in America than women. However, with improving social conditions for women over the last few decades, females have been frequenting the ballot box in force. In fact, female voter turnout has surpassed that of males in the last four elections.

In the 2000 Presidential election women voted at a rate of 51 percent and men only had a 48 percent turnout rate. This upward trend can be attributed to women's increasing education rates and greater participation in the labor force.

Now that women in Afghanistan have a political voice, hopefully they will be able to make themselves heard. The initial results may not be ideal, but at least women can take an active role in reshaping a nation on the mend. There is no question that this is the first step in a long journey towards equality.

(Source: <http://news.bbc.co.uk> and [www.fairvote.org](http://www.fairvote.org))

# Bidding a fond farewell

*Elliott Smith's final record struggles to find its place in the shadow of the troubled singer's death*



EPIGRAPH

BY BRIAN WALL '05  
A&E STAFF

*From a Basement on the Hill*  
Elliott Smith  
Anti- / Epitaph

It occurred to me as I began to write this review that I frequently refer to Elliott Smith by his first name. He's "Elliott," not "Smith" in the way that we refer to Lennon, McCartney, or Hendrix. I also think that if you are a fan of his work, he's probably just "Elliott" to you, too. This seems natural because his songs feel so personal; by the time you finish an Elliott Smith album, you feel like you know him well enough to be on a first name basis. When he died a year ago, I sat at my computer and said "Elliott's dead," which confused my roommate. As my friend and colleague Dan Devine wrote last year in *The Cowl*, "You might not know who Elliott Smith was, but he's pretty important to me."

One year after his death, *From a Basement on the Hill*, a collection of Elliott's final recordings, was released (appropriately enough) on Epitaph

ALBUM  
REVIEW

Records. Elliott struggled with writing and recording the album for several years (his last record, *Figure 8*, came out in 2000), reportedly writing enough new material for a double album. After his death, Elliott's family enlisted two of his friends (producer Rob Schnapf and former girlfriend Joanna Bolme) to finish the tracks based on notes and arrangements Elliott left behind. Schnapf and Bolme mixed the tracks and gathered 14 of these songs (and one interlude) for the final record.

The first track, "Coast to Coast," sets the tone for much of the record. Distorted guitar and rough drums create a cloudy instrumental beneath Elliott's equally murky lyrics. "I've got no new act to amuse you / I've got no desire to use you." The song ends with two voices rapidly reading poetry into each ear separately. These voices make the listener uneasy when used in conjunction with the disjointed instrumental arrangement and defiant lyrics, starting the album off with an ominous tone.

In the wake of Elliott's death, his usually melancholic lyrics assume added baggage. Lines detailing alienation, frustration, or confusion become darker than on his previous records. However,

the darkness isn't nihilistic, but rather an obstacle that Elliott seems to come to terms with in his songs. "I can deal with some psychic pain," he declares in "A Fond Farewell," one of several "brighter" songs. How Elliott deals with this pain becomes the subject of his songs. "Every wave is tidal / if you hang around / you're going to get wet," he sings in "King's Crossing," referring to internal demons themselves as "frustrated fireworks inside your head."

The lyrical issues seem to manifest themselves in the instrumental tracks as well. "King's Crossing" begins with piano and vocal harmonies that slowly build up. Electric piano and guitar join when the main vocal enters and guitars and cymbals deliver the "frustrated fireworks" when the song finally reaches its climax. The arrangements might sound rough but this is by design; the chaos is as carefully crafted as the quietest moments are, and it all sounds impressive.

Many of these selections, such as "A Fond Farewell," "Pretty (Ugly Before)," and "Twilight" are among the best songs Elliott ever wrote and performed. As with all his best songs, Elliott's voice evokes vulnerability in the listener,

inviting us into his fragile world. Even behind all the layers of distorted guitar and cynical lyrics, we can't help but feel like Elliott is sharing his feelings with us.

While the songs on *From a Basement on the Hill* are excellent, we can't forget the circumstances surrounding its release. If Elliott finished this record during his life, we would certainly hail it as a cathartic piece of art that helped a troubled artist through a dark period in his life. Instead, his death makes it impossible to divorce these songs from their creator's death. *From a Basement on the Hill* is certainly a wonderful record that I highly endorse. However, it will never become a classic like some of Elliott's previous records because it will always bear the memory of his premature death.

Years from now, I want to remember Elliott's timid yet moving performance of "Miss Misery" at the Academy Awards and the beautiful songs he wrote during his lifetime. I fear that *From a Basement on the Hill* will just remind me of that October morning I said goodbye to a friend I never met.

GRADE: B+

## Women take over at the Perishable Theater

BY ANNA KUKOWSKI '06  
A&E STAFF

"The female playwright is on the outside in commercial theater; that is she is seldom produced, seldom understood, and constantly trying to work her way in," explains Becca Wolf, coordinator of the International Women's Playwriting Festival and director of one of its winners. The Perishable Theater in downtown Providence intends to fix this problem in American theater—or at least help it along. Honorably picking

THEATER  
REVIEW

itself up after a disappointing showing last year, the 12th Annual International Playwriting Festival brings an impressive array of directing, acting, and playwrighting to Providence.

The International Women's Playwriting Festival is a tradition in Providence. Its themes, plots, actors, and, above all, writers are wide and varied. Last year, the committee picked winners from both New York and Providence. This year, Holly Hildebrand of Houston, Texas won with her play, *The Dog*. JC Samuels, who resides in the San Francisco area, won with her touching *How High is the Moon?*

Finally, Jennifer Haley's *Gone With the Window* wrapped up the evening.

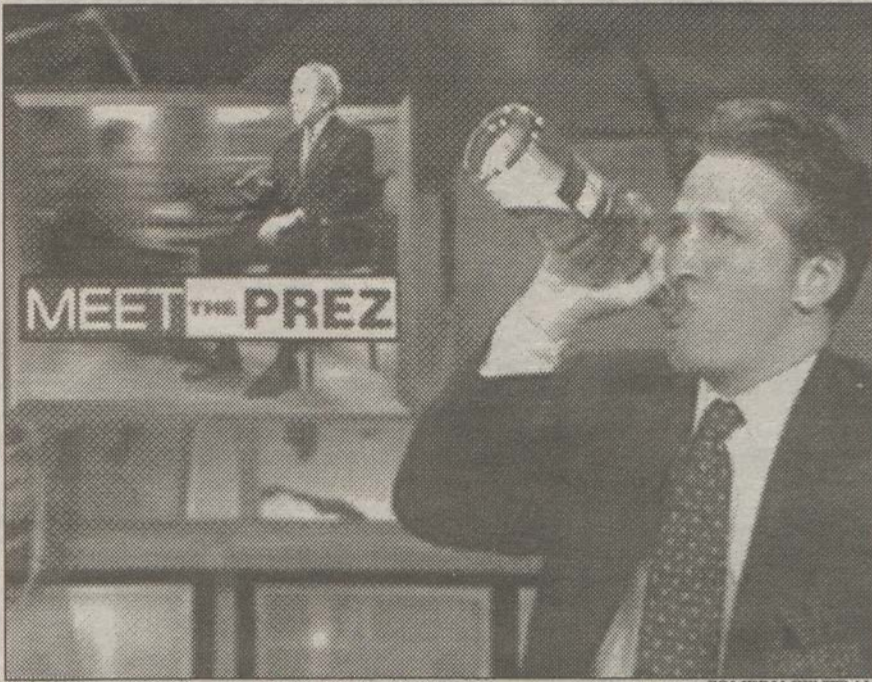
*The Dog*, the first play in this year's festival, showcases both fresh and veteran talent. Gillian Bell is Vicky. At the opening of the play, she's a scared little girl (back when girls had to wear bows to prove they were girls). In the middle she transforms into a young adult, and by the end she is a mature woman. Symbols and memories of the distrusting Cold War era follow Bell around throughout her life. These cryptic memories are encapsulated within Bell's obsession with a cryptic piece of artwork—a caste dog. This symbol is

put to life in "Stage Manager" Laura Wood who guides the show along—she's the dressed up dog in the background (short skirt, fishnets, dog collar, and a rather cute floppy ear strewn to one side of her hooded sweatshirt). Hildebrand stresses that the main themes of distrust and fear resonate today.

So the themes and ideals behind this play are a little lofty, but the play is still entertaining. It is short and varied enough to hold our attention. Bell is timidly confused, mirroring the hesitation and fear that resonates

# The Bottom Line

By Stephanie A. Smith '06  
A&E Editor



COMEDY CENTRAL



NBC

## They're making learning fun

The other day I watched the Presidential Debate and, sort of surprisingly, I enjoyed it. I was up on the issues. I had formed opinions. I was able to make comments on what the candidates said. I was an informed citizen.

You must be thinking that I watch a lot of news to get the dirt on the candidates, and you are very wrong. I hear that you can get all of the day's headlines from watching CNN for 15 minutes, but I really wouldn't know. You see, along with millions of other brilliant minds, I have discovered the value of the entertaining news show. A show that lures me in with promises of discussing updates from the set of *Alexander*, and then tells me about foreign policy, subliminal message style. How else could I have possibly known about the "No Child Left Behind" plan? It must have been part of a sketch on *Saturday Night Live*. It's really the only way.

Although it may seem like a cheap way to get the news, shows like *Best Week Ever*, *MTV News*, and the "Weekend Update" sketch on *SNL* really do get the job done. Sure, they make jokes more than they make points, but is there really anything wrong with having fun while learning about the harsh realities of the world? I don't think so. These shows are the Miller Lite of the news world: great taste, less filling. Watching CNN, along with being boring, is really depressing. The colors are drab, the announcers' voices are monotone and

the things they discuss are never happy. I would much rather watch sitcom stars discuss the Martha Stewart trial in front of a hot pink backdrop on *Best Week Ever*. In fact, this week they are talking about the lack of flu shots that the country has available. This is a serious issue. I'm just glad that we can discuss it and then, without batting an eyelash, move onto the topic of Paris Hilton's sex tape.

"Weekend Update" on *SNL* doesn't even bother with all the entertainment gossip and just cracks down on the news, and it's still hilarious. This sketch has been on for years and has gone through several "anchors" and yet is still on because people love it. People who try to watch the real news (a.k.a. news snobs) love it because it parodies something that they enjoy, and then the people who can't watch the real news (a.k.a. my people) love it because it summarizes everything that we need to know. Not to mention the importance of the fake debates they have on *SNL*.

There's really no need to watch the real ones. You can go to the NBC website and watch a video of their version anytime you want. Political uncertainties solved.

"MTV News," on the other hand, isn't always funny, but it's geared toward 15-year-olds, so it's pretty easy to understand. And there is something about watching Gideon Yago, just one of us, reporting in Iraq that makes you proud to be an American youth. It's really engaging and intelligent, even if it is on MTV.

Perhaps the poster child of this type of show, though, is *The Daily Show with Jon Stewart*. Two years in a row it has won Emmys for Best Comedy or Variety Show and Best Writing. It started off as a joke and now does really good, actual reporting; it just doesn't take everything so seriously. Stewart makes me feel like I'm not alone. He tells me that it's OK to have fun and still be an intelligent person who knows what's going on in the world. After all, good satire takes a lot of brainpower to create.

The people who write these newsclips are half the fun, anyway. I mean, who would you rather listen to? Some nameless stiff in a sport coat or boyishly good-looking Jimmy Fallon, the good-time Harry? I would pick good times any day of the week. With these guys, the news is a conversation, not a lesson. The stories are discussed, not spit out at you like some dry history lesson. Gideon Yago isn't your teacher; he's the kid that you met waiting for the bus. He's your buddy. And you trust him—you don't trust the old men on the other channels.

I'm not ashamed to admit it: I can't get the news unless it is in some form of entertainment. Luckily for me, there are many places where I can turn and I seem to be only one of many who are becoming a part of this trend. Loosen your ties, CNN reporters. Laugh even. Before you know it, America will be voting for President based on what some comedian said and a cable channel called Comedy Central might actually become "the first name in news."



MTV

*If reporting the news were a game of dodgeball, Tina Fey would be throwing balls at the heads of the guys from CNN: Jon Stewart, Tina Fey, Jimmy Fallon, and Gideon Yago (clockwise from top left) are the reason that most people know who is running for president.*

### ATTENTION JUNIORS! JUNIOR RING WEEKEND IS COMING!

NOVEMBER

12th

13th

14th

Bids go on sale Monday,  
October 25



Bring in pictures of PC friends and good times for the Junior video. Label every picture with name and Friar Box # and leave them in the Congress Office in Lower Slavin. Max 25 pictures per person.

## Elementary and Secondary Education Orientation Sessions

Wednesday, October 20 10:30am H421  
Thursday, November 18 2:30pm H421

# Picks of the Week

BY MIKE HOLLAND '06  
A&E STAFF



## Movie

*The Last Samurai*  
Directed by Edward Zwick

As a washed up American soldier who fought for Westward expansion against the Native Americans, Captain Nathan Algren (Tom Cruise) is called by the Japanese Emperor to teach the Japanese his American warfare in order to ward off the troublesome and fearsome Samurai warriors. After fighting the Samurai and being captured as their prisoner, Algren is forced to live in their village. Eventually, he develops respect for this diligent and disciplined community and assimilates into their culture, even helping to save the life of their leader, Katsumoto. He then vows to help their cause against the Westernized powers that try to alienate them. Check it out, it'll have you wanting to set up your own Buddhist Japanese village and pick up a sword.

## Music



Mos Def  
*New Danger*  
Geffen

After a long hiatus from the studio, Mos Def blew me away with his new solo release. It is so much different from his older B-Boy style, and even brings in the rock influence of his band, Black Jack Johnson. Mos Def still spits his one-of-a-kind lyricism and his experimentation proves it's efficient in tracks like "Modern Marvel" and "Close Edge."

## Book



*Russell's Rules*  
By Bill Russell

Anyone looking for advice on how to achieve success should listen to the most successful basketball player ever to step on the court. With championship rings, a gold medal, and an NCAA championship backing him, Russell has legitimate cause for writing about winning. But his advice goes beyond basketball, offering help to a diverse audience of readers who just want to be the best version of themselves. With words of pride, resilience, teamwork and integrity, this book could touch anyone.

# Urban Elements

## And I hope you like jammin' too

*Last Saturday, the Providence Performing Arts Center hosted the Def Poetry Jam and introduced the world of spoken word to Providence*

BY MIKE HOLLAND '06  
A&E STAFF

It's not really in my natural character to go downtown on a Saturday night and listen to poetry. Normally, I'd be cemented to my couch, in this case, watching game three of the Red Sox-Yankees playoff series. Nonetheless, I figured it would be enriching to take the bus down to the Providence Performing Arts Center to see Russell Simmons' Def Poetry Jam. I was reluctant as I walked into the theatre, but was completely blown away by the talent on stage and ended up feeling gratified, finally having a night where I didn't really know what to expect.

Def Poetry Jam started as just another way for Russell Simmons to bring hip hop culture to every facet of popular media. Spoken word has long been deeply entrenched in hip hop, yet so often neglected. In essence, all lyricists are poets if you take the beats away. On stage at PPAC, nine poets were able to impress the audience with words of love, laughter, violence, politics, and everything in between, earning approval from the diverse group of people that filled the venue.

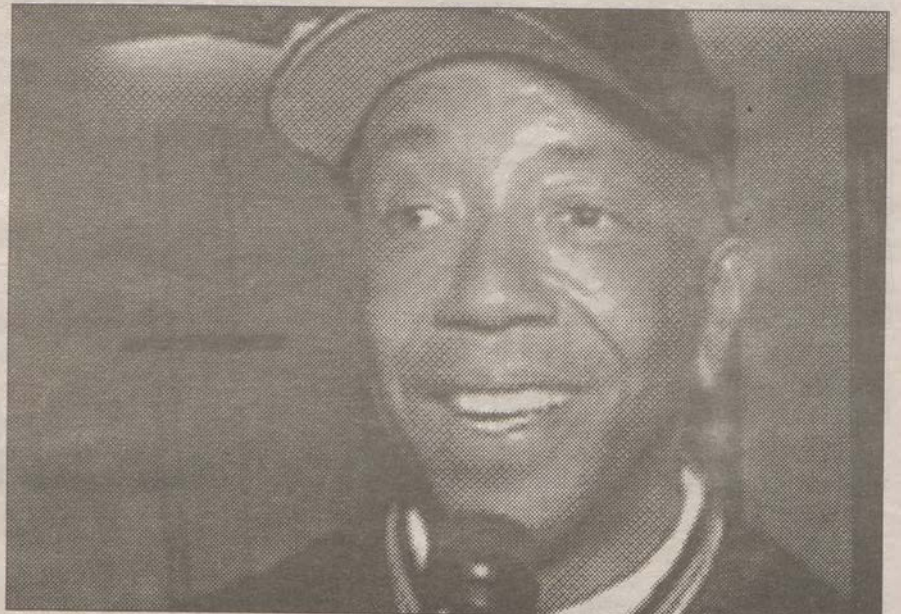
The multicultural collection of poets included Black Ice, Georgia Me, Lemon, Poetri, Staceyann Chin, Suhier Hammad, Flaco Navaja, Ishle Park, and Shihan. Each poet brought something different to the stage, while collectively they molded a cohesive force that acknowledged our differences while reaffirming our similarities as people of America.

Black Ice, hailing from Philadelphia, has been with Def Poetry since 1994 and has been considered by many a veteran in spoken word. His content focused on building character and responsibility among urban youth, screaming for them to transcend the forces that stereotype them. He might have been my favorite, with a flow so tight it seemed like he was breathing words. If he had a solid beat behind him he might have been able to out-battle Eminem.

The Atlanta native Georgia Me spoke of the trials that come with being a "full-figured" woman. While making the crowd laugh over her temptations for Little Debbie, she displayed her resilience in a culture where weight and looks matter so much, and the crowd was undoubtedly touched. Her words of love, relationship, and cup cakes echoed throughout the theatre, sometimes earning "Amens" from listeners in the crowd.

Lemon combined humor, lyricism and Puerto Rican pride that had me thinking of a Big Punisher verse, minus pounds. Really though, his verses flowed flawlessly into a crowd that continually nodded heads in approval. While he comes off as so personal and casual, Lemon is a true professional, with an acting resume that makes many others look like amateurs. The way his eyes zoned out into the audience made it seem like he was in his own world.

Poetri, another Def Poetry Jam veteran, is the perfect story-teller. He was able to bring uproars of laughter from all parts of the crowd with his anger towards Krispy Kreme for keeping him "down and round." With humor reminiscent of that in *Seinfeld*, he was able to capture many of the simple



DEFPOETRYJAM.COM

"I was on MTV *Cribs* way before everybody else": Russell Simmons (above) brought his unique blend of hip-hop and spoken word to the Providence Performing Arts Center. Def Poetry Jam featured a number of different performers from very different backgrounds, each of whom brought something special to the stage.



DEFPOETRYJAM.COM

ideologies that so many of us hold. His poem about road rage had me in hysterics, while at the same time in total agreement.

Staceyann Chi recognized the need to understand the intersectionalities that exist among people in a time and place where everything needs to be classified. Suhier Hammad painted pictures of her old Palestinian mother, noting the need to never forget about the hate that goes on in the world, even in spite of the immediate love we hold for those close to us. Shihan spit one of the greatest love poems of the night, making dudes wish they had a pad and pen to copy it down for their women. Flaco Navaja told about the disillusion he had as a young kid growing up in New York and

brought awareness to political motives that young people need to acknowledge. Ishle Park spoke of her Korean homeland and her family relations. All were impressive as talent beamed from the stage from start to finish.

Even though I was missing the game (thank God I was missing the game) and acting against a usual Saturday night at Providence College, I really had a solid time at PPAC listening to the impressive words of people whose words I rarely ever get to hear. Different poets spoke in unique ways and inspired those in the audience with their diverse performances. I was enriched by a diverse collection of ideas that I would probably never hear at PC. At least not on my couch.

### FALL 2004 FILM SERIES - CHANNEL 47 MOVIES

- Angels in America-Chapter 1* -  
10/01, 10/06, 10/11, 10/16, 10/21, 10/26, 10/31 @ 10am, 4pm, 10pm
- Troy* -  
10/01, 10/06, 10/11, 10/16, 10/21, 10/26, 10/31 @ 1 pm, 7pm, 1am
- Starsky & Hutch* -  
10/02, 10/07, 10/12, 10/17, 10/22, 10/27 @ 10am, 4pm, 10pm
- Van Wilder* -  
10/02, 10/07, 10/12, 10/17, 10/22, 10/27 @ 1pm, 7pm, 1am
- Kill Bill 2* -  
10/03, 10/08, 10/13, 10/18, 10/23, 10/28 @ 10am, 4pm, 10 pm
- Mystic River* -  
10/03, 10/08, 10/13, 10/18, 10/23, 10/28 @ 1pm, 7pm, 1am
- The Shining* -  
10/04, 10/09, 10/14, 10/19, 10/24, 10/29 @ 10am, 4pm, 10 pm
- Angels in America-Chapter 2* -  
10/04, 10/09, 10/14, 10/19, 10/24, 10/29 @ 1pm, 7pm, 1am
- Forrest Gump* -  
10/05, 10/10, 10/15, 10/20, 10/25, 10/30 @ 10am, 4pm, 10 pm
- Ali* -  
10/05, 10/10, 10/15, 10/20, 10/25, 10/30 @ 1pm, 7pm, 1am

# Jimmy bites more than he can chew

*Jimmy Eat World struggles to make emo-rock part of the mainstream and to find their place in the music world with their predictable sophomore album, Futures*

BY MATT HESS '05  
A&E STAFF

**Jimmy Eat World**  
*Futures*  
Interscope

Back in 2001, no one could escape the radio-rock assault of Jimmy Eat World's first hit single, the unstoppably catchy "The Middle." While the song was ridiculously overplayed (I think it began to cause a nervous twitch in my face whenever I heard it more than 13 times in one day), it was still hard to refute the fact that Jimmy Eat World was slowly dragging emo-rock into the mainstream. Oh, and that kinky music video they made with the underwear party probably didn't hurt either.

**MUSIC REVIEW**

Tracks like "The Middle" and "Sweetness," which were featured on Jimmy Eat World's self-titled disc, showed exactly what the four boys from Mesa, Arizona are good at. They can successfully channel defiant adolescent angst into palatable pop-rock. And while many listeners unfairly filed them into the same bin with other, more flimsy emo acts, Jimmy Eat World kept a sharp edge to their tunes. They were bittersweet but hard-rocking—more Foo Fighters than Dashboard Confessional. On their latest disc, the solid but unspectacular *Futures*, Jimmy Eat World continues to sharpen that edge, recruiting up-and-coming producer Gil Norton to help with the grinding.

The most noticeable change that Norton has made to the band's sound lies in vocal arrangement—singer/guitarist Jim Adkins' voice is layered beautifully all over the album. The dense harmonies add more texture to Adkins' vocals, downplaying the quavering in his upper-register, and allowing for a more heavy feel to *Futures*, especially on songs like the title track and "Polaris."

While Adkins' vocal delivery has definitely been enhanced on the new



**Is "world" approved by the Atkins diet?:** With their sophomore effort, the members of Jimmy Eat World prove that they do have a future as a band. While the songs tend to sound the same once you reach the middle of the album, lead singer Jim Adkins' vocals provide of the majority of the rich textures and deep emotion.

album, allowing for a firmer rock resonance, his lyrics are typical emo. Sticky and sentimental, his song subjects include everything from suffocating relationships and schoolboy yearning, to backseat lovin' and cherry colored lipstick. On the cheesy high school ballad "Night Drive" the songwriter drops all sorts of syrupy gems like "Lay



INTERSCOPE

INTERSCOPE

back baby and we'll do this right / There's blankets in back we can use / I'll start the car, but we'll stay in park." I think it's safe to say that Adkins' old school Taurus saw some serious action back in the day. Either that or the lyricist stumbled upon an R. Kelly songbook and just couldn't help himself.

These songs really cannot be taken

as to be anything more than fun songs that really hold no deeper meaning. Unfortunately, we know that almost inevitably they will head down that same road seen by Jimmy Eat World's earlier songs—they will be overplayed and will eventually become annoying.

Other tracks on *Futures* touch on more serious themes. The bright acoustic song "Kill" speaks about prolonging a relationship despite better judgment—the narrator genuinely seems trapped, desperately wanting to leave his woman but somehow unable to do so. The album's closer "23," a tune reaching epic proportions (it plods along for over seven minutes), wrestles not only with growing older, but hopelessly growing apart from a lover. The word "regret" seems to be a key word in many of Adkins' songs as well.

The best subject matter is found in "Drugs or Me," a sweeping, piano-graced ballad that gravely pleads with a friend to kick an addiction. "If only you could see the stranger next to me. / You promised you promised that you're done. / But I can't tell you from the drugs," Adkins' begs as the song slowly builds. With cool, dreamy synth interludes and sweet lullaby vocals, "Drugs or Me" is the strongest track on *Futures*.

While Jimmy Eat World's latest can certainly be considered their strongest album to date, there isn't much that really jumps out at the listener after a first spin. It takes a few listens to pick out the good parts. The unceasing melodies that Adkins crams into his songs cause many of the tracks to run together—towards the middle of the disc it becomes pretty tough to distinguish between them.

On the album's title track, the singer muses "I always believed in futures / I hope for better in November." With a new season of *The O.C.* on the way, I don't think Jimmy Eat World has anything to worry about next month—you're bound to hear at least one of these tunes amidst all the wonderful teenage turmoil.  
**GRADE: B-**

Fill in the blank:

"Come little children,  
I'll take thee away  
into \_\_\_\_\_,  
Come little children  
the time's come to play  
in my garden of magic."  
-*Hocus Pocus*



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# Surviving Ben's newest flop

One has to wonder what has happened to Ben Affleck as his latest project, the mediocre *Surviving Christmas*, proves to be nothing more than another big mistake

BY PAT EGAN '05  
ASST. A&E EDITOR

Ben Affleck must be a pretty stupid guy. There's really no other explanation as to why his once promising career has fast gone down the drain. Not to sound

## MOVIE REVIEW

Affleck's a good looking, charismatic guy, and he comes across as completely and utterly likable on screen. Yes, there was the whole "B. Lo" debacle over the past two years, and Affleck most definitely suffered from a bad case of media overexposure. Still, he could have bounced back if only he made some better professional choices. Coupled with his nauseating relationship with Miss Big Booty, Affleck starred in not one, not two, but three flops—*Gigli*, *Paycheck*, and *Jersey Girl*. Unfortunately for Affleck, *Surviving Christmas* isn't all that great either. It's not as bad as the others, but it won't put him back on Hollywood's A-list either.

Affleck stars as a wealthy Chicago executive looking to spend Christmas with the family. Not his family, though, just any family. He goes to his childhood home and offers the family now living there \$250,000 for the chance to spend the holidays with them. They accept, and quite naturally, hijinks ensue. Affleck takes them Christmas tree shopping, sledding, and forces them to accompany him on a countless number of other Holiday excursions.

Once again, Affleck proves that he belongs on screen. You like his character the minute you meet him, and it's unfortunate that the film simply can't match the talent of its star. Watching Affleck trying to spread some Holiday cheer to the members of his newfound family is enjoyable, to be sure, but you can't build an entire movie around such a flimsy premise. There are a few good

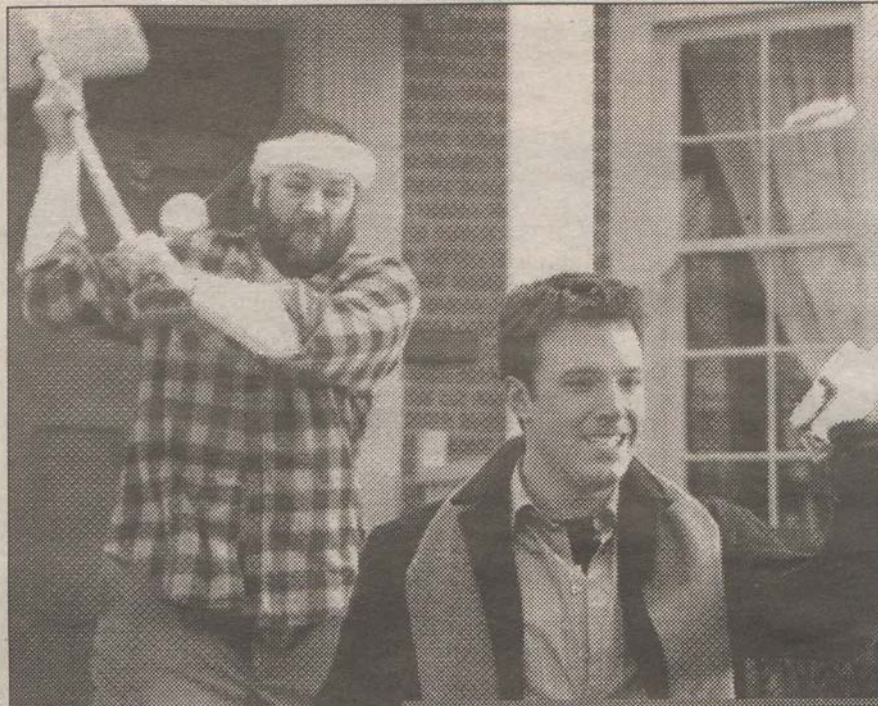
laughs to be had (the majority of which come from Affleck), but all in all, the movie's a bit of a letdown.

James Gandolfini and Catherine O'Hara are also on hand as Affleck's "parents," while Christina Applegate rounds out the cast as their daughter (and Affleck's obligatory love interest). Gandolfini, an actor with great comedic potential, does what he can with his role, which ultimately proves to be not much at all. He gets his biggest laughs after donning a traditional Christmas hat and strolling into a local deli to pick up salami. Sad, but true, seeing as so much more could have been done with Gandolfini's character. Much the same as with Affleck, the script just doesn't match up to Gandolfini's talent. Likewise with O'Hara. She's proven herself to have a knack for comedy (take a look at *Home Alone* or any Christopher Guest movie), but her presence is pretty much squandered too (although she does have a great scene in which she gets down and dirty for a photo shoot).

One of my biggest problems with *Surviving Christmas* is the utter impossibility of its premise. I realize that you have to go to the movies with an open mind, or else enjoying movies like *The Lord of the Rings* trilogy would be damn near impossible. But come on, people. Some stranger shows up at your door and you're going to just let them come on in. I think not. Even if you're getting paid, still unfathomable.

And yet another problem with *Surviving Christmas* lies in its soundtrack. This is supposed to be a heartwarming Christmas movie. Such a move requires some serious Christmas music, and *Surviving Christmas* is seriously lacking in this department. I don't know about you, but I need a few traditional sounding tunes to get me in the Holiday mood.

Back to Ben, though. Seriously, I



DREAMWORKS

And this one's for *Gigli*: James Gandolfini (left) and Ben Affleck (right) star in *Surviving Christmas*, a comedy about the highs and lows of spending quality time with your family during the holiday season. While spending time with Ben wasn't so bad, an unimpressive script and unbelievable points make the film a little tough to sit through.

don't know what the poor guy's been thinking these past two years or so. Maybe J. Lo clouded his mind with thoughts of her curvy derriere, or maybe he really is just dumb. That can't be, though. This is the same Ben Affleck who co-wrote the brilliant *Good Will Hunting*. Anyone who can write such a wonderful screenplay has to have something going on upstairs, right? So he can't be that dumb after all. I think the man just needs some help. J. Lo broke his poor little heart, and now his head's so banged up he can't tell a good screenplay from a clunker like *Gigli*.

Ben, listen to me. Seek help. Fire

your agent, hire Matt Damon's, and get yourself back on the straight and narrow to stardom. Seeing you like this pains me because you're better than what you've been doing. If you're reading this, Ben, I want you to do something for me. Take a look in the mirror and repeat after me. "I'm good enough. I'm smart enough. And gosh darn it, people like me."

We like you, Ben. We know you're a talented guy. So get your head out of your butt and make a good movie.

Please.

GRADE: C

## Playwrights: Women flex their theater muscles at Perishable

continued from page 10

through our society even today. Wood is an interesting constant in the play—she adds not only comedic value, but also a new dimension to the play's symbolism. Casey Seymour Kim, a veteran of the festival and of Providence-area theater, is clearly the standout of the entire night. She slips in and out of characters with a markedly smooth ease. She floats between being a stern school teacher, to an inquisitive older man, to a sketchy Italian guard. Not once do we doubt the personalities of these individuals. Kim steals the show.

The second play of the evening was *How High is the Moon* by JC Samuels. Here, we follow the relationship between an African refugee and a tormented teenager. Malik McMullen steps up for the first time onto the Perishable stage as Habimana, an outwardly optimistic but inwardly scarred refugee from Africa who wishes to go to college. Harmony Boyce is his counterpart Diane, an American girl who doesn't know her mother and can barely speak to her father. Her dream is to get into the military. These opposite forces come together and form a deep, emotional friendship—not without pain and conflict, but certainly not without love.

This play is by far the most emotionally moving work of the

evening, so be prepared. It holds your attention the entire time. The drama is incredibly intense at times (maybe a little over the top here and there) but it makes quite an impact. The passion of these two actors radiates from their every word. McMullen is the perfectly composed voice of reason. Fergusson is the quintessential voice of drama and hurt. And both experience painful emotional catharses. It is difficult to believe that these two characters are similar ages (McMullen appears older than intended and Boyce seems much younger), but it does not distract us amidst the fabulously woven emotional drama.

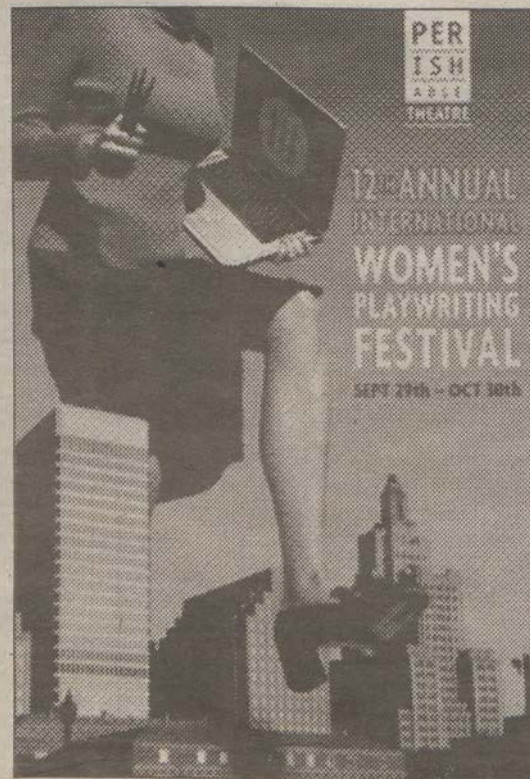
The final play is *Gone With the Window* by Jennifer Haley. And yes, it's very similar to the movie. Take out those Yankees and the Confederates, add in the setting of corporate America in a big city high rise. Here, office tycoon Rhett (Dan Colbert) woos office assistant Scarlett (Robin Fergusson), who is of course in love with rock star Ashley (McMullen) who in turn loves obedient office assistant Mellie (Larabeth Greenwald). Add in some sort of fiery conflict below the office building that is supposed to mirror Atlanta's fall and you've got *Gone with the Wind*... 2004 style?

Not so much. While Haley's criticism of the sweet talking and corruption of today's corporate

American comes across loud and clear, the play just doesn't cut it. Using the plot and characters of *Gone with the Wind* (and probably every recognizable quote ever taken from Margaret Mitchell's book) is not quite as amusing or as powerful as she intended. Fergusson's facial expressions are more distracting than Scarlett-like, and her manner is more forced than O'Hara's, calm, calculated, and cold seductive manner. The premise behind McMullen's character is awkward in theory and in performance. And why does the lovely Greenwald get no more than a few lines? The only moderately convincing aspect of this play is Colbert as a suave, cool businessman—we do see corporate America in his portrayal. *Gone With the Window* is based upon an awkward premise that does not include enough of its own originality in plot, character development, or lines to stand on its own.

The 12th International Women's Playwriting festival comes off as a success, despite its disappointing ending. The bottom line is that the new talent is

refreshing to the Providence theater scene, though shaky in places. While Haley's motif falls short, Hildebrand makes the audience ponder current issues and Samuel moves the audience deeply. It's a refreshing change to what we are all used to. GRADE: B



PERISHABLE

# ABCs of silly old me and soda tabs

"B" is for Bob, "F" is for Frank, "M" is for Matt, and "T" is for Trevor

BY KATIE HUGHES '06  
PORTFOLIO STAFF

I cheat on the "ABC" tab game. When I drink a beverage from a can that has a little silver tab, I play the "ABC" game. The game is when you flip the tab back and forth saying the letters of the alphabet. Which-ever letter the tab falls off on, is an initial of the person you will marry (so says the gods of aluminum canned beverages). The game is further complicated by the next step, which is flipping the tab in the air and watching to see what side it lands on. If the tab lands face up, then the initial stands for the first name. Conversely when the tab lands on the backside, the initial is the last name.

Regardless of how senseless the game is, I am compelled to play it every time I finish a canned beverage such as soda, seltzer, lemonade or iced tea. What is perhaps even worse is the fact that I cheat at this game. Yes, I am a cheater. I make sure that any time that I flip the little sliver of silver I do so in a manner that makes sure I will get my desired initial. If I know I need to get to an initial midway through the alphabet, I will twist the metal in slow short motions. If I am trying to get to an early letter, I will use violently large and abrasive twists in order to get my way. I have reached an all time low.

This bizarre act of cheating myself into believing in some silly game must say something about who I am as a person. Can this cheating ever connect with other aspects in my life? I am normally not a cheater, so why is it that when I drink a soda, my aluminum tab fortune is predetermined by my will? (And acute



CAITLIN BROWN '06/The Cow

talent for bending metal.) Could it be fear of reality? Am I afraid of getting a letter that I really do not want? Logically, if I can control the outcome, why not?

Or maybe I am taking command over one of the few things in my life that seems controllable. By twisting the tab the way I want it to be bent and achiev-

ing a fantasy alphabet initial that I desire, I can avoid reality altogether by alienating myself from the rest of the world. (A world which for the most part does not engage in alphabet wars with their soda cans). My behavior indicates that I can get what I want by manipulation. This is not a good practice, and neither is my neurotic tendency to over analyze mundane activities.

The "tab game" went unnoticed for the most part. I don't even remember where I learned the game, only that it was something stupid and meaningless that started sometime around when boys went from distasteful to distracting. For something so meaningless, I was sure putting a lot of meaning into it all. To finish the game, I drop the tab into the can after the tab has decided my fate.

This proves to be problematic this year as my roommates collect the tabs for various charities like kidney dialysis and "Tabs for Tots." I only remember this fact after having dropped the tab into the can already. The end result is me flipping the can over, getting residual soda all over my hands while trying to fish out the tab so I can be charitable. So now I have to worry about the amount of torque I am placing on the tab as well as remembering not to toss it in the can so that I can save the children. The pressure is endless! And I wonder why I have no life.

When push comes to shove, I think my idiosyncrasies are the "icing on the cake." My can tab destiny is silly and I recognize it, but we all have questionable behaviors. If this activity is my questionable behavior, then I can say proudly that my parents have nothing to worry about.

## Perhaps third time is the charm after all

BY CHRISTINE BAGLEY '06  
PORTFOLIO EDITOR

Amanda parked her car in the driveway and fumbled to turn off the radio, air conditioner, and lights all while jamming the car into park. Finally, she clicked the ignition off and tossed her collection of keys into her purse. She shoved her bottle of water and her half eaten ham sandwich back into her bag on top of her keys.

She gathered the three bags of groceries from her backseat, each bag exploding with more food than the others. Juggling the three bags and her purse, Amanda gave the back and driver doors a push with her right hip. As she wobbled up the steps to her home in suburban Illinois, Amanda realized she needed her keys to unlock the door—from the bottom of her purse. She sighed loudly again and set her bags down to search the depths of her handbag.

Any other day, she could manage to open the front door lock with one swift move, but today it took Amanda three attempts to unlock the bolt. She burst into the house with relief and threw her grocery bags down over a cluttered table of bills, newspapers, and manuals for her new stereo system. Amanda rolled her eyes at her answering machine flashing three quick red blinks.

She pressed the button labeled "Messages" and cranked up the volume. She kicked off her black pumps as the

first message played: "Ummm, hello? This is Silvia? I saw your ad in the paper? Apartments for rent? Ummm, I will call you back, okay? Okay?" Amanda kept meaning to contact the local newspaper to have them change the printed phone number for the apartment ad. They had conveniently printed her number under the advertisement and she would inevitably receive two or three calls a week, mostly from customers who hardly spoke English interested in renting an apartment. She erased the message, secretly hoping Silvia would not call again.

Amanda played the next message: "Hello, Ms. Fortuna. This is your hair salon. You have an appointment with Sandra, tomorrow, at four o'clock—sharp. Thank you. We will see you tomorrow." Shoot. Amanda had forgotten about her hair appointment, and more importantly, she had forgotten to mark her calendar to tell her boss she would have to leave early to make it to her haircut on time. Shoot. She took a sip of water, and advanced to the last message, not in the mood to deal.

Fast forwarding to the next message, she started to unload her groceries. She listened to the distant, yet familiar male voice. "Hi, Pixie, well I suppose you go by Amanda these days. This is Ted. How have you been?..."

Amanda's mind glazed over and the rest of the message became hazy. Ted was her old next-door neighbor on Cherry Street, her first crush, her first kiss when they were 10. He moved away



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just after sixth grade to Michigan. Their families had sent holiday cards every year, but neither had visited.

Snapping back into reality, Amanda depressed the rewind button on machine and replayed the part of the message she missed. "I suppose you weren't expecting a phone call from me. I mean, it has been years, but I thought—well if you wanted—that I will be in town next week and maybe—if you wanted, we could go for lunch? Well, give me a call. Have a good one, hope to hear from you."

Amanda sat at her table—stunned. Wow, Ted. Would she even recognize him? It has been so many years. Amanda focused on the phone, instantly eager to rekindle an old childhood friendship. But, she quickly replaced the

receiver and wondered what she would say to Ted. Would they chat about old times? Neither were really old enough to remember 'old times.'

She picked up the receiver again and dialed the number Ted had left. She sighed for a third time, realizing it was the third of September. Coincidence that this was also the third message on her machine, it took her three tries to open the lock on the door, or that she had bought three bags worth of groceries? Maybe. Ted's phone rang three times and Amanda laughed to herself, as a familiar voice answered on the other end.

"Hello?"  
"Ugh, hi, Irish—it is your favorite Pixie. I mean hi Ted." Amanda lightly bit her lower lip. "I suppose you go by that name these days." Amanda could feel Ted grinning on the other end of the phone.

"Wow, I have not heard that nickname in years. How are you, Pixie—I mean Amanda?"

"Pixie. I miss being called that. I'm fine. It is so..." Amanda searched for the right word, "great to hear from you Ted. How are you?"

"I'm fine, thanks, but get it right, it's Irish." joked Ted.

Both laughed for hours reminiscing about their childhood days during the long summers and snowy winters on Cherry Street, surprising each other with the memories each remembered as if they had never aged older than 10.

Perhaps third time is the charm. Just perhaps thought Amanda.

# Struck by the chorus of voices

BY STEPHAN DELBOS '05  
PORTFOLIO STAFF

The first sign of twilight began to blur the edges of the sky, as I walked through the streets of Tangier searching for the train station. Stray dogs roamed everywhere, followed by stray children, poking their heads into the metal box huts that filled the empty lots on the sides of the street. I sometimes lost track of which was which, dogs and children, roaming in the dying light of day.

The white clay houses were cracked and falling to pieces, and men in their robes huddled everywhere, warming themselves around fires made of brush and trash. No attempt was made to contain the fires; they burned openly, on street corners and in alleyways. Perhaps this place had once been a glorious city, but now it looked like a wasteland—slowly burning itself from the inside.

Everyone I passed looked at me curiously, and sometimes, it seemed to me, with latent hostility. Once in a while a child would take a few steps toward me, but the men standing in the background would say a sharp word in Arabic, and the child would turn quickly and run away. It was always the children who approached, skinny and dirty, and in tattered clothes. These children were like children everywhere: young enough to be ignorant of etiquette, and young



Courtesy of R. Mazin

enough to foster a living and unabashed curiosity.

The old men simply stood back by the fires, smoking hashish from long wooden pipes. I could not see their faces, hidden as they hovered beneath their hoods. But once in a while, one of them would pull back his hood to get a better look at me, or perhaps to give me a better look at him. A stony face would be illuminated momentarily by the light of the fire, before disappearing again. These men

clustered everywhere, but they all seemed detached from each another as they became one with the shadows of evening's approach.

I ascended a steep grassy slope, passing cacti and mules along the way. When I reached the top I turned and looked out on the city as it lay before me. I could see the train station in the distance, and beyond that, the cliffs that gave way to ocean. The last rays of the sunset painted the city pink, and a breeze

blew in from the water, pleasantly cooling the humid air. The hum of the city conveyed its energy, and it reached and surrounded me in my solitude from high above. I marveled at the immensity of the world, thinking about how many people live on it, each with a personal interpretation of life and reality. I thought about how this thing we call "existence" is actually the sum of billions of personal realities...

My thoughts were broken as a low, droning voice cut the air of the city below. It was the evening call to prayer, one of five that Muslims observe daily. Each mosque has a loudspeaker posted outside, amplifying the importance of prayer after work. The volume and the intensity of the voice rose to a fever pitch as all eight mosques joined in one chorus. I could not understand the words, but the sound itself found its way inside me, as the scene before me entered through my eyes and burned itself onto my consciousness.

For the first time, I felt a moment being etched into my memory: the waves crashing against the cliffs, the white buildings below being painted pink by the sun, and above all, those voices low and wailing, like sirens in slow motion. They all blended, no longer simply sights and sounds, but a *feeling* that enveloped me. Even now, when the sunset catches my eye just right, that same chorus sounds within me, and I fall prostrate, invoking the sacred prayer of remembrance.

## Poetry Corner



### One, Another Waterfall

BY STEPHAN DELBOS '05  
PORTFOLIO STAFF

BY ASHLEY LAFERRIERE '06  
ASST. PORTFOLIO EDITOR

### The Curving Block

BY CHRIS FAHEY '05  
PORTFOLIO STAFF

And when night fell so did the gentle screen.  
The complacent poet rests his abused faucet.  
His notions left to be sifted and saved in a dream,  
Pilfering the pressure to aptly poke another day's knit.

His exhausted words he hugs into deep sleep.  
Fear for future folly or foe to solution cease,  
Stirs his cold, white, loveless breeze...  
And kisses good the night on his sweat-wept cheek.

Lying on the trowel of the mason's craft,  
The poet smears, stunts the arson's lace,  
Unties the nameless bricks within his path.  
A writer's wall, withstanding the race, remains un-erased.

Refraining from last the wink with withered ink,  
Pen shaken from a dying hand mocked by clock,  
Craving, verbosely savoring, permits to sink,  
Rolling his tired thread over the curving block.

Meet me by the river  
When the moon is full...  
I'll be waiting with open arms  
Beneath the willow tree  
As it bends, gracefully  
Dipping its fingers into  
The laziness of the dark current.

Perhaps we can swim there,  
The water cooling  
The thickness of the summer night,  
And the moon's reflection off ripples  
Gleaming in our eyes,  
Casting in our minds  
Long-forgotten memories  
Of youthful times.

Or perhaps...  
Perhaps we shall sit  
Beneath the sheltering willow  
On river's edge,  
With naked feet  
Glazed by moonlit water,  
As we cast two-fold reflections  
Upon the river,  
And into the endless basin  
Of one another's being.

Does your soul displace itself  
When I enter?  
Does it ripple with the motions  
Of my thoughts, gently  
Overflowing its confines,  
And with my leaving,  
Gradually subside?

Meet me by your river  
When the moon is full,  
I will be there  
With light in my eyes.

Let us partake of these guilty pleasures.  
Dark as the June bug  
In the thick of mid July.  
Your arms as an anchor, hiding shark's shadow circles  
And the sun's ambivalence  
Lying low in the sky.  
Such delicate blindness, thin as a whisper  
Folded over and over.  
Paper roses to tear.  
The petals drift, uninvited through moments  
Lacing laughter like poison.  
You are not there.  
But let us be thankful that life is insistent.  
That wisdom proves useful  
As a consolation prize.  
Blooming whole as the morning  
The sweet winter morning.  
The dew drops freeze solid to cover your eyes.  
And I breathe a ballet of granite and bird's wings.  
Cultivate cat's confidence  
To land on my feet.  
Where I drink in the questions thick and slow as warm honey.  
Sweet and bitter distinctions,  
Time is passion's defeat.  
Let us question why life, moves us forward each morning.  
Why hearts harbor cruel motives  
Silence burns like a flame.  
Heartbeats bold as the waterfall, iced over in the moonlight  
I walk and re-walk the summer  
to uncover your name.





# Volcano of stress finally erupts in Hawaii

BY KRISTINA REARDON '08  
PORTFOLIO STAFF

It would be relaxing, I thought. Make it through senior year and how could summer possibly bring any worries? Metaphorically speaking, summer for a recently graduated senior is somewhere between death and rebirth. More simply put, it is limbo—high school over and college not yet begun. Stress free, right?

Wrong, wrong, a hundred times wrong. Maybe I just have one of those personalities where stress is a primary ingredient. What began as a simple summer ended with several much more complicated memories.

Perhaps it started in early June, when nearing graduation, my best friend Alyssa and I headed off to the movies and lost our tickets somewhere between the lobby and the theater.

At the start of the summer, I attempted to master the art of multi-tasking as a waitress, something I thought would not be too taxing. But now it is October, and I am beginning to think "frenzied" is another major ingredient in my personality.

Nonetheless, I firmly believe it was a two week family vacation to Hawaii (—you know, to get away from it all?) That put me over the edge.

First, there was the "getting there." Of course we were running a few minutes late to T.F. Green airport, and of course there were huge lines to pass through security. By the time we made it to Chicago we had to walk approximately 17 miles to our next terminal and were the last people on the plane because somebody decided we desperately needed bagels before our next flight. Of course our flight was delayed six hours in Los Angeles—this was a Reardon family vacation after all.

Twenty-four hours after it all began, we made it to Honolulu—at midnight, Hawaiian time. Just in time for the jazz band at the restaurant across the street to begin playing until 2 a.m., probably specifically so I would not be able to sleep.

After watching my sister swim with some dolphins, hiking in 100 degree heat up a dormant volcano, shopping Waikiki



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Beach at all hours of the night, and visiting Pearl Harbor, I had high hopes for a little rest and relaxation on the notoriously quiet Big Island.

Our first day on the Big Island began quietly enough. Driving to some of the most spectacular (and tallest) waterfalls in the world, my mother would urge — "Closer, closer, step back!" practically pushing us over the edge for that perfect Kodak moment. But that was nothing compared to what we would do that night for some good old family photos.

Mount Kilauea, it seems, was erupting. And this, according to my mother, was something we had to see. Besides, the drive there seemed short enough.

An hour later, we arrived, along with at least half the population of the United States, to begin our trek. Hiking over the clearly marked lava flow from just a few years ago, I began to think that maybe I would make it home alive after all. About an hour later, with no signs of the fiery, red-hot spurting lava we so longed to see, the path ended. Large signs warned: "Do not proceed. Unsafe."

So what did we do? We, of course, proceeded. With flashlights as our guides under the now dark black sky,

we stumbled over rugged, unsmooth lava rock. With each step, the rock under my shoe became warmer until touching the ground with my hands made me flinch in surprise.

Still we continued, several other groups around us were attempting the hike towards the volcano. With each step I wondered if the ground I was walking on, only about a football field's length from the ocean, would collapse as they had warned us earlier in the visitor's center. We questioned groups walking back toward the safe haven of the road how much further. "A mile and a half," one woman said, "one mile, just over that rise in the lava rock." Finally, from the top of a small hill of lava, we saw them. People, at least a hundred people, flashlights pointed in awe at the spurting orange and red fire crashing into the waves.

Mount Kilauea was not the type of volcano you see in the movies. It was not a large mountain, erupting from the top with deadly lava spilling over the land. Mount Kilauea was erupting underground, only showing its fiery creation at its mouth, just feet above the ocean. Continuing forward we hiked over flowing lava to the other side, and now stood just 200 feet away from red,

hot, deadly lava. Stress-free vacation? Maybe not. But it sure was amazing.

If for one moment I could have reflected upon seeing creation in its purest form, it was, of course, interrupted.

"Praise Pele!" I hear female voices shouting as sparks flew around me. "Praise Pele for this wonderful creation!"

Turing around, I saw a group of women with flowers in their long hair, waving sparklers, praising the Hawaiian goddess of fire. Because that was exactly what we needed—more fire in the situation. Looking beyond, I saw a trail of flashlights slowly making their way towards the mouth of the volcano. It was like an Easter Vigil four months too late.

Needless to say, what started as a quick photo opportunity ended as a six-hour hike. Once again, we were back at the hotel past midnight...except this time it was not really a hotel. My mother booked us a small home in a residential area in Volcano Village, which was great, until 7 a.m. rolled around and we heard a knock at the door. We tried to ignore it, we really did, but after what seemed like three hours of persistent knocking, my dad opened the door.

"You are all invited to a Blue Moon party!" our neighbor exclaimed.

"What?" my dad asked in a sleepy, perplexed voice.

"You know, tonight is the second blue moon of the month," she said, as if that explained everything. "Don't you celebrate the blue moon?"

I could go on and on. It would only get more ridiculous by the second: my brother explaining his picture of Pele the fire goddess to a park ranger and calling her Pepe, finally arriving in Maui and opening a book on the beach only to find my father waiting with a two-person sea kayak with my name on it, giant endangered sea turtles trying to eat me alive while snorkeling...

So maybe I am stressed and frenzied. But it is not my fault. Blame the people in my life. But crazy family, equally crazy friends, ridiculous vacations, insane job and all, I would not trade it for the world.

Lucky for me, though, I do not have to. I just have to wait until next summer...

## Rain-kissed night will soon harden into day

BY CAITLIN MURPHY '06  
PORTFOLIO STAFF

It is damp out here, giving me the feeling of stepping right out of the shower and putting dry clothes on a wet body. It is supernatural out here; it is eerily comforting. I recognize the sound of silence, holding everything in protective suspension. Normally, the night drops sound with resounding tones. Tonight, pieces of grass are silently stiff at attention, wet with mist. The cars are slick with fog, shiny with hushed anticipation. Everything is sharp and soft, everything is defined and blurred. It is the pause after the storm, it is the time of emotional surges.

The sounds of my feet, bare on the wet pavement, mingle with the night. The slap and squelch are soaked in, and evenly spread out. I step off from the curb and walk straight into the center of the street, and stare down it with tunnel vision. This small beach town has no sidewalk lamps and I know the ocean meets the land 10 blocks down. I think I might hear it. I could walk this street all night, the stones actually feeling comfortable on the pads of my feet, the black distance murmuring instead of screaming. Usually, I turn this way and that, trying to escape it all. And here I am, stepping into it.

Am I going anywhere but right here tonight? In this kind of atmosphere, it is hard to believe that the night will soon harden into day (and what we must do.) I am still walking, dreaming of walking far enough to reach the waves, tossing in a fitful sleep, and stroking them to peace. It would not be hard; there are no rules in a supernatural world.

I stretch my fingers out and feel the damp. I balance on one foot, and realize that if I tried to fall over, I could not. On nights like this, nothing is certain, not even the laws of gravity.

Without a sound, this supernatural world tears open to expose you, just like the day we met. You were on the gym bleachers, reading. I was jumping from bench to bench, searching for a coffee, my bag, or someone like you. Isn't it funny how I told you your eyes were brown and gold that day? It must have been the chemical gym light, or a day eerily like this, because they have always been green.

Back here, right now, you step in front of your car headlights, lighting up the borders of your features, and the mist starts to fall again. Where do you fit into this night? I have not yet decided.

We are then sitting in my kitchen, on the floral tile, on your towel. The terrycloth is soft, the floor is hard, and everything is everything and nothing. The supernatural sky has suddenly

opened, sending down torrents of rain. Your face is slick with water. The rain roars. It is soft but loud in this kitchen, and everything is sure—but confused. The gin bottles lined up on top of the refrigerator are quiet and still. Normally, the hum of the refrigerator causes them to clatter together. We stare at each other and blend in with our surroundings. We blend in with the forks and spoons, the white bread and milk.

It has been exactly 48 hours since I sat in your car, crying, thinking of losing you forever. But what does it mean? We are both thinking, is this wrong, is this right? Where are we going? On nights like this, it does not seem to matter. Nothing is sure and tomorrow will never come.

But the day will soon harden into who we are and what we do. Here is a fact: we broke up two months ago. Here is another: we are trying so hard to just be friends. But for tonight, we have our memories with each other, and we have our simplicity. We are smiling and touching, touching and resisting, and trying to stop questioning.

The rain continues and you shift on the towel that you have laid out on the floor, making the tile squeak quietly. We pause. I do not want to wake my parents sleeping upstairs. I pull you back from hitting the washing machine and you touch my neck. Did you know I dream



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION  
BY CHRISTINE BAGLEY '06

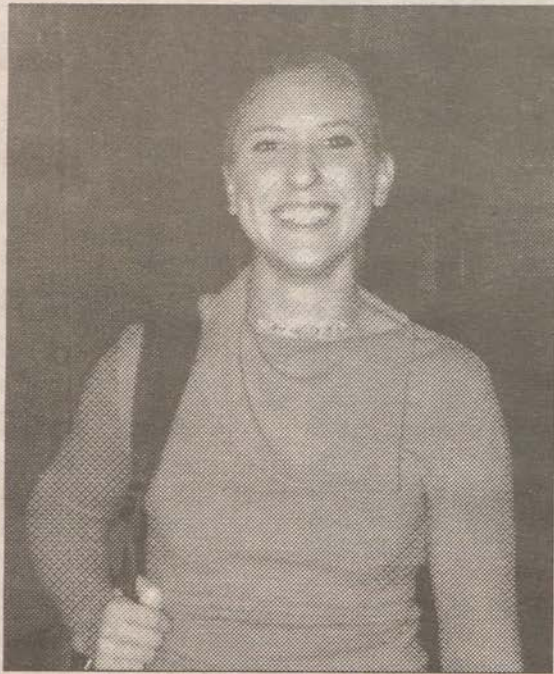
about you dying? I should let you go, but where would I go? Every thread of my life branches out and grasps onto you.

I have let you go, but where have I been? Searching, hurting, not understanding. The rain washes in the window, and surrounds us with sound and damp and desire.

The day will soon harden into who we are and where we are going. There will be real questions, like what will happen to us in the future. We push these issues aside and make them merge into the rest of the blurred, but defined scene; they grasp onto the atoms of the refrigerator, and sleep peacefully—finally. They can awaken tomorrow.

Where am I on this supernatural night, where nothing seems strange? I am where it is most natural of all: our heads tilted slightly to the side, our lips parted. Our eyes closed. I am kissing you.

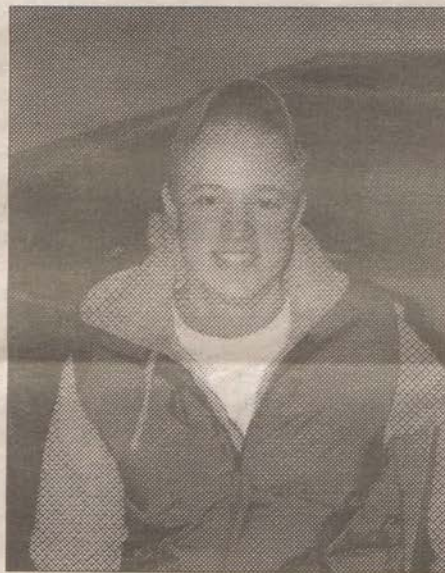
# What are you going to be for Halloween?



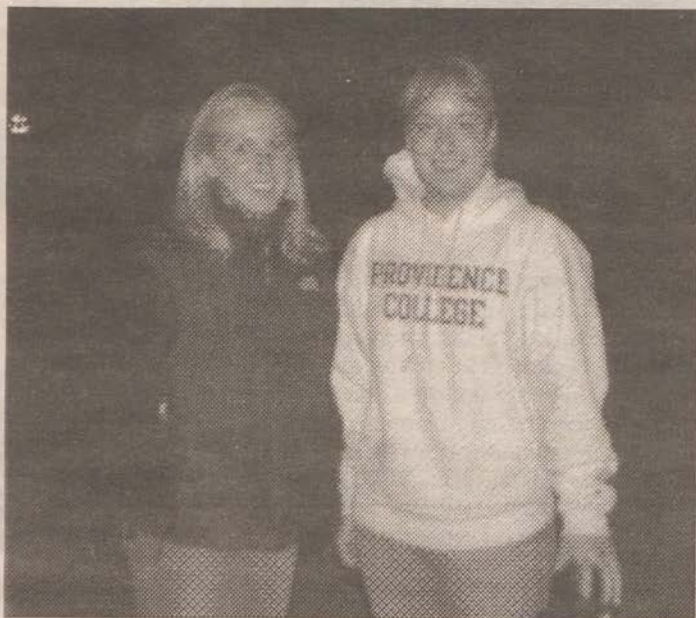
Jacqueline Steiner '06  
"A Golden Girl."



Abby Long '06  
"Pocahontas."



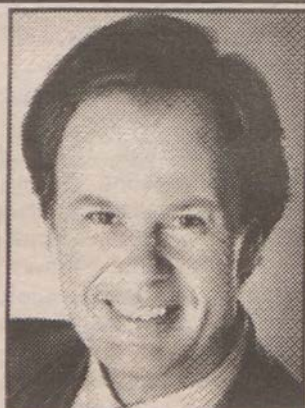
Rob Minton '07  
"G-Funk."



Kristy Wooler '05 and Liz Mulligan '05  
"Firefighters."

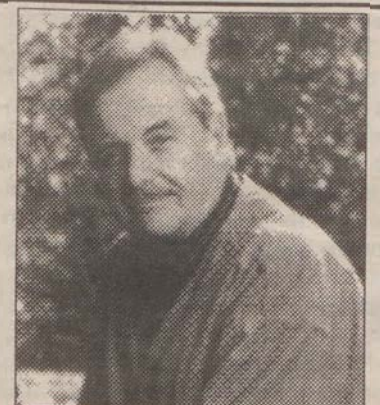


Tom Casano '06  
"A monk."



Mr. Belding and Mr. Feeney

"Baby Spice and Scary Spice."



# The PC Scoreboard

Scores • Standings • Statistics • Schedules • Standouts

## Standouts



**Kim Smith**

Women's Cross Country  
Senior — Auckland, New Zealand

On Oct. 16, Smith claimed the individual title for the second consecutive year at the Penn State Invitational in a time of 19:46. Behind Smith, the Women's Cross Country team captured a first place finish at the meet for the third year running.



**Bill McCreary**

Men's Hockey  
Sophomore — Howell, Mich.

McCreary tallied two goals against Merrimack on Oct. 15. His second goal of the game proved to be the difference in a 5-4 PC win. For his performance, McCreary was named Hockey East Player of the Week on Oct. 18.

## Scores

<i>Friday 10/15</i>	
Men's Hockey vs. Merrimack	W, 5-4
Volleyball at West Virginia	L, 3-0
Field Hockey at Syracuse	L, 1-0
<i>Saturday 10/16</i>	
Men's Soccer vs. West Virginia	L, 3-2 OT
Women's Cross Country at Penn St. Inv.	1st of 41
Women's Hockey at Colgate	W, 6-2
Volleyball at St. Francis (Pa.)	L, 3-2
<i>Sunday 10/17</i>	
Field Hockey at Colgate	W, 4-3 OT
Volleyball at Robert Morris	L, 3-0
Women's Hockey at Colgate	L, 2-1
Tennis at New England Champ.	1st of 7
<i>Wednesday 10/20</i>	
Men's Soccer vs. St. John's	L, 3-1
Field Hockey at Brown	W, 5-1

## Schedules

<i>Friday 10/22</i>	
Women's Soccer vs. Syracuse	3:00 p.m.
Men's Hockey at Boston University	7:00 p.m.
<i>Saturday 10/23</i>	
Men's Basketball Fanfest (Dunkin' Donuts Center)	11:00 a.m.
Women's Ice Hockey vs. Vermont	2:00 p.m.
Volleyball at Shippensburg	3:00 p.m.
Men's Soccer at Syracuse	7:00 p.m.
<i>Sunday 10/24</i>	
Men's and Women's Swimming vs. Montclair St.	11:00 a.m.
Women's Soccer vs. St. John's	1:00 p.m.
Women's Hockey vs. Vermont	2:00 p.m.
Field Hockey vs. Villanova	1:00 p.m.
<i>Tuesday 10/26</i>	
Men's Soccer at Harvard	2:30 p.m.
Volleyball at Siena	7:00 p.m.
<i>Wednesday 10/27</i>	
Women's Soccer vs. Brown	3:00 p.m.

## Standings

### FinishLynx NCAA Division I Womens Cross Country Poll (10/20)

Rank	Team	Pts.
1	Stanford (13)	390
2	<b>PROVIDENCE</b>	376
3	Colorado	364
4	Michigan	349
5	Duke	336
6	Notre Dame	329
7	North Carolina	308
8	Arizona St.	302
9	Missouri	285
10	North Carolina St.	267

### USCHO.com Division I Women's Hockey Poll (10/18)

Rank	Team	Record	Pts.
1	Minnesota (15)	4-0-0	150
2	Dartmouth	0-0-0	132
3	Harvard	0-0-0	114
4	Wisconsin	4-0-0	109
5	Minnesota-Duluth	2-0-0	86
6	St. Lawrence	3-0-0	80
7	New Hampshire	3-0-0	55
8	Brown	0-0-0	37
9	Mercyhurst	3-1-1	22
10	<b>PROVIDENCE</b>	1-1-1	19

# Goals come easier; wins still hard to find

Friars begin to find offensive stride, still lose 3-2 in overtime to West Virginia and 3-1 to St. John's at Glay Field

BY RICHARD SLATE '06  
SPORTS STAFF

Soccer can be a cruel game, as the Providence College Men's Soccer team is painfully finding out this season. A bounce here and a save there can result in a big win which can start a team on a great run of results. This season, the Friars have found themselves on the losing end of eight games that have been decided by a total of nine goals.

Head Coach Chaka Daley feels his team is showing some real heart during a tough season.

"There's no problem with commitment," Daley said. "The losing has become a little contagious, but they are fighting hard to right the ship."

On Saturday, Oct. 16 West Virginia defeated PC in overtime of a Big East Conference contest by a score of 3-2.

As has been the case in many of PC's games this year, the final score does not tell the full story as the Friars turned in another superb effort, but fell just short of collecting a victory.

Providence jumped out to a 1-0 lead in the sixth minute as freshmen Evan Dufault netted his first collegiate goal off an assist by junior midfielder Anthony Petrarca.

The Mountaineers rallied to tie it up



TIM PISACICH '07/The Cowl



TIM PISACICH '07/The Cowl

Junior defender Zach Tobin (left) and freshman midfielder and defender Alex Bury (above) have provided Providence with a strong presence on its back line this season. The Friars' defensive efforts came up short in a 3-2 loss to West Virginia and a 3-1 loss to nationally ranked No. 10 St. John's.

in the 36th minute. At the beginning of the second half, the Mountaineers put in a header at the 47th minute to grab a 2-1 lead.

It would have been easy for the Friars to put their heads down and give up, but they responded and dominated play for the remainder of the second half.

After many scoring chances, the Friars broke through again in the 71st minute as junior midfielder Ian Wexler slammed home a loose ball in front of the West Virginia goal, knotting the score at 2-2. Sophomore midfielder David Chase assisted on Wexler's goal.

The two teams traded quality shots for the rest of the second half and into the overtime period. The Mountaineers put home the game-winner in the 98th

minute of the game.

Senior netminder Jeff Newman recorded six saves in the losing cause.

Despite yet another heart-breaking loss for the Friars, hope is not lost as they are making some serious strides in their level of play and intensity. Daley felt there were many positives to take from the West Virginia game.

"We're consistently scoring now, getting better production and playing better overall," remarked Daley.

The team's struggles continued when the Friars hosted the nationally ranked No. 10 St. John's Red Storm on Wednesday.

In a tough, physical match, St. John's punched in three goals in the game's first 12 minutes and never looked back,

emerging victorious by a count of 3-1.

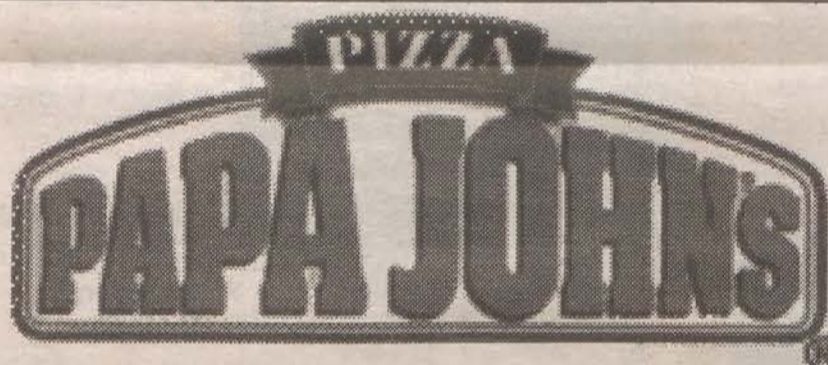
Newman stopped three Red Storm shots and did not allow a goal in the second half of play.

Scoring the lone goal for the Friars was sophomore defenseman Scott Hankard.

Providence nearly scored a second goal on junior Eoin Lynch's bicycle kick that hit the crossbar and ricocheted out of play.

The losses drop Providence's record to 0-12 for the season, including a 0-7 mark in Big East Conference action.

The Friars visit Big East foe Syracuse on Saturday, Oct. 23 and Harvard on Tuesday, Oct. 26.



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# Friars: Tennis victorious despite shuffling positions

continued from page 24

number two position for PC was junior captain Sara Bitetti. Bitetti earned a first round bye as a result of being ranked the top seed in the number two singles position.

In the semifinal round, Bitetti defeated an opponent from UNH 6-4, 6-2, which advanced her to the flight two singles finals. It was there that Bitetti fell to Sacred Heart opponent Pam Pillo, 2-6, 4-6, leaving her with a second place title.

"I usually play better when I play against better opponents," said Bitetti. "It was a hard tournament, but I am happy

with the way the team and I performed."

Also playing out of position was Lee, who played in the third flight this past weekend. Being ranked No. one in the flight, Lee had a bye and automatically advanced to the semifinal round.

After dropping the first match against her Holy Cross opponent, 2-6, Lee came back to win the next two 6-1, 10-6.

In the finals, Lee faced a Sacred Heart opponent and fell 1-6, 4-6, also finishing the tourney in second place.

Next on the court, representing PC in the No. four flight, was Rodger. Rodger had a first round bye, met up with

Holy Cross in the semi-finals and won 6-1, 6-1. In the flight four finals, Rodger went up against UNH and fell 0-6, 1-6, in two straight matches to finish second.

"This year I tried to make it as far as I possibly could," said Rodger. "I probably could have had a little better of a chance at the five spot title, but playing four gave me good competition experience, and in the end I am happy that I was able to finish second in both my singles and doubles matches."

After posting an opening round loss to Sacred Heart, 4-6, 2-6, Christensen came back with a second round victory over Hartford, 7-5, 1-6, 10-7.

With her win over URI 6-1, 6-3, she captured the fifth place honors in flight five.

Representing the Friars in the sixth singles flight was Lyons. Posting consecutive wins over Hartford, 6-3, 7-6, and URI, 6-4, 6-2, Lyons went on to compete against Holy Cross in the finals, where she fell 0-6, 2-6 and left with second place honors in flight six.

In doubles competition, Gilbride and Rodger held the number one spot for PC. They began by trouncing Holy Cross, 8-5, before defeating Fairfield, 8-5. The girls finished against UNH, where they were defeated 1-8.

Bitetti and Christensen were

paired up to represent the Friars in flight two doubles competition, and held the No. one seed.

After their first round bye, the girls won the semifinal round over Fairfield, 8-5, before edging out UNH hopefuls 8-3 to win the title.

Finally, in the number three doubles match were freshman Carly Hoffend and Lee, who were also the flight's top seeded duo.

After their first round bye, the pair defeated Fairfield, 8-3, and rounded out what was a strong weekend for the Friars, posting an 8-6 victory over Sacred Heart to claim the flight three title.

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# Madness signals dawn of new season and newcomers

BY RYAN DURKAY '05  
SPORTS STAFF

The clock struck midnight on Friday night and it was time for the Providence College Men's Basketball newcomers to make the **MEN'S BASKETBALL** important transition from boys to men.

With the dawning of the morning of Oct. 17, college basketball teams can begin official practices. For the Friars, the upcoming month of practice before the Nov. 16 opener against Niagra in the Preseason National Invitational Tournament will prove important—especially since the majority of the team has seen little playing time at the collegiate level. The roster includes four freshman, one red shirt freshman and two sophomores who saw very little time last year.

The new arrivals got their first taste of Friartown at Midnight Madness in Alumni Hall. After the Women's Basketball team took the court and Head Coach Susan Yow briefly addressed the crowd, the lights went down and this season's version of the Friars stormed onto the court led by junior point guard Donnie McGrath.

The team participated in a series of high flying dunks before Head Coach Tim Welsh grabbed the microphone and spoke to the crowd and introduced each player individually.

"We need you to be the sixth man for us this season," said

Welsh. "We have a young squad this season, but we also have a talented group of guys who want to make a return trip to the NCAA Tournament. And let's not forget about our All-American, Ryan Gomes. We are all looking to you to make the Dunk' the loudest arena in the nation."

As Welsh pointed out, despite the youth that abounds on the roster, this team still has a returning All-American and a preseason favorite to win many National Player of the Year honors, Ryan Gomes, a senior forward.

Aside from his own prodigious statistics, Gomes will be key in the maturation process for the majority of these newcomers, whether it be teaching them low post moves, working with them on conditioning or just giving them someone to talk to.

Thanks to the University of Connecticut coach Jim Calhoun's outburst last year when he was continually questioned why he passed over the lightly recruited Gomes, everyone knows about Gomes' journey to college basketball.

His work ethic is unparalleled and if any of that can rub off on his teammates the Friars will be in business.

"He has zero ego," said Welsh. "One of the great things about him is that on and off the court he makes everyone around him feel comfortable and improve. It's like the great players, like the Larry Birds and Magic Johnsons of their era. Everyone feeds off of Ryan's greatness. We have had players average his points and rebounds



TRACY DONADIO '06/The Cowl



TRACY DONADIO '06/The Cowl

Sophomore guard Dwight Brewington (left) provided a highlight reel of dunks for the crowd's enjoyment at Midnight Madness. The PC cheerleaders (above) entertained the crowd before the Friars took the court for the first time this season.

before, but his presence on the court uplifts everyone not just become a better individual player, but a better team player as well."

With the lack of a veteran center, it is absolutely imperative that either freshman Randall Hanke or sophomore Herbert Hill step up. Both are capable of fulfilling this role, but the Big East is not exactly a cupcake conference.

The Friars, as many know, love to play zone and the center must be the anchor. Which one of those two will step up has yet to be determined, but Welsh does not seem to be too worried yet with a month left before the team's first game.

"We will probably play without a true center defensively," said Welsh. "We will have different guys mix and

match and we will do it by committee and we will see who fits in best in the system. I want teams to adjust to us, so we may have to play a little smaller and differently than last year but I think we will have good players on the floor at all times."

With everyone on the team capable of being called into action at any time the battle cry for the Friars should be, "be ready." Welsh knows his players and their talents, it is just a question of being able to use those unique talents in a game situation.

"The freshman I think, have a tremendous amount of talent that has surfaced through the individual workouts," said Welsh. "They all look like they are going to be able to play and work into our system. They are all going to be great players,

eventually. As people know, I am not afraid to play freshmen and I think they will all fit into the mix at some point. Time will determine how much, but they will all get their chance."

As the team begins practice with the coaching staff, this is the time when those encouraging individual workouts must join together to form a unified, focused team before the start of the regular season.

On Saturday night, when the clock struck midnight it did not just signify the beginning of a new season of PC hoops, but also served as the call for those newcomers to start working to step up. The fairy tale ended for Cinderella at midnight, but the Friars hope the opposite occurs.

# Ronzio

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# Lady Friars split season-opening series

Karen Thatcher notches four points in PC's 6-2 victory over Colgate; Friars drop second game by a count of 2-1 despite Hilary Greaves's 30th career goal.

BY PAT BROWN '05  
SPORTS STAFF

The first taste of regular season action for the Providence College Women's Hockey team saw the Friars split their opening series with Colgate on the road.

**WOMEN'S HOCKEY**

PC skated its way to an impressive 6-2 victory this past Saturday, but was held to just a single goal in a 2-1 loss the next day as the Raiders' defense remained solid throughout three periods of play.

It did not take long for Providence to smash open its offensive floodgates in round one of the away-away series, as sophomore Sonny Watrous intercepted a pass in front of Colgate's net 48 seconds into regulation, punishing her hosts with her first goal of the season.

Two minutes later, Watrous, along with senior linemate Rush Zimmerman, set up junior Karen Thatcher on the powerplay to put PC up 2-0.

Thatcher would strike again halfway through the period, thanks to the assistance of sophomore Kristin Gigliotti and senior Mara Amrhein.

With a comfortable 3-0 cushion going into the second session, Providence put



KRISTIN ELLIS '05/The Cowl

Sophomore Sonny Watrous scored the first goal of PC's season in a 6-2 win over Colgate. Watrous later added an assist on a Karen Thatcher tally to put the Friars up 2-0 in the first period. Providence dropped the second game against Colgate, 2-1, in a matchup dominated by the defenses. PC takes on the University of Vermont next, totting a 1-1 record into that contest.

the result out of reach after three more tallies from different goalscorers.

After Colgate trimmed Providence's lead to two, Zimmerman restored PC's

three-goal lead midway through the second period, while freshman Rachel Crissy registered her first goal as a Friar in the third. Gigliotti rounded out the scoring with the team's sixth and final tally in the last minutes of regulation.

Colgate proved that much can change on any given Sunday, however, as it silenced the Friars' guns in round two, holding them to a single entry on the scoresheet.

After a scoreless first period, the Raiders registered two powerplay of the following sessions, earning a 2-0 lead.

At 7:05 in the third, Providence pulled to within one on the man-advantage, as senior Hilary Greaves scored her 30th career goal after being set up by freshman Kathleen Smith and junior Katelynn Laffin.

Despite registering a late tally and

outshooting the Raiders 34-21, it proved to be too little, too late as Colgate sat on its lead until the end of regulation.

"We played really well the first game," said Greaves, "and I think everyone was very excited to get the first game under our belt. I think we got a little too over-confident the next game and they outplayed us. They knew what we were going to do, so that took away a lot of our options."

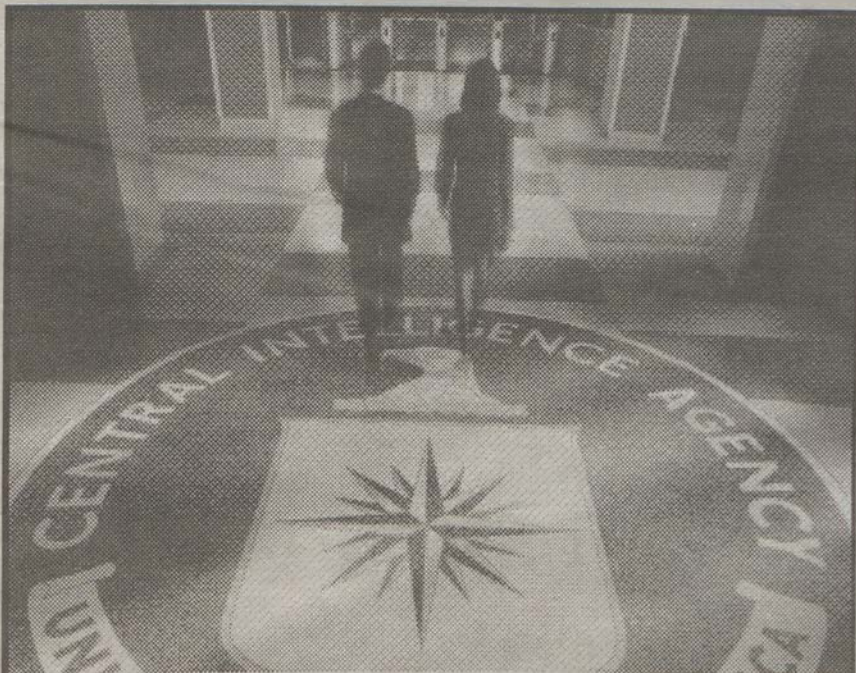
“We played really well the first game and I think everyone was very excited to get the first game under our belt. I think we got a little too over-confident the next game and they outplayed us. They knew what we were going to do, so that took away a lot of our options.”  
Hilary Greaves

Head Coach Bob Deraney agreed. "On the first day, we worked our game plan to perfection," he said. "It was a team-oriented type game. At the beginning of the game on Sunday, we played our game, but weren't getting the breaks. As the game went on, our team started to press and they all wanted to step up and make the big play. As much as you commend people for wanting to be the difference, when you do that you can't get away from your philosophy of playing as a team. Early in the season you're still trying to balance that."

The Lady Friars return to non-conference action this weekend at Schneider Arena, as they host the University of Vermont on Saturday and Sunday for a pair of 2:00 p.m. fixtures.

"We'll look to put in two consistent games, instead of coming out in the second game a little flat," said Greaves. "It helps a lot that the freshmen are already stepping up. I think they'll all have an impact this year."

"I think this is an opportunity for needed experience and getting some valuable playing time for our younger players," Deraney added. "We're used to out-executing other teams; Colgate out-executed us. [Against Vermont] is going to be another weekend where if we don't execute, we're going to be in trouble. But if we execute and play to the best of our abilities, we'll be fine."



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# SPORTS

OCTOBER 21, 2004

## Friars win high-scoring Hockey East opener

BY KEVIN O'BRIEN '07  
ASST. SPORTS EDITOR

It does not always have to be pretty. It does not have to be a dominating performance, or a shutout. A win's a win, and

### MEN'S HOCKEY

never was that more true than last Friday night. The Providence College Men's Hockey team blew a two goal third period lead but still managed to cling to a 5-4 victory against Merrimack in its Hockey East opener at Schneider Arena. The win gives the Friars a 2-0 start to their season, but more importantly it gives them a winning start to what will undoubtedly be a difficult conference campaign.

"Nothing is easy," stated Head Coach Paul Pooley after the game. "But this is how you grow as a club: you make plays, you keep it simple. I thought that on specialty teams they outplayed us, but in the end it was a power play goal that won it."

Pooley had every right to be satisfied with the win, even if it was not a polished performance from his club. The Friars certainly looked the part in the early going, jumping out to a 3-1 lead and outshooting the Warriors 14-9 in the opening stanza.

It was a familiar face who opened the scoring for PC.

Senior center Chris Chaput took advantage of a Merrimack defensive lapse and scooped up the puck, skating down the left boards and cutting inside to deliver a short-handed goal and a 1-0 PC lead. It marked Chaput's first goal on the season and his second point performance on the evening gave the assistant captain and last season's top point scorer a successful start to Hockey East play.

"It's important that we found a way to win," Chaput said after the game. "We let down a little, maybe a little bit of youth helped with that, but getting the win was big."

After a Merrimack goal evened the score, the Friars' fourth line gave them the lead once again, a just reward for their yeomen's work on the night.

After a great chance by sophomore left wing Jamie Carroll, Providence worked the puck back around, and freshman center Dylan Cox jumped on a rebound from sophomore defenseman Dinos Stamoulis' shot to claim his first collegiate goal.

The PC power play would increase the Friars' lead later in the period. Sophomore left wing Bill McCreary picked up a loose puck on the right side and fired one home from a tight angle. A Merrimack short-hander later in the period made the score 3-2, but Providence was able to go into the locker room with the lead after one period of play.

The second period went well for the Friars as well, as they tallied the only goal of the stanza. Just two minutes into the period, sophomore right wing Colin McDonald collected the puck after Chaput won a faceoff and after skating alone in front of the net he made no mistake with his shot, firing a wristed top-shelf past the Merrimack goalie.

But just when it looked like Providence had seized absolute control of the game, it let Merrimack back into it. Up 4-2 and on the power play early in the second period, the Friars let Merrimack tally a short-handed goal, and when it added another goal just a minute later, the score stood at 4-4 and ev-



KRISTIN ELLIS '05/The Cow

**Sophomore Bill McCreary tallied two goals in Providence's 5-4 Hockey East win over Merrimack on Friday, Oct. 15. McCreary won Hockey East Player of the Week Honors for his efforts. On the season, he has recorded four goals to lead the Friars to a 2-0 overall record and a 1-0 mark in Hockey East competition.**

everything was left to play for.

"A lot of it comes down to the inexperience factor," Pooley admitted. "We were our own worst enemy tonight. Merrimack did a good job but we gave them an opportunity. Merrimack's a momentum team—we didn't handle the pressure that well and we let them play themselves back into the game."

"Against a better caliber team we can't do that or it'll kill us," Chaput pointed out after the game. He did give the Warriors the credit they deserved. "This was a much higher pace

game (than the season opener). It's Hockey East, which is the fastest hockey you're going to play."

In the end it was the Friars' hottest player who would pull the team through. McCreary added his second goal of the game and assured a Providence win when he redirected Eric Lundberg's slap shot past the Merrimack goalie with just over 12 minutes left to play.

For McCreary, it was his second two goal effort in as many games to start the year—and for a player who tallied a grand total of five in 36 games last year,

it is certainly a trend he would like to keep up.

"Coach has been harping on me to shoot more," McCreary revealed. Describing the game winner, he went on to say, "It was a battle in front of the net. I was doing what I do best and just got a piece of it. It's great to come back, especially since our power play had been struggling a little."

McCreary was honored as the Hockey East Player of the Week for his performance against Merrimack.

From there on out it was a case of holding on to the lead, which the Friars managed to do thanks to some good saves from senior netminder David Cacciola and a few crucial defensive plays. Pooley was quick to point to his captain, senior right wing Jeff Mason, as a big reason for Providence securing the victory.

"Mason blocks a shot at the end of the game and he gives up his body (to do so)," Pooley pointed out. "That probably won us the game, and I point that out to the guys and say 'That's why he's captain.'"

With the conference opener now out of the way, the Friars can now look ahead to this Friday's encounter with Boston University. The Terriers, picked to finish third in Hockey East in the preseason coaches poll, should prove a stern challenge as Providence looks to continue its unbeaten start to the season.

"We have to play a smart game," Pooley said, looking forward to that matchup. "We have to make them earn their goals. Tonight we didn't, but our kids know that and they understand the game. We just have to be a smart hockey team and not give away anything."

## Women's Tennis is best in New England

BY GREG HARTWELL '07  
SPORTS STAFF

The Providence College Tennis team traveled to Fairfield, Conn. this past weekend where it accomplished a feat that Providence has not achieved in six years—it won the

### TENNIS

New England Championships. Over the three days of competition the Friars duked it out for the title against opponents from the University of New Hampshire, Holy Cross, Fairfield, Hartford, University of Rhode Island, and from Sacred Heart. PC ended up coming out of the tournament victorious with an overall score of 54.

Six years ago the Friars won the New England Championships, but this year's crown is much different than the last one. Six years ago the Providence College Women's Tennis team was a scholarship team. With the resources that



COURTESY OF TENNIS TEAM

**The Friars won the New England Championships for the first time in six years this weekend, totaling 54 points and winning three titles.**

come with scholarships, it generally makes it easier to win. This year's team is a non-scholarship and has dedicated its time to becoming the best that it can.

Another point to consider is that six years ago the girls' positions were basically set through the whole season.

However, due to the absence of the team's usual No. one seed, sophomore Jen Daigle, the Friars had to adapt, and many players were left to compete in a spot that they were not accustomed to playing at.

Among the girls playing out of position were senior

captain Molly Gilbride, sophomore Andrea Lee, senior captain Nicole Rodger, senior Lindsey Christensen, and freshman Katherine Lyons who was also called upon to join the action.

Regardless of the changes, riding a five game winning streak going into the NEC left the Friars optimistic.

"Going into the weekend, I felt that we were the favored team," remarked Head Coach Turner. "During the season, as we won more and matured more in both our singles and doubles play, you could really see us coming together. We got more excited about winning and I think that this emotion was evident this past weekend."

Playing in the No. one position for Providence was Gilbride. Gilbride was accustomed to playing the three slot for the majority of the year and held a 7-2 record at that position.

Playing the first game on Friday for the Friars, there was

a lot of pressure on Gilbrideto set the tone for the tournament. Also, she was playing out of position. Going down 5-1 in the first match, Gilbride was able to rally and get a come-from-behind victory. With this boost of confidence, Gilbride was able to finish off her UNH competition.

"There was a huge difference in playing the No. one spot as opposed to No. three," said Gilbride. "When you are playing in the No. one spot, you know that you are going up against the best that the other team's got, and they are going to be hard."

Following her performance on Friday, Gilbride took on a competitor from Sacred Heart and lost the match 5-7, 2-6. Entering one of the consolation match draws, Gilbride beat Fairfield's Diana Webb, 6-3, 7-5, for a third place finish.

Entering competition at the