WILDCAT WAHHOO ARTISTS ANNOUNCED!

112 & DropKick Murphys will perform May 1st

By John Orttenzio
Editor-in-Chief

J&W will welcome two well-known artists for the Wildcat Wahoo celebration taking place May 1st on the Harborside Campus. R&B sensation 112, and Boston punk group Dropkick Murphys will offer a diverse spectrum of entertainment according to Student Activities officials.

The Wildcat Wahoo is the official end of the year celebration consisting of free food, carnival rides, and many novelties. The festivities, which were once titled the “Griffin Goldown,” after the former J&W mascot, has featured acts such as Keith Murray, PnBロー, the Sagar Hill Gang, and Stroke 9 in recent years.

The 2004 Wahoo will make history this spring, with two major acts performing. Prior Wildcat Waahos: featured only one major artist, leaving many J&W students unsatisfied due to the lack of diversity in the music offered.

According to Steve Morgenweck, assistant director of Student Activities, and coordinator of the Wahoo, the selection process started several trimesters ago. After surveying students, particularly Sports/Entertainment/Event Management majors, Student Activities officials realized J&W students have a very diverse taste in music. Their findings illustrated that the average J&W student is either into hip-hop and R&B, or rock/punk. Please see “Wahoo,” Page 3.
The Campus Herald

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Letters to the Editor must include the writer's name, signature and phone number. We ask that faculty and staff list the department in which they work. Letters should be no longer than 300 words in length. The Campus Herald reserves the right to edit all articles for space and accuracy. Please submit articles by mail, fax, or in person to The Campus Herald no later than 4:00 p.m. on the deadline date. Mail letters to: Johnson & Wales University, Attn: The Campus Herald, 8 Abbott Park Place Providence, Rhode Island 02903. Fax to: 401-598-1171. Email: campusmail@wmu.edu. Hand deliver to: The Campus Herald office in the Citizens Bank Center for Student Involvement (3rd floor) on Weybosset Street.

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Safety & Security

Blotter

- Saturday, 3/20, 9-50pm - Male student assaulted on Clennence Street
  (Description of assailant: White male, 5'7" tall, wearing white sneakers, grey sweatpants, black sweat shirt, and black do-rag, no description of the other suspects) A male student reported he was approached by 6 male subjects while walking on Clennence Street near The Strand night club. One subject struck the student in the head. The student dropped his cell phone when he was struck, and a second subject picked up the cell phone and fled the area. Police were notified.
- Wednesday, 3/24, 9:45pm - Female student assaulted on Pine Street
  (Description of suspect: White male, mid 20s, 5'7" tall, thin build, wearing a black leather jacket, and blue jeans) A female student reported she was assaulted on Pine Street behind the PPAC. She reported she was grabbed from behind by the neck, thrown against the building and forcibly fondled. The student fought off her attacker and ran to her residence hall. Police were notified.
- Sunday, 3/28, 4:00am - Three male students arrested on campus
  Three students were arrested and charged with disorderly conduct. One of the students was also charged with assault on a police officer.
- Wednesday, 3/11, 7:45pm - Female student assaulted on Eddy Street
  (Description of suspects: Two Hispanic males, around 5'7" in their early teens, wearing dark pants, dark puffy jackets and dark hoodies) A female student reported she was approached by four suspects on Eddy Street. One subject demanded her purse. One subject hit her in the head and took her purse. All of the subjects fled the area. Police were notified.
- Sunday, 4/4, 12:45am - Male student assaulted on Allens Avenue
  (Description of suspect: White male, approx. 50 years old, long white hair and beard, wearing ragged clothes. A male student was walking near the Fleet Bank on Allens Avenue when a suspect approached him from behind and grabbed his left arm. The student was cut by a piece of glass during this incident. The suspect then fled the area running towards downtown Providence.)
**Wahoo: 112 & Dropkick Murphys will offer diversity in music**

The hip hop soul group 112, who will perform at 8:00 p.m. on May 1, has been popular since 1996. With three platinum albums, top 5 singles, and a Grammy under their belt, the Atlanta foursome have sometimes been called "the underdog world champions of hip hop soul." They've lit clubs ablaze with sexy songs such as "Only you," "Anywhere," "Peaches and Cream," and the heartbreaker "It's Over Now.

They've been here since '96 and never fell off. They're like a Fortune 500 company consistent," said manager Marcus Grant.

Dropkick Murphys, the matinee performers (7:00 p.m.), formed in 1996. At first, the band was a group of friends simply looking for fun.

"We started playing in the basement of a friend's barbershop and our goal was to blend the musical influences we had grown up with (punk, rock, Irish folk, rock and hardcore) into one loud, raucous, chaotic and often out of tune mix that we could call our own," says the band on their website.

To their surprise, people enjoyed their music and they then began to record and tour constantly. They have released over ten singles, two EP CDs, and four full-length albums.

"I think 112 will provide students with a lively show past artists. 112 has been in the industry longer and have worked numerous shows. The Wahoo will have a better flow than past years," says a Downcity student.

"The show will feature mass chaos, there will be no place to run, no place to hide from the destractive force of the angst induced punk rock that Dropkick Murphys will bring through Johnson & Wales. Lock your doors," said a true fan.

Safety, Security and additional event security will be present to assist in keeping the day safe for all attendees. The general public must be escorted by a Johnson & Wales guest.

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**British style debate makes for interesting night**

**Creation of debate team anticipated by many students**

By Alechia Dow

The Pepsi Forum hosted a British style debate on Thursday March 25. Although it was a rather small event, the audience was buzzing and hushed throughout the duration. There were eight outright debaters, four of whom represented Johnson & Wales, the other four comprised the Cambridge Union Society. The society broke up into the proposition and the opposition. J&W students were placed in each to debate the topic of the American and British influence on and after the Cold War.

The debate followed the rules and traditions of the Cambridge Union Society. There were no time restrictions with each side allotted a maximum of 15 minutes to present their case. The debate was moderated by Secretary of the Cambridge Union Society.

The debate was received with much interest and anticipation by the students. The event was a contest of words and passion about a topic that is dear to many students' hearts. The debate was a success and a great introduction to the world of debate.
Eleven year veteran Gretchen Guerin discusses leadership, change, and life

By Dom Perez & Dita Selmani

• Professor Profile •

Crimped into a warm six by ten-foot office on the fifth floor of the John Hazen White building, Professor Gretchen Guerin is armed with only an eight-inch mini-fan in an attempt to stay cool, "the environmental controls, (the heating and cooling systems) that's the first thing I would change," Guerin proclaimed.

Although Guerin does not foresee that change coming anytime soon she's content with her surrounding and is in no rush to revert back to her high profile career as an International Property Manager. "I didn't have time for my family then, I was away six weeks at a time, it really became too much," she said.

Guerin knew it was time for a change. She soon realized it wasn't possible to have it all, even as a successful businesswoman. Presently, Guerin lives by a new philosophy; she explained, "Now I believe you can have it all, just not at the same time."

In her 11 years at J&W as a leadership professor, Guerin is confident she has passed on knowledge and experience to the students, and vice-versa. Ultimately, her goal is to help students feel comfortable expressing themselves. "It's not my job to tell you how I feel, it's my job to help you understand how you feel," Guerin stated proudly.

In a recent interview with TCH, Guerin talks about her continuous learning process at J&W, and reminisced about her time spent at the Swedish campus.

TCH: What is the most exciting part of your job?

Guerin: The students here are very diverse, they can do many things. I love interacting and getting to know them, they really keep you going.

TCH: What is the hardest thing you've encountered as a professor?

Guerin: When you teach large groups, it is hard to give your best to every student. I like to form personal relationships with my students, like I did when I went to Sweden, because they were so few there.

TCH: How do you feel about the closing of the Swedish campus?

Guerin: I think it's sad. I do understand that there are good economic reasons for closing it. The Swedish campus was a close-knit community and it makes me discouraged that no other faculty member will have the opportunity to experience being there. But, I know that we will continue to attract Swedish students and that is a positive thing. The one-on-one contact was incredible, and the opportunity to live in another culture was rewarding.

TCH: How has the University changed since you've started here?

Guerin: In my 11 years here, it has grown exponentially. The academics are more rigorous and the quality of the programs improves every year. We have a more diverse faculty and student body, and that brings so much to both sides. Also, two campuses have been opened, one in Denver and the one in Charlotte. The downtown campus has been revitalized, with a huge building boom and dorms on campus.

TCH: What have you learned working as a professor?

Guerin: I've learned that you never finish learning. I learn something in every class I walk into everyday. Other things that I've learned throughout my life are constantly being reinforced. Young people are bright, creative and enthusiastic, they make me want to be those things. If you ever stop learning, life ceases to be interesting. I count my blessings everyday, because I see students with challenging situations in their lives, and seeing how they struggle makes me appreciate every moment that I have.

TCH: Tell us a little about your life when you're not a professor.

Guerin: My husband and I like to build things and remodel our house. We have home-improvement projects going on all the time. We have built a studio, a desk, and bookcases. I am also an avid reader. Mostly I read non-fiction literature and forensic criminology, I also have a passion for travel. I've been in the Middle East, Turkey, England, Caribbean, Sweden and parts of U.S.A. And spending time with my daughter and stepdaughter is something that I cherish too.

TCH: What advice do you have for students?

Guerin: Don't be afraid to dream. Take your time growing up, you will be an adult for the rest of your life. Don't forget to have a little fun!

Islandfest: Unity of Caribbean Cultures

By Dom Perez

Assistant Editor-in-Chief

Antigua & Barbuda, St Kitts, and St Lucia are some of the lesser known Islands represented at this year's Islandfest, a celebration of Caribbean cultures complete with music and authentic foods. Each of the 13 islands represented will have a slate of information on tourism for those who want to learn about the history of the island.

Six of the tables will offer a sampling of a national dish prepared by our culinary students. "All will have a taste of some real island food made by Caribbean culinary students here," says Tenia Gaston, president of the Caribbean Student Association.

Always a favorite at Islandfest, stewed codfish is a popular dish enjoyed throughout the Caribbean, and is the national dish of St Lucia. Other featured dishes will include jerk chicken, curry chicken and a selection of rice dishes.

Celebration is not limited to the food; participants can watch dancers perform on island beats and reggae music spun by a local DJ. Also, a mini fashion show will take place displaying different island-wear imported straight from the Bahamas.

There is no limit to the things you can learn with the many other islands represented, which will include; Puerto Rico, Haiti, Bahamas, Barbados, St. Martin, U.S. Virgin Islands and the Dominican Republic.

"We want to educate the J&W community about our various islands and let them know that there are many islands out there [to learn about] each just as beautiful as the next," said Gaston. "Be on time if you want to get the food," she concludes.

Island fest takes place in the Hospitality Garden Room, on April 17, from 3p.m. to 8p.m

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The event will cater to many of the students' endeavors as the vendors include nutrition, Pilates, massage therapy, cholesterol screening, and, of course fitness. A blood drive will also be held in the multi-purpose room from 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

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The chopping block

WELCOME SPRING WITH BLUEBERRIES

BY PHILOMENA CORRADO
King Features Syndicate

What sweeter way to welcome spring than with a blueberry dessert? Here are two beauties that give you that "fix" you long for and a health bonus to boot.

The little globes are low in calories and high in vitamins. But you won't be thinking about their nutritive value when you pick up a forkful of a blueberry creation. You only know it tastes so good.

The Torta calls for a plain, easy-to-mix cake batter, while the Charlotte uses a store-bought pound cake. The yogurt contributes to your three-a-day dairy needs.

BLUEBERRY TORTA

2 cups fresh or frozen blueberries, patted dry

1/2 cup sugar
1/2 cup butter, softened
1 cup flour
1 teaspoon baking powder
2 eggs
1/4 cup confectioners sugar
1 teaspoon milk

Preheat oven to 350 F. Butter a 9-inch cake pan. In mixing bowl, combine sugar and butter; with electric beater, beat until well-blended. Add flour, baking powder and eggs; beat until combined. Spread batter in prepared pan. Sprinkle blueberries evenly over batter. Bake until cake pulls away from the sides of the pan and is golden, about 1 hour. Cool on rack for 10 minutes. Turn out onto cake plate, blueberry side up. In small bowl, combine confectioners sugar with milk; drizzle mixture over blueberries. Makes 8 servings.

Work Study Selection Day

When & Where

Monday—May 3, 2004
Pepsi Forum
10:00 am—4:00 pm

Wednesday—May 5, 2004
Recreation Center
9:00 am—6:00 pm

Students that have been given a federal work study award as part of their financial aid package can choose their work study location for the 04-05 academic year.

Please bring a copy of your Award Letter.

If you have not worked for the University previously, you will need to complete payroll paperwork which requires you to present certain original documents. A listing of these documents can be found in Student Employment Office Public Folder Providence Campus/Resources for Students/Student Employment Office/1-9 document listing.

Sponsored by Student Employment Office Plastawins Hall, 3rd Floor
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BLUEBERRY LEMON CHARLOTTE

2 (3-ounce) packages lemon gelatin
2 cups fresh blueberries, divided
1-1/2 cups plain lowfat yogurt
1 package (4-ounce loaf) fat-free pound cake

Blueberry Honey Sauce
In large bowl, combine lemon gelatin with 2 cups boiling water; stirring constantly until completely dissolved, about 2 minutes. Stir in 1-1/2 cups of the blueberries and the yogurt until smooth. Cut cake in 14 (1/2-inch) slices. Cut each slice into 3-by-1-inch rectangles. Arrange rectangles upright around edge of an 8-inch spring-form pan; arrange remaining pieces to cover bottom of pan. Spoon in blueberry-yogurt filling. Scatter remaining 1/2 cup blueberries over top. Cover; chill until firm, about 2 hours. Serve with Blueberry Honey Sauce, if desired. (Recipe follows.) Makes 8 portions.

BLUEBERRY HONEY SAUCE
1/2 cup honey
1/4 teaspoon ground ginger
1 cup fresh blueberries
2 tablespoons fresh lemon juice

In small saucepan, combine honey and ginger; bring to a boil. Stir in blueberries; return to a boil. Remove from heat; stir in lemon juice. Transfer mixture to blender container and whirl until smooth. Serve over Blueberry-Lemon Charlotte or spoon over cut-up fruits. Yield: 1 cup.

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March 30, 2004 - Packets Available
SGA Office (CBUSI 1st Floor)
Harborside Student Activities (2nd Floor)
March 30, 2004 - Information Session
6:30pm CBUSI
April 13, 2004 - Petitions Deadline
Campaigning Begins at 6pm
April 14, 2004 - Presidential Debates
University Hall Presentation Room 5pm
April 21, 2004 - Meet the Candidates I
5:30pm Gaebe Commons (raindate is April 26th)
April 22, 2004 - Meet the Candidates II
6:30pm Hospitality Garden Room
April 27-28, 2004 - Election Day
Cast your vote at: Elections.jwu.edu
April 29, 2004 - Election Reception
6:30pm CBUSI - Results Announced
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Absence policy fails to examine all aspects of life

BY KARLA PINHER
Staff-Writer

"This is a once and a lifetime opportunity." Your chance to do something amazing. Let your true self shine. Be there for someone because of how much you love and care about them. Enjoy life and every moment it gives you, as long as you do not miss more than three classes at Johnson & Wales University.

At every college, there is some type of attendance policy. Whether it is to attend when you feel it is necessary or to the extreme of missing three classes before you are dropped. Within those three absences, you have to account for being sick, unfortunate deaths in the family, family emergencies in general, and anything else that could be considered important in your life. Maybe a milestone that can change your future, or a hurdle that must be conquered. Whatever it is, you must account for it in those three absences that you are granted in a trimester.

Does the administration feel that only one of these instances will happen a trimester? Are you not able to have a death in your family and be sick in the matter of one month? Of course, teachers do take into consideration the situation. But, the feeling of disappointment that follows after a teacher tells you that it is okay to miss a few classes will always linger. The feeling of, do they really believe me? Given the chance to only miss three classes limits your chance to fully experience the college life. Some days you just do not feel like getting out of bed to go to class. If there is that feeling, we should be able to enjoy it. But, oh wait, I can only miss three classes, and I am expecting someone I love dearly to pass away. Let me wait until then to use my absences. That just does not seem fair. I do not know when things are going to happen. That is why it is called a future. Some say they can predict their future, but in actuality, you can't. Sorry Ms. Cleo, I don't believe it.

The person I usually enjoy writing with was unable to elaborate with me on this issue because someone she truly cares about is having a few medical problems. There are more important things in life than going to class or even writing an article (which was hard for her not to write, believe me!). Where she needs to be at this moment is with that person. The person that needs her most is in Providence, but somewhere else. Should she have to sacrifice missing out an opportunity with that person? She should not have to make the choice. She should be able to be with that person in their time of need, even if it means missing more than three days of classes.

The absence policy here at Johnson & Wales is important. I am guessing they feel it will make students go to class and not waste their parent's money. I understand that, and in some regards agree completely. What I do not agree with is being able to only miss classes. If they are going to put such a stressful rule upon the students, they need to take in all aspects. Tragedy happens, but so does life. So Johnson & Wales, let us experience life to its fullest and give us more absences!

Apathy: The Downfall of America

BY MATHIEU MEDERIOS
Staff-Writer

This November millions of Americans will rush to the polls and cast their vote for what will be our next U.S. President. Sadly millions of Americans will sit at home and watch the results on CNN cursing the winners name aloud. The upcoming election for president is a crucial point in our history. Those who do not vote will not have a say, and will probably have four years of complaining about how awful our president is. Nobody wants to be that irritable person sitting at the bar complaining about how the economy has treated them and the government turned their back on them. The time for a change is now, and the call to action is already under way.

out and vote! In the 2000 presidential election for the Presidency, approximately 18 million people between the ages of 18-30 voted, which made up about 16 percent of the popular vote. Bush lost the popular vote by a little under 500,000 votes but won the presidency by only 4 electoral votes. So the next time apathy is present, consider the facts that have just been presented.

Every year more and more people do not vote. They just say comments like, "What can I do? I'm only one person! One vote doesn't make a difference anyway!" This is what is known as apathy, and it is corrupting the values that this democratic union was founded on. Those same citizens with apathy are those who walk around complaining about how we need to do something about Bush. Well there is one way to help out. Go to the polls, vote, and down with Bush.

The statistics are correct and prove that anyone, including you, can make a difference. Apathy is a disease that is powerful enough to potentially kill our democratic values and beliefs. Voting is the easiest and most important thing you can do as an American citizen. So when it comes time to vote, remember that you either choose or you will lose. Rock The Vote!
The interactive 'Speak Out' section of The Campus Herald is meant to provide the University community with a professional forum to voice their ideas and opinions. To submit a question for 'Speak Out' please email campusherald@jwu.edu.

Vikki Brownlee- Fr. S.E.E.
I'm just waiting to go home.

Lauren Riley- Fr. Hotel Management
“Standing outside everyday.”

Dave Silva- Fr. Business Mgmt.
“I can’t wait to go down by the bay.”

Base David- Sr. Management
“Mini skirts, tank tops, skin and beauty.”

Josh Murkle- Fr. S.E.E.
“Being able to go the beach.”

Tyler Hunt- Fr. Business Admin.
“Going to the beach.”

Tyrone Bennett- Sr. S.E.E.
“A summer girl and a good summer job.”

Cheryl King- So. Paralegal
“The beach and cute summer clothes.”

Doug Taft- Fr. Criminal Justice
“Playing sports, enjoying nature and world peace.”

Ryan Blake- So. S.E.E.
“Red Sox games and road trips.”

Matt Noga- Fr. S.E.E.
“Going running.”

Joanne Williams- Fr. Criminal Justice
“Vacation.”
In the past, California has produced some of the world's hottest acts in rock. Thrice has taken the world by storm and blared onto the rock scene with their version of what is being dubbed post-hardcore. The Campus Herald recently had the pleasure of conversing with one of the most original hard rock acts since Metallica. Riley Breckenridge, drummer of Thrice, took time out of his grueling schedule to tell us all about his band. He spoke about their current tour with Poison the Well and their upcoming tour with Dashboard Confessional.

**TCH**: When asked to describe Thrice to someone, I find it hard to say whom you might sound like and usually just end up saying they are totally original. Who would you say your influences are?

**Thrice**: We got asked the same thing, and we really don't listen to any new artists. We try to keep our music totally original as you said, and recently just started listening to lots of jazz and classic rock.

**TCH**: You are currently on tour with Poison the Well. How is that going?

**Thrice**: It's going great. We've been fans of them for a few years and got a chance to hang out with and meet them last summer on the Warped Tour. We're all just a bunch of music geeks and enjoy hanging out. So, when we got this chance to tour with them we knew it would be awesome. They're moving out to the West Coast soon, and we look forward to getting to hang out with them then too.

**TCH**: I noticed that Thrice really doesn't have that MTV image and your music doesn't really conform to the norm of radio friendly hits. As a band, what would you say your goal is? Where do you see Thrice in about five years from now?

**Thrice**: We don't really like to think about the future. It makes us depressed to think where we might be in five or ten years because the thought of maybe being at some job working for 'the man' all day for some paycheck, and not being happy can really bring you down. We focus on the show tonight and where we need to be next week. Our goal is to keep making great music as we've been doing and also progressing as musicians. So, in five years we all want to still be here making music that we love.

**TCH**: I heard you guys donate to a charity called Syrentha J. Savio Endowment. Tell me a little about this fund.

**Thrice**: Well, our producer, Brian Mcetman, is good friends with Mark Beemer, a photographer who lost his wife to breast cancer two years ago to breast cancer. Before she passed away, she had Mark start this charity, which gives all donations to women who are diagnosed with breast cancer who may not necessarily be able to get proper treatment. The great thing about donating to this charity is that by being friends with Mark we know exactly where our money goes. We have raised over $70,000, and all of it has gone directly to the cancer treatment, and not some CEO's new Mercedes.

**TCH**: After this tour finishes up you are embarking on a large tour with headliner's Dashboard Confessional. How do you think this tour is going to do and what will it bring to Thrice?

**Thrice**: It's going to be great! We've been friends with Chris for three or four years now. When he asked us to go on tour with him we were very excited. It's going to be great to play for such a diverse audience, where our fans and Dashboard's fans differ. We're even going to do a few songs acoustic. We love playing in front of new people. The larger venue makes it all very exciting and we're just going to go out and rock their faces off every night. See and hear Thrice, "rock your faces off" for yourself! After they finish up their current tour, they are heading out in support of Dashboard Confessional on a nation wide tour.
At the movies: Dawn of the dead

BY MATTHEW MEDFORD
Arts & Entertainment Writer

In the long running line of zombie horror flicks, George A. Romero’s 1978 sequel to Night of the Living Dead is considered one of the best cult classic horror films ever made. The original took typical back and slash gore films and made it new and fresh among film viewers for that era. In the 2000’s era, Zack Snyder has taken Romero’s piece and made it yet again fresh and new with the technical film advances of today, creating a new brand of suspense/horror film.

The film takes place in Everett Wisconsin where things go terribly wrong for what seems the city. As the film progresses like a cannon ball rolling down a hill, you soon find out that the epidemic has affected the entire United States. People start to attack other people, and soon enough the population is dwindling down to nothing which is of the living. They appear dead, but the fact of survivors that take refuge in a local mall soon find out they are all alive, and hunger for the living. The film follows the survivors as they battle to stay alive as hundreds of zombies flock to their safe place in search for the only humans left in the city. The battles the people have inside, as one by one they are turned into the things that they are trying to keep out, keeps the film in non-stop action from the beginning.

The climax of the film happens when the survivors decide to leave the haven of the mall which is quickly becoming overrun to make a break for the harbor where there supposedly is a way to escape. Snyder does something that’s an amazing-ly talented and crafted to do and that is to let the viewer create in his or her mind how the terrible events started and ended.

To appreciate this movie you have to withstand a barrage of graphic scenes and heart racing moments. This movie leaves you cringing and hanging on the edge of your seat. If you make it to the end without biting off all your nails or hiding behind your jacket, you are rewarded with a truly unique film experience that holds true to Romero’s 1978 cult classic and adds today’s Hollywood film touch. The result is a perfect blend of suspense, horror and action. A must see for diehard movie goers or horror flick fans, we give this movie an A.

Speak Your Mind: AS220 Poetry slam

BY TYRENE HALL
Staff Writer

The building started off quiet, it was just another Wednesday in March. The next 15 minutes would bring people together from all over on this last Wednesday of March.

The house was packed with Johnson & Wales students, professors, and people from the community. Everybody was extending their greeting and the air was filled with questions of, “How are classes,” and “What have you been up to.” It might have seemed that it was a scene at Chestnut’s or Cafe Commons. This location was not something you would find in the building, but their friends made it feel like this place was an extension of their daily routines.

The nook of the day was AS220 on Empire St. The establishment serves as a meeting place, a showcase, and work space for many of Providence’s most talented artists, musicians, and writers. There is an open space with a stage, bar, and DJ booth downstairs. There is an amazing art gallery that is upstairs. Tonight, though was a Johnson & Wales Poetry Slam. This wasn’t the stereotypical view of poetry people have for years. The days of beatniks, rain days, and depression are gone. This poetry slam brought plenty of raw talent and emotion to the stage. There were powerful poems that brought raw energy and pure emotion from the readers lips to the listeners minds.

The first and fourth Thursday of every month bring a Poetry Slam that is run by the Providence Youth Slam Team, which also serves as there open call to people who want to try out for the team. The Providence Youth Team competes against other slam teams in New England, and they have an extremely talented line up that is a force to be reckoned with. The Johnson & Wales Youth Poetry Slam was organized by Professors Marilyn Davis and Marsha Norwood with the poet Bernard Dolan who was also the host of the night.

Open Mic calls started the slam and it was just a time for people who wanted to read a poem, but didn’t want to compete. It was a preview for the obnoxious hold that was to grace the stage later. Fayce Dutchess convinced the crowd just how satisfying a cat of Poets can be on a late night. The highlight of the Open Mic session may have been a mesmerizing poem in American Sign Language from Edwin King.

The poem was translated by another poet, but Mr. King’s hands spoke their own words.

A brief intermission followed the open session and it was a showcase for more talent. Poets Mamic Expressive and Switch dropped Jewels on the crowd over human beat box. Manic Expressive, who was also a host, let the crowd know what was going on with the way we’re living and how we have been consuming the environment. Youth Slam Team member Alexo let the crowd know just how powerful words by prose can be. I brought my pen to a gun fight. The intermission’s talent kept the ball rolling for the main event, The Slam.

Eight poets brought there most commanding poems to the competition. The Slam was split into three rounds consisting of 8 poets, 5 poets, and the final 3 poets. The poets with the highest scores in the round went into the next. Judges from the crowd were responsible for scoring the material.

The majority of the material was phenomenal making it hard on the judges to decide who was better. Joshua Freedman let the world know what he went through when he fell in love with a woman who was his best friend. The pulses of ladies in the room sped up when poet JAH recited his sensual crowd involving poems. The lady of the evening Rachel Rock had every woman in turn standing up from their chairs cheering as she let the crowd know that women really have the power. The caliber of poetry elevated with every round. Eamon Mahoney made sure every body in the room wanted to take efforts to dissolve any racial hate that has ever been present in the world. Danny Brigante gave a wake up call to everyone in the room with a rapid fire poem that let people know they need to recognize what’s going on around them.

The three finalists were Mahoney, Danny Brigante, and Rachel Rock, but all the poets definitely did their thing. Rachel Rock held it down for the ladies by taking the first position by edging out Mahoney and Danny Brigante based on the judges point tally. The crowd gained the most from the Slam however Students were signing up all night to come and see the Providence Youth Team’s Slam the following night. Teachers were just as happy to see our students there as many of them asked there class to come to the event. Professor Scott Palmieri who was also part of the planning committee spoke roundup up a lot of the audiences feelings saying, “We were all very excited about the success of the slams events and hope programs like these continue in the future.” The next time the Poetry Slam comes up, the house should be packed with poets and listeners alike.

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Marines battle insurgents in two Iraqi towns; at least 60 Iraqis killed in Fallujah

FALLUJAH, Iraq (AP) U.S. troops battled with insurgents in two central Iraqi towns Wednesday, with at least 60 Iraqis killed and more than 120 wounded in overnight fighting in Fallujah, hospital officials said.

Mosques in this besieged city called for a holy war against Americans and women were seen carrying weapons in the streets, a day after up to a dozen Marines, two more coalition soldiers and scores of Iraqis were killed in the most extensive fighting since President Bush declared major fighting in Iraq over in May.

A top U.S. general in Iraq, meanwhile, vowed to "destroy" a Shiite militia led by wanted radical cleric Moktada al-Sadr that has launched a wave of attacks against coalition forces in southern cities.

"We will attack to destroy the al-Mahdi Army," Brig. Gen. Mark Kimmitt told reporters in Baghdad. "A threat to our citizens and the people of Iraq."

He said U.S. forces were trying to hunt down members of the al-Mahdi Army in the mainly Shiite neighborhood of Sadr City in Baghdad, and he called on al-Sadr to surrender.

"If he wants to calm the situation ... he can turn himself in to a local Iraqi police station and he can face justice," Kimmitt said.

Rwandans bury remains to start week of mourning to mark 10th anniversary of 1994 genocide

KIGALI, Rwanda (AP) Survivors of the 1994 genocide in Rwanda on Wednesday buried the remains of hundreds of victims recovered over the last three years in mass graves to mark the 10th anniversary of the government-orchestrated slaughter that left more than 500,000 people dead.

The symbolic burial on a hillside marked the beginning of a week of mourning for the Tutsi and political moderates from the Hutu majority who were killed during the 100-day slaughter that tore apart this small central African nation.

The remains of hundreds, locked in war

German court orders release of only Sept. 11 suspect ever convicted

HAMBURG, Germany (AP) The only Sept. 11 suspect ever convicted was freed by a Hamburg court Wednesday pending the outcome of his retrial on charges of aiding the suicide pilots.

Mounir El Motassadeq, 30, has been serving a maximum 15-year prison term in Hamburg since a court in the city convicted him in February 2003 of giving logistical help to the Hamburg al-Qaida cell that included three of the Sept. 11 pilots.

He was ordered freed on condition that he stay in Hamburg and not be issued a new passport, said Sabine Westphalen, spokeswoman for the Hamburg state court. El Motassadeq's whereabouts were not immediately known.

In their decision, the judges also said they viewed suspicions against El Motassadeq as less serious than before.

While the original arrest warrant cited "urgent suspicion" that he was guilty of more than 3,000 counts of accessory to murder, that has been downgraded to "adequate suspicion," Westphalen said.

He also faces unchanged charges of membership in a terrorist organization, she said.

El Motassadeq was found guilty of the combined charges in his first trial. An appeals court has ordered a retrial starting June 16, saying he was denied a fair trial because the U.S. government refused access to a key witness in its custody.

Prosecutors allege El Motassadeq helped cell members conceal their involvement in the plot to attack the United States while they lived and studied in Hamburg.

Hong Kong critics lash out at China's ruling on political reforms

HONG KONG (AP) Pro-democracy figures on Wednesday charged that China had violated constitutional law by asserting control over Hong Kong's political reforms, and some predicted the move could stir unrest in the territory.

China issued a ruling Tuesday that Hong Kong must get Beijing's blessing before trying to change the way it selects its leader and lawmakers, giving the central government more control over such matters than is spelled out in the Basic Law, Hong Kong's mini-constitution.

The Standing Committee of China's National People's Congress put forth the ruling in an interpretation of the territory's constitution in a move many here viewed as an attempt to quash growing calls for full democracy.

"It has been calculated to add new obstacles to Hong Kong's already bumpy road to full democracy," said Law Yuk-kai, director of the Hong Kong Human Rights Monitor.

The Basic Law holds out democracy as a goal for Hong Kong but sets no timetable, and Beijing insists it's only explaining the way forward.

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