

# FREE NEWSPAPER **The Observer** ASSOCIATED COLLEGIATE PRESS

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The Official Student Newspaper of Bristol Community College

Fall River > New Bedford > Attleboro > Taunton

April 2010 Issue 7

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Pictured: Governor Deval Patrick (Photo by Ryan Michael Pease)

## NO FEE INCREASE FOR BCC STUDENTS Governor Patrick Proposes Increase in BCC Funding

BY CHRIS WILBUR  
Editor-in-Chief

Governor Deval Patrick announced that Bristol Community College could receive a 25 percent increase in state funding if his fiscal year budget recommendations are adopted.

The governor made the announcement at a press conference held at BCC in early March.

"I hope that what you see from this budget and this announcement is all of us are doing everything we can to invest in the future and that is you," Patrick said.

His announcement came on the heels of Bristol Community College Board of Trustees' recent vote to hold student fees at 2009-2010 levels.

Along with keeping BCC student fees at this year's level, President of BCC, John Sbraga made a commitment to keep the BCC workforce at its current level based on Governor Patrick's FY11 budget recommendations.

"This pledge is possible because of Governor Deval Patrick's bold commitment to higher education in his recommended budget appropriation for next year," Sbraga said.

"BCC does not want to come out of economic insecurity on the backs of

**Governor Patrick, Page 6**

## Strattan Receives Observer Award

BCC NEWS BRIEF

Lisa Strattan, editor-in-chief of *The Fall River Herald News* and the *Taunton Daily Gazette* received the BCC 2010 *Observer's* Community Achievement Award.

Strattan served as the guest speaker for the first meeting of the new *Observer* and has offered guidance and support to student staff throughout the Spring 2010 semester.

She was singled out for the award based on her dedication to community and public service journalism and for her support and commitment to the scholastic journalism community at BCC.

The award was presented to Strattan by *Observer* editor-in-chief, Chris Wilbur.

## Bristol Bees End Season On Top

BY SEAN WILCOXSON  
Sports Editor

What a difference a year makes. Only a year ago the Bristol Community College Division III basketball team went a miserable 8-14, led by Coach DeLaleu.

Now, after their second year, the novice team has become the force to challenge. The Bees went 17-5 this sea-

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Editor-in-Chief ..... Chris Wilbur  
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## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

### Dear Editor:

Sincere congratulations and good wishes on the re-launch of *The Observer*.

As the voice of Bristol Community College, you are embracing the true spirit of community journalism: You're delivering news and information that matters to your community. I hope you're proud of your endeavors; you ought to be. You're providing relevant, timely and thought-provoking

content that's proprietary in nature ... your readers can't find it elsewhere. As students and consumers of news you've certainly heard about the perceived "crisis" in newspapering. I can assure you that rumors of the industry's death are greatly exaggerated, and The Observer's revival is proof positive of that! Your efforts at BCC and beyond will help to ensure that our country, and our community, will always maintain a viable free press.

You've worked hard, editors, reporters and photographers. Your campus community is lucky to have you.

Sincerely,  
 Lisa Strattan, Editor in Chief  
 The Herald News  
 Taunton Daily Gazette

### New Advising Tool Benefits Students

BY ERIC NAPOLEONI  
 Fall River Campus Reporter

As of the Fall Semester of 2010, BCC is implementing a new student advising tool — Degree Works, a web-based degree auditing and advising tool, designed to aid students and their advisors.

According to Academic Advisor Specialist, Benjamin Baumann, the program is not intended to replace "face-to-face" advising, but will serve as an expedient, to better educate students, in a shorter amount of time.

"If students use this to plan their course sequences, then we can use this data to better plan what courses the College will need to offer," said Vice President of Academic Affairs, Sarah Garrett.

Course planners and schedules, unofficial transcripts, and GPA calculators are some features provided by the program to help students.

Degree Works is available to enrolled students using the 2006 catalog or later and training sessions will be offered to acquaint students with its services. Information can be found on students Access BCC accounts by clicking the "Degree Works" tab and following a stepped tutorial.

"I strongly encourage you to login to your access BCC and explore this extremely useful software," said Benjamin Baumann.

## More Than 800 BCC Students Transfer Close to \$500,000 Scholarships Awarded

BY BRITTANY DEGAGNE  
 BCC Alumni

More than 800 BCC students transferred to four year colleges in the Spring and Fall of 2009, according to a March of 2010 report issued by Eileen Shea, BCC's Director of Transfer Affairs. Two hundred and forty students transferred to UMASS Dartmouth, one hundred and seventy-two students went to Bridgewater State College, and twenty-five transferred to Roger Williams University in Bristol, Rhode Island. BCC transfer students were awarded a total of \$494,952 in transfer merit scholarships.

The top five BCC programs that students transferred from were: liberal arts 21%, general studies 23%, business transfer 9%, elementary education 5%, and criminal justice 5%. Two hundred

and sixty-two were day students, one hundred and eighty-eight evening students, and three hundred and sixty-one were cross registered students. Cross-registered students are those who take a combination of both day and evening courses.

Other colleges that students transferred to included: Boston College, Boston University, Brandeis University, Bentley College, Bryant University, Clark University, and Rhode Island School of Design, Columbus State College, Coastal Carolina University, CUNY Brooklyn, Fitchburg State College, Iowa State, and Jackson State University. Also, Southern University, A&M, SUNY Stony Brook, University of Georgia, UMASS Amherst, UMASS Boston, and UMASS Lowell.

"I think that it is most important for BCC students to know that their transfer options go beyond the state colleges and universities," Eileen Shea said.

"Last year students transferred to 106 different transfer institutions," she said. "BCC transfer students were awarded nearly \$500,000 in transfer merit scholarships."

Twenty-three students graduated from the BCC Commonwealth Honors Program (CHP). Tom Grady, the director of the program, said CHP means, "Intellectually challenging experiences to highly motivated and gifted students in every discipline. The program allows to customize honors experiences to meet your own individual needs and desires."

According to Grady students have the opportunity to work one-on-one with faculty members, crafting intellectually, stimulating experiences that are appropriate for them.

Because CHP is offered within the Community College Advantage students can earn the first two years of their baccalaureate degree for lower cost than at a

four-year institutions.

"An honors student who completes all the requirements of the program will graduate as Commonwealth Honors Program Scholar," Grady said.

"There are no limitations, obligations, or drawbacks to being in the program, only opportunities," he said.

CHP students transferred to Brown University, Northeastern University, Simmons College, Clark University, Wellesley College, Massachusetts College of Pharmacy, Salem State College, and Fisher College among other colleges and universities.

For more information about student transfers contact the Transfer Affairs Office at extension 2229.

### BCC Engineering Club Newest Group on Campus

BCC NEWS BRIEF

The BCC Engineering Club is the newest student group on campus. The club meets every other Wednesday, from 3-4pm in B-111.

The club's main goal is to support all engineering students and their activities on campus.

Many students in the club are currently working on underwater robots for the upcoming Regional and International ROV competitions.

Club members are also interested in issues like clean water, community service, environmental sustainability, "green" energy, music, recycling, and many other current topics.

The BCC Engineering club welcomes all students and faculty to join and to contact the web site, [Bccsmart.com](http://Bccsmart.com) for more information.

### Fall River Mayor Flanagan Talks About the Railroad and Gambling

BY CHRIS WILBUR  
 Editor-in-Chief

Fall River Mayor William Flanagan spoke at an open forum for students at BCC this March.

The Mayor spoke to students about the proposed South Coast rail road line and casino gambling.

"Every Governor for the last 16 years has promised a rail," Flanagan said.

Flanagan said he supported the rail line. He said it would stimulate costal development and support job creation. The rail line will have to pass through swamp lands, he explained, which will upset conservationists.

Flanagan told students that casino gambling is "a viable option for the city of Fall River."

According to Flanagan, the casino would bring three to five thousand jobs for city residents. Casinos he explained, have been traditionally associated with moral vice, the destruction of families, prostitution and drug use, but the mayor

said he has yet to see definitive data supporting these claims.

Construction jobs, tax money, incentives provided by those initiating the casino, and revenue from land purchase, would additionally fill the Fall River coffers, making moneys available to fund things like public education and public safety.

Public safety has been a mainstay of Mayor Flanagan's commitment to Fall River. Flanagan cited his major accomplishments in this area as investing in increased policing, administrating a "broken window policy," where dilapidated neighborhoods are cleaned up to deflect criminal activity and bringing absentee investors to heel when crime occurs on their property.

BCC student Andrew Keith asked Flanagan, "Won't casino gambling bring about increased crime?"

In responses, Flanagan said, resort casino gambling may bring about an increase in crime, but the productivity of



Mayor William Flanagan (Photo by Ryan Michael Pease)

increased revenue and economic development, would expectantly leave Fall River on the better side of the bargain.

Among those in attendance were Fred Rocco, Dean of Behavioral and Social Sciences, Sarah Garrett, Vice President of Academic Affairs, and President John Sbrega. Student Trustee Michael Hull invited Mayor Flanagan to Professor Donald Kilguss' class as part of the event.

## NEW BEDFORD CAMPUS

### WISE Women: New Horizons

BY CHRISTINE LOMBARDO  
New Bedford Campus reporter

Many people are unaware of the WISE Women program at BCC. It is an empowering and positive resource that works to help single mothers get off benefits offered by the Department of Transitional Assistance, otherwise known as welfare. Many women have lost jobs in the recent bad economy, or due to other unforeseen circumstances.

The WISE Women program steps in to show the way to a new life for them. WISE stands for Working in Successful Environments, and by the time a woman completes this program she will have up to fifteen college credits, and be placed in an internship in General Office Services, an opportunity that can provide a much needed fresh start.

The program works on a cohort system, which means that women take classes together and form a bond that helps them face adversities along the way much better than they would on their own. A woman whose child was hospitalized had the other women rally



Pictured, third from left, front row, Susan Souza-Mort, director of the WISE Women Program and members of the New Bedford campus program. (Photo by Christine Lombardo)

‘It doesn’t matter  
where you come  
from, it matters  
where you’re going.’

around and support her, something that she may have had to face alone if not for WISE Women.

Denisha Morales sums up her experience with the program quite well with 3 simple words: “I love it”.

The director of this program, Susan Souza-Mort, is no stranger to the struggle these women are experiencing. She herself was once a single mother, who was determined to better her life, and knows

just how hard it is to move upwards.

WISE Women was not available to her, although she wishes it was. However, she beat the odds, going on from BCC to study at Simmons College and Oxford in England before coming back to BCC to teach. It is here that she believes she can best give back and help others who are in the same circumstances she once found herself. “It doesn’t matter where you come from, it matters where you’re going,” Mort said.

Women who go through this program are offered daycare as well, a great benefit to both mothers and their children. Participants must have a GED or high school diploma. For more information contact Susan Souza-Mort on the New Bedford campus office, extension 3327.

**WISE Women**  
**For More Information**  
**Susan Souza-Mort**  
New Bedford Campus  
508.678.2811, ext. 3327

### Health Care Education Center Comes to New Bedford Campus

BY CHRIS WILBUR  
Editor-in-Chief

BCC’s New Bedford campus was bursting with big names in politics and industry at the seed sowing ceremony for New Bedford campus’s implementation of a long standing ambition— an expansion of the health care education program.

BCC and The Princeton Review, best known for their S.A.T. exam for high school, have joined forces on a public/private partnership aimed at addressing the shortage of healthcare workers.

The Review plans to invest about \$2 million in the program in the first year

covering materials and online curriculum development.

“The Health Education and Wellness Center,” will be located in downtown New Bedford.

State Senator Mark Montigny, (D-New Bedford) called the partnership a ground-breaking opportunity.

According to Montigny, “Healthcare is an ever-growing field in need of a well-educated and technically trained workforce.”

“BCC has been the key to urban development downtown, economically and in the arts and culture,” he said.

BCC has long had a competitive nursing program that New Bedford

Mayor Scott Lang called, “one of the most coveted programs to get into.”

Terri Romanovitch, Dean of the New Bedford BCC campus at the Star Store, was instrumental in making the new program a reality.

According to Romanovitch, the new downtown center will be a training facility for health care aspirants, where in return, the public will be able to obtain the service of the interns practicing under the guidance of the faculty.

The planned Health Education and Wellness Center will provide openings for health-field hopefuls, simultaneously filling the deep demand for health professionals.

BCC President John Sbraga, said the shortage of healthcare workers is a nationwide problem.

According to Sbraga, BCC has had almost 1,000 applicants for only 72 nursing positions.

“These programs — including nursing, occupational therapy, complementary healthcare, physical therapy, and others — are very expensive programs to run,” Sbraga said.

Michael Peric of the Princeton Review said there is a severe shortage predicted of health care workers, at a time of record unemployment. That translates into great demand for medical jobs.

“If we are going to solve these economic problems, we have to start thinking out of the box,” Peric said.

“President Sbraga and Terri Romanovitch were able to think out of the box and kept this thing alive,” he said.

## OPINION

### MassPIRG

You’re Paying For It  
**OBSERVER STAFF, CHRIS  
WILBUR, EDITOR-IN-CHIEF AND  
JANE CHAPIN, NEW BEDFORD  
REPORTER**

MassPIRG is a word not unfamiliar in the halls of the Student Senate. The question of who they are, what they do, and how are they funded, has been causing many heads to be dipped together, and a few tones to rise in frustration. Equally, some voices of protest have passionately defended the group and even pedestalized it.

In the spotlight, is the funding mechanism, which requires students to “Opt-out,” meaning to students, if you didn’t un-check that box, you paid for it. Whether this will stay, will depend on students votes this April on the Student Trustee ballot.

**But who is MassPIRG?**

MassPIRG is a branch of U.S. PIRG, a Public Interest Research Group. In the United States, more than 100 college campus’s support the group. They basically organize students to campaign against current social issues.

MassPIRG, like other PIRG’s introduces students to activism and organizes campaigns to combat issues current social issues. The groups slogan is “Standing up to powerful interests.”

The key that differentiates MassPIRG from other student activist groups is the funding. A student is automatically “Opted in” to paying for the \$9 fee at registration, whether they know about the group or not.

According to Kathleen Burns, “In all the rush and tumult of a new semester many students do not realize that the fee is not mandatory. Not only are most stu-

dents unsure of what they are paying for but very little if any of the money actually stays at the campus where it’s generated.” As Director of Student Affairs, Kathy’s business is to over see this kind of activity.

Burns followed up with vivid praise for the group’s work, which Dr. Ron Wiesberger, director of the Tutoring and Academic Support Center, supplements. Their work, “gives students the opportunity to learn more about issues that effect them.” To him, the organization allows students to not only take in knowledge by study, but to apply that knowledge in real world activities.

MassPIRG has a standing resume of running student projects to such causes as hunger and homelessness, global warming, recycling and keeping higher education affordable, but echoing Kathleen Burns student senate member Joe Frias said, “we have nothing against MassPIRG, but it’s an issue of where the money is going.”

“How much money goes to MassPIRG?” Burns, provided a little light. MassPIRG grossed over \$70,000 in FY09, each penny coming from the automatically opted in student fee.

With such an income, the question remains, was how much of that is going directly to getting students involved?

“Not enough” Said student senate member Nick Staab.

Nick went on to say that MassPIRG is indeed doing worthwhile things at BCC, and doing a good job. They “do make a positive impact, they do things on campus that help to support and employees are nice people.” But, Staab goes on seriously, “MassPIRG makes a lot of money, a lot, of money.”

The largest issue with MassPIRG funding is that students must opt-out, in order not to pay. And Burns stated earlier in the hustle and bustle of admission, students rarely have the time or inclination to research a research group, that they may have never heard of.

**But is it fair?**

According to Staab “It is not fair to

students who do not know about it.” Staab with other senate members opt for an “opt-in” rather than an “opt-out” where students would be able check the box if they were interested in contributing to the group, wherefore if not, they simply would not check it, and would not pay.

With all this, I had to talk to, Tiffany McGuyuer . She is the Campus Organizer of MassPIRG at BCC.

Entering her office is like a wild color ride through past campaigns, the walls are splashed with posters. An salvaged chair is nestled, comfy looking in the tiny offices corner. There is even a life-size super-hero card-board cut-out, with John Kerry’s face.

She told me that “MassPIRG is Student run, student directed and student funded. There are lots of problems out there and lots of solutions, students have the ability and power to pool their resources together to hire researchers and lawyers to work on campaigns that they are interested in.”

Her answer to the funding question was that it “goes to staff and student campaigns, and also goes to lawyers and researchers, hired to lobby for student-driven causes”

Staab, illuminated that a New Bedford or Attleboro student, may indeed pay for MassPIRG, but never receive their services. “Not enough students are aware that MassPIRG is here and the group has the capacity to do so.”

McGuyer agreed and said “We are going to be doing more outreach to New Bedford & Attleboro campus”

So the question still remains, is MassPIRG funding mechanism fair? Should students be required to opt-out of something they may not even be aware of?

Or should they be able to opt-in, consciously deciding to dedicate their fee to the cause? A cause that is by all accounts, a good one.

The question will be decided this April by student voters, and will appear on the ballot for Student Trustee.

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Submission Deadline Monday, April 26<sup>th</sup>

Winner announced Thursday, April 29<sup>th</sup> at the Annual Rhoda Sheehan Poetry Open Mic Location: FR Campus, Basin Area near G Bldg.

Event begins at 12:30

(Rain location: Brick Area H Bldg.)

Questions, contact chrisann.souza@bristolcc.edu

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# SPORTS

## ► BRISTOL BEES

Continued from page 1

son, beating some tough rivals like Roxbury and Bunker Hill.

From a struggling team of individuals last year to a strong unit in 2010, nothing other than amazing can be said of the Bristol band of brothers.

The leader of the team is Sophomore Frank Stephenson, who averaged 21 points per game, and played last year as a freshman. who averaged 21 points per game, a sophomore and played last year for the Bees as a freshman.

“Last year was terrible. This year? We could have gone farther, we turned it around. This year was a success,” Frank said.

Stephenson held the team together as they journeyed through the tough and grueling NJCAA Division III season.

Facing big teams like Bunker Hill Community College and Roxbury Community College, the Bees were not phased. “We were the only ones to beat every team in the region,” Frank said.

Stephenson talked about how big

the fan support was for the team, how instrumental it was for the team’s success to have a good support at home court. “The school was a big help, there was crazy fan support,” Frank said.

### Thanks, fans!

At the start of the 2009-2010 season, Coach DeLaleu recruited four freshman to play for the Bristol Bees, and Frank emphasized how important these new players were for the team’s success.

“Playing at a college level is more height, speed, and tempo. There were three top teams in the country playing in our region,” Frank said, “So we needed fresh talent to keep up from Mass. to Maine.” Frank said.

Frank Stephenson is moving on next year to a four year college, but he is not leaving the team. He will be acting as a coach, getting them ready for the next season.

The coaching staff contributed to the team to make the players better, not only on the court but in the community and in the classroom.

They meet each week as a team, studying and working on their grades to stay eligible. The coach and his staff help to improve the grades of the players as well as teach them valuable lessons like camaraderie and team work on and off the court.

### Next year

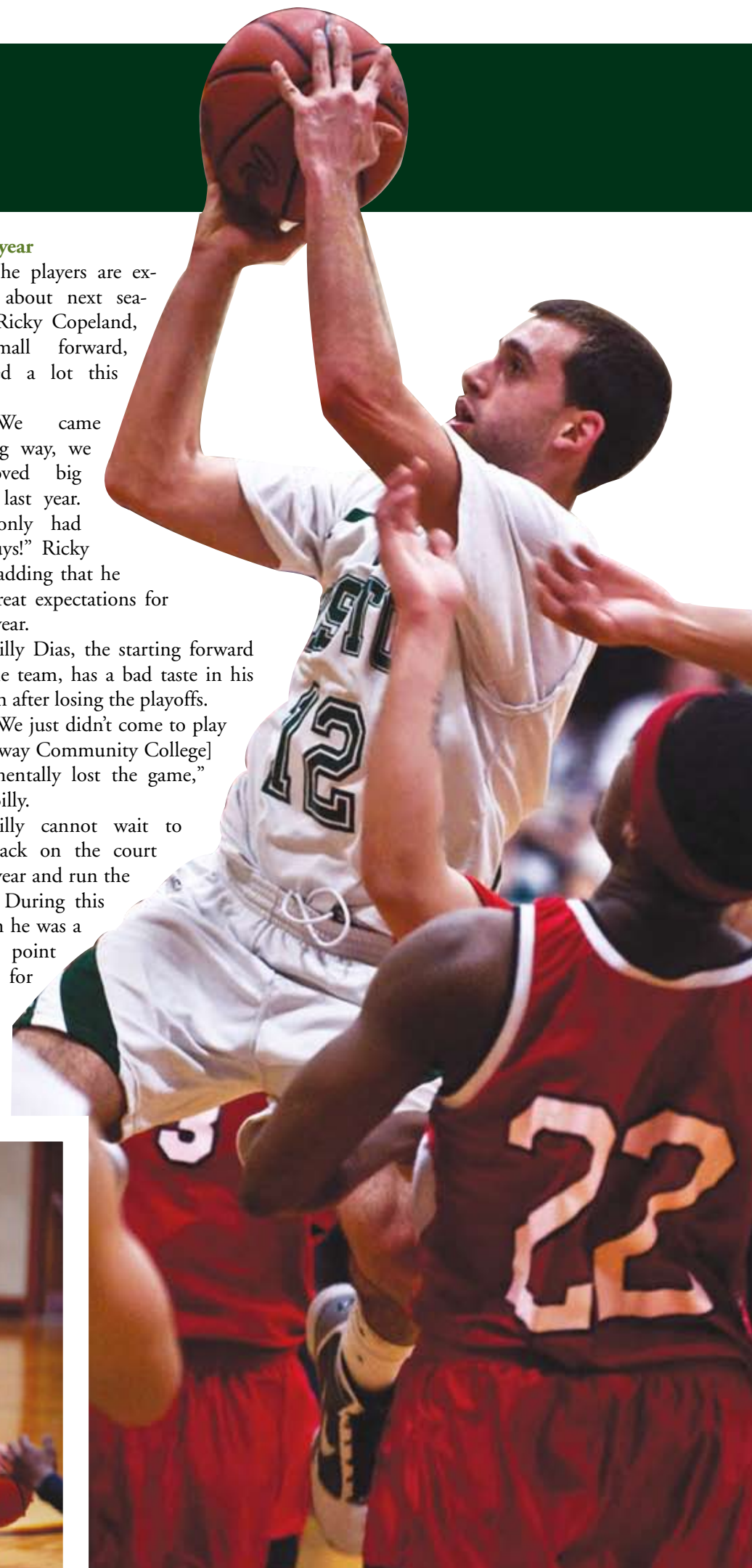
The players are excited about next season. Ricky Copeland, a small forward, learned a lot this year.

“We came a long way, we improved big from last year. We only had six guys!” Ricky said, adding that he has great expectations for next year.

Billy Dias, the starting forward for the team, has a bad taste in his mouth after losing the playoffs.

“We just didn’t come to play [Gateway Community College] We mentally lost the game,” said Billy.

Billy cannot wait to get back on the court next year and run the floor. During this season he was a 1000 point scorer for



the Bees.

The three other freshman players: Chris Andrade, Sonny Mello, and Bryan Carbajal, came to Bristol as part of the starting lineup.

Chris and Sonny are in General Studies and Bryan takes Sport Management courses.

*‘Next year? We are going all the way. We are going to Nationals.’*

Both Bryan and Sonny are from Fall River’s Durfee High School. Chris is from Pawtucket.

This trio had a look in their eyes that said next year the Bristol Bees will be a team to be reckoned with in the future.

“Next year? We are going all the way. We are going to Nationals,” said Bryan. From the bench Ryan Machado and Andrew Anderson brought energy and shooting to the floor. Andrew, also a freshman from Portsmouth, commented on just how amazing the team progressed this year.

“We started off as individuals not knowing each other, but by the end of the season we were family,” Andrew said.

Ryan came off the bench as a 1000 point scorer. He is a forward for the team and a strong shooter. This is his first time playing basketball at a collegiate level. “We know what it takes for next year. If we work hard, show up, and come to play, we will be unstoppable,” Ryan said.

## Basketball Coach Rob Delaleu teaches on and off the Court

BY ANGELA ROELLKE  
Sports Reporter

Rob Delaleu has been guiding the Bristol Community College Bees men’s basketball team since the program started last year.

Despite a 8-13 record last season [2009], he coached the BCC Bees to a winning 17-6 record this season and a shot at the NCAA Division III regional title.

*‘But such success doesn’t come overnight.’*

“You need to crawl before you can walk and walk before you can run,” Coach Delaleu said.

Coach knows, Delaleu is a former basketball star himself. He scored over 100 points when he attended Dean College.

According to Delaleu, no matter what team the BCC Bees play, he feels that if they play to their full potential they can beat anyone.

Delaleu began his college coaching career at Dean College in Franklin, Massachusetts where he led the Dean team to a regional championship in 2003.

He later worked with Bridgewater State College, Bishop Stang High School and New Bedford Regional Vocational

Technical High School.

However, . . . his baby-steps began at New Bedford Voc-Tech.

But with Delaleu, It’s not all about sports; grades come first.

In order for the Bristol Bees to keep their grades up in school, Delaleu organizes study halls which range from one to two hours a week.

Team members complete assignments or study for upcoming test or quizzes.

“I do it to keep kids in a gym rather than playing on the street,” he said.

His bottom line assessment of coaching: “I love it and nothing else compares to it.”



## Playing Basketball at BCC

BY ANGELA ROELLKE  
Sports Reporter

Growing up on Cape Cod with my three brother helped me succeed as a basketball player. My brother James and I would go outside rain or shine and play for hours.

My grandfather was captain of the Duke University Basketball team and ever since then my uncle played basketball ball did my father.

My father coached me throughout my middle school years.

After middle school years at Forestdale School, I attended Upper Cape Cod Regional Vocational Technical High school.

In high school I was also involved

in varsity soccer, varsity volleyball and varsity softball.

*‘Basketball is the main reason I commute an hour a day five days a week to attend BCC.’*

During my basketball career I was coached by the former women’s basketballcoach at BCC Joy Gonsalves.

I ended my high school career scoring 1106 points and broke three school records.

Basketball is the main reason I commute an hour a day five days a week to attend BCC.

At first, I was nervous starting out at a

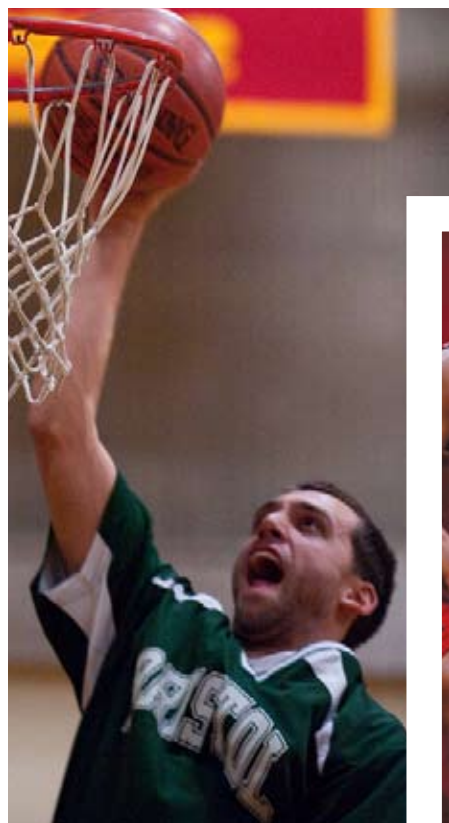
college level because I was concerned how the other girls would accept me and then someone told me that I was not there to make friends and play but to play how I played.

After getting to know the team I was accepted as a teammate and that meant the most to me.

I started playing for BCC as a starting point guard.

My major is engineering technology and I plan to continue on to a four year school after BCC.

(Photos by Ryan Michael Pease with the exception of the enter photo provided by College photographer Bert Lane)





## ▶ Governor Patrick

Continued from page 1

students" the president said, referring to a traditionally floating fee system, where at minimum, fees would be raised yearly to the rate of inflation, he said.

Governor Patrick additionally supports the idea of community colleges being tuition free.

"We can't get there overnight...but I like the idea," he said.

Fees are set by the college and tuition is set by the state.

According to President Sbrega, community colleges are, "an engine to spark economic recovery and to train the workforce."



John J. Majkut

## Professor Majkut Will Be Missed

BY MIA FINEBERG

New Bedford Campus Reporter

John J. Majkut, 68, of Tiverton, RI, passed away on Tuesday, March 23, 2010.

From 1968 to 2010 Professor John J. Majkut made himself a well known and liked leader. Not only was the professor a dedicated professional but an inspirational mentor to the many students hoping to pursue a position in his field of study; Engineering and Technology.

A multi-tasker he was setting up jobs, co-ops, internships and site visits for students and pursuing industrial partnerships. Other professors of Engineering say "he made an effort to get to know all of his students-who often came back years after they had graduated to proudly update him on their progress".

Professor Majkut served as the De-

partment Chair of Engineering and Technology from 1989 to 2004. He spent a majority of his time dedicated to updating the engineering curriculum to ensure graduates would be well prepared for the jobs available. In the years the professor worked at the college he boosted a series of forward looking initiatives including the Environmental Technology program, the Fiber Optic/Telecommunication program, and Computer Integrated Manufacturing. Professor Majkut contributed generously to the Marine Technology program as well.

Professor Majkut has been missed dearly by his many students, co-workers and family, and his contributions have been greatly appreciated. He made it difficult to forget him with all the grants for scholarships and benefits students are now eligible for because of him. Our prayers go out to his family and our thanks go out to him.



Top, Photovoltaic System on Building D. Below, Wind measuring tower in Parking Lot 8. (Photos by Ryan Pease)

## BCC SINGLED OUT FOR ENERGY CONSERVATION

Savings Estimated at \$400,000

BY BLIGH MACDONALD  
Observer Contributor

Efforts to improve BCC's energy-efficiency are paying off in more ways than one, as the school has recently been singled out as having the best energy conservation program of any college in New England.

The program, implemented by the school in conjunction with Constellation Energy, will reduce annual consumption of water, electricity and natural gas by 47, 28, and 31%, respectively, for an estimated annual savings of over \$400,000.

Measures undertaken at the college to reduce cost and waste include improved insulation of facilities, efficiency upgrades in lighting, installation of new energy management and water conservation systems, and the addition of solar panels.

The philosophy of conservation extends to construction projects on campus. For example, the new Welcome Center in G Building was built with recycled materials and utilizes non-toxic finishes.

The New England Chapter of the Association of Energy Engineers recently presented a representative of BCC, Leo Racine, with an award for the achievement.

The college still sees room for improvement and is currently exploring the

possibility of installing a grant-funded wind turbine. John Long, Assistant Director of the Center for Business and Industry sees opportunities in the daily habits of BCC students, faculty and staff. According to Long, simple acts such as turning off lights and computers more regularly can save hundreds of thousands of dollars annually on the scale of a facility the size of BCC.

"You've got to teach people to change the way they do things," Long said. "But it's not something that happens overnight. Really, it involves cultural changes."

BCC has taken the first steps toward a cultural change among its 'family,' at least in leading by example. Vice President Steve Kenyon said, "Not only is BCC's commitment seen as a global responsibility, but also as a significant opportunity for the students of today to gain the knowledge and skills they need regarding clean technologies and issues relating to sustainability to become the leaders of tomorrow."

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# THE BIG QUESTION

## Energy Conservation

What are some of the ways that people can be more energy efficient in their daily lives?

"We should all wear leaves instead of clothes."  
- Josh

"We could use paper bags for shopping and eliminate plastic."  
- Mathue

"...not use any form of electricity for one hour every day."  
- Katelyn

"Pikachu Power."  
- Mike

"Be a Vegetarian."  
- Noelle

"People should paint their cars red... they'll go three times as fast that way."  
- Kvl

"People could recycle ... instead of trashing 90% of it."  
- Zach

A brick in the back of your toilet tank will save water every flush."  
-Kevin

(Photos by Ryan Pease)

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## ATTLEBORO CENTER

### Synesthesia Helps Transform Professor Carreiro

BY SEAN WILCOXSON  
Attleboro Campus Editor

"This is the place where dreams are made!" exclaimed Dr. Keith Carreiro, standing on stage for the first time in 12 years.

In the auditorium of the Attleboro campus a moving message was transmitted to the audience. Carreiro stood on the stage and demonstrated powerfully union of the senses.

He called it "Synesthesia," meaning that people are able to reach a point in themselves where anything is possible. It must happen in the classroom if we are to expand our possibilities to grow and learn, he explained.



(Dr. Keith Carreiro (Photo by Sean Wilcoxson)

Synesthesia, which is known around the world as a transformative power, was the topic of the "Tercer Congreso Internacional Sobre Sinestesia" (Third international conference on Synesthesia), held in Spain.

Carreiro was asked to speak on his experience with Synesthesia at the conference. While there, he reflected on his life and how far he has come, from being diagnosed with a form of Parkinson's Disease, to losing his ability to play the guitar, to being homeless on the streets, yet persevering to attend Harvard and achieving what he thought was impossible.



(Top and Below, Dr. Keith Carreiro (Photo by Sean Wilcoxson)

He shared with the audience an experience of awesome possibilities. He said the potential to reach a higher state is inside everyone.

Carreiro view of classrooms today is a sad one. He sees that the teacher preaches a sermon and the students stare blankly, wasting the waiting potential to learn. After playing a beautiful melody on his guitar, Dr. Carreiro asked the audience: "Are you in touch with the vibrations?"

He was the teacher and the audience were the students, demonstrating what should be happening in all classrooms across the country: the joy of learning, when older and younger minds come together to ignite and spark knowledge to grow.

One student, Nicole MacNeme, was so touched by Dr. Carreiro's message, she fell to tears. The power of Carreiro's words reached out to her.

From being homeless, his thinking changed from hopelessness to something else, something greater. It was something that allowed him to see his own potential and rise above his current situation of living on the street. This something propelled him to get into Harvard.

Carreiro's story is nothing short of a miracle. Because of this transformation, his love and passion for learning came back, as well as the ability to play the

guitar.

"We have the power to transform our environment," he said.

For the first time in 12 years he overcame his disability with stunning grace and magnitude.

Students can find Dr. Carreiro performing this power everyday with students young and old at the Writing Center at the BCC Attleboro campus.

He is a true testament to the truth that dreams can come true for anyone, if you only work for them.

His feeling toward BCC students is clear, "I see the fire in a student and I want to help them achieve what I did."



### NEW ADDITIONS TO BCC MATH COURSES IN THE FALL

BY ERIC NAPOLEONI  
Fall River Campus Reporter

In the Fall 2010 Semester 2010, BCC will be moving from its current developmental math sequence to a series of three developmental courses, and for other students, including those enrolled in engineering, there are an additional three new courses.

"The total number of credits from arithmetic through pre-calculus has remained the same, but the organization of the courses has changed quite a bit" said a member of the BCC Division of Math, Science and engineering, Greg Sethares.

Sethares is also the department representative working on the CONNECT math project. CONNECT is a Southeastern Massachusetts public higher partnership between the six major community colleges in Southeastern Massachusetts.

"When a student leaves BCC to transfer to another state institution, it is now more clear how their college-level courses should transfer and also in what math courses they should enroll at the receiving Institution," Sethares said.

"Another factor in the curriculum change is that our one-credit arithmetic class has been expanded to a 3-credit foundations of mathematics class. This change will better prepare students for the study of algebra and beyond," he said.

"Our new 3-credit arithmetic class is now consistent with what the other community colleges offer and also with the recommendations of the 100% Math Project, as is our entire developmental mathematics sequence," added Sethares.

"For a student who comes to BCC and is placed into Introductory Algebra, the number of courses for a student heading toward calculus has now been reduced by one and the number of credits reduced by two. The trigonometry component of our pre-calculus sequence has been expanded to better prepare students for the study of Calculus," he said.

"This new sequencing of courses, especially in the developmental mathematics area, will better allow for more proper advisement in mathematics. Also, students in Business Transfer and Engineering Technology will only have to complete MTH 031 (previously MTH 07) as the prerequisite to their program mathematics courses," said Gerald Lepage, member of the BCC Division of Mathematics, Science and Engineering Department.

"All in all, this leads to better preparation in mathematics, better advisement and often fewer courses needed to do this," said Lepage.

Students should contact their advisors for more information on these changes.

### One-On-One With GOVERNOR DEVAL PATRICK

BY CHRIS WILBUR  
Editor-in-Chief

**Q (Wilbur)** "Governor Patrick, do you support the idea of Community Colleges being tuition free?"

**A (Patrick)** "I do, now we have to get there gradually and as revenue and other financing sources improve. We can't get there overnight. But I like the idea, I like the expectation that free education starts at kindergarten and goes right up through two years of college level work. I also think that we have got to do some more work around aligning the mission of community colleges to the workforce needs in the regions where they operate. Bristol Community College does an outstanding job there but I think its fair to say that it is uneven in different parts of the commonwealth."

**Q (Wilbur)** How do you see community colleges contributing to your vision for the commonwealth?"

**A (Patrick)** "Our calling card around the world is education, and in particular a highly educated work force, and the community colleges are indispensable in maintaining that, and growing it."

**Q (Wilbur)** "Are you satisfied with the level of involvement of young voters?"

**A (Patrick)** "Never satisfied. Its improved. Overall, we have lowest voter participation in any industrialized democracy."

**Q (Wilbur)** "What can we do to improve this?"

**A (Patrick)** "We have a lot of work to do, to make sure people understand they get the government they deserve, that everyone has a stake and responsibility. And not just at election time, but in-between."

**Q (Wilbur)** "What can we do to get them involved?"

**A (Patrick)** "One is go ask for it. I have found that young people have an old fashion notion of responsibility, of service and sacrifice. We haven't molded what it means to contribute, and that's a necessary ingredient in a stronger community."

**Q (Wilbur)** "What's the #1 thing you have done for job creation?"

**A (Patrick)** "Create a better environment for people to help themselves. The work we have done to invest in the infrastructure, to invest in education, is very very important. The work we are doing now around access to capital, for small business, because 85 percent of our businesses are small, and controlling healthcare costs. The legislation which is in front of the legislator right now, is also incredibly important. We have simplified permitting and we have cut the corporate tax rate. You would be surprised that big businesses don't pay so much in taxes. They have all kinds of ways to shield that revenue. Not so much small businesses. So, I think it's about creating the conditions [for prosperity]. You know I call CEO's large and small, companies outside Massachusetts and in, every week, one on one, [asking] what can we do, what do you need? So we build, one foot in-front of the other, as I was saying inside. No grand gestures, just the blocking and tackling, and we have got to do obviously a lot more, because the times demand it."

**Q (Wilbur)** "What has been your greatest achievement?"

**A (Patrick)** "In life? My kids. I have two daughters 24 and 21, and they are marvelous, independent, strong, compassionate young women, and I am incredibly proud of them."

### Student Senate Corner STUDENT SENATE AGENDA INCLUDES FUNDRAISING

BY JANE CHAPIN  
New Bedford Campus Reporter

The Student Senate had been working diligently this month to help raise the money for the Haitian fund, this was a project headed by Steve Ozug to help the Haitian students return home to see their families after the devastating earthquake this past January. The first bake sale raised \$312.58

The Senate is now on Facebook. Students are encouraged to "fan" the page and keep up with hot topics and goings on about school. It is also a great way for students to connect with the senate members about relevant issues.

Senate members are also available in the senate office which is now open in the G building. The hours of operation are: Mon., 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.; Tues., 3:15 p.m. - 5:15 p.m.; Wed., 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.; Thurs., 9:00 a.m. - noon and 5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m., and Fri., 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. and 2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

The Senate is currently working on an End of the Semester Bash, a fun and exciting way to celebrate the end of another successful semester. The theme will be Hollywood. There will be movies in H building, games and more on May 6th.

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**To register, please contact:**

UMass Dartmouth Enrollment Center  
508.999.8071 V  
508.999.9129 FX

## Fitness Center Offers Free Classes for Students, Faculty and Staff

BY ESTRELLA FITTON  
Fall River Campus Editor

The Bristol Community College Fitness Center, located in the G building, offers free gym classes to enrolled students, faculty, staff, or alumni students at no charge with a BCC access card.

The hours are Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

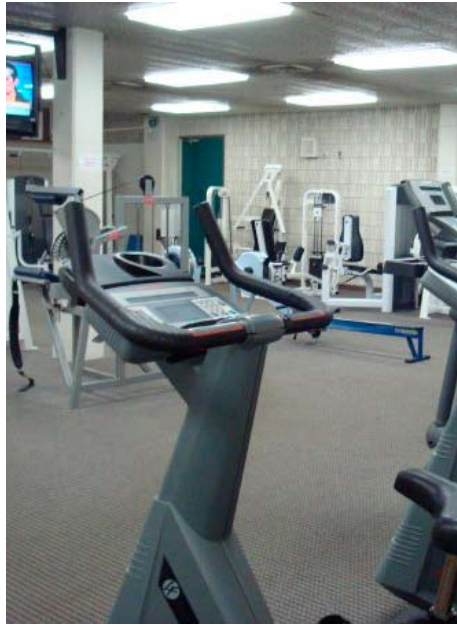
The gym offers different group exercise classes with different instructors. The classes are about an hour long.

These classes are only offered in Fall and Spring.

The gym is open in the summer during its normal hours of operation.

For the warmer weather and sunny days, there are tennis courts and basketball courts available to use. There is also a half mile walking path available.

Some of the equipment at the gym includes: a punching bag, treadmills, free weights and more.



Fitness Center photo Facebook®

If needed, the gym provides men's and women's lockers and showers. All that is needed is a lock to protect your valuables in the gym lockers.

The gym is a clean and friendly environment and also a place to meet new people while you workout.

There are class schedules and flyers at the gym front desk. For more information contact the gym director, Diane Hamel, at extension 2296 and the gym can also be found on Facebook.



## Rumble in the Jungle: BCC Theater Rep Presents The Jungle Book

BY JAMIE CADIMA  
Arts and Entertainment Editor

The Bristol Community College Theatre Rep is currently in production of the *Jungle Book*, directed by Rylan Brenner.

Shows for the public start April 30th and May 1st at 7pm. Tickets are \$12 for the general public, \$10 for staff and faculty, \$6 for students, and 2 for 1 for children under 14 years of age.

There will be a matinee on April 28th and April 29th at ten o'clock in the morning. These shows are for school children and are not open to the public at this time.

The production of the *Jungle Book* by Joseph Robinette, is based on adventures of Mowgli, a young child who is adopted and raised by wolves in the Indian jungle. It is based on stories by Rudyard Kipling.

As Mowgli grows up, he learns the

ways of the jungle and the different personalities of its animals. Mowgli, is accepted as a "wolf" by the other animals, but when Mowgli is finally exposed to humans he begins to question his own identity. Mowgli resists the realization that he is a human because he is dismayed by the greed and destructiveness of those who invaded the jungle.

Bristol Community College Theater Rep was awarded a grant by the Fall River Arts Council to allow Fall River school children to attend the matinee performances for free when the schools or classes book in.

The grant helps introduce children to theatre, who may be seeing theatre for the first time. It also lets BCC connect to the community in a direct way by entertaining all of these school children with masks and puppets and plays.



## BCC Art & Design, Annual Juried Student Exhibition

Show runs from April 22-May 7 at the Grimshaw-Gudewicz Art Gallery, Jackson Arts Center, Building H

Opening Reception, Thursday, April 22, 6-8 pm