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The Observer

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THE OFFICIAL STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF BRISTOL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

DECEMBER 2010, ISSUE 12

BULLIED TO DEATH

By ASHLEY MARTINS

A state anti-bullying law was enacted in Massachusetts on May 3, 2010 that requires schools to develop and implement an anti-bullying program and orders any indication of bullying or cyber bullying to be reported to school officials. In the most extreme cases, legal authorities must be notified.

This new law was passed after a 15 year old student at South Hadley High School, Phoebe Prince, was bullied to death by her peers.

According to investigations, Ms. Prince committed suicide after months of verbal abuse from several classmates on school grounds. These vicious attacks continued electronically through text messages and postings on the social networking site, *Facebook*.

Six teenagers have been charged in harassing Prince and are awaiting trial.

According to the Department of Education, 25 percent of American students are bullied at least once a day.

Bullying is a serious issue that has evolved into an even bigger problem today in schools all over the country.

On September 22, 2010, an eighteen year old New Jersey college student, Tyler Clementi, ended his life by jumping off the George Washington Bridge. It was allegedly reported that his classmates, Dharun Ravi and Molly Wei, had secretly filmed him having a sexual encounter with another male student and launched the footage live on the Internet.

Ravi and Wei are charged with invasion of privacy. Following Mr. Clementi's suicide, a bill has been drafted in New Jersey to enact stricter legislation for cyber bullying.

Prince and Clementi's tragic incidents illustrate the many untold stories millions of people face against bullying every day.

Some students who attend Bristol Community College have spoken out against bullying and recounted their experiences.

Rachel Geary recalled the harassment she endured from her classmates. Ms. Geary said, "I have been bullied in both middle school and high school. The characteristics that my classmates chose to pick on were my ethnicity and appearance. I felt very isolated and alone. At times, I wondered what I did to bring this on. Eventually, I learned that bullying is not about the victim. It is about the bully and their issues."

Michael Barbosa said, "I was bullied throughout my three years of middle school. People called me names. They made fun of me because I came from a poor family. They also assaulted me for no reason. Bullying is something I take very seriously. ..I've actually intervened a few times, and stood up for the person being bullied. If I were to witness bullying on campus, I would absolutely help resolve the problem any way I could."

Khenni-Lynn Rego said, "I was bullied along with tons of other students in elementary school by older grades. It was upsetting and it made me despise school for awhile."

Matthew Carter adds, "I define bullying as the intentional intimidation of another person for any purpose. From threats to violence, there is no difference."

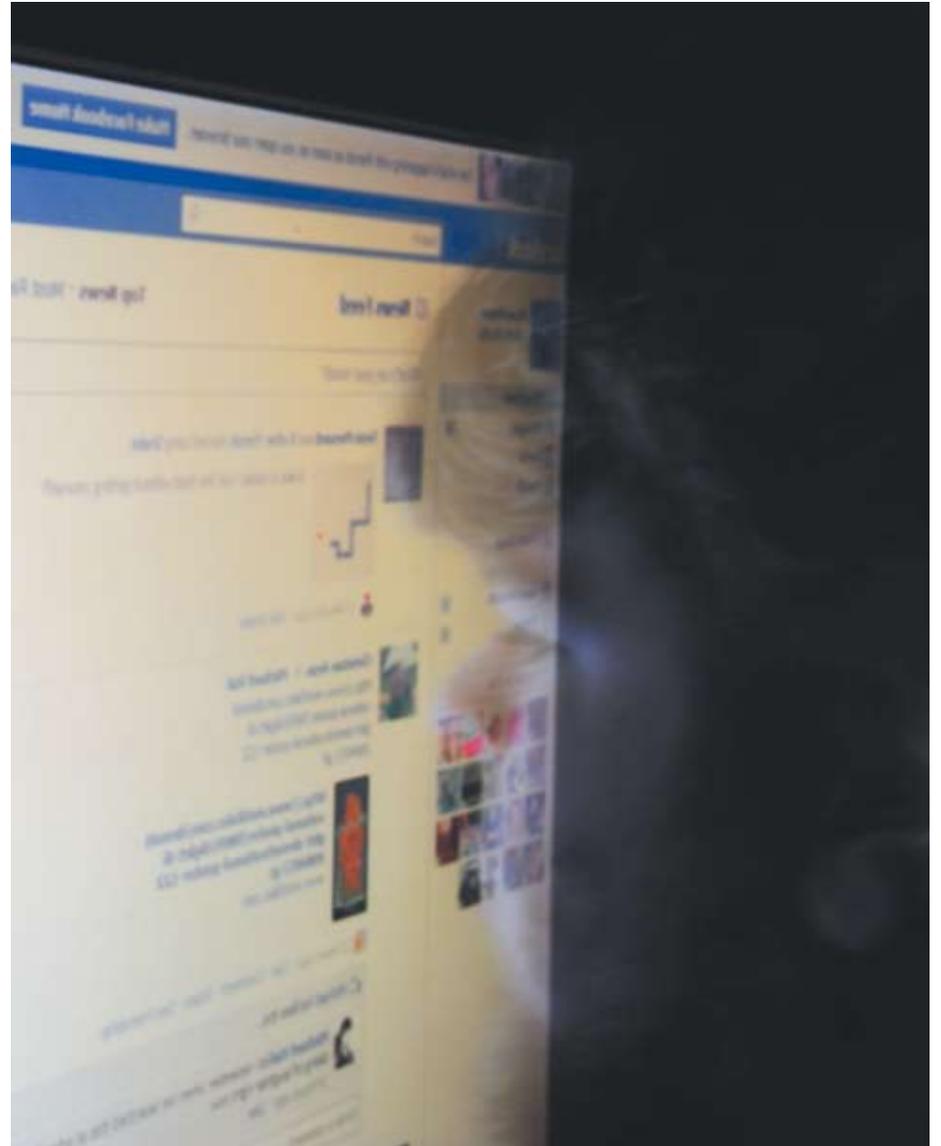


Photo by Ryan Pease

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ARE YOU BEING BULLIED?

Remember, you are not alone. It is important for you to reach and speak out to others. Whether it is your parents, teachers, guidance counselors, or close friends, building a support system of people you can trust and confide in can make all the difference.

BCC's Director of Counseling, Michael Bensink, addressed how students can get the help that they

need directly on the BCC campus.

Mr. Bensink said, "Students who are seeking help in dealing with the impact of bullying (which, among adults, might be considered harassment or discrimination or abuse) may benefit from counseling to help process accompanying feelings/emotions, which can include sadness, isolation, low self-esteem, anger, and hopelessness. Counseling Services

also helps people connect with entities that provide additional levels of service, particularly in situations where there are safety concerns."

If you have been physically or mentally abused by another person on BCC grounds, immediately contact Campus Police by calling 508-678-2811, ext. 2218. Emergency phone: ext. 3911.

IN STYLE AT BCC

BY KATRINA MERCIER & JANINE BARAO

AS THE TEMPERATURE DROPS AND THE SNOW FALLS, DON'T BE CAUGHT WITHOUT THESE WINTER ESSENTIALS

As fall draws to a close, it's time to take out those hats, mittens and scarves. Layer on the clothes and top it off with a big, warm jacket. Time for an update, here are some fashionable things to put on your Christmas list this year.



ASHLEY MARTINS

As the holiday approaches, we all want to look nice when seeing the family. A look to try is leggings or tights with tweed shorts or a mid thigh skirt. The high-waisted fit looks good with a tee or tank tucked in. To match the look, wear a neutral top with a fun cardigan. Add a belt or scarf to make it your own and finish with sparkling earrings or a bold necklace.

Leggings are a lot of fun because there are some for everyone. Leggings can come in lace, different colors (purple is great for winter), some come with buttons or zippers and some mock the look of leather or wool. Try leggings under a long, cozy knit sweater with boots and sparkly jewelry. For a sexier look try lace leggings with shorts, skirts or a sweater dress; finish this look with heels or knee high boots.



KATRINA MERCIER

For a more comfortable and casual look put on a warm velour jumpsuit. They are a dressed down item but can still flatter any frame. For extra comfort this suit looks great with Uggs or knitted boots.

For an edgy look, an oldie but

goodie are leather pants. Pull off these pants with a baggy off the shoulder tee and finish with matching ankle boots or pumps. Sequin skirts and shirts are a festive touch for this season. Pair this flashy look with something more simple like a cotton oversized shirt or black shorts and leggings. For something more casual wear a sequin top with jeans and heels. For a fun New Year's outfit a sequin dress will make you stand out.

Waisted-belts are definitely a must have this winter. Wrap the belt over your coat to make it look more fitted



JANINE BARAO

and flattering. Remember to put the belt around the skinniest part of your waist, this will pull together an hourglass shape for any figure. Textures are also in this winter. Fur, lace and leather are great to add as accents to an outfit. Don't go overboard it's better to be tasteful with these; a little goes a long way. Fur comes in all different styles; you can wear it as a full bomber or touches of it on a sweater or even a vest. Leather accessories are stylish and still casual. For winter, long sleeve lace tops are a way to be sexy without being too revealing. Try this looks with a bright colored tank top to make a bold statement.

Leather boots with buckles seem to go perfect with every winter ensemble. Gretchen Araluce said, "Knee high boots are great for all occasions, you can either dress them up or dress them down." No matter knee high nor ankle



GRETCHEN ARALUCE

you can never have too many different style boots for this New England weather.

Coats come in all lengths. Try a longer one for warmth and style, or a short one

to look flirty and fun. Tweed is a great texture for coats. You should stay neutral when buying a coat so it goes with everything especially since we are all a bit strapped for cash around the holidays. Grey, black, brown go with almost every color. White is a favorite especially in the winter. To finish an outerwear look, don't match your mittens exactly with the coat. With white try a light blue or teal. Headband hats are perfect because they don't mess up your hair as much as a regular hat.

To get these looks for less, shop around. Target, Forever 21, H&M and Macy's have stylish clothes and coats for reasonable prices. Try Wet Seal for decently priced but very trendy boots. To save some money and still shop designer try the Wrentham Outlets. They have great buys at Hot Topic, Guess, and Rue 21. So remember the winter outside may be frightful but winter fashion is so delightful! Be warm everywhere you go....Let it snow, let it snow, let it snow.

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BCC Offers Three New Ways To Earn A Bachelor's Degree

BCC News Brief

According to Ann Ibara, BCC Transfer/Career Counselor, BCC students can take advantage of three new transfer initiatives with Eastern Nazarene College, Wentworth Institute of Technology, and Westfield State University.

Each of the initiatives provide an affordable and convenient way for students to complete a bachelor's degree in two years or less without having to travel further than their own home or the BCC campus in Fall River.

Students can earn a bachelor's degree in Management at Eastern Nazarene College which offers generous tuition discounts and scholarships to

BCC students and staff.

All classes are taught by Eastern Nazarene faculty on the BCC campus.

Students with an associate's degree from BCC in any program are eligible.

Wentworth Institute of Technology is offering a bachelor's degree in Project Management and will accept up to 80 BCC credits toward the degree saving students time and money.

Classes are taught by Wentworth faculty at BCC's Fall River campus one Saturday a month, and students can opt to complete the program in a year and a half. Wentworth also offers tuition discounts to BCC students and staff making this an affordable alternative

to traveling to Wentworth's Boston campus.

Westfield State has designed a Business Management degree program that is completely online enabling students with families and jobs to plan their courses around busy schedules.

Westfield guarantees acceptance of BCC students who complete the Business Transfer program with a minimum GPA of 2.50.

For more information on all of these programs students and staff are asked to go to www.bristol.mass.edu and click on Current Students, Transfer Affairs, and then Transfer Agreements.

Photos Saved

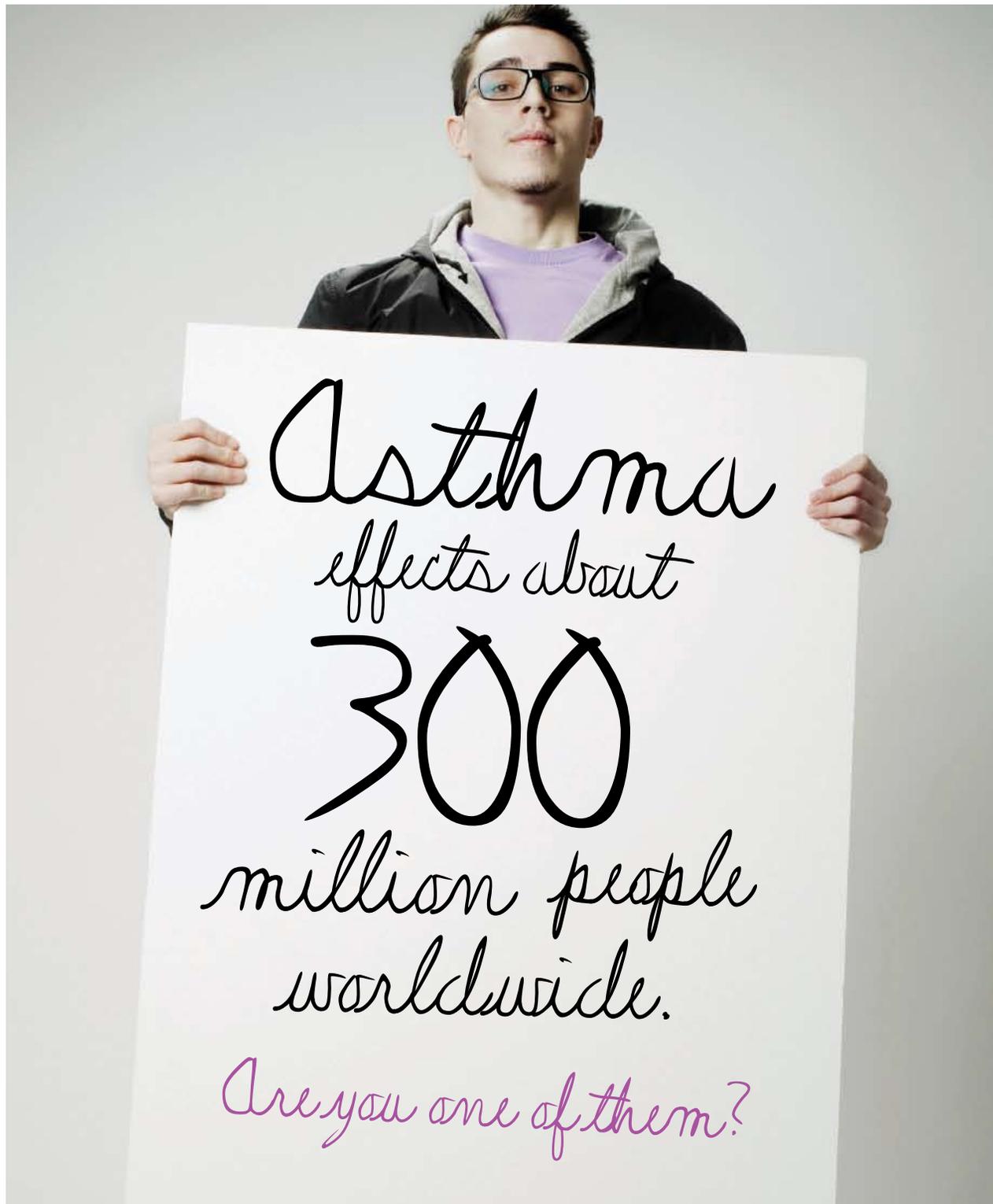
By **BRITTANY DEGAGNE**

The Learning Resource Center (LRC) has uploaded 700 photos from the BCC Archives. Most photos date back to the 70s and 80s.

"The photos give people a perspective on how BCC was like in the past," said LRC Vice President Sainath Chinnaswamy.

BCC librarians James Emond and New Bedford campus reference librarian Jim Smith scanned and uploaded the photos.

Anyone wishing to help identify these photos should contact James Emond at BCC telephone extension 2316.



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Attleboro Front Office Aims To Help Students Succeed

By SEAN WILCOXSON



Pictured right from bottom to top: Rebecca Crawford, Doug Carrier and Jennifer Salmons
Photo by Sean Wilcoxson

The staff at the front desk at the Attleboro campus are there to help.

The office is located directly inside the main entrance of the Attleboro campus.

The front desk staff handle duties ranging from giving guests and students directions to assisting students in enrolling in classes.

The front desk personnel include Douglas Carrier. Carrier has been at the Attleboro campus since 2004. He provides help in technical support, maintenance, counseling, and enrollment.

"We don't have a job description," Carrier joked.

According to Carrier he and his colleagues behind the front desk perform a multitude of tasks.

Jennifer Salmons has worked at BCC for two years and in Attleboro for about three months.

She is engaged in a work study program and attending classes full time.

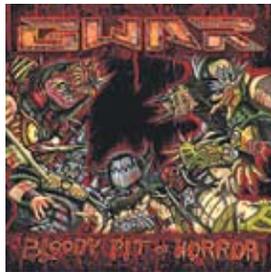
Rebecca Crawford has worked at BCC Attleboro for three years.

She started out with the Adult Basic Education program, completing that program in a year and a half, got her GED and started working for BCC.

For students at BCC who are trying to get their GED and wondering what they are going to do with their uncertain future, Crawford is a shining example of the principle that if you work hard enough, it will pay off.

Holiday Music Reviews

By CHRIS PROCTOR

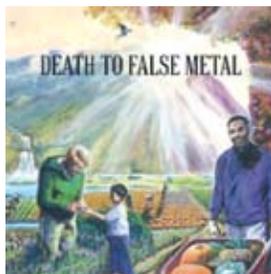


Celebrating their 25th anniversary Gwar released their latest album "Bloody Pit of Horror" on November 9th 2010.

Gwar is a space alien galactic warrior 80's metal band and they are commonly called shock rock music group. Gwar is known for spraying fake blood onto their audience and singing about taking over the world.

"Bloody Pit of Horror" features songs such as Zombies, March, Come the Carnivore, A Gathering of Ghouls and many more.

Brian Ponte "Though the album was not as technical as I would prefer, the album is still solid through and through with a few solid songs out of the bunch."



Alternative Rock band Weezer released two albums this fall.

On September 14th their new studio album "Hurly" was released. They named the album after Hugo "Hurly" Reyes from the hit television show Lost. Weezer also released a deluxe version of "Hurly" which features four extra songs, one which is a Coldplay cover of the song "Viva la Vida".

On November 2nd Weezer released a compilation album called "Death to False Metal" This album consists of songs such as I'm a Robot, Losing my Mind, Everyone and seven others.

Referring to one of Weezer's music videos, Josh Barberie said "I think the most strategic way to earn this album for Christmas would be to fight a sumo wrestler on black friday for this cd."

On November 12th, pop jazz musician Norah Jones released a Compilation CD "...Featuring".

The compilation CD are all songs that Norah Jones sang with other popular music artists such as the Foo Fighters, Willie Nelson, Ray Charles, Q Tip, Charlie Hunter and others.

Featuring off this eighteen track album are songs such as Soon the New Day, Bull Rider and Virginia Moon.

"I haven't listened to it, but I will go out to buy it," said Trish Smith.



On November 26th pop superstar Beyonce released the "I am" world tour CD/DVD.

The DVD consists of one disc with 24 live songs or the deluxe edition that consists of two DVDs with a total of 55 songs.

Both CD and DVD will consist of her live performances with such songs as Radio, Diva and Upgrade U.

Emily Weigert said, "It will be a good gift to get for Christmas this year."



Underoath known for their heavy beats and their faith released their new album "Disambiguation" on November 9th.

Underoath also offers a deluxe version of their new album that has an extra three tracks of other musician's songs that they remix.

Tom Dykeman said, "Disambiguation is a new sound for Underoath without Aaron's familiar voice. Sounding more like grunge rock than actual hardcore gospel Underoath seems to be looking for a new outlet for their creativity. And while some fans will open their ears to this new sound of Underoath others will turn it off in disgust."

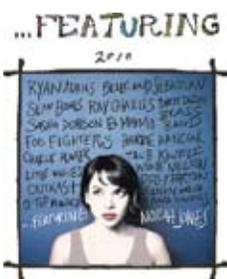


Eleven year old opera singer Jackie Evancho released "O Holy Night" released on November 16th.

Jackie Evancho turned many heads when she placed second on America's Got Talent this year for her ability to sing opera.

"O Holy Night" is the girl's second album which follows "Prelude to a Dream".

Ashlei Vohnoutka says, "I heard her on America's got Talent and I was blown away by her voice and age." Ashlei also said her cd is on her Christmas list this year."



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New Bedford eLearning Program Opens Doors

BCC NEWS BRIEF



Governor Deval Patrick meets with BCC's new eLearning students in New Bedford.
Photo by Ryan Pease

BCC's new eHealth Careers Program has opened its classroom and lab facilities next door to the college's New Bedford campus, located in the Star Store building.

The new program provides students with "fast-track" face-to-face and online learning opportunities in a variety of health care education studies.

The program offers online tutorial and mentoring programs, as well as state-of-the-art technology and laboratories.

It offers degree, certificate and continuing education programs in: phlebotomy, EMT, complimentary healthcare, medical coding, home health aide training, nursing assistant

training, CPR and first aid for health care professionals, personal care attendant training and pharmacy technician training. A nursing program is expected to begin in 2012.

Students will be able to complete an Associate's degree in as little as 15 months in some programs.

"The driving force for this project lies with a unique public/private partnership," said BCC President John Sbrega,

The Princeton Review and Kavanaugh Software joined forces with the college to establish the eLearning program health care opportunities for students.

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GOOD SPORTS

BCC Basketball Season Underway

By ANA LORETO



Basketball season is here and at BCC it started better for the boys than for the girls.

The girls were off to a rough start with the very experienced UConn.

Starting his first season with the Bees, women's basketball head coach is Terence Smith, who has 16 years of experience, starting at 1994, as a member of the champi-

onship basketball team at St. Joseph school in Medford (MA) all the way to 2009 when he was a member of the RAC Winter Basketball championship team.

Things are looking a little better for the boys, who started off good with a victory against Quinsigamond Community College but after the third game against Bunker Hill Community College started to lose,

even though not by many points.

The boys are coached by Rob Delaleu, who is in his third season with the Bees and it was him who led them to the regional tournament for the first time in the school's history.

Both teams still have 3 months until the end of the season with 17 games to go.

BCC Starts New Cheerleading Team

By THOMAS DYKEMAN

The Bristol Community College cheerleading team is a new addition to the college this semester.

The team is made up of eleven females and one male.

They include: Samantha Clark, Mathue Days, Brittany Lynch, Renee Labree, Darcilla Silva, Susie Furtado, Tymika Bates, Jennifer Gerald,

Liz Darosa, Jasmine May, Keshia Anderson, Kelsey Carvalho.

The squad began cheerleading at the Bristol Bees' games in November.

The team is selling baked goods at all sporting events to raise money to buy uniforms and equipment.

Brittany Lamb is the coach of the team.

She works at eNvy Gymnastics in Taunton, MA, where all the practices are held.

Anyone interested in joining the team should contact Coach Lamb at one of the Bristol Bees' games.



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BULLYING, From Page 1

What is Bullying?

Common Types of Bullying

Bullying is an on-going issue that has plagued students in their classroom environments, individuals in the workforce, and now it has even filtered into on-line social communities. It can come in many forms. Here are the four most common types of bullying:

Physical Bullying

Physical bullying is any type of physical aggression a bully will use against another person. Shoving, spitting, kicking, punching, slapping, or any type of physical abuse is intolerable and unacceptable behavior. Stealing or destroying someone else's property is also warranted as physically bullying someone.

Verbal/Emotional Bullying

"Stick and stones may break my bones, but words will never hurt me," is a lie that has been passed around to children for years. Physical wounds heal, but words are sometimes never forgotten. Words alone have proven to be very powerful and can cause a lot of psychological damage. Teas-

ing, insulting, racial slurs, and homophobic remarks are common types of verbal abuse. Emotional bullying occurs when a bully will cause a person to suffer any type of emotional pain. It is more common among females than males. Isolation from social groups, exclusion from activities, or spreading rumors is considered emotional bullying. Verbal and emotional bullying can significantly impair one's confidence and self-image.

Cyber Bullying

The Digital Age has made people more accessible to bullies. With the simple click of a mouse, people are vulnerable to the taunts and jeers of cyber bullies in the virtual world. Social networking sites, e-mailing, blogging, chat rooms, and instant messenger are just some of the Internet resources cyber-bullies will use to attack their targets. Rumors about another person can be instantly spread to countless others via the Internet. Texting and picture messaging with cell phones are other electronic mediums people can use to bully others.

BCC Students Rank The NFL

By KRIS TOPPA and JARID ENCARNACAO

The National Football League (NFL) is about halfway through the season and a playoff picture is starting to develop.

This is an unusual year in the NFL.

There is no clear favorite to win it all and some of the favorites from years past have started to struggle and failed to impress fans.

Teams like the Bucs and Chiefs

have already surpassed their win totals from last year, and are surprise members of our Top 10.

However it seems that the Colts, who went 13 weeks before losing a game last year, have struggled early and lost momentum.

BCC students around campus were asked who they thought was the number one team in the NFL.



Tim Bizzaro: "Even though I'm a big Pats fan, I have to give the Jets credit."



Jordan Fortes: "I like what Philly is doing, they should be even better when Mike Vick comes back."



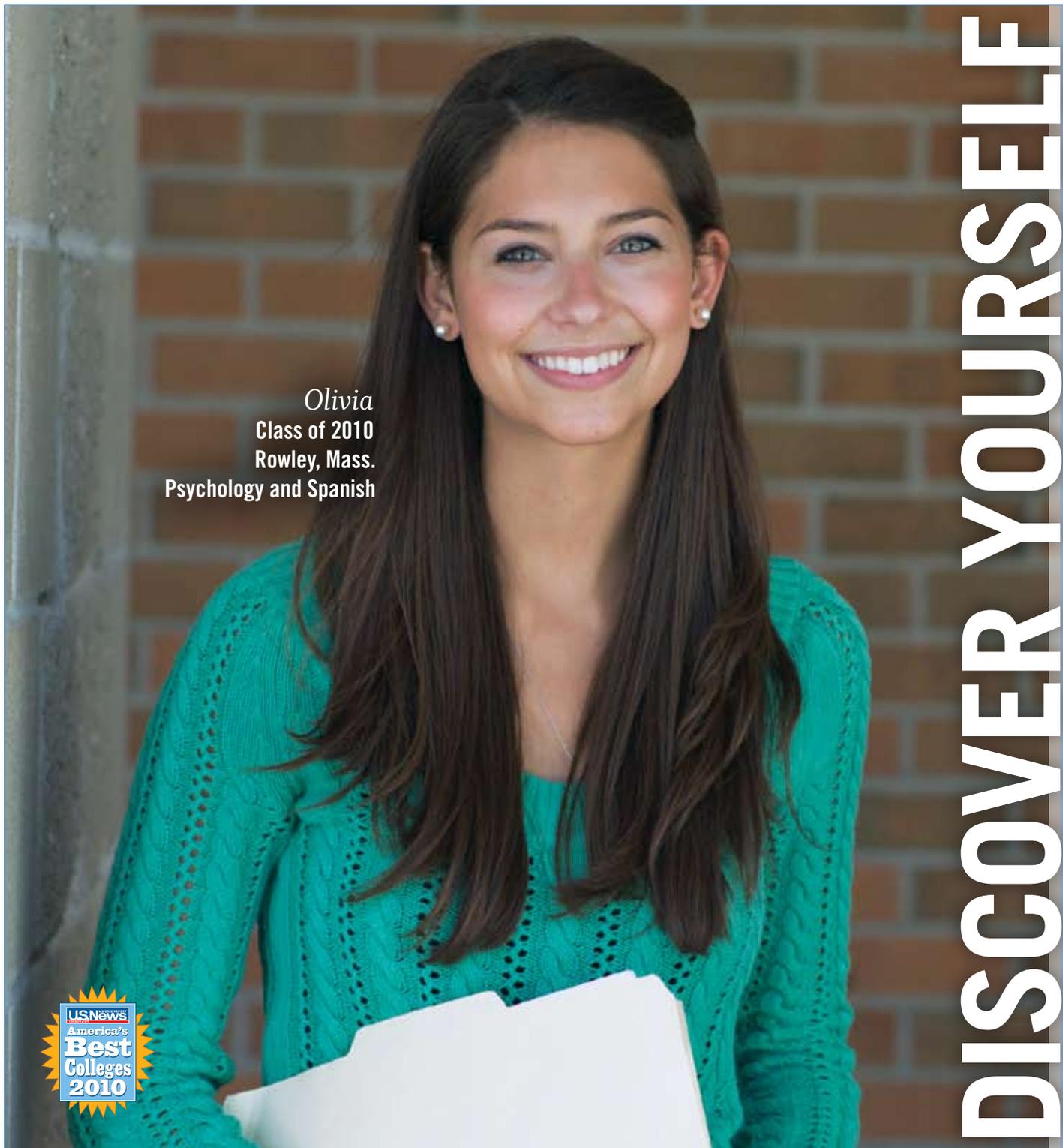
Allen Parsons: "If I had to pick, I'd give it to the Jets they have been able to win even without Darrelle Revis not being 100 percent."



Sarah Eaton: "I like the Tennessee Titans, they should surprise some people in the playoffs this year."



Jeff Borges: "I like what the Atlanta Falcons have done this year, they have looked very good, especially against their division."



Olivia
Class of 2010
Rowley, Mass.
Psychology and Spanish

DISCOVER YOURSELF

WHAT WILL YOU DO?

Olivia transferred to Roger Williams University in her sophomore year after attending Accepted Students' Day with her little sister. She wasted no time getting involved as a captain of the equestrian team, a Peer Advisor Leader intern at the University Advising Center, a Spanish tutor, a member of Sigma Delta Pi Spanish Honor Society and Alpha Chi (Honor Society for the academic top 5% of students). Olivia truly made the best of every opportunity presented to her. What will you do?

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