

# Editor's Comments

By Kathryn Herr, Editor in Chief; Kelly Nagurny, Assistant Editor; Maruja Rosario, Copy Editor; and Sharon Furfaro, Assistant Editor



Photo by J. Shellenberger/Capital Times

**Kate**  
This is it, the last issue of the year and I am finding that while I am ready for the break, I fear what lies ahead in the fall. I am ready for the end of the year but not for the end of our close-knit crew to be disassembled for good.

While I am left behind with one semester remaining, most of my newspaper crew will be embarking on a new phase of life called the real world. And while I have no desire to enter that phase, I wish you all the best of luck. I have had the most amazing experience working with this bunch of people. They have become part of my family, like siblings, with the occasional argument. I will miss them greatly and I am so proud of them for all they have learned and accomplished this year.

To Kelly, the ever lasting voice of motivation, Sharon, the always procrastination partner, Tom and Kellye, the light and source of amusement in the office, Maruja, bringing culture and free spirit and Justin, the perfectionist of the crew; you will all have a special place in my heart and mind, as I have learned so much from each of you. Thank you to all of my staff for a great year of learning, hard work, controversy, and fun.

**Kelly**  
Ah, the end of the year has arrived, and I expected to be more excited about graduating and less stressed about school. But I can't deny that I'm ready to graduate. The past two years, both here at school and at The Cap Times, have been absolutely great. I want to thank the whole Cap Times crew for all the great experiences, for being great friends, and for tolerating my constant need for cleanliness. For those of you who have a semester or two left to go...don't worry because it'll be over soon!

It's been fun!  
**Maruja**  
The grass needs cut, And it's finally hot, Summer is drawing near. Though there's not a cloud in the sky. Save for TMI, We find that we all are still here. The papers, the projects, The Powerpoints on Logic, Are all coming finally due, But soon my friends, We will see the end, And the spring semester will be through. Good luck to those who embark on their quest, And for the rest, I'll see you in Fall.

**Sharon**  
This has been a fun two semesters. Being an assistant editor was like being a wild animal trainer - cracking the whip at everyone to get their work done! Or maybe I was the animal, with poor Kate begging me to get my cartoons in on time...either way, working on The Capital Times was an experience I wouldn't trade for the world. I have grown to look at the staff as a family. Kate, Kelly and Maruja are like the sisters I never had (complete with occasional tiffs, yes, but overall lots of love). Tom is now my official movie partner. To the readers - the future of this paper lies with you. Your feedback is priceless. Also, there are those reading this that may be considering joining the crew next semester. All I can say is - do it. You won't regret it.

# Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

I want to challenge Steve Mayer's column that basically equated my leadership to that of Adolf Hitler. Adolf Hitler killed millions of innocent people simply because of their religion, and I do not know what kind of power Mr. Mayer thinks a student government president has in order to be referred to as an evil dictator. Mr. Mayer is either blind or cannot read which would explain his lack of comprehension of my previous article. I simply asked smokers to stay off of the ramp so that handicapped individuals can use it (which I think that is what it is for). My fellow students, it is your

inherent right to smoke - I simply ask that you look out for those that need to use the handicap ramp. I will be proposing to the Dean a smoking pavilion for individuals to use in any climate so that they can smoke. At least I am trying. Mr. Mayer is simply using the campus newspaper as a method in which he can ruthlessly rant and complain about our campus. I love our campus; even more I love our campus newspaper. Kathryn Herr has done a great job ensuring freedom of speech. She is not only a good editor; she is also a good friend. I applaud her endeavors. Kathryn has done a lot for the campus community, even more she has done a lot for sick children with

cancer.

Please do not mix up her ethical endeavors with Steve Mayer's ridiculous rants. Instead of spouting off, he should be using his energy to spread school pride. As I learned in politics, no one likes a person that doesn't know how to pick his battles. However, Mr. Mayer's cannot even attempt to make any sense. I love this university; the way I showed my love was serving as the 38th president. I dare Mr. Mayer to come from under the bleachers and serve his college (or maybe I am just kidding myself).

Students Against Ruthless Rants Should Unite!

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# Edwards in rough waters already

By Maruja Rosario  
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Semisonic once said, "Every new beginning comes from some other beginning's end." That phrase wrapped up in a little bow exactly what Student Government Association's April 7 meeting was all about, ending one beginning to make room for another. No one can dispute that Rodney Horton, former SGA president, did not come into his office and made things happen. He started with small details, such as filling all positions within the Senate and the Court, and eventually escalated to being known as a force that will get the voice of the students heard.

His efforts at being one of the most active SGA presidents, Horton was rewarded and congratulated numerous times by numerous people. At his final meeting, XGI president James Hall surprised Horton with an award from XGI, thanking him for all that he had helped XGI accomplish the past school year. Horton was sincerely moved and pleased. And with his final words to the 2004-2005 Senate, Horton's term as the president of the student body was over and he handed the reins over to Michael Edwards.

A nervous Edwards was sworn in as president in front of all in attendance at the April 7 meeting. Edwards was the dark horse president, having students write his name on the ballot with only two days of campaigning left, and won the election. Edwards raged through rocky waters to get to the point of being sworn in, including almost having to run again in a re-election, but managed to fight through and become the new SGA president.

Edwards' first meeting as president was April 14 and already the differences between the new Senate and the old one stood out. With two members of XGI now entering the Senate, a methodological way of thinking was now introduced into the usually carefree atmosphere. Andrew Dale and Laura Harding had no intentions of just letting motions pass through without asking questions, a refreshing change.

The entire Senate had to get used to its new body, president, and even the court with the resignation of the former Chief Justice Brian Craig, to be replaced with new Chief Justice Jeremy Kiehl. The Capital Times is anxious to see what the new SGA president plans to do with his term. We wish him the best.

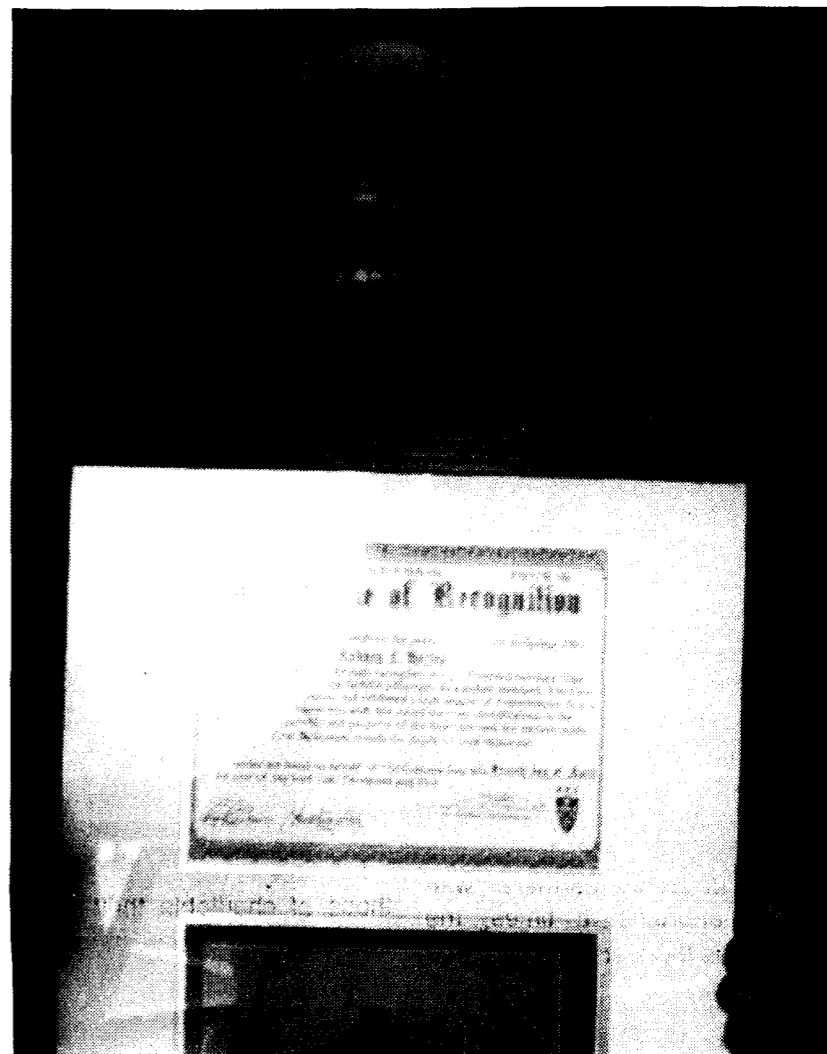


Photo by Thomas LeClair/Capital Times

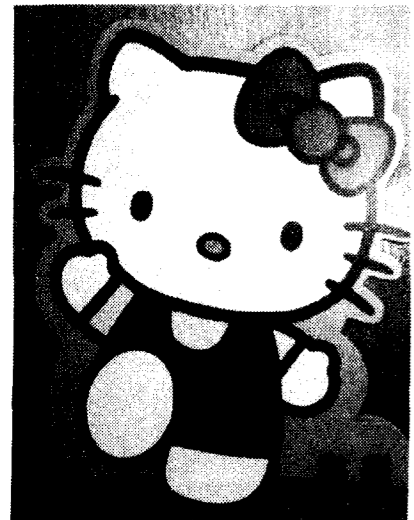
Rodney Horton poses with his award from XGI shortly after the SGA meeting, his last meeting before Horton's successor, Michael Edwards, took office.

# Rios 'reels' in students' interest

PROF cont'd from 1

work in this area for two reasons. The first was her husband is from the area and the second was she wanted to be close to New York City, where Rios often frequents for her work.

Rios teaches Visual Literacy, Video and Advanced Video Production, Audio Communication, and will be teaching IHUM400, a Humanities core class, this upcoming fall. Her favorite part of teaching visual



Hello Kitty is Prof. Rios' resident office guardian, given to her by her twin sister.

media is watching the students' work, "especially their first films." "People are intimidated by the process, so when they first see their films, there is a recognition that they can do it."

Not all teaching is watching students create movie magic, and Rios admitted that she dislikes "dealing with committees." "It is a part of teaching," she said.

Though she teaches film classes, her passion is really writing. She is currently working on a short story series, the first of which, *Open Season*, should be published this spring. Rios' goals lie with writing. "I want to write fiction that I want to write and still communicate something."

But it is the movies that Rios is more known for, and she certainly has plenty of experience in that. She is currently working on editing and finishing a feature film, as well as editing a feature film script. The film script is "a coming of age feature between a father and daughter."

Her influence on her life and her work has been her fraternal twin sister, so much so that her sister inspired one of Rios' films. "She helps me keep my perspective."

The two sisters are very close. "There will be times when I pick up the phone to call her and it rings and it's her calling me." One other way her sister has been there for Rios is that "she never tells me to shut up."

Rios also credits "Hello Kitty" as an influence. She has a few of them floating around the office, and said "she overlooks everything." Her alter ego is "Kitty Rivers" so it is apparent that Rios does owe much to "Hello Kitty."

Rios' greatest achievement was getting accepted to do her undergraduate degree at Rhode Island School of Design, the most prestigious art school in the country. Rios figured the cards were stacked against her, but she prevailed, much to her complete surprise. "I didn't think I would get in," she said.

In her spare time, Rios, always the artist, enjoys drawing. She

enjoys figure drawing, especially nudes. "I draw naked people," she said, laughing. "But make sure you put figure drawing first so they get the context."

She also greatly enjoys helping troubled high school students work through their issues through the arts. The cause is dear to Rios and she truly appreciates her work there.

One final note on the campus director is that for all the film work she has done and will do, acting is one position in which she will not be found. "I'm a behind-the-camera person."

There is not a large enough professor spotlight that can truly be filled by this amazing woman's achievements and passion, at least in this writer's opinion. I would like to break the rules and take a moment to thank her for all that she has done. Thank you, Catherine Rios.

"People are intimidated by the process, so when they first see their films, there is a recognition that they can do it."  
- Prof. Catherine Rios



Photos by Maruja Rosario/Capital Times

Prof. Catherine Rios teaches Visual Literacy, Video and Advanced Video Production, Audio Communication, and will be teaching IHUM 400, a Humanities core class, this upcoming fall.

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