

2-2-2012

## The Good 5 Cent Cigar (2/2/2012)

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# The Good 5¢ Cigar

THE UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND STUDENT NEWSPAPER SINCE 1971

Volume 61  
Issue 52

'Just what this country needs'  
www.ramcigar.com

Thursday  
February 2, 2012

## Multicultural Center celebrates leadership of Martin Luther King Jr., encourages students

BY GUS CANTWELL  
News Reporter

An event celebrating the leadership qualities of Martin Luther King Jr. implored students to find their "inner Dr. King" in the University of Rhode Island's Multicultural Center last night.

After noticing there were no leadership-oriented events as part of URI's Martin Luther King, Jr. Week, Coordinator of the Feinstein Center for Service Learning Sarah Miller decided to take action. With the help of Student Leadership Coordinator Robert Vincent, Miller created a discussion-based event dealing with students' inner leadership abilities.

"[We're] bringing [King] to life on campus," she said.

Miller began the event by teaching each of the roughly 20 attendees about the social change model of leadership development, which focuses on the connection between individual, group, and community values. Miller explained each person's idea is "part of a larger collaboration" when trying to insti-

gate change regarding social issues.

"If you don't understand that larger system, it's much more difficult to reach that change," Vincent said.

Using an analogy of multiple people being pulled down a river, Miller said that the key to helping end issues such as poverty and hunger is to cut it off at the source while simultaneously trying to prevent the problem from recurring in the future.

"[King] liked to attack the root cause," she said. "It's an ongoing process."

Another aspect of leadership is commitment, which Vincent explained comes from being passionate about a specific topic.

"[Commitment] is part of your leadership DNA," he said, referring to the innate characteristics of leaders such as King.

"Martin Luther King didn't wake up and suddenly [become] a leader," Miller added.

Though change starts with an idea or a belief, Miller explained that consistently

working toward one's goal is imperative.

Vincent admitted that working toward these goals can be difficult due to differences that occur among groups fighting for change. Though multiple groups may be fighting for the same issue, disagreements can occur regarding the methods to reach that goal. However, these differences can be combated through compromise and understanding of the groups' main purpose.

"We can have a little controversy, but we have to be civil about it," he said. "You really need to Zen it out sometimes."

Although groups of people may have different ways to attain similar goals, Vincent stressed the idea of having a common purpose and putting differences aside.

Miller explained that although people often have different viewpoints about an issue, certain ideas cannot simply be considered incorrect.

"If someone is just as passionate as you, how can they be

Continued on page 3

## Student Alliance for Welfare of Africa to host Hair Show

BY KIMBERLY DELANDE  
News Reporter

Last night the University of Rhode Island Student Senate unanimously approved a motion for Student Alliance for the Welfare of Africa to host their annual Hair Show on March 1. A portion of the proceeds made from the event will go toward providing hair extensions and making wigs for the children of St. Jude's Children's Hospital.

President of SAWA Tete Joseph felt it was important to give back to the community by giving wigs or hair extensions to children with cancer who are going through chemotherapy in order to help support them during their recovery or transitional period. According to Joseph, their efforts are not just to put on a great show, but to help in whatever way SAWA could.

"We never stop to think about it, but hair represents beauty in a variety of cultures," Joseph said. "That's why we want to give these kids a chance to have hair again."

SAWA's hair shows have

always donated some of their proceeds to different charities, but this year, they felt it was important to focus a majority of their proceeds toward St. Jude's.

"When you think about it, these kids are lacking something that most people just cut off or throw away," Joseph said. "As an organization, we want to do our part in aiding the community, and we felt that giving back to St. Jude's was a great way for us to help."

The hairstyles designed for the hair show are custom made creations made by members of SAWA. While clothes are also custom made by designers for the show, Joseph stressed that their hair shows are very different from fashion shows, despite the similarities some people may draw between the two.

"People hear the word 'hair show' and think it's the same thing as a fashion show, but it's not," Joseph said. "We focus on representing a theme each year with our hairstyles and craft

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## Students, faculty of new Harrington School discuss future of programs

BY PATRICK KELLEY  
Contributing News Reporter

University of Rhode Island's students and faculty got to discuss the future of the new Harrington School of Communication and Media with the program's Founding Director Renee Hobbs last night at a meet and greet at the Alumni Center.

The school, named after famed URI alumni Dick Harrington, is set up to combine six departments into one. Communications Studies, Film Media, Journalism, Library and Information Studies, Public Relations and Writing and Rhetoric all fall under the newly formed school.

Hobbs and Chair of the Journalism Department John Pantalone, along with under-

graduate journalism students and several graduate students, came together to discuss their respective works and majors.

Hobbs sat down with the students, asking each person about themselves and what they plan to do with their majors. The emphasis of the meet and greet was on networking and social connections.

"Dick Harrington wants the URI School of Journalism to provide exciting, new opportunities for our students and faculty," Hobbs stated.

Along with the meet and greet was the presentation of the Harrington School promotional video, available online on the URI website. The video outlined the future hopes and goals of the Harrington School. It was created by Daniel Riordan, an alumnus who graduated in 2003.

Hobbs discussed the future of the school website, shifting it toward the Word Press platform.

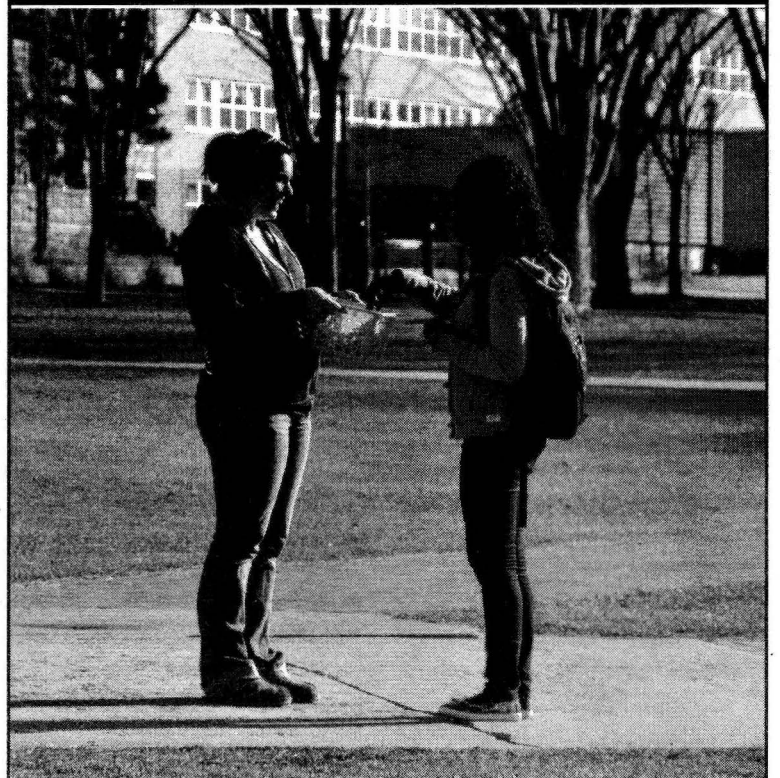
"Harrington School will be the first off the bat of any other university to utilize this new web technology," she said.

The new website will allow students to get easy access to senior staff of the school, as well as incorporate social media elements to create an online community.

Hobbs left teaching at Temple University, Phila. to come to Kingston, lured by the unique opportunity offered by the diversity and combination of the six aforementioned departments now collected under the school. One of her main goals is to break down the separation

Continued on page 3

## Rhody pic of the day



Lauren Trad | Cigar

The sisters of the University of Rhode Island chapter of the Alpha Xi Delta sorority handed out lollipops to students on the quadrangle yesterday as part of spring Greek Life recruitment.

### The Good 5-Cent Cigar

Editorial.....4  
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Sports.....8

Today's forecast  
45°F

We've got sunshine on a cloudy day...



### Nickel Brief:

Check out tomorrow's issue of the Cigar to read about students performing in a campus Open Mic Night.

Missed the basketball game against UMass last night?

See page 8.

# NATION & WORLD

## Romney: Not focused on poor, they have safety net

EAGAN, Minn. (AP) — Republican presidential front-runner Mitt Romney, confident after his Florida primary victory, ended up inviting criticism Wednesday when he said he's "not concerned about the very poor" because they have an "ample safety net."

Democrats and Republicans alike — including opponent Newt Gingrich — pounced and the GOP front-runner quickly sought to explain his remarks.

"No, no, no, no, no, no, no," Romney told reporters on his campaign plane when asked about the comments. "No, no, no. You've got to take the whole sentence, all right, it's mostly the same." He said his remark was consistent with his theme throughout the race, adding: "My energy is going to be devoted to helping middle-income people."

Despite that explanation, Romney's comments quickly became an immediate distraction from his message that he's more conservative than Gingrich and from the double-digit thumping the former House speaker sustained in Florida. His campaign worked behind the scenes to provide context for the comment.

Gingrich raised Romney's remark at his first event since losing the Florida primary. He read Romney's quotes aloud and they were met with boos from the crowd at a brewery in Reno, Nev.

"I am fed up with politicians in either party dividing Americans against each other," Gingrich said. "I am running to be the president of all the American people and I am concerned about all the American people."

As the day began, Romney told CNN from Florida: "I'm not concerned about the very poor. We have a safety net there. If it needs repair, I'll fix it. I'm not concerned about the very rich. They're doing just fine. I'm concerned about the very heart of America, the 90-95 percent of Americans who right now are struggling."

"You can focus on the very poor, that's not my focus," he said.

President Barack Obama's re-election campaign was quick to criticize.

"So much for 'we're all in this together,'" tweeted Obama campaign manager Jim Messina.

Some conservative pundits also labeled it a gaffe and said it was evidence Romney wasn't prepared to run against Obama.

"The issue here is not that Romney is right or wrong, but that he is handing choice sound bites to the Democrats to make him as unlikeable as he made Newt Gingrich," said Erick Erickson on the conservative RedState blog. And Jonah

Goldberg at the conservative National Review Online said of Romney: "Every time he seems to get into his groove and pull away he says things that make people think he doesn't know how to play the game."

With criticism mounting, Romney flew to Minnesota and addressed a rally before heading to Nevada. He also boasted in flight about his "huge" Florida victory.

Gay rights protesters in Minnesota threw glitter at Romney before he took the stage, making him the latest candidate to be "glittered" by activists opposed to his position on gay rights. Romney, who opposes gay marriage, put a positive spin on the sparkle in his hair.

"This is confetti! We just won Florida," he said as he took the stage.

Romney, whose central challenge is winning over skeptical conservatives, told reporters on the plane that the fact that he performed strongly among conservatives in Florida made sense because he's more conservative than Gingrich.

"I'm not saying he's not conservative. I'm just saying he's not the pure conservative he would have people believe, and I think folks in Florida saw through that," Romney said. His campaign also started airing a radio ad in Colorado on Wednesday that says "conservatives across America are supporting Mitt Romney."

But Romney immediately was forced to clarify his comments about the poor.

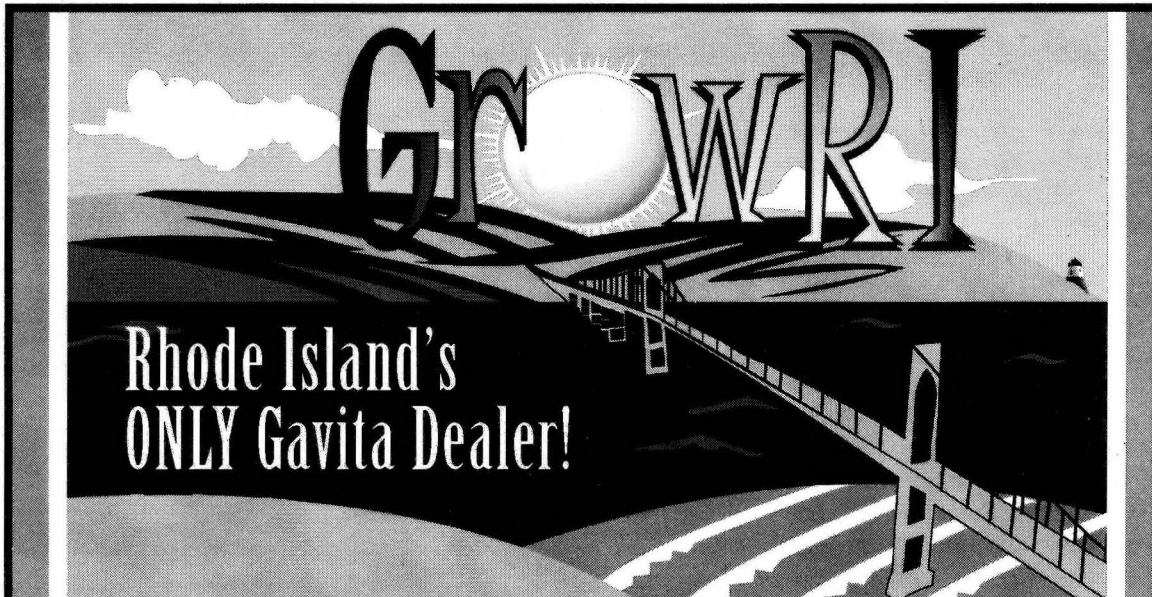
Asked whether his words might strike some as odd, Romney said: "We will hear from the Democrat party the plight of the poor and there's no question, it's not good being poor, and we have a safety net to help those that are very poor." Romney added that he's more worried about the unemployed, people living on Social Security and those struggling to send their kids to college.

"We have a very ample safety net and we can talk about whether it needs to be strengthened or whether there are holes in it. But we have food stamps, we have Medicaid, we have housing vouchers, we have programs to help the poor," Romney said. "But the middle-income Americans, they're the folks that are really struggling right now."

Romney has broached the subject of the poor repeatedly on the campaign trail but until Wednesday had been more careful in his choice of words.

"I worry about the very poor and I want to make sure that our safety net is there," Romney said in New Hampshire in December, says the middle class are "the people I'm really concerned about right now."

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### Congratulations to the 2012 Rainville Student Leadership Nominees!

#### Student Leadership:

Anthony Aiudi, Zahan Akbar, Lauren Amirault, Scott Andrews, Amanda Blau, Chris Burnham, Amy Carbone, Emily Carlone, Ryan Casey, Alyssa Chaplin, David Coates, Rikki Cohen, Clifford Connelly, Eily Cournoyer, Riley Davis, Nick DelGreco, Nick De Martino, Randy Dominguez, Taylor Doyle, Joshua Einhorn, Fay Etchington, Melissa Fajardo, Max Flashenberg, Josue Garcia, Ally Gerand, Diamond Goncalves, Steve Guglielmo, Erin Johnston, Paul Knott, Leslie Lawrence, Matthew Leary, Michael Magee, Courtney Malloy, Patrick Mckiernan, Logan Murphy, Amy Norton, Angela Olenik, Matt Osit, Hakeem Ottun, Ishan Picillo, Chery Pratas, Taylor Raleigh, Casey Ryan, Jay Salafia, Allsion Schworn, Elena Servideo, Brian Sit, Jenna Sobel, Robert Tobey, Lindsey Trett, Steve Twomey

#### Servant Leadership:

Scott Andrews, Mary Broe, David Coates, Lanh Dang, Courtney Findlen, Lisa Guidici, Victoria Lomas, Melissa Reilly, Chelsea Tucker, Adam Youngblood

#### Employee:

Wilden Abreu, Samantha Albert, Jason Allard, Janina Biernacki, Anna Blake, Amy Carbone, Brittany Ferreira, Precious Kafo, Paul Knott, Abbey Lamb, Jennifer Lashinsky, Erica Manganelli, Andrea Marchetti, Alisha Means, Erika Munoz, Angela Olenik, Christian Plasse, Zuleika Toribio, Torrey Vanner, Joseph Wilbur

#### Team:

Alima International Dance Association, C.L.A.S.S., Democracy of Dames, eXposure, Fitness and Wellness Team, Garrahy RA Staff, GLBT Center, Good 5 Cent Cigar, Habitat for Humanity, LBTQ Women's Group, Orientation Staff 2011, Public Relations Society, Student Entertainment Committee, Student Program Office, Student Alumni Association, Wiley Hall RA Staff, Women's Leadership Coalition, WRU

Nominee Applications are due February 17, 2012!

Visit <http://www.uri.edu/rainville/applications.html>



# CONTINUED

## MLK

From page 1

wrong?" she said.

The event included an activity in which four groups were made and asked to create their own list of individual, group, and community values.

For example, one group discussed the importance of education, with students offering their own perspectives.

URI student Nate Jones said it is every individual's responsibility to educate themselves and others.

"You have to take responsibility. Don't just have a pity party, you need to step up and help yourself out," he said. "If you show your knowledge and they share it, everyone benefits."

"The more people are educated all around, the more they can choose for themselves," added group mate Olivia Morrissey.

Miller had a more personal connection regarding the issue of hunger, which was also up for debate. While giving an example of what she wanted the groups to discuss, she said, "I feel it's my responsibility to give back because I was once on food stamps."

Miller also said it is important not to simply compare oneself with historical figures such as King, and give up trying to make change.

"It's hard to examine his life and not say, 'but I'm not him.' [But] through this process, you can be a change agent," she said.

## Hair Show

From page 1

them to fit an idea. It's a totally different experience from a fashion show."

In order to separate themselves from a traditional fashion show, past SAWA hair shows have featured local rappers and lyricists who provided entertainment during the event. These artists would either rap or play hip-hop music between the models' performance. The hair show also hosts competitions during the event to inspire the audience to participate, such as dance contests. Last year, an African American actor named Van Vicker hosted a question and answer session after the event.

In the past, SAWA has had

hair showed themed around the seven deadly sins, the four elements (water, fire, earth and air), and other ideas that have generated creative and unique hairstyles. The theme for this year's fashion show is fetish, and flyers will be passed out later on in the month.

"Hair is what contributes to a person's character and personality," Joseph said. "We hope people will realize how important it can be to a person when they come out to the hair show."

In other news:

-Student Senate has approved Uhuru Sasa's Fashion Show event. The event will be held on April 27, and will celebrate the organization's 40th anniversary.

-Make it Bright, a group dedicated to supporting homeless children in San Mauricio, Columbia, was recognized by the Senate as an official organization of URI.

-The Snowboarding Club was approved to host their fourth annual Rail Jam, a snowboarding competition.

## Harrington

From page 1

between the departments, to meld them into a cohesive fabric under the Harrington School.

Hobb's assistant, Cynthia Weller, has set up further "listening sessions" with Hobbs for enterprising students who now attend URI. The objective of these meetings is to learn more about student's best ideas to develop the curriculum and programs of the Harrington School. The meetings will be on Thursday, Feb. 9, Thursday, Feb. 23, and Thursday, March 8, at the Alumni Center from 4 to 6 p.m. Pizza and beverages will be supplied.

## Track

From page 8

had her season-best in the pole vault event with 2.90 meters.

Junior Emily Moorehead, freshman Nicolette Pelrine, and junior Rebecca Wright all had their personal bests in the shot put, with 1,000m and 800m.

The Rams will take the track again when they host the URI Women's and Men's Classic on Rhody turf this Saturday at 11 a.m. in the Mackal Field House.

## Football

From page 8

tion to a recruit he and his staff have to change their pitch from recruit to recruit.

"You try and be a lot of things to a lot of people," Trainer said. "If it's a local kid you talk about the benefits of going to the local university where you might have a better following and more fanfare and recognition. If it's someone from far away you try to sell it accordingly."

The Rams will begin spring practice in April and the 2012 regular season commences Sept. 8 when the Rams travel to New Jersey to take on Monmouth University.

## Spurs

From page 8

against them.

He has a strict team player vibe about him that keeps money seeking all-stars, like Dwight Howard and Chris Paul, out of his locker room. No matter what people say about his team not making any power plays for these high level free agents, his methods seem to always work out for the Spurs.

That brings me to this season. The lockout between the players and coaches shortened the regular season schedule, forcing teams to play more games in a shorter time period. Many sports writers assumed that only the younger, athletic teams would be able to withstand such a brutal schedule, and that older teams, like the Spurs and Celtics, would not have the physical ability to succeed this year.

But as we approach the second half of the season, the Spurs sit in second place in their division with a record of 13-9. They have done all this without the help of one of their centerpieces, Manu Ginobili, who broke his hand a month ago.

Manu is almost healthy, and the younger players on the Spurs roster that not many people know of, are stepping their game up and giving the older veterans like Duncan and Parker a chance to rest.

Am I saying that the Spurs are going to win their fifth NBA title in the previous decade this year? No. But I am saying that they have just as

much of a chance as any other team in the league. They will continue to play strong and fundamental basketball until Duncan, Parker and Ginobili retire. That could be soon or a few years from now depending on what happens down the road.

All I know is that the Spurs will always be my favorite basketball team and will continue to make critics eat their words by seasons end, just like they have all century.

## Basketball

From page 8

grabbed a game-high 11 rebounds.

"His shot was on," Baron said. "He stepped up and made plays. He rebounding the ball. He did a great job of leading."

The game was played in close quarters throughout. Over half the points (82) were scored in the paint. Rhode Island outrebounded UMass 48-35 and was a whopping plus-12 on the offensive glass.

The Minutemen entered the game as the fifth-best rebounding team in the country averaging 41.1 rebounds a game.

Junior Nikola Malesevic put in a solid performance as he continued to recover from a broken hand. The Serbian-born forward finished with 19 points including five in overtime.

"It's been tough with me especially shooting the ball," Malesevic said. "I think I'm getting better. In the second half I felt so much better. It means a lot to me."

Freshman forward Jonathan Holton was plagued late by foul trouble which allowed fellow freshman Dominique McKoy to rise to the occasion. McKoy scored a career-high 10 points off the bench and grabbed seven rebounds in 21 minutes of action.

"I thought that was one of his best games," Baron said of McKoy.

Fellow freshman bench player TJ Buchanan scored five points and was able to lock down whatever player he was defending.

"He's a warrior," Baron said of Buchanan. "He's playing against these guards. You think about Marquis Jones and what he did for us all

those. He don't back down. He's a competitor."

The win moves the Rams to 5-18 on the season and 2-6 in Atlantic-10 play. The Rams are two games out of receiving a home game in the opening round of the conference tournament with eight games remaining.

Up next for Rhode Island is a game against Temple University in the annual "Blue Out" game Saturday afternoon at 2 p.m. Rhode Island will be looking to beat the Owls for the first time since January 2009. The game will be televised on ESPN2.


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# EDITORIAL & OPINION

## Dream Big

Leaders come and go, but leadership is a quality that society will always find value for. Martin Luther King, Jr. may be gone, but his message and inspiration live on now and forever. King had a dream, just the same as every other person does growing up. The difference between King and others, however, is that he shared his dream with the world and no amount of adversity could deter him from what he hoped to one day achieve.

If you believe in your dream as strongly as King did, whether it be for the future of the world or for self fulfillment, you should let nothing stop you from trying to see your dream into reality.

Times are always changing and new challenges stand in the way of each passing decade. King faced racism and death threats for the color of his skin, despite the content of his character. Today, individuals are facing the same struggles of adversity, from race, gender, religion and economic background, among others. Everyone with big dreams may face a seemingly insurmountable obstacle. You can't let the words of others discourage you from achieving your dreams.

If you want to better the world there are many organizations around the University of Rhode Island you could volunteer your service to. Habitat for Humanity builds homes for local needy families, Students Acting Sustainably takes measure to promote a greener campus, or you could go on an alternative spring break with other URI students and help out in another part of the country.

If you are seeking to become your best self, there are also several organizations with leadership components that can give you invaluable experience before you head out into the world. URI Student Senate is currently accepting declarations, it is recruitment season for campus Greek Life or maybe a minor in leadership studies may be just the push you need to get over the top. One thing is for sure, the world is always ready for the next people who dream big enough to lead it.

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The staff editorial is the majority opinion of the Good 5¢ Cigar editorial board.

**CORRECTION POLICY**  
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BY SARAH MOSLEY  
 Cigar Columnist

Now that it is past the mark of the New Year, when millions of people make resolutions to lose weight, it seems as if weight loss commercials are on a loop on cable TV.

The drug industry attacks from all angles – magazine ads, commercials, computer advertising – they're everywhere! The heart-warming stories of women who have lost 200 pounds with a magical pill can be hard to ignore.

It can also be hard for the audience to decipher if these advertisements are real or fake. Could a diet pill really work?

The true question, though, is not whether a diet pill will work. Rather, it's to ask yourself if you're healthy. Can you perform every day activities without getting fatigued? Do you, for the most part, like yourself and your body? Do you

put effort into getting 30 minutes or more of exercise per day and try to incorporate items from all the food groups during mealtimes?

If the answer is no to any of these questions, the answer is not a diet pill or any other magical weight loss system. For the most part, diets are often ineffective for psychological reasons. If you cut something completely out of your diet, you'll crave it.

Diets already have a bad reputation, and people associate them with forcing themselves to eat things they don't like or eating tiny portions.

It's especially hard to keep up a diet if you're a college student; with the work load and busy schedule, it can just add to your stress. So, if weight-loss pills and diets don't work, what should you do?

The answer is simple: make goals for yourself to live a healthier lifestyle. If you remove the "diet" tag,

you'll be more apt to succeed and have more confidence. With less room to fail, telling yourself that you'll eat healthier and trying to fit more exercise into your daily life will lead to many other great things than just potential weight loss.

Even if you don't need to lose weight, living healthfully is a great thing. Eating balanced meals, exercising between 30 and 60 minutes per day and working to ward off stress can help you lead a healthier, happier life.

What seems more effective: simply trying to live healthier, or going on a crash-and-burn diet? Make small changes to your day, like making sure to eat well-rounded breakfast every morning.

Need more tips for healthy living? Visit the government-run website [MyPlate.gov](http://MyPlate.gov) or consult a registered dietician.

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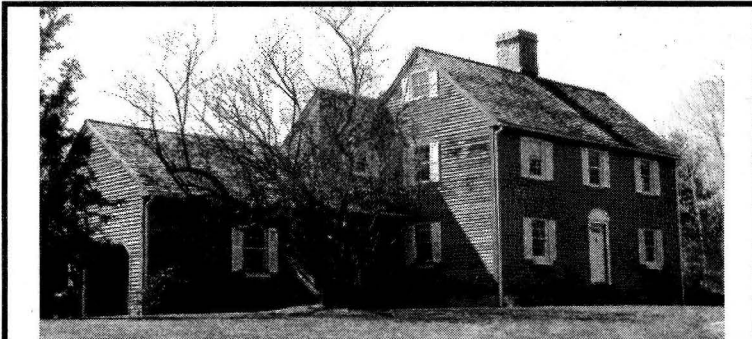
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## Artistic films receive commercial backing as Sundance Festival attracts big buyers

BY CONOR SIMAO  
 Entertainment Writer

Park City, Utah's annual Sundance Film Festival may seem to many like the industry's celebration of obscurity. The independent movie-based affair, though, plays a more blatantly commercial dual purpose than its die-hard enthusiasts would have you believe. With a mainstream audience at least somewhat out of mind, the yearly expo's lineup tends to enjoy a kind of creative independence otherwise reserved for Hollywood's long-standing icons.

Naturally, the usual battery of artistic flicks found itself screened for the usual crowd of seemingly artistic Sundance aficionados. But what happens in Utah doesn't always stay there. As is typical, big name studios have made their purchases and picked the unofficial winners of this year's Sundance. But which films ultimately made the coveted wish list?

"Liberal Arts" is a comedic drama written by "How I Met Your Mother" lead Josh Randor and this may very well be reflected in its romantic undertone. Randor plays a 35-year old who, stuck in his collegiate past, develops a relationship with a 19-year old undergraduate played by Elizabeth Olsen. IFC has purchased the North American rights for the film.

"Wish You Were Here" pretty much adopts a tired trajectory of a tropical vacation gone horrifically awry. The film tells the story of two couples traveling to Cambodia, only one of which makes a safe recovery home. That wasn't a spoiler; the drama primarily occurs in the post-trip portions of the movie. Entertainment-One has purchased the rights to this film.

"Red Lights" is definitely, and if nothing else, very well casted. Robert De Niro, Cillian Murphy, Sigourney

Weaver and Elizabeth Olsen enjoy starring roles in this thriller/horror film. The plot is centered on two "Ghostbusters" type paranormal investigators and an intruder that proves difficult to counter. Millennium Entertainment has purchased the rights to this film.

"2 Days in New York" is a sequel and continuation of the storyline presented in "2 Days in Paris." In the film, Chris Rock and Julie Delpy (who also wrote and directed the film) portray a couple immersed in the art world, struggling to repair their former relationship. Comedic and irreverent, the film has received positive reviews and is now the intellectual property of Magnolia Pictures.

The exhaustive list (not this one) is pretty long, but you can expect these bigger-name purchases to merge into the mainstream markets as time trudges on and Sundance packs it in for their 2012 season.

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## Colbert's Super PAC has raised over \$1 million

NEW YORK (AP) — Stephen Colbert's sway in the presidential election might be a joke, but he's got some real financial muscle.

The comedian disclosed Tuesday that his Americans for a Better Tomorrow "super" political action committee has raised a staggering \$1.02 million. PACs were required to submit their financial reports to the Federal Election Commission on Tuesday.

In a letter to the commission, Colbert was quoted as saying, "How you like me now, FEC?"

"I'm rolling seven digits deep!" Colbert said. "I got 99 problems but a non-connected independent-expenditure only committee ain't one!"

Colbert raised the money by asking for donations from viewers of "The Colbert Report." He has used the PAC to highlight what he considers the absurdity of, campaign finance law and, in particular, the 2010 Supreme Court ruling that allows corporations and unions to raise limitless money to run campaign ads.

"We raised it on my show and used it to materially influence the elections — in full accordance with the law," Colbert said in a press release. "It's the way our founding fathers would have wanted it, if they had founded corpora-

tions instead of just a country."

When Colbert earlier flirted with running for president, he legally transferred control of his PAC to Jon Stewart of "The Daily Show." On Monday's "The Colbert Report," he elaborately hunted down Stewart to regain his PAC presidency.

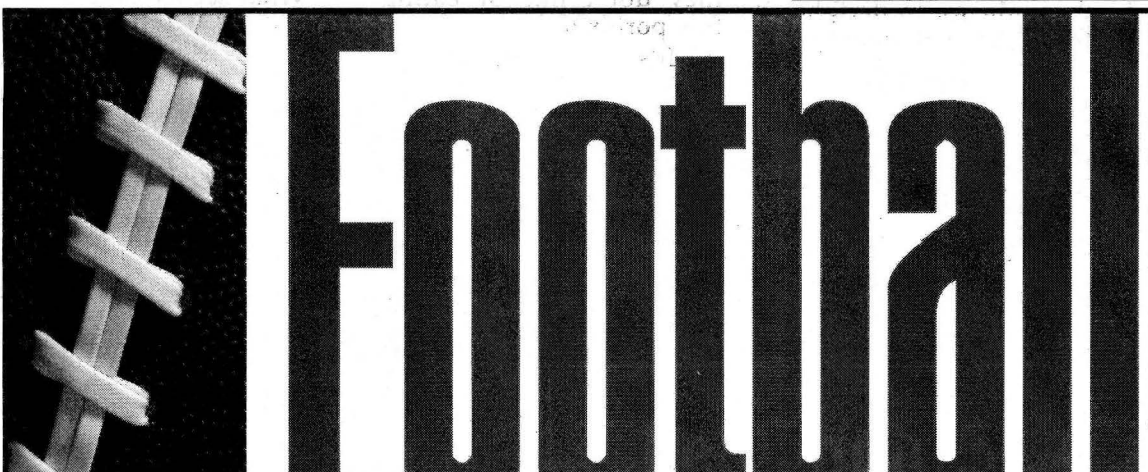
Colbert said Tuesday that the PAC is considering yet another name change to: John Colbert Cougar Super MellenPAC.

On "The Report," Colbert has portrayed every turn of the screw in the life of a political action committee, going through the minutia of the law with his attorney, Trevor Potter, former Federal Election Commission chairman.

Thus far, his PAC has created a handful of television ads, including an over-the-top negative ad against Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney, and an anti-players ad during the NBA lockout.

Tuesday's FEC filing also revealed the donors who gave more than \$200 to Colbert's PAC. Among them are Gavin Newsom, lieutenant governor of California (who gave \$500), Bradley Whitford of the "The West Wing" (\$250) and "Hot in Cleveland" star Laura Sangiacomo (\$250).

Colbert is yet to say what he intends to do with his money.



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# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

## Worst movies of 2011 feature Adam Sandler triple threat, mindless action movies, unintentional laughs

BY MATT GOUDREAU  
Entertainment Writer

Every year tends to have quite a few bad or downright awful films, but 2011 has certainly upped the ante. While I was thinking back on the year's movie selections before the Academy Awards, I shivered when I came to the conclusion that I have seen much more bad films than good films. This is the case not only because of how modern Hollywood works, but because I will see anything.

I am not one of those critics who refuses to see certain films based on reviews. In fact, I have been in the minority when discussing my thoughts on movies amongst others. 2011 has truly tried my patience when it comes to how many bad films I can tolerate and that was just in the first half of the year alone! Perhaps the reason I wasn't crying for mercy towards the end of the year was due to possible brain damage. With that said, allow me to present my choices of the absolute bottom of the barrel for 2011.

Seeing as how I cannot fit all the bad movies into one article, I will be categorizing them and discussing them as a whole since many of the movies on this list share similar problems. Usually the movies that are so bad they anger me are comedies (I use that term loosely) that are either poorly written, downright disgusting or are just not funny.

While I have seen a lot of terrible comedies this year, "Jack and Jill," "Just Go With It" and "Bucky Larson: Born to be a Star" all top my list for the worst of the year. Not only do these movies all share horrendous jokes, terrible acting and ridiculous plots, but each film stars the ever-annoying duo of Adam Sandler and Nick Swardson.

Sandler is an individual who is constantly mentioned by my friends as one of the funniest actors of all time, and I always find myself fighting this distinction. Sandler always speaks in stupid voices during his movies and his poor joke delivery and comedic timing make me roll my eyes.

His first few films I find bad but mildly amusing mainly because of the supporting casts. For example, "Happy Gilmore" is only funny for me because of Carl Edwards' performance and Bob Barker's hilarious cameo.

I wince in pain whenever Sandler appears on screen in any of his films, especially his portrayal of the obnoxious, repulsive and ridiculous

woman in "Jack and Jill." I have never walked out of a movie until last year when Sandler finally got to me. "Jack and Jill" was so bad I couldn't take it anymore and walked out by the 60-minute mark.

Much like Sandler, Swardson is someone I don't find funny. While I can somewhat understand why Sandler is successful, the only reason he is even relevant is because he is friends with Sandler. Swardson is so unfunny and irritating that he makes Sandler look like Peter Sellers.

"Bucky Larson" is the single biggest piece of garbage I have ever had to withstand. Swardson fails to deliver a single joke efficiently and the film has such an ugly and raunchy tone to the point of being purely offensive. Anyone who says they liked that movie is someone I would not want to be friends with.

2011 also brought some stinkers in the form of mindless action movies. Both "Sucker Punch" and "Transformers: Dark of the Moon" are long, drawn out action fests that lack any sort of human emotion and some of the most ridiculous plot elements and characters I have ever seen. Zack Snyder's overstylized and redundant "Sucker Punch" made me question my views about him, and wary of his upcoming "Superman" reboot.

Michael Bay and his newest effort in the "Transformers" saga may be his worst film and that is saying a lot. Each one of these movies feels exactly the same to me on all fronts. I hate the human characters, the robots aren't given any characterization and the attempts at humor feel out of place. This one-ups the ante on poor humor to a point where I was angered by the attempt. Each movie feels the same plotwise, where something happens in the past that will affect the future.

As a result, we experience a near three hours of slow plotting garbage without any soul, along with ridiculous and pointless action scenes. People say it's a "check your brain at the door movie," but that is not why I go see a movie. I like action movies as long as they are intelligent and allow for some kind of emotional investment on my part. Neither of these movies accomplish that.

The rest of my list is sort of a jumbled mess in that I cannot truly categorize them. "Red Riding Hood," "Dream House," "The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn," "Beastly"



Having Adam Sandler as the star in any comedy is bad enough... 'Jack and Jill' had double the trouble.

and "Paranormal Activity 3" round out my worst-of list. Each has elements of horror to an extent, but come off as so ridiculous they are unintentionally comedic.

Each of these films also borrows elements from literature or folklore, but they screw that up to a point where they disgrace the original material. I don't understand how you can take a simple childhood story like "Red Riding Hood" and turn it into a two-hour soap opera bearing far too many similarities to "Twilight."

These unintentional laugh riots at least kept me amused, which is ironic because the films marketed as comedies failed on that front.

Looking back, 2011 is a year I certainly will not forget for the entirely wrong reasons. If the filmmakers at least put forth any sort of effort, originality, or emotional investment, I might have been able to scratch them off as forgettable. Unfortunately, all ten of these films have left me permanently scarred, leaving me no choice but to call them the worst movies of the year.



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## Indiana liquor law could crimp Super Bowl parties on Sunday

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Rich Pontolillo might merit a toast for his Super Bowl party preparations. He has beer and liquor stocked up ahead of the first Super Bowl ever held in his home state.

In Indiana, he didn't have much choice about planning ahead: The state is among a handful that ban carryout liquor sales on Sundays, even with the NFL's most-celebrated spectacle on the schedule.

"It just requires some advance planning," shrugs Pontolillo, a 54-year-old remodeling contractor from Indy.

There was never much chance of getting Indiana's "blue law" suspended, just this once. A spokeswoman for Gov. Mitch Daniels, Jane Jankowski, said the issue was never raised and some of the city's business owners say they understand why.

"I'm not surprised at all," said Paul Thistle, general manager of the downtown Kahn's Fine Wines and Spirits and two other locations nearby. "If they waive it for this event, then they have to defend themselves for not waiving it at other events. It puts them in a difficult position."

The nation's few remaining blue laws are mostly in the South and Midwest and tend to limit liquor or car sales on

Sundays. The name is believed to have derived either from 18th century usage of the word "blue" to disparage those with puritanical beliefs or from an early set of rules in New Haven, Conn., that were printed on blue paper.

Indiana restaurants and taverns can get permits to serve alcohol for on-premises consumption from 7 a.m. through the wee hours of the next day all week long, including Sundays. And nothing forbids anyone 21 or older from walking around outside with a beer or cocktail, prompting many Indy eateries to expand their outside seating onto adjacent parking lots and sidewalks in the run-up to Sunday night's game.

But state law bars liquor and convenience stores from selling carryout booze after 3 a.m. Sunday until 7 a.m. Monday, leaving Super Bowl revelers — perhaps out-of-towners not versed in all things Indiana — in the lurch if they go looking for an 11th-hour six-pack or bottle of wine on game day.

Thistle said many visiting fans already have placed orders. And he plans to close his businesses two hours later — at 1 a.m. — in the days preceding the Super Bowl, taking full advantage of an "uptick" in sales even before the big

wave of out-of-state fans arrive.

"Business so far is probably double or triple what it normally is, and we expect the coming weekend to be better," he said.

As vice president of a company that has 22 liquor stores in Indianapolis, United Package Liquors' Brad Rider would have liked to see an exception made for Super Bowl Sunday. But he said he does not favor lifting the law altogether simply because it's not feasible to staff his stores to sell only a small list of products allowed by law, 10 items in all.

Far from Indy, one community is making a change.

With some 2,400 residents, Dillingham, Alaska, is lifting its ban on alcohol sales at its restaurants and bars for all Super Bowl Sundays going forward, though liquor stores will remain closed. The reprieve had been temporarily in place last year and proved trouble-free, prompting it to be made permanent last month in a town some 1,665 miles from the nearest NFL team — Seattle's Seahawks.

Back in Indiana, Rider figures the homestate Hoosiers — and their Super Bowl visitors — won't struggle finding spirits this Sunday, ban or no ban.

"Not at all," he says.

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SPORTS

## Men's basketball wins in overtime, defeats UMass Minutemen for first time in three years

BY MIKE ABELSON  
Sports Staff Reporter

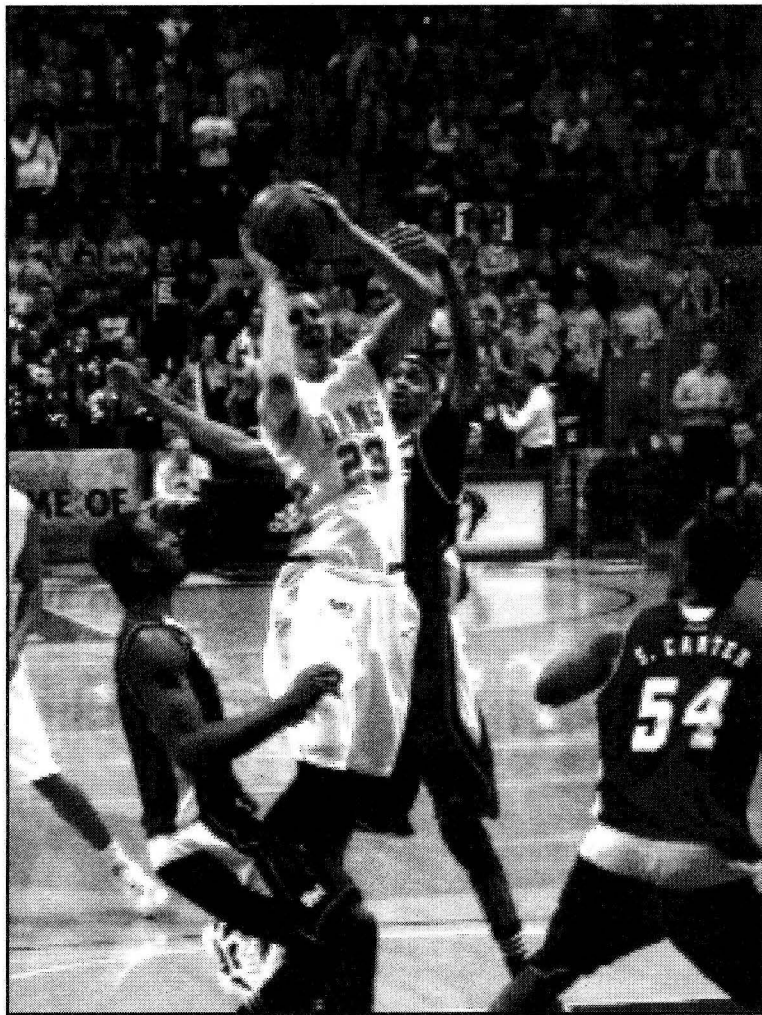
If last Saturday's win over the University of Dayton showed that the University of Rhode Island men's basketball team was battle-ready, last night's game against the University of Massachusetts show that it was battle-approved.

The Rams survived several UMass runs and six lead changes to defeat the Minutemen 81-78 in overtime in front of a raucous Thomas M. Ryan Center crowd of 4,236.

The Minutemen came into the game tied for first in the Atlantic-10 Conference.

"It was definitely a hard-fought game," Rhode Island Head Coach Jim Baron said. "I want to thank the fans, the student body, the community. It has been a very challenging and frustrating year from the standpoint of having so many young guys and making the decisions that we've made. It's remarkable how they bounce back. They deserve the credit. It was a really good team win."

Baron emphasized the team's performance, but it was Orion Outerbridge's star

Carissa Johnson | Cigar  
Forward Nikola Malesevic takes a shot in the second half of last night's game against the University of Massachusetts.

that shone the brightest. The senior forward pumped in a career-high 29 points on 11-17 shooting. Outerbridge also

Continued on page 3

## Not-So-Average Joe: San Antonio Spurs still contenders for NBA title

BY JOE HOLLENBECK  
Sports Editor

Throughout the past 11 years, I have been a very dedicated fan to a basketball team that no one would ever think I even knew about. Based on my being a New Englander and my passion for the home teams around this area, you would think I'd be a diehard Boston Celtics fan.

Well, that actually would be my father, who has had his fair share of ups and downs this past decade watching Boston rise from the lowest depths of scrappy basketball play, to the championship caliber team they became in 2007.

No, my favorite basketball team is actually the San Antonio Spurs. Why? Because of one player- Tim Duncan.

Tim Duncan represents everything that an NBA player should be. He is a competitive athlete and a winner. Most importantly, there is a major difference between Duncan and any other star you can name in the NBA right now: he is a team player.

Tim Duncan didn't leave San Antonio for more money after he had an amazing season. Even if he did, he never would have broadcasted an hour long

special on ESPN about it like some arrogant players.

No, Duncan and the rest of his teammates win games because they are the strongest unit in the NBA. In the last decade, the Spurs have won championships with players like Duncan, Bruce Bowen, David Robinson, Tony Parker and Manu Ginobli.

None of these players would put up 40 points a game like Kobe Bryant or LeBron James, but they all did what they needed to do to win as a team. Since 2000 the Spurs have won four NBA championships.

They did this when the Western Conference they played in was still the major powerhouse in the league. They didn't always play basketball that was flashy or fun to watch but they did what they had to do in order to win the games.

The last championship for the Spurs was in 2007. This team was led by the three player force of Parker, Duncan and Ginobli. If any of these three players were to go to another team, they probably would not be nearly as effective. But when they work together these three all-stars can beat any team, any time.

Plenty of sports critics have said that the Spurs' time has come and gone. They will all say that what the team accomplished in the last decade was great, but that their stars are too old and injury riddled. The league is becoming younger and especially in the east, you can see that many of the stronger teams have talented, young players.

Take the Chicago Bulls, for example. They weren't making much noise after Michael Jordan, the best man to ever play the sport, retired. It was not until they drafted Derrick Rose that they began winning games again.

Despite what everyone seems to keep saying about the NBA nowadays and how you have to be a young athletic team to be successful, the Spurs continue to find themselves right in the middle of the play-off pack year in and year out.

I am going to contribute some of this to their head coach, Greg Popovich, who will no doubt be in the Basketball Hall of Fame some day. He continues to use effective strategies against teams and always seems to use their weaknesses

Continued on page 3

## Women's track team makes top-10 finishes at Boston meet

BY NIKITA DUKE  
Sports Staff Reporter

With graduate student Siobhan Breagy leading the way, the University of Rhode Island women's track team had a successful meet in Boston this past Friday with 10 top-10 finishes overall in Boston University's Terrier Classic.

Breagy came in first of 49 in the 1,000-meter run with a time of 2:49.48. She lead the Atlantic-10 Conference in the 1,000m as well as the mile. Breagy's performance on Friday also marks URI's second best time ever in the 1,000m run. The current school record is 2:49.09, just a hair above Breagy's.

Among the other top-10 finishers at the meet were sophomore Kaylan Pickford, with a third place finish in the pole vault, and sophomore Kimberly Ezeama, who came in fourth in the triple jump.

Sophomore Jennifer Christian took fifth place in the 60m preliminaries, seventh place in the 60m finals and 10th place in the 200m dash.

When asked about the dynamic of the team, and how they have managed to be suc-

cessful despite a rough start to their season, senior Alexis Capozzi commented on how close and supportive the team is of one another.

"As a senior, I can say that for a sport that's typically a very independent one, with everyone running their own individual races, our team is very close," Capozzi said. "We have team dinners, meetings and practices that allow us to have a unique bond unlike most teams I've seen. We all support each other and celebrate successes as a team."

Junior Hayley Madsen took seventh in the 800m run, junior Shannon Meehan earned eighth in the high jump, junior Genevieve Rybicki took seventh in shot put and 10th in the weight throw, and freshman Keiko Hector took 10th in the 60m hurdle preliminaries.

Several runners also broke their own season-best and personal-best records on Saturday. Capozzi had her season-best 200m event with a time of 26.29, freshman Lauren Columbare had her season-best mile with a time of 5:21.02 and senior Jillian Pizzo also

Continued on page 3

## URI football team signs recruits from seven states

BY MIKE ABELSON  
Sports Staff Reporter

The University of Rhode Island football team signed 15 recruits yesterday during National Signing Day.

The 15 players came from seven different states. South Kingstown High School's Sean Conley was the lone Rhode Islander.

Rhode Island head coach Joe Trainer said that recruiting is always difficult because you're investing multiple years in multiple players.

"It's kind of like buying a house," Trainer said at an informal press conference before last night's basketball game. "We try to be as thorough as we can possibly be just in terms of gathering information. We try to do as much things as we can to evaluate the things you can't see on film to make sure you don't get buyer's remorse and you feel good about the whole package that you're buying."

Trainer and his staff concentrated on older players rather than freshly-graduated high schoolers. Six recruits have played collegiately at the junior college level and five

others played a year at a prep school or military academy before coming to Rhode Island.

"You love the prep school kids because they haven't used any eligibility, and they're a year older," Trainer said. "We have four mid-year admits too. Our 'hit' ratio for the older kids has been pretty good so far."

The bulk of the recruits (seven in total) are in the secondary and will have to help in replacing Robinson Alexis, Ahkiel White, Evan Shields, and Darrell Dulany, who all graduated.

Andre' Scott, from Valley Forge Military Academy and Tarik Pusey, from Brooklyn, N.Y., are among the standouts in the recruiting class. Scott, who played at the same school as Dulany, had 72 tackles and seven interceptions in 20 games at VFMA. Pusey, who has played on both offense and defense at Abraham Lincoln High School, helped lead the Railsplitters to their first city championship in 18 years.

Trainer said that since almost every school will be pitching their academic reputa-

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