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The Good 5¢ Cigar

THE UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND STUDENT NEWSPAPER SINCE 1971

Volume 61
Issue 76

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

Wednesday
March 28, 2012

Freshman basketball player arrested for allegedly videotaping sexual encounters

BY MIKE ABELSON
Sports Staff Reporter

University of Rhode Island freshman basketball player Jonathan Holton was arrested and charged yesterday with the felony of video voyeurism after police received complaints from two female students that Holton recorded videos of their sexual encounters.

According to the police report, Holton, 20, of Miami, Fla. was arrested at his campus address in the Merrow residence hall following allegations that he took video recordings of separate sexual encounters with two women. The videos were then posted on Facebook, though how the videos were made public is still under investigation.

Four videos have currently been turned in to the URI Police and the incidents were said to have occurred on campus. These recordings were made without the knowledge or consent of the women involved, URI Police Maj. Stephen Baker said.



Photo credit: GoRhody.com

Jonathan Holton, a University of Rhode Island freshman, who played on the 2011-'12 men's basketball team, was arrested early and released yesterday morning.

"It's a crime to both make the video without the other person's knowledge and to disseminate it," Baker said.

According to police reports, Holton was arrested shortly before 7 a.m. yesterday morning. The Rhode Island State Police Computer Crimes Unit also seized evidence from Holton's

room, which is still under investigation.

Holton was arraigned yesterday morning in District Court in Wakefield. He was released on \$10,000 personal recognizance with no contact orders for both women. Holton also signed a waiver of extradition since he is from Florida. A felony screening

with the Department of the Attorney General has been scheduled for April 27.

If convicted Holton could face up to three years in prison and up to a \$50,000 fine for each offense, Baker said.

Vice President of Student Affairs Tom Dougan said that the allegations were both troubling and difficult to take in.

"These are disturbing allegations that strike at the core of our commitment to make this a safe and civil campus community. Respect for the rights and privacy of all of our community members is paramount," Dougan said. "Campus police and Student Affairs are involved in separate intensive investigations surrounding these allegations."

Dougan also said the case has been referred to the student conduct system.

The female students involved first reported the incidents to the Division of Student

Continued on page 2

URI radio station to hold annual fundraiser

BY NANCY LAVIN
News Editor

University of Rhode Island's independent radio station, WRIU, is seeking listener donations this week through its "Radiothon," an annual eight-day fundraiser.

"This is the one week a year where we do a drive," WRIU's Assistant General Manager Chris Burnham said. "To maintain a radio station is really expensive, a lot more than what we get from Student Senate, so this is where we get most of our money."

Burnham said most of the money goes to repair and maintenance of equipment, though some is also allocated to individual departments, like jazz and hip-hop.

Burnham, who broadcasts home sports games and also has his own sports commentary show two days a week, said the station has about 100 disc jockeys, both students and local residents.

"Student involvement has been growing a lot this year because we've really been promoting and just giving students more ways to sign up," he said. Most of the shows last approximately three hours, with 40 to 50 shows in total, Burnham said.

Despite high numbers this year, General Manager Jeremy Wigton said promoting the station has been one of the most challenging aspects of his job in the past.

"A lot of people don't even know URI has a radio station," he said. "But we're working really hard, putting out fliers, reaching to freshman, to get our name out."

In order to land a show on WRIU, potential disc jockeys must first go through an online training site strictly for students, called RU2, which

Continued on page 2

Students help build community with Habitat for Humanity

BY HILLARY BRADY
Editor-in-Chief

University of Rhode Island students come to college to build a variety of things—friendships or a good resume. Other students are building something more literal, thanks to the URI Habitat for Humanity organization.

The group, which works very closely with the South County chapter of the larger Habitat for Humanity organization, helps students get involved on build sites both on campus and off.

"We're not just a student group, we're involved in the South County community," Habitat president Scott Andrews said. "It's a positive image that the university can portray."

There are four build sites on campus, on Old North Road, that have been heavily funded through efforts made by the Habitat group. The university donated the land to Habitat, which is now

working on building four houses on the space for purchase. Applicants who want to purchase a house apply through Habitat, and, once chosen, the new homeowners pay for the house themselves, at a lower interest rate—Habitat itself acting like the bank, which lowers the cost of the house and makes it more affordable for families.

One of the houses they're currently working on should be completed by the end of April and its owner is already chosen. The second house has already been started, with the walls already going up, Andrews said.

The other two houses have not been started yet, Andrews said. The third house on campus is set aside for a disabled veteran to own. The remaining house will be an "all women's build," where women volunteers will be responsible for the construction, he said.

Before the build sites began last year on campus, the club would travel to near-

by sites through South County to work on them. However, this posed problems for students who did not have easy access to cars, so having the build sites on campus has helped get more people involved, Andrews said.

This past September, 125 people came to the group's first meeting—a 500 percent increase in just a year. The group has about 40 to 50 active members and an expanded executive board, which consists of fundraising, social, service learning and public relations committees.

"It was a way for anyone to be involved," he said. "Now there are more specific ways for people to use their own talents and interests."

These committees are responsible for a variety of things, from making press releases to creating a pamphlet to inform other students about "the reason why [the group] exists in the first place," by sharing information about Habitat for Humanity and affordable

housing.

In addition to participating in alternative spring break programs, the group's other big event is the "Pound a Nail, Pound the Pavement Walk," which is now in its second year. The campus walk and fundraiser, which is open to URI and the local community, raised \$10,000 last year. This year's walk will take place this Saturday on the Quadrangle at 12 p.m.

The group meets every Thursday at 6 p.m. in the Memorial Union, Atrium 2 and has a variety of build opportunities each weekend for students to get involved in. Interested students can also email urihabitat@gmail.com for more information about URI Habitat for Humanity.

"A lot of people want to do more in their college experience than just thinking about themselves," Andrews said. "It's an empowering experience. It empowers you about what you're capable of doing."

The Good 5-Cent Cigar

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54 °F

To those who
did the rain
dance...



Nickel Brief:

Learn about what a URI police officer is doing on campus.

Have you seen the new
Fox television show
"Touch?"

See page 3.

CAMPUS

Freshman

From page 1

Affairs on March 17 and then to URI Police on March 20.

Dougan said Holton's standing with the university will depend on the outcome of the criminal case. As a result of his arrest, however, Holton has been suspended from the URI men's basketball program and all related activities.

Holton was a starting forward this past season for the men's basketball team and was named to the Atlantic-10 All-Rookie Team.

Radio

From page 1

allows them to learn about how to put a show together and use the equipment. Based on their performances on RU2, the staff at WRIU selects participants to host a show on FM radio.

Burnham said the types of shows vary tremendously, depending on the interests of the disc jockeys.

"It's really all over the board," Burnham said. "Hip-hop probably gets the most interest, but there's also a lot of jazz and classical."

Wigton, who has a show featuring underground hip-hop, agreed that the unique

diversity that WRIU provides is one of its key selling points.

"We're trying to provide a service that no other radio station in the area can give, in every genre," he said.

Wigton added that despite some challenges, the radio station provides great experience for those interested in radio.

"It's a real-life business with real equipment and real people," he said. "If you want to go into broadcasting, or business, or any aspect of radio, it really is great experience."

Basketball

From page 4

great because they were there with me and I was able to share it with them."

The Wildcats' shooters, who connected on 12 of 21 three point shots against Gonzaga on Sunday, connected on only 19 field goals in the entire game.

"We stopped hitting our shots, and they hit their shots," Bria Goss said. "We never really got it going, and I feel that that was the turn of the game. We're going to take this loss and remember it. Remember this feeling."

The Huskies shot 16 less

shots than Kentucky but connected on four more than the Wildcats.

Even with the convincing victory, Auriemma said his team has much to improve before its semifinal game Sunday night.

"We need to be the dumbest group of good players in the country," Auriemma said. "They are really good students and really bright, but some of the fouls we committed today, if you tried to invent them, you couldn't do it. The way we played the first half defensively is what gets you beat at this time of the year. At this time of the year you need to make teams beat you. You can't give them any help. I thought the first half we helped them a ton, and the second half we didn't help them at all. I hope there is better basketball ahead of us next week."

The Huskies were not picked by many preseason pundits to make it to the Final Four after the graduation of Maya Moore. Dolson was happy to prove the naysayers wrong.

"It means a lot to us because a lot of people didn't think we could make it this far," Dolson said. "To get back to this point is such a great feeling because we all did what we needed to do to win."

The Good Five Cent Cigar?
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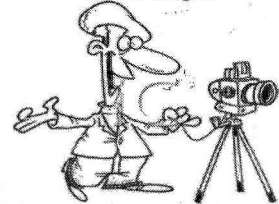
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Rhody pic of the day



Lauren Trad | Cigar

Marina Solda (right) of Lambda Kappa Sigma, along with fellow sorority sisters Rachel Morgans (middle) and Margaret Fox (left) at a bake sale fundraiser for her upcoming bike ride for Dana Farber and the Jimmy Fund. Solda was inspired to raise money when her mother was diagnosed with cancer.

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Club Notices

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Living

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Engaging ideas behind 'Touch' enough to overshadow flaws

BY CONOR SIMAO
Entertainment Writer

The philosophical idea of fate has challenged humankind for centuries, and its mystical significance continues to elude us today. Maybe that's why Fox's latest weekly drama, "Touch," appeals to the curiosity within me.

The show attempts to explore the necessary, quasi-deterministic interactions that culminate in the reality of life. It does so through a fictional narrative in which Jacob (David Mazouz), a seemingly mute 11-year-old boy, understands the complexities of destiny and acts as an agent of fate to direct people toward their inevitable cosmic prescriptions.

While it may sound like an intricate, ambitious premise, "Touch" plays out like a standard network drama, which isn't so unnatural, considering it boasts Kiefer Sutherland on its cast. The actor, the man famously behind "24's" Jack Bauer, plays Jacob's father, Martin, who's understandably a bit confused by his son's idiosyncratic talent. Jacob clearly perceives how lives intersect and thus understands the nature of the world in ways others simply cannot fathom.

Instead of verbally expressing himself, he tends to communicate via numerical and geometrical patterns often written as neatly arranged passages in his notebook. He also can't stand human physical contact, and will shriek when picked up. But the show tends to be less about him and more about the multiple people he serves. Some have criticized the plot as being too "high-concept," but two episodes in, it's not too dif-

ficult to get behind and fully comprehend the program.

That's right. Thursday night's "world premiere" isn't the first installment of "Touch" to reach the airwaves; the pilot episode aired quite a while ago, in late January. It does kick off the series, which will continue next week and recur until the summer season begins. So its international reach aside, "1+1=3," as the episode was titled, deserves attention.

It's a great starting point for new viewers to get a feel for what "Touch" is all about. The boy knows what's going to happen versus what's supposed to happen and thus acts on fate's behalf to rectify the "cosmic pains" that would otherwise come to fruition.

How does he do this without talking? In Thursday night's story, he does so by writing the phone number of "Arnie's Pawnshop" onto a confused Martin's hand. Doing his son's bidding, Martin finds the location and interrupts a staged homicide in progress (the owner paid a peanut vendor to dress up in criminal garb and shoot to kill him...life insurance fraud of a most theatrical variety). This confuses the pseudo-robber who, when attacked by Martin, does not shoot and kill Arnie, the shopkeeper in need of some inspiration by way of Jacob's metaphorical touch. The peanut vendor runs away from this unexpected distraction with a souvenir from the pawnshop, a baseball he traded in years earlier.

Meanwhile, at JFK Airport in New York, a flight attendant rushing to pick up a dog being sent by a Russian mob big shot to his son in the homeland col-

lides with an Indian man carrying the ashes of his father in an elephant-shaped ornate urn. Despite having her own problems (her dog explicitly escapes from his cage,) she agrees to help the man pursue his quest: spread the aforementioned father's ashes on the infield of New York Stadium (a fictionalized Yankee Stadium, we are safe to assume.) On the way over to the arena, the man informs the flight attendant that he has no arrangements to visit the park and unsurprisingly has not been cleared to spread any ashes on any dirt. They also discuss each other's lives and families as the conversation takes a personal turn.

So we cut to another scene and find out why the robber character from before has taken to assisting suicidal businessmen. He owes money to the wrong person: the Russian gangster mentioned earlier who evidently has impatience issues. Following the botched assassination, he must collect \$5,000 in three hours to keep his loan shark happy. Nervous about his future and hoping to win some karma points, he enters New York Stadium and gives the newly-taken baseball to the player who originally slugged it.

On his way out he leaves the door open, allowing the Indian gentleman to fulfill his ultimate mission. His partner in misdemeanor crime, the flight attendant, isn't even there to see it because she ended up meeting up with the escaped dog and chasing it around the city before the man found this open door.

On the other side of the world, a young boy, following a string of events forcing emo-

tional introspection, decides to call his father, who is stationed in the states, and urges him to cease his abusive behavior. This phone call is received by the man as he's about to punish the robber, whose 3-hour deadline has finally expired. And so he grants him amnesty in a not so surprising plot twist.

Meanwhile, the flight attendant follows the dog onto the top of a bridge where she meets her father, Arnie, who's out of the hospital and ready to kill himself again due to his feelings of isolation. The flight attendant, inspired by the Indian man's unconditional family loyalty, forgives him for his past, undisclosed transgressions and gives him a warming hug.

So Arnie and his daughter make up, the "robber" is forgiven and allowed to start anew, the Indian man spreads his father's ashes as desired and the Russian gangster changes his ways. It's just another day of repairing broken fate for Jacob.

Toward the episode's end, as the discrete subplots collide and demonstrate the interconnected nature of life, it's difficult to ignore the creativity exhibited by the show. To fans of HBO's "Curb Your Enthusiasm," it may seem familiar but somewhat more dramatic than Larry David's obsession with convergence.

Despite being, perhaps, overly twisty and loaded with countless interrelating figures, sometimes to the detriment of character development, "Touch" is thematically consistent and actually quite enjoyable, even if its narrative can't quite keep up with its philosophically advanced intent.

Man pleads guilty in celebrity email hacking

LOS ANGELES (AP) — An unemployed Florida man pleaded guilty Monday to hacking into the email accounts of celebrities, including Christina Aguilera, Mila Kunis and Scarlett Johansson, whose nude photos eventually landed on the Internet.

Christopher Chaney, 35, of Jacksonville, Fla., entered his plea in federal court to nine counts, including unauthorized access to a computer and wiretapping. He was immediately taken into custody with his head hung low and his hands in his pockets.

Sentencing was scheduled for July 23, and Chaney could face up to 60 years in prison. Under a plea bargain, he also could pay a fine of up to \$2.2 million and must pay restitution to his victims, ranging from \$15,000 to \$400,000.

Chaney was arrested in October as part of a yearlong investigation of celebrity hack-

ing that authorities dubbed "Operation Hackerazzi."

Prosecutors said Chaney illegally accessed the email accounts of more than 50 people in the entertainment industry between November 2010 and October 2011.

Nude photos Johansson had taken of herself were later posted on the Internet. Johansson told Vanity Fair for its December issue that the photos were meant for Ryan Reynolds, now her ex-husband.

Chaney mined through publicly available data to figure out password and security questions for celebrity accounts. Once he had control of an email account, he also went through contact lists to find accounts of fellow stars.

He also hijacked a forwarding feature so a copy of every email a celebrity received was sent to an account he controlled, accord-

ing to court documents.

A search warrant unsealed and obtained by The Associated Press said Chaney's computer hard drive contained numerous private celebrity photos and a document that compiled their extensive personal data.

In one instance, Chaney posed as stylist Simone Harouche and sent an email from her account to Aguilera — one of Harouche's clients — asking the singer for scantily clad photographs, prosecutors said. Some of Aguilera's photos appeared online.

Chaney forwarded many of the photographs to two gossip websites and another hacker, but there wasn't any evidence that he profited from his scheme, authorities said. He has since apologized for his actions.

In ordering Chaney to be held behind bars until he's sentenced, U.S. District Judge S.

James Otero noted the defendant continued to hack into celebrity email accounts — namely one belonging to a star only referenced by initials C.B. — after he was interviewed by FBI agents and acknowledged the scheme.

"I don't understand why any person who is rational would continue in that kind of behavior," Otero opined.

It's unclear whether Aguilera, Kunis or Johansson would write letters to the judge or attend Chaney's sentencing, but all three women agreed to have their identities made public after an indictment was announced last October.

"I have confidence that justice will prevail and that the court will set a precedent for a 'no tolerance policy' in regards to identity theft, computer hacking and invasion of privacy," Johansson said in a statement to the AP.

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Rhody SPORTS



Ryan Center hosts women's basketball tournament, UConn beats Kentucky

BY MIKE ABELSON
Sports Staff Reporter

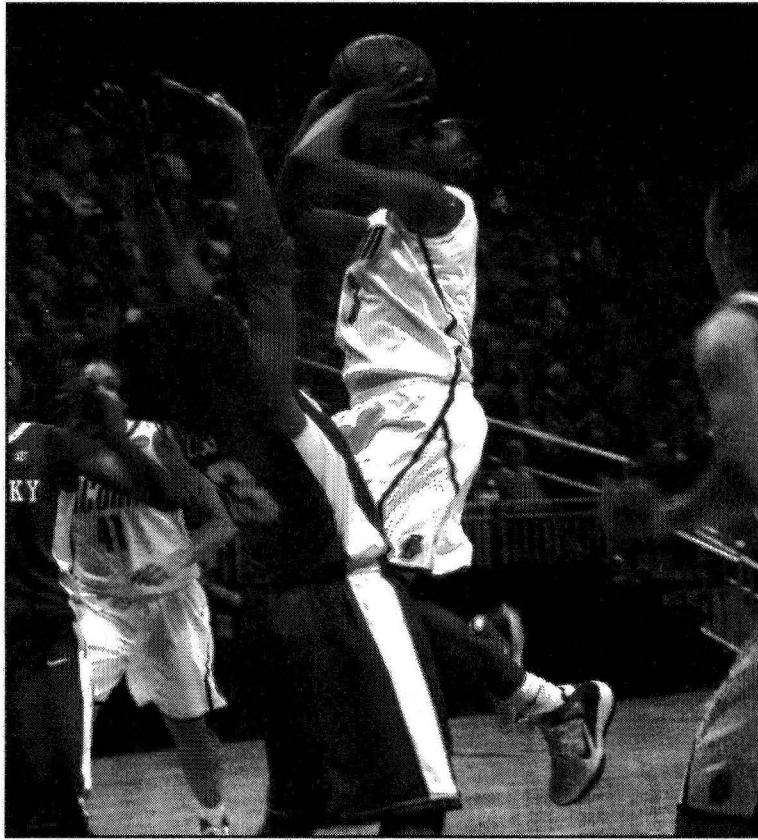
With 2.1 seconds left in the first half, and the game tied at 39, the thousands of Connecticut fans were drowned out by the hundreds of Kentucky supporters in attendance at the Ryan Center.

Then came Connecticut senior Tiffany Hayes, who connected junior Kelly Faris with a pass 20 yards down the court that unleashed Faris, who finished the play with a layup at the buzzer to bring out a roar from the Husky faithful.

"We huddled and we definitely talked about the play, and Kelly said if they play it wrong she's going to go long," Hayes said. "She went, I threw a perfect pass and she caught it like a running back and it was awesome."

"It was awesome," sophomore Stefanie Dolson said.

It was smooth sailing from there as the Huskies outscored the Wildcats by 13 points in the second half to



Tiffany Hayes, a University of Connecticut senior, jumps into opposing University of Kentucky freshman Bria Gross during last night's Elite Eight Women's Basketball game in the Ryan Center.

win 80-65 and lock up its fifth straight trip to the Final Four.

Hayes led the Huskies with 22 points and three

steals. Dolson dropped in 13 points, and grabbed eight rebounds.

"You watch the game and you have to admire what these players have done over the course of the season that led up [to] tonight," Connecticut coach Geno Auriemma said. "Playing in this game is very difficult. Playing a team like Kentucky is really difficult. It could just as easily have gotten away from us, and I thought we showed a lot in the second half."

Connecticut outscored its previous three tournament opponents by a combined score of 232-132 and looked to bury the Wildcats quickly.

UConn jumped out to a 9-0 lead in the first 2:14 of the game but Kentucky clawed and kept fighting. A jumper from Kentucky freshman Bria Goss with 5:49 left in the first half gave Kentucky a 31-30 lead. It was the first time Connecticut had been trailing since it trailed Kansas State for 55 seconds in their second

round game.

"I felt that UConn would be strong from the start," Kentucky coach Matthew Mitchell said. "I thought when they were fresh it might be difficult on us so I tried to settle us down and help them understand that they could defend it and get back to it. I thought they did a beautiful job of getting back into [it] and playing a good first half."

The teams traded shots for the first few minutes of the second half before the Huskies found its extra gear. Over a nine-minute span the Huskies exploded for a 21-5 run. Hayes highlighted the run with seven of her 22 points.

Her performance over the weekend earned her the regional's Most Outstanding Player award.

"It was nice," Hayes said of the award. "My teammates were there and they came at me all crazy, trying to mess up my hair and stuff. It was

Continued on page 2

Not-so-average Joe: Who else cannot wait for Opening Day?

BY JOE HOLLENBECK
Sports Editor

Well, football season has come and gone in a bit of a disappointing fashion for us New Englanders, but there is a silver lining that comes with the end of the football season. We are less than a week away from diving into perhaps the biggest sporting season of the year—America's pastime. That's right. I am talking about baseball season.

With all of the big free agency moves this past off-season, you have to expect that this year will not disappoint the average baseball fan and for us dedicated fans, there are a lot of questions that may need to be answered this year.

As a Boston Red Sox fan, I have plenty of issues with the way that last season ended but that is now in the past as the Francona era has ended and the Valentine era is in full swing. I like what Bobby Valentine has done with this team so far. The Red Sox did not really make any huge

deals in free agency this year, but that was because they didn't need to. Last season they landed their two big name free agents, Adrian Gonzalez and Carl Crawford.

This off-season has been all about adding depth for the Red Sox because when the team fell apart last season, it wasn't due to a lack of talent but more a lack of discipline and depth.

The rest of the league has had its share of surprises as well. Two of the National League's best hitters switched over to the American League in an attempt to win the World Series. Albert Pujols left his defending World-Series-Champion St. Louis Cardinals because they couldn't pay him enough, and he decided that his work there was done. It was a more noble change of scenery than we've seen in the past.

Prince Fielder, long time Milwaukee Brewer, decided to take his talents to Detroit as he joined the already-stacked Tigers. They look to win their division again behind their

big bats and the arm of 2011 MVP Justin Verlander.

The other team that really made a splash this off-season was the Florida Marlins, who moved to Miami, changed their jersey (and they look beautiful, I must say), added all-star shortstop Jose Reyes (a move that will send Hanley Ramirez one position over in order to play third base) and created a buzz around the area for the team, something that Florida baseball fans seem to have a hard time with (see: the Tampa Bay Rays).

The same teams look to do the same things every year and finish the same in the standings so we'll have to keep an eye out for those Cinderella teams that emerge late in every season. One thing I am truly excited to see is Washington Nationals pitcher Stephen Strasburg make his opening day start.

Hopefully this upcoming season will be full of some great baseball as we try to put the steroid era further behind us and move on to bigger and better things.

Local basketball regional gets overwhelmingly positive reception

BY MIKE ABELSON
Sports Staff Reporter

The pep bands have packed up and the trophies have been awarded, but the question on the minds of the organizers of this weekend's regional was: how did we do?

In a word: fantastic.

"The reaction nationally to people who have seen it on TV has been off the charts," Deputy Director of Athletics Gregg Burke said. "We can't even gauge it we're so excited. Locally, people just love it. For me, I'm the guy that does operations so nothing will ever be perfect, but to see all these people so happy is unbelievable. It's phenomenal what this event has done for the community."

Burke, who managed tournament events during his tenure working at Providence College, said that investing in the future of the Ryan Center and the local economy played a big part in putting together a successful bid.

"When [Director of Athletics] Thorr [Bjorn] first went through this, we did it for present and future investment," Burke said. "That means that people that come here and spend money on food, restaurants, hotels, etc. is the present. Hopefully they'll want to come back and vacation here but the NCAA will also want to come back."

Burke said that next year's regional is already scheduled for Trenton, N.J., but he, and the rest of the athletic department will be involved in the next bidding

cycle.

Paul Kenyon, the Providence Journal's URI basketball beat writer for more than 20 years, said that the regional was impeccably organized and hopes Kingston will get another one in the near future.

"I think it went as well as anyone could have hoped," Kenyon said. "They made money and came out profitable, it was beautifully organized, everything came up well. Let's hope they do it again."

ESPN producer Phil Dean said that the working environment for he and the rest of the TV crew was fantastic.

"Being here at Rhode Island has been terrific," Dean said. "Gregg Burke has done a great job working with the stadium facilities folks to make it, really a pleasant TV-friendly environment for us to work in."

Shane Donaldson, who was tasked with organizing more than 100 members of the media from across the country, was pleased with the outcome.

Donaldson said seeing fans come from both the Rhode Island community and the nation was a great feeling.

"It's been outstanding," Donaldson said. "To see this place fill up and see them come from all four teams, not just Connecticut; obviously that was the big draw. To see Gonzaga travel with the contingent that they did, and to see the local community respond was really awesome."

**Those who can't play, write!
Come join us for our meetings,
Thursdays at 7 p.m.**