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The Good 5¢ Cigar

THE UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND STUDENT NEWSPAPER SINCE 1971

Volume 62 ©
Issue 33

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Wednesday
December 5, 2012

Honors Colloquium takes musical turn with 'Damaged Care' satire of current health care problems, policies

BY CONOR SIMAO
News Reporter

The University of Rhode Island's 2012 Honors Colloquium took an interesting turn Tuesday evening with a musical performance, entitled "Damaged Care," in Edwards Auditorium. The musical, in keeping with the colloquium's theme, addressed the influence of money and politics on the American health care system.

The musical comedy adopted a light and humorous but often informative tone as a means to illustrate the important topics central to the health care discussion. Drs. Greg Lagana and Barry Levy sang to melodic parodies of popular musical numbers to satire the many problems with health care in America. For example, the song "Have a Test," which lampoons the profit-driven surge of excessive screening, procedure and treatments over primary care, was sung to the melody of "Be Our Guest," an original from "Beauty and the Beast." Also spoofed was "That's Entertainment" from "The Band Wagon," which the singing doctors effectively turned into "That's Cost Containment," a critique of medical downsizing.



Lauren Trad | Cigar

"Dr. Greg LaGana and Dr. Barry Levy give a comedic performance in "Damaged Care," a musical about health care in America today."

Witty lyrics like "we have cut even good common sense/that's cost containment" and "you may think you need a nurse/ there are no nurses left, get a hearse" provide biting ridicules of the ways in which money influences health care. "There's No Business Like Show Business" is twisted to apply to medicine, with the doctors declaring, "the less we do/the more we make."

The most invective criticism is saved for last, with the original song "Sick." The number's memorable chorus, "Go away, you're sick" is compounded by the doctor character's sugges-

tion that he should only target the "worried well," who are inexpensive clients, as opposed to people who are truly in need of help.

In a later scene, the pair dress in devil horns and carry tridents in their impersonation of insurance executives designing a "policy that covers nothing."

After the show, the doctors answered questions from the regarding the health care systems and what reforms they believe are necessary. Asked if there were any immediate solutions, they expressed uncertainty. Nevertheless, LaGana said,

"Health care is one-seventh of the US economy...[The Affordable Care Act] was thousands of pages long, and in those pages were a lot of experiments...lots of things need to be tried out."

LaGana took issue specifically with the conceptualization of health care. "US health care is thought of in business term," he said. Levy agreed, explaining that "if you want change, we need the creation of a single-payer health care system."

Levy also discussed the roots sources of health problems in society and how they relate to health care policy. "Appreciating the social determinants of health, such as nutrition and poverty, is important," he said.

Asked how nursing students interested in effecting change could make a difference, the pair stressed organized advocacy. "The message from our show is: get engaged," said Levy.

"Damaged Care" has been performed all across the country since 1996. It has been featured in The New York Times and has been covered by CNN headline news in addition to ABC, PBS and the Boston Globe.

Sophomore student prepares for Presidential Inauguration Conference in Washington, D.C.

BY ALLISON FARRELLY
Contributing News Reporter

This winter, a University of Rhode Island student has been given an opportunity to witness history in the making. Sophomore Jessica Marfeo has been nominated to attend the Presidential Inaugural Conference in Washington, D.C. from Jan. 19-23.

The conference is a week-long event for college students that culminate with the inaugural ball and the inauguration itself. "About 150-200 students attend," Marfeo said. "There are also a few international students."

The Inaugural Conference only accepts alumni of a few, select, career-focused conferences and forums. "In high school, I participated in the National Youth Leadership Forum on Medicine and during that time, I was a standout student," Marfeo said. "One of my mentors from the forum recommended me for the Presidential Inaugural Conference."

The conference gives high-achieving college students the opportunity to meet and network in the capital during a time of important political history. "I'll be meeting future lawyers, doctors,

congressmen and politicians there," Marfeo said. "It is a phenomenal networking opportunity."

Marfeo has already experienced first-hand how helpful the networking opportunities conferences offer can be. "I can pick up the phone and call up my friend from Alaska who I met at the National [Youth] Leadership Forum on Medicine and ask her opinion on an issue."

As a biology and elementary education major on the pre-physician assistant track, Marfeo hopes to one day work with the Rhode Island Board of Health. "I will defi-

nately get letters of recommendation from this conference," Marfeo said.

In addition to her studies, Marfeo is also involved in extracurriculars, including serving as a URI 101 mentor and recruitment chair for CERT (Community Emergency Response Team). She is also the social chair for WOWW (We're Offering Women Wisdom).

Marfeo said attending the conference is not just a great opportunity, but also involves a lot of time spent working and networking. "You don't

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New council encourages acts of giving

BY ALISON WARBURTON
Contributing News Reporter

In efforts to raise awareness about philanthropy amongst students at the University of Rhode Island, the Student Alumni Association teamed up with the URI Foundation's Annual Giving Office to start the Student Philanthropy Council this year.

This council aspires to get students involved and educated about the impact of annual giving at URI. Most students are unaware that only eight percent of URI's operating budget comes from the state, while the rest is privately funded by donors or other programs.

"Our initial thought was that we need to raise awareness about philanthropy on campus with the hopes of starting a student led philanthropy campaign," said senior student Tim Viall, who became involved with the program last year after learning about the foundation and the programs that other schools across the country were participating in to support student philanthropy groups.

This idea for this club was based off of a previous committee at the university that had been started a few years ago. "It had been in existence, then it kind of went dormant and so we really wanted to get it revived...we just wanted students to understand how important donor support is at the university and all across campus," said Joanne Gemma, assistant director of annual giving.

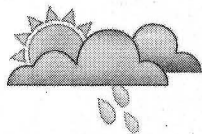
The Student Philanthropy Council hosted their first event this month on National Philanthropy Day. Members encouraged students to share their stories of past good deeds or plans for future acts of giving. In exchange for students' "kindness quotes," a few words of how they helped someone or someone helped them, each student received two cookies, separately packaged, so they could keep one for themselves and give the other away. This event gath-

Continued on page 3

The Good 5-Cent Cigar

Today's forecast
54 °F

Rain in the morning, then sun.



Nickel Brief:

Check out tomorrow's issue to learn about two URI nursing professors recognized with prestigious awards.

Find out what happened in the 'Walking Dead' mid-season finale.

See page 2.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Action-packed 'Walking Dead' ends season half on cliffhanger

BY AUGIE KING
Entertainment Editor

I'm not sure how I feel about this whole midseason finale business that has caught on with cable shows in recent times. On the one hand, it means that usually something important will happen that will change the course of the show. On the other hand, it means that the writers of the show have to shoehorn in these important events so that the audience is left with a cliffhanger, then has to wait a few months before the show returns. But that's a subject for another article. The "Walking Dead" arrived with its midseason finale this past Sunday, and it didn't disappoint.

Last year's midseason finale for season two may have had more shock impact (who could have guessed Sophia was in that barn?), but I would wager that "Made to Suffer" is an overall better hour of television. There are a lot of subplots to juggle here, including Glenn and Maggie, Rick's group, the Governor and Merle, Michonne's diversion and even a whole new group of survivors. The leader of this new group is

Tyreese; fans of the comic book will be happy by his appearance here, played by Chad 'Cutty' Coleman of "The Wire."

They happen upon an opening in the prison, and are met up by Carl with his big gun. I really like how Carl is turning into an adult who has to make the decisions that are necessary, even if they aren't the nicest.

But the bulk of the action is squarely placed in Woodbury, starting with the impressively stealthy snatch-and-grab by Rick's group using flashbangs to save Glenn and Maggie. Before this occurs, though, Glenn gets the standout gore moment of the week, ripping out a dead walker's bone to use as a weapon against the Governor's guards. Despite this being the midseason finale, there were surprisingly fewer deaths than I expected. The battle that ensues after the snatch-and-grab of Glenn and Maggie doesn't cost the lives of anyone major, just multiple Woodbury soldiers and Oscar. Oscar, we hardly knew you, and now Tyreese has stolen your position as the token black man of the show.

The token black woman

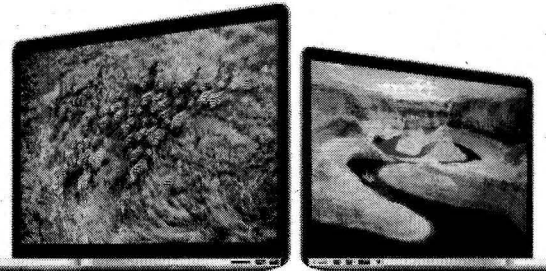
though (that would be Michonne) gets the best scenes of the hour. After foolishly breaking from Rick's group and getting into the Governor's home, Michonne discovers his daughter and then holds her hostage once he arrives. This sequence is an exemplary reason why the Governor is arguably the most intriguing character in "The Walking Dead:" he's a villain that is charismatic, insane and has a twisted sense of love and heart. David Morrissey strongly conveys the Governor's genuine terror that Michonne might off his daughter, and soon enough she rams her katana into the girl's head.

This was perhaps not the best course of action (but it was the typical Michonne course of action), as it sets the Governor off in a flurry of rage. The fight that follows is brutal and unforgiving, with the Governor unflinchingly throwing her into the fish tanks of walker heads and then punching her repeatedly. Michonne gets the last word in, however, once she grabs a piece of glass and stabs him

Continued on page 3



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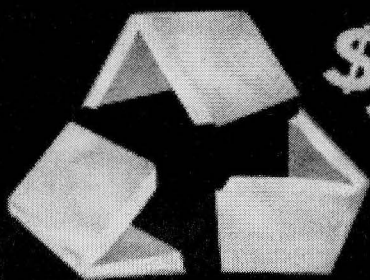
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Gabe, 14, is a swimmer and musician from Providence. In March 2012 he was diagnosed with Aplastic Anemia, a blood disorder in which the body's bone marrow doesn't make enough new blood cells. The only cure for this condition is a marrow transplant.

He hopes to help raise awareness about the need for blood and marrow donors.

UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND

Sponsored by the Clearing House for Volunteers, the URI Pan-Hellenic Council and LASA.

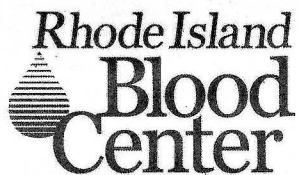
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Thursday, December 6, 2012

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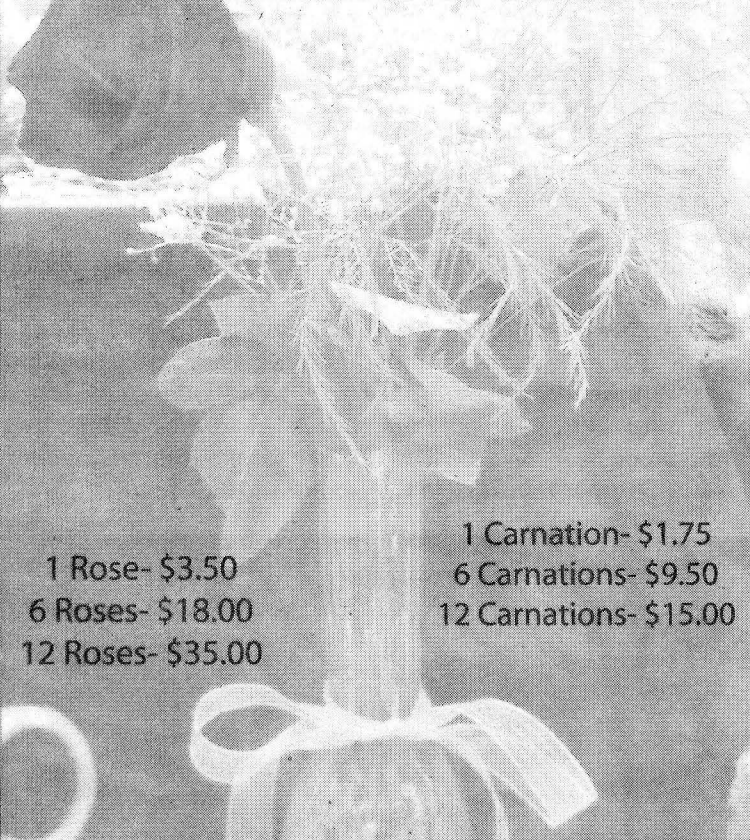


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Track

From page 4

third with 42-2, which was also a New England Championship qualifying mark. Warren accomplished her personal best with a mark of 29-1.

Overall, the women competed very well in their first invitational. Fiet-Melnick said she hopes to see the same and even more success in the next meet, which will be held at home at the Mackal Fieldhouse. The Rams will be competing in the URI Pentathlon on Friday, Dec. 7 at 11 a.m.

Giving

From page 1

ered over 200 quotes.

"Philanthropy can be as small as doing a good deed for someone," said Viall.

Future plans for the council consist of an event on Feb. 28 National Student and Philanthropy Engagement Day, in which volunteers and council members hope to spread some school spirit and get students to appreciate and celebrate their campus and university.

The Student Philanthropy Council meets on Thursdays at 4 p.m. and welcomes any new members or people who are looking to volunteer in its programs.

Student

From page 1

sleep at a conference like this," Marfeo said. "We'll be broken into groups of 20 students and will be speaking with politicians, congress people and attending seminars."

Marfeo said she is particularly excited for Political Pops, an event where "congressmen and women sing and dance for the students."

While at the conference, Marfeo is not only representing the University of Rhode Island, but the entire state, which she is "thoroughly excited" to do. She is the only student from Rhode Island who will be in attendance.

Currently, Marfeo is preparing for the Ms. URI and Ms. RI scholarship competition and hopes to win both titles. "Right now I'm going through the interview process, looking for gowns and working on my platform, which is health relationships among teens," Marfeo said.

Though Marfeo is involved in a wide variety of activities, she said she thrives in this environment. "Somehow I do well in all this craziness," Marfeo said. "I'm a very active person and I like it that way."

Dead

From page 2

right in the eye. Andrea arrives and gets into a tense standoff with Michonne (clearly she has chosen the Governor's side), and Michonne promptly leaves knowing her friend has truly abandoned her. The sight of the Governor cradling his daughter with the glass still stuck in him is the kind of gruesomely surreal imagery that "The Walking Dead" is great at.

Even though Michonne manages to reteam with Rick and make it out safely, a couple characters aren't completely out of danger. At some point during the standoff between Team Prison and Team Woodbury, Daryl had been captured and soon reunited with Merle. Since Merle lied about killing Michonne a couple episodes back and the two are brothers, the Governor (wrongly) blames all the chaotic events on him. "Made to Suffer" ends with Daryl and Merle about to be forced to fight with each other in the walker gladiator pit, making me fear if both of them (two of my favorite "Walking Dead" characters) will make it out alive. To find out, though, you will have to tune back in come February when "The Walking Dead" returns to TV after its short hiatus.

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Rhody
SPORTS

URI women's swim team dominates at Anderson Invitational

BY JAKE MARROCCO
Contributing Sports Reporter

There is victory, and then there is utter domination.

The win captured by the University of Rhode Island women's swimming and diving at the Harold Anderson Invitational, held at the Frederick D. Tootell Aquatic Center this past weekend, falls into the latter category. Finishing with 904 points, the Rams obliterated their competition when second-place Providence College was subdued by a nearly 300-point deficit, racking up just 620.5 points.

"We use this meet as a jumping-off point for the rest of the season," Rhode Island head coach Mick Westkott said. "The swimmers are preparing for this meet when they come in September. These girls are motivated to swim fast and well and that is one of our ultimate goals. [Our swimmers] stepped up beautifully this past weekend."

The Rams propelled themselves to an early lead when freshman Kate Snyder, sophomore Rachel Revolinski,

senior captain Susan Nugent and sophomore Chaya Zabudoff were victorious in the 400-yard medley relay with a time of 3:53.87, the first of seven Harold Anderson Invitational records they would set en route to the win.

Zabudoff and Nugent also placed first and second, respectively, in the 500-yard freestyle, clocking in at 5:02.44 and 5:06.50. Zabudoff set her first of two personal records at the meet during this event. Rhode Island kept rolling on day one of the Invitational when Revolinski and sophomores Emily Thomesen and Jessica Andruzzi secured the top three spots in the 200-yard individual medley.

"In all fairness to the other teams, the preparation that we did gave us an advantage," Westkott said. "We took advantage of that advantage and I think that was an important part. I think the team developed, in a better sense, who they are and how could they can be."

The seemingly indomitable Rams continued

their success when sophomore Sarah Keshishian tallied a win in the 50-yard freestyle with a time of 24.72. She was followed in third place by sophomore teammate Colette Aubin, who clocked in at 24.79.

In the 200-yard freestyle relay, Rhode Island edged out Bryant University for a win, beating the Bulldogs with Revolinski, Aubin, Snyder and junior Rachel Henninger by just more than one second.

"One of the things that I'm always amazed at is that even a middle-of-the-pack swimmer gets up [early] in the morning to practice," Westkott said. "The attitude [we had] was very positive and enthusiastic throughout the whole meet and that contributes to the success [as well]."

The Rams carried their momentum and 304 points into the second day of the meet, as well as a commanding 77-point lead over the second-place Friars. Rhode Island commenced day two with another milestone, a pool record in the 200-yard

medley relay spearheaded by the efforts of Revolinski, Thomesen, Aubin and Keshishian as they finished with a time of 1:45.39.

After freshman Jenna Kirchoff finished third in the 400-yard individual medley, the Rams maintained their winning ways on the backs of Aubin and Nugent, who respectively took first and third in the 100-yard butterfly.

Aubin's time of 56.01 seconds shattered the previous invitational record by more than one second.

"It's a very interesting sport, the chemistry is important to us," Westkott stated. "The individuals work hard at that and the evidence is what they do. Our end goal is the [Atlantic-10 Championship] and we can't be content with where we are now, but it was a great weekend."

Zabudoff, who attained her second record of the meet, and Keshishian placed first and second in the 200-yard freestyle, netting 37 more points for the Rams. In the final event of the afternoon, sophomore diver Cara Brown

secured a second-place finish in the three-meter diving competition with a score of 165.20.

"There are a few swimmers in that sophomore class that are really strong," Westkott said. "The interesting part of the growth in this program is that as the frontliners become better, they can score more points at the Atlantic-10 [Championship]. We just have to view it as a team effort and that's how we think about it."

The Rams conclude their pre-winter break schedule when they travel to face Bryant this Saturday.

"Their best swimmer, Casey Austrander, was not at this meet," Westkott said. "She was at U.S. Nationals and had a great meet there. She makes them a different team and they are scary. They are a formidable force. There's no diving at Bryant, so we will lose points there. Just because we beat them this week doesn't mean anything."

Women's track and field starts indoor season strong

BY EMILY JACOBS
Contributing Sports Reporter

The University of Rhode Island women's track team opened up its 2012-2013 indoor season at the Alden Invitational Saturday afternoon in Providence. The invitational was a success for the Rams, as they had many first place finishers as well as personal bests and New England Championship qualifying times.

Head coach Laurie Feit-Melnick said she was very pleased with the meet.

Many of her athletes were able to get noticeable finishes, which she said was a direct result of the training leading up to the season.

Among the noticeable finishers was junior Juliana Galante, who started off the day right with a first place finish in the 500-meter. Her time was 1:20.41, which was followed by her freshman teammate Nicole Sakis whose time of 1:20.87 gave her the second place finish.

Going one-two was a theme for the Rams that day as two other teammates finished one-two in the 60-meter hurdles. Graduate Kayln Sheehan and sophomore Emily Renna finished with times of 8:85 and 9:08, respectively. For Renna, this time was a personal best

and a qualifying mark. For Sheehan, her time was a New England Championship qualifying time.

Fiet-Melnick recognized both Sheehan and Renna for both their first finishes and qualifying times.

The other first place finisher of the day was senior Shannon Meehan. In the high jump, she finished with an impressive height of 5-4.

There were also other personal bests for many of the Rhody athletes.

Sophomore Sarah De La Cerda recorded a personal best in the weight throw with a mark of 38.

The other personal bests were also New England Championship qualifying times. Freshman Karen Lobaton was fifth in the 60m hurdles but ran a personal best and a qualifying time of 9.17 in her preliminary race. Her teammate, freshman Ashleigh Marks, also set a personal best and qualifying time in the 60m hurdles. She finished the race in 9.46. Their senior teammate Caroline Warren also had a qualifying time in the 60m hurdle prelim, finishing 9.33. Seniors Kelly McCabe and Warren both had personal bests in shot put. McCabe came in

Continued on page 3

Men's hockey splits series vs. Rutgers

JONATHAN SHIDELER
Sports Staff Reporter

The University of Rhode Island men's hockey team split their two road games this weekend when the team traveled Somerset, N.J. to play division opponent Rutgers University.

Despite the loss, the Rams still remain on top of the Eastern States Collegiate Hockey League standings with 17 points and a conference record of 6-3. Rutgers is behind them in second with 13 points and a record of 4-4 in conference.

Rutgers came out ready to play Friday night as they scored just 38 seconds into the game.

Two minutes later, sophomore AJ Chua tied the game for Rhody, his fourth goal of the year. Five minutes later, it was senior co-captain Mike Tait who found the back of the

net to give the Rams a 2-1 advantage to end the period.

In the second period, junior Sean O'Neil scored to give the Rams a 3-1 lead.

Rutgers would come back and score a late goal in the second period to cut the deficit in half.

With 10 minutes remaining in the third period, Rutgers scored again, this time to tie the game at three and force overtime.

Overtime was an up and down battle, as both teams struggled to get offensive opportunities. Finally, with just eight seconds left in game, Ben Upham scored to give Rhody the 4-3 win.

"Last second wins like that are always exciting," senior co-captain David Macalino said. "But the weekend would have been better if we won both games."

On Saturday, a back and

forth second period was all the fight the Rams had in them, which translated to a 4-2 loss.

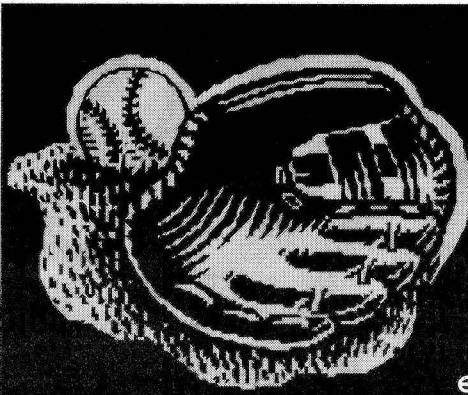
Rutgers would find the back of the net in the first to take a one-goal advantage going into the second period.

Senior Justin Bishop tied the game on a power play goal 3:32 into the period.

The Rams quickly found themselves down again as Rutgers scored just 17 seconds later. Then, 21 seconds after that, it was Tait who registered his sixth goal of the year to tie the game at two going into the final period.

In that final period, Rutgers scored twice to ice the victory.

This weekend the Rams take their final trip of the semester, as they will be traveling to play State University of New York-Canton.



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