Student pursuing graduate degree at URI pleased, impressed with program

BY ALLISON FARR ELLY
News Reporter

A first year graduate student at the University of Rhode Island is more than happy with her decision to further her education at the University of Rhode Island.

Originally from Long Island, N.Y., Kate Cassidy obtained her undergraduate degree from the College of the Holy Cross with a degree in sociology and studio art — a double major. She is currently pursuing a degree in human development and family studies with a concentration in college student personnel here at URI.

“I love the program,” Cassidy said. “I think the professors are wonderful, they really care about teaching us the material.”

Cassidy knew right after graduating with her bachelor’s degrees that she wanted to continue her education.

“Realistically, I’m someone who loves being in a classroom and I love going to class and…understanding student development a little better,” Cassidy said. “So far it made sense to further my education.”

So far, Cassidy has been thoroughly impressed with her program at URI. “I think that the program here is really so incredible,” Cassidy said. “It offers so much support to students. It really creates a family environment where I know I can trust and support all the people in my classes and receive the same support from the faculty.”

Though she occasionally regrets coming straight to URI without taking a break in her academic track, when all is said and done, Cassidy knows she made the right decision.

“That is the days where you recall sometimes you should take a year off because it can be overwhelming working so much and going to school as well,” Cassidy said. “At the end of the day I’m happy with my decision which makes up for those long nights and tired days”

Contributing to Cassidy’s long nights and tired days are her position as graduate assistant hall director on campus in Heathman Hall and her internship working in Student Contacts at Johnson and Wales University.

“Working in the residence hall and doing the internship really keeps me pretty busy,” Cassidy said. “I have some free time on the weekends but I usually spend that doing homework.”

Cassidy is also currently training for her first half marathon that will take place in the spring, and is attempting to live up to the challenge she set herself.

“I’m a letter writer,” Cassidy said. “I’ve challenged myself to a year long campaign of writing a letter every day to people I know.”

Ultimately, Cassidy hopes to become a vice president of student affairs at an east coast college. “I may come back here in the future,” Cassidy said. “I really love it here.”

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Rhody pic of the day

The Alumni Center celebrates URI graduates and their achievements and provides them with a well-coming space to return to.

The Good 5¢ Cigar

Entertainment...2,3,5,6
Editorial.........4
Campus.........7
Sports.........8

Today’s forecast
43 °F

It’s slowly getting warmer!

Missed the Academy Awards?
See page 3.
Cigar entertainment writers choose their favorite movies of past year

Augie King, Entertainment Editor

Despite some early disappointments that I expected to be great (ahem, "Prometheus"), 2012 has actually turned out to be a fantastic year for movies. For the longest time, the all-star superhero battle royal of "The Avengers" remained untouchable as my favorite movie of the year. Even the movies with the highest of Briggs and the lowest of entertainment writers choose their favorite movies of past year. Although films such as "Zero Dark Thirty" and "Silver Linings Playbook" made their way into my list of favorite films, I have to say that Quentin Tarantino’s "Django Unchained" impressed me the most. From "Pulp Fiction" to "Reservoir Dogs," I’ve always loved Tarantino’s films. The way he balances gory scenes with a comedic backdrop always gets me. With spectacular performances from Jamie Foxx, Christoph Waltz, Leonardo DiCaprio, and Tarantino’s favorite, Samuel L. Jackson, the movie was a sure-fire success. The style of the film was not typical, the cast and crew were not typical and the soundtrack was certainly not typical. Some song selections like Rick Ross’ "100 Black Coffins," Jamie Foxx, as well as the remix made with James Brown and 2Pac "Unchained" had me literally jumping from my seat. Tarantino’s film was, hence, a smash-hit success and my number one film of 2012.

Conor Fagan, Contributing Entertainment Writer:
In fairness, "Seven Psychopaths" plays like a singular movie construction in the name of enthralling pop culture-obsessed film geeks like myself. Director Martin McDonagh meshes perfectly-laced dialogue, a dog kidnapping scheme involving two serial killers and a cameo from music legend Tom Waits to produce a finely-tuned, violently hilarious movie about-a-movie that’s never predictable and doesn’t outstay its welcome. Despite the diverse ensemble cast in "Psychopaths," including the likes of Christopher Walken, Woody Harrelson and Colin Farrell, it is Sam Rockwell’s unhinged portrayal of the diabolically overzealous film buff named Billy that truly steals the show from everyone else.

Martin Lannan, Contributing Entertainment Writer:
My favorite movie of 2012 is "American Reunion," without a doubt. While it may not win any awards or be among the top movies of 2012 for others, it certainly serves its purpose. "American Reunion" is an entertaining, hilarious and wild adventure that sees the original crew converging for their high school reunion. With the entire original cast returning, "American Reunion" is a must watch for any fans of the now four movie long series. The movie shows what all members of the crew have been doing in the nine years since the last movie in the series, "American Wedding" (2003). My personal favorite, Sean William Scott, returns better than ever as the always hysterically inappropriate Stifler and even Eugene Levy makes a comeback as Jim’s father. The series wraps up with some loose ends that needed tying up and even includes an ironic encounter between Finch’s mother and Stifler. In the end, "American Reunion" certainly deserves some consideration for funniest comedy of 2012.

Alex McDevitt, Contributing Entertainment Writer:
I would say that 2012 was one of the strongest years for film in the past decade. So many filmmakers, young and old, returned moviemaking to its top form. In the list of movies that made me realize this, from big action blockbusters to low-budget indie spotlight, came a movie that felt like fitting right in the middle. "Silver Lining Playbook," from director and writer David A. Russell, stole the year for me. This film accurately depicted individuals struggling with bipolar disorder. Throw in three of the year’s best performances from Bradley Cooper, the enthralling Jennifer Lawrence and comeback-winner Robert De Niro and you have a winner. Russell directs this movie to perfection, pulling no punches in making you laugh with joy or cry in anger and frustration. Having one of the year’s best scripts also helps "Playbook" soar to new heights for Russell. I believe that this is the best film Russell has done throughout his entire career. This film is sure to take home (hopefully) a few Oscars, and might knock you off of your feet like it did for me.
85th annual Academy Awards show honors movie melodies, filled with tribute musical performances

By Melissa Lichtman
Photographer

On Sunday night at Hollywood’s Adobe Theatre, the 85th annual Academy Awards revealed the best of what the film industry had to offer from this past year. Seth MacFarlane, best known for his creation of the “Family Guy” series, took the stage as the host, honoring music in movies at the first themed addition of the Oscars. Through a series of musical performances, MacFarlane made fun of his own inappropriate sense of humor and the high level of class that is expected at the Oscars.

Opening with a choir style performance of “We Saw Your Boobs,” MacFarlane promptly made many disgruntled looks as he listed actresses who have performed scenes topless in films. After transitioning to a more appropriate song, inspired by Disney’s “Be Our Guest,” he managed to win over the audience and transition into the first set of presenters and awards.

Winning multiple awards, including Best Picture, was Ben Affleck’s “Argo.” As Affleck accepted the award for Best Picture, his dedication to the project became clear. While dripping with sweat, he passionately reminded everyone of the true story that the film conveyed and the way parts of that story are still affecting us today. He also went on to thank those involved in the project as well as his family and wife, Jennifer Garner.

One of the most memorable films of the year, one nominat­ed in multiple categories, was “Silver Linings Playbook.” The films star, Jennifer Lawrence, won the Oscar for Best Actress in a Leading Role. Her acceptance of the award was one of the more memorable moments of the night, not because of her acceptance speech, but because of the fall she took while walking up to the stage. Lawrence was able to recover from this unplanned accident to go on stage and gracefully accept and endearingly express her appreciation for the award.

Another film that seemed to gather multiple awards throughout the night was “Life of Pi,” directed by Ang Lee. Nominated in numerous categories, “Life of Pi” received many awards including Best Cinematography and Best Director.

Further celebrating the theme of music, many of the most memorable songs from film were brought to life on the Oscars stage. The majority of the cast from “Les Miserables,” including Hugh Jackman and Anne Hathaway, came out in a theatrical performance of “One Day More.” Jennifer Hudson, star of the 2006 film “Dreamgirls,” also made an appearance showing her talents through a captivating performance of the song “And I’m Telling You I’m Not Going” from the film.

On their 10th anniversary of winning the Oscar for Best Picture, cast members Queen Latifah, Richard Gere, Renee Zellweger and Catherine Zeta-Jones, from the musical film “Chicago,” made an appearance on stage to present an award. In a further tribute to this iconic musical, Zeta-Jones took the stage to perform one of the films best-known songs, “All That Jazz.”

In honor of the 50th anniversary of James Bond films, a montage of scenes from all 23 films was played, which was finished off by having Shirley Bassey sing her iconic “Goldfinger” song. Later on, one of the most anticipated performers of the night, Adele, performed “Skyfall.” This song, from the newest films in the historical Bond series, won the Oscar in the category of Best Original Song.

Keeping with the theme of the evening, MacFarlane closed the show with a duet with actress and Broadway star Kristin Chenoweth, which celebrated the losing films of the night who went home empty handed. The wide range of winners and nominees from this year’s Academy Awards will have many people running to theaters and movie stores to catch up on the award winning movies that they still have yet to see.

Oscar host Seth MacFarlane performs with big names like Joseph Gordon-Levitt and Daniel Radcliffe in one of the show’s many musical numbers.

Photo courtesy of the Associated Press
Jogging students need to be more mindful of their surroundings

Dear Cigar,

I live in South Kingstown and drive by the URI campus twice each day, six days a week, on my way to and from work.

Frequently, several times a week, I encounter URI students jogging along Rte. 138 in the late afternoon. In the winter, it gets darker earlier, and yet there they are! URI students jogging in the DARK just inches away from passing traffic. And yes, they are wearing DARK CLOTHING.

Friday evening I encountered two students jogging beside each other wearing dark sweatpants and dark blue URI sweat-shirts. The so-called breakdown lane they were jogging in by the 5 crosses by the cemetery is about 13 inches wide, placing one of the joggers squarely in the travel lane of the highway IN THE DARK.

Here is my concern. One of these days one of these students will be struck and killed while out jogging for their health.

Come on, people. You made it through high school and are now attending a university. One wants to assume you have a modicum of intelligence. There are more than 20 miles of paved roadway, not to mention a track, on the URI campus. Use those brains!

Bill Northrup
South County Trail
West Kingstown, R.I.

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Editorial & Opinion

Career Goals

College. The beginning of the rest of your life is what they say. Most students enter school and expect to be out and on with their life in four years. It takes some students longer because they need the time, change their minds, take some time off, or their majors require them to. In some cases, students have so many majors and minors that it will only naturally take them more than the "default" amount of years to complete. There is absolutely nothing wrong with that.

Once you’ve reached the part of your collegiate career where you have to decide what to do next, some students are stuck. Should you go to graduate school? Should you look for a job? What is your best option? These are questions that you should be starting to answer coming into your final year. Whether or not you know what you want to do after you graduate, you should have a backup plan just in case one fails.

A good idea for those who want to go right into their career after they graduate is to have a backup plan. Not everyone gets a job post-graduation, so if you think about going to graduate school, it’s a good opportunity to continue searching for a job while also getting another degree to supplement, compliment or differ in your current one. It’s possible you’ll like what you’re studying and rethink what you want to do.

If that isn’t a viable option for you, don’t give up. The job search can be difficult – depending on your profession choice – but there is something out there for everyone. The process can be speedy or slow. Keep this in mind; you’re more qualified with your degree than a lot of applicants.

Don’t feel down if you can’t find anything right out of school. Think of life as a jigsaw puzzle and you’re the piece. You just need to find your place and when that happens, you’ll be set for a long time. If not, you’re never too old to get a new degree.

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The Good 5¢ Cigar

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CORRECTION POLICY
Any column, commentary, letter or cartoon that contains an error may be corrected if the error is brought to our attention within seven calendar days of publication.

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Health and Fitness

BY AUDREY O'NEIL

News Editor

As spring break approaches, many people are regretting the ample amounts of Valentine’s Day chocolate and other holiday foods that they consumed these past winter months.

Since most students at the University of Rhode Island have the same goal of getting back that perfect bikini body – this only means one thing, the gym is heavily occupied. One of the worst ways to spend your day is getting riled up to have a great workout, and then having to wait more than 20 minutes for a treadmill.

Even if you decide to exercise on the side while waiting for an open machine, the term “personal space” means nothing if you’re attempting to step on the fitness mat. Though it is possible to make a mental note of the times when the gym is most crowded – in order to avoid being there during those times – this isn’t so practical for a student with a busy schedule.

Due to the impracticability of building my schedule around those times, during the past few weeks, my roommates and I have come up with some solutions to avoid having to deal with people while working out. All of the solutions involve staying away from the gym and using the space you have.

The first option is to set up yoga and pilates station in your living room. I have to admit, when I first walked into my living room and saw my roommate in a yoga position, I was confused. But after she explained what exactly she was doing, I realized that it is brilliant.

Instead of having to walk to the gym and then fighting for space to work out, she just walks out of her room and sets her laptop right next to her yoga mat. All you need is yoga mats, some weights and then open up an exercise routine from YouTube or another video source.

For those who want more of an interactive work out, the next option is to put your Wii to good use. There are many Wii fitness programs that you can purchase; my favorite is Zumba. You can also set this up in the living room or somewhere more private like your bedroom if you don’t want others to witness your fantastic dance moves. This also is a good option if you get bored doing the same routine every day because you can change it whenever you want. My last option is to take advantage of our mostly uphill campus and run outside.

This option probably isn’t the best choice with the weather conditions right now, but once the sidewalks clear up it will be safer. If you don’t like any of these options, then I guess you will have to just deal with the chaos of the gym or stay clear of swim suit season. You know you don’t want to do this, so get up and be active. Sounds cliché, but it’s really the only way of doing it.
Casey Veggies’ ‘Life Changes’ a refreshing mixtape from promising new solo artist

BY MARTIN LANAN
Contributing Entertainment Writer

While Casey Veggies may not be a known by all, he is quickly building a loyal fanbase through his quality mixtape releases and energetic, often sold out, live performances. Veggies, formerly of Tyler, the Creator’s OFWGKTA group, released his sixth solo mixtape titled, “Life Changes,” on January 22.

This mixtape is a step in the right direction for Veggies. He continues to hone his skills and general command of the microphone, already far beyond his 19 years. Before I get into the details of the mixtape, I feel it important to point one thing out. I find it refreshing to see an artist concentrating on refining his lyrics and building a fanbase. This is better than prematurely jumping into a crowded industry with a hasty debut album, like some music artists. While Veggies’ fans are anxiously awaiting his debut studio album, they have been temporarily appeased with the releases of his mixtapes in 2010, 2012 and now 2013.

Since his involvement in The Odd Future Tape, OFWGKTA’s 2008 debut mixtape, Veggies has been stirring buzz among hip-hop blogs. I even read about Veggies being referred to as a “lyrically tight version of Tyga,” essentially being compared to Tyga, if Tyga focused more on substance and provoking thought.

Regarding the mixtape, Casey Veggies has a quality, fully original release. Similar to his last release, 2012’s “Customized Greatly Vol. 3,” “Life Changes” goes light on the features, heavy on lyrics and strong on the production. Both mixtapes have only three guest features, focusing on utilizing beats that are tailored to Veggies’ flow and delivery. Life Changes features a track produced Cardiak (“Lifestyle”) which blends in nicely with an original two-in-one track, “Love=Hate/Ulterior Motives” (ft. BJ the Chicago Kid). Other standout tracks include “The Team,” “I Give the Mixtape” (ft. Dom Kennedy) and “The Team.” This mixtape really gives the listener an inside look into what Casey Veggies has been doing with his time. Covering topics from doing live shows “sold out at the age of 18” to his early life “cocaine got me in the game,” Veggies entertains throughout. While this is very common in the hip-hop genre, it is worth it to point out that Casey Veggies feels very genuine in his voice. What I mean by this is that when listening to Casey Veggies, it is very easy to become captivated, line after line. Don’t be surprised if you find yourself in a bit of a zone when listening to Life Changes.

Those who actively listen to hip-hop will certainly enjoy the mixtape, while those who enjoy the “2-Chainz type” of songs are advised to give Veggies a listen. The replay value is high and do not just give it one listen as it gets better and better with every spin. I give the mixtape a B+ because of the careful use of all original beats, combined with entrancing lyrics. Life Changes is a true continuation of the development of Casey Veggies, in which each release is smoother and more refined than the last.

Twitter reviews don’t belong in professional movie ads, writer says

BY AUGIE KING
Entertainment Editor

I have noticed a troubling trend recently in regards to movie advertisements on television. For as long as I can remember, television spots for upcoming movies often contained quotes from famous critics, whether it is a simple exclamation word or short sentence about their overall reaction to the movie. Now, although I very much enjoy reading actual reviews from critics that I trust and listen to on a regular basis, I learned a long time ago not to pay any mind to critic quotes featured in television ads. They are typically the shallowest, most contrived quotes imaginable because they feel as if the critic wrote those hollow statements simply to get their name out there in the ads. Even the worst of movies can get a quote from someone even if they did not laud it with praises.

While I pay no mind to those quotes, I would still take their word for it over any random Twitter user who does not critique movies for a living. Except now that thought has become an unfortunate reality. As early as late December, I noticed that ads for recent movies such as “The Impossible,” “Broken City” and “Texas Chainsaw 3D” had replaced the critics with the average tweeter.

In the case of “Broken City,” some of the quotes made it appear as if the users had not even seen the movie yet. The one that stuck out as the most egregious to me was by @flykeann12, who said, “There is just something about Mark Wahlberg. What does that even mean? Another, from @GypsyLullaby7, said, “Mark Wahlberg. Russell Crowe. NuFF said! Is it January 18 yet???” Have studios seriously become that desperate that they feel the need to resort to any person with an opinion on a movie they have not seen?

While for the most part critically panned, it is not as if there weren’t any critics who enjoyed “Broken City.” There are at least 29 reviews on Rotten Tomatoes listed as fresh for it; surely 20th Century Fox could have chosen from a few of those to promote the movie. In the case of “Texas Chainsaw 3D,” even though with reviews lambasted in the press much more than “Broken City,” there are still a handful of reviews that

Continued on page 6
New ‘Die Hard’ lacking predecessors’ appeal

BY ADAM HOFFSTEIN
Contribution Entertainment Writer

Do you have an affinity for flaming helicopters, falling through glass ceilings or exten­sive melt downs with foreign stereotypes? Well if you do, you will surely enjoy the latest “Die Hard” film, directed by John Moore. However, it was somewhat surprising to find out that Moore was directing the film. This is the same guy responsible for the eerily bad “Flight of the Phoenix” in 2004 and an even more horrifically bad remake of “The Omen” in 2006. So, with rather low expectations, I went and saw “A Good Day to Die Hard” on opening weekend. Just like the theater audience, the fifth installment of “Die Hard” was pretty minimalist in nature. By that I mean that the director chose to neglect charac­ter development and dialogue in favor of giant action sequences. Ever watch a movie where you have to sit through minutes of boring scenes where the action actually talk to each other? John Moore doesn’t waste time with that. Sure, the two lead characters in this film do interact with each other occasionally, but that’s usu­ually during a gunfight or a car chase. For instance, there is one extremely touching scene where John McClane, still played by Bruce Willis, actually talks to his son. Granted that is toward the end of the movie after they have jumped out of a burning build­ing, but I guess that counts for something.

As with the other movies in the “Die Hard” franchise, you have the classic American hero, John McClane, and his reluctant sidekick. This time John’s reluc­tant sidekick is actually his son. Of course you will have to take the film for its word because Jack McClane looks nothing like his father when he was younger. Regardless, who remembers what Bruce Willis looked liked when he had hair? John Moore sure doesn’t anyways, because you can tell that he has never seen a “Die Hard” movie before in his life.

“A Good Day to Die Hard” is missing the one major element that helped to separate the orig­i­nal Die Hard from the never-end­ing heap of bad eighties action movies. There is no awesomely charismatic and mysterious vil­lain or master plan that Bruce Willis’ character is fighting against. Instead, we have some vaguely evil guy who has a very simple mission, to blow up the world or something. It is not actually clear until three quarters of the way through the film who the bad guy actually is. Is it the annoying Russian stereotype named Alec? Maybe it’s McClane’s son? Most likely it’s just the director.

The point is that “A Good Day to Die Hard” is missing some vital elements that help make up a movie, elements such as a plot and character develop­ment. The earlier “Die Hard” movies, though mostly the first one, understood that these were important if an action movie wanted to be more than a forget­table series of explosions.

S.E.C to present ‘Ted’ at Swan Hall tonight

BY BILLY BOWDEN
Contribution Entertainment Writer

If a set of people were asked if they had a childhood friend, or a favorite doll growing up, the chances are they would respond yes and retell tales lost in their youth.

Everyone has dreams, usual­ly what a child partains to what you know which might have just been abandoned. It was win­ter, not entirely white but snow­y. That you carried around with you everywhere. These thoughts have been on everyone’s minds for quite some time due to Toy Story and it was an unexpected wholeheartedly in theatres until the hilarious cre­ator of “Family Guy” Seth MacFarlane, has decided to turn a film that can never ever be forgotten.

That film is “Ted.” Taking your average stuffed teddy bear, giving it a voice and watching it grow up to be a drug abusing, loud-mouthed, vulgar, yet hilari­ous object, one cannot simply walk away from “Ted” without slamming their knee multiple times in hysteria.

A great cast accompanies the accomplished MacFarlane, lead by Mark Wahlberg as John Bennett, a child who grows up (although not entirely) with the talking teddy bear Ted as his best pal. Milla Kunius, playing Bennett’s girlfriend Lori Colby, as well as narration by Patrick Stewart, join Wahlberg and MacFarlane (who also voices Ted himself) to craft a comedy-series “Family Guy” can expect the witty dialogue from the TV series to carry over into this film; guided by a bunch of friends that leave viewers in comic tears.

For college students particu­larly, the movie will be appealing as we follow Wahlberg’s journey into embracing his adulthood. We first see John as the stereotyp­ical slacker who will do anything to hold onto his past while his pot-smoking companion encour­ages him to embrace this energy.

His girlfriend expects him to get himself in line, yet his close attachment to Ted and ultimately his childhood starts to cause a division between the two. Throughout “Ted” we see a wild array of binge-drinking, drug abuse and several refer­rences to 80s and 90s pop-culture, including the infamous sid­ tones of such bands as Creed and the 1980 science fiction movie “Flash Gordon,” which both Bennett and Ted loved way before they grew up together. “Flash” star Sam Jones even has a funny cameo in the movie when he and JohnDupree患上一种叫做Swan Hall Auditorium on tonight at 7:10 p.m. Put down the books, tell a friend, and get down to Swan for a night full of laugh­ter.

Twitter

From page 5

were somewhat positive towards the movie. The majority of the movie-going public already largely supports the film. With that in mind, the question remains of what makes the stu­dios think that the use of average Joe tweeters will somehow gain more attention than those who are supposedly knowledgeable about film.

An interesting liggering issue of this that come to my attention is the possible questionable validity of the Twitter accounts being referred to in these advertisements. Way back in 2001, Columbia Pictures manufactured imagi­nary critc David Manning to write a fake positive review of the otherwise derided “Hollow Man.” The review and “Manning” were of course revealed to be a hoax the follow­ing year, but who is to say that they couldn’t just repeat the same tactic with hastily created Twitter handles?

To a certain degree I under­stand why studios are doing this practice. Word of mouth is important to the success of a movie, especially public word of mouth for a movie that the critics were not kind to. They want to drum up excitement for a proper­ty by appealing to the general crowd with someone who is “just like them” rather than some per­ ceived snobby critic. But people do not listen to movie tastes based on people they do not know. People ask their friends what they thought of the movie, or in my case both friends and selected critics, because they trust their opinions.

If the general public could not care less about whether famous critics like Roger Ebert or Peter Travers think a movie is “magical” or “extraordinary,” then I am pretty sure they would ignore the opinions of some ran­dom schmuck who probably lives 10 miles away from them. The use of their opinion smacks of desperation in a practice of movie advertisement that is already thought of as a desperate measure to begin with.

URITHEATRE

METAMORPHOSES

By Mary Zimmermann

February 21-23 & February 28-March 2, 2013, 7:30 p.m.
February 24 & March 3, 2013, 3:00 p.m.
URI Fine Arts Center, J Studio
Tickets: 401.874.5843, or www.uri.edu/theatre

Got a question for the Sexperts?

Send your questions to sexandthecigar@gmail.com

T he 2013 Excellence Awards

Nominations are now being accepted.

Write to us! Tell us who among your peers, coworkers and/or teachers is deserving of this special recognition and why.

Awards are presented in four categories: Administrative, Scholarly, Staff and Teaching. Winners are honored at an event hosted by the URI and URIF presidents. They also receive a framed citation and a cash award.

All the awards are very competitive, so repeat nominations of worthy candidates are strongly encouraged!

All it takes is a letter or email.

We must receive your nomination by Friday, March 1st at 4:00 p.m.

Please send to Ronda Hammond at the URI Foundation, 79 Upper College Road, Kingston, RI 02881 urifexcellence@etal.uri.edu 401.874.9532
CAMPUS

WALK AND TALK
Everyone's favorite question
By Melissa Lichtman

"Do you plan on going to graduate school after you leave the university?"

Senior Ryan Casperson is majoring in music performance and music education and thinks that he probably will go on to graduate school.

Senior theatre and acting major T.S. McCormick is planning to attend graduate school. However, he is still unsure where.

Senior dietetics major Annie Edwards will be going for her Registered Dietitian (RD) license. She is hoping to find an RD program that offers her the option of graduate school.

Devon Swanson is happy here so far in his third year in URI's graduate chemistry program.

Arunadha Weerakkody is studying physics in the graduate program here at URI. He enjoys the research opportunities.

Third-year graduate student Miho Tegawa said that she had a hard time adjusting to the workload at first. However, she is now used to it and enjoys pursuing her own research.

Let's keep Southern Rhode Island clean
Please RECYCLE your Good 5¢ Cigar when you are finished reading it.

Thank you!
La Salle pulls away late, defeats men’s basketball team

BY MIKE ABELESON
Sports Editor

On a cold, gray afternoon, the Rhode Island men’s basketball team played a cold, gray game against St. Louis.

Despite having three players that scored at least 13 points, the Rams were unable to stymie La Salle’s shooters and lost 72-65 in a Sunday matinee.

“I thought we played a pretty good game, shot a pretty good percentage,” La Salle’s coach Dan Hurley said. “Obviously we could attack the lane a little bit more with their lack of size. We really did everything that we wanted to do against a really high-quality team, I think one of the toughest teams we’ll go against all year.”

The Rams were done in by a remarkable second half by the Explorers. La Salle shot 55.2 percent in the final 20 minutes and connected on seven three-point goals.

La Salle had four scorers put up at least a dozen points. None was bigger than Tyreek Duren’s game-high 21 points. Duren scored 14 points in the second half, and no one was bigger than his three-point play with 2:08 left to stop a 6-0 UNI run and put La Salle up 10.

Junior, Wright had a double-double for the Explorers with 12 points and 15 rebounds. Ramon Galloway and Tyrone Garland had 13 and 14 points, respectively.

“They made some really, really long, I thought, difficult contested threes in the second half,” Hurley said.

The game started ugly, there were nine combined points scored in the first 10:22, but the Rams were able to set the pace early. Powered by 11 points from senior Nikola Malesevic and eight points from freshman Mike Aaman, who was making his first start, the Rams went into the half up 30-27. Both Aaman and Malesevic finished with 15 points. Junior guard Xavier Munford led the Rams with 18 points.

The Explorers led 37-34 a little more than three minutes into the second half, but then went cold. The Explorers went on a 10-2 in a span of 2:13 to open up a five-point lead, and they never looked back. The Rams missed six shots during the stretch.

“We’re not a good team; we’re going to go through dry spells in a game,” Hurley said. “If we were able to play great offensive basketball for 40 minutes then we’d have a good record.

When you are who you are [you’re] going to go through those stretches where [you’re] going to have trouble scoring. I don’t know what the explanation is besides the fact that we hit the rough stretch.”

Free throws were the Achilles heel for the Rams. Both teams shot 44 percent from the field, but it was La Salle’s consistent shooting from the free throw line (17-20) that proved to be the difference.

Rhode Island only managed to hit 8-16 from the line.

“We have not been a good shooting team this year,” Hurley said. “Obviously you shoot a better percentage from the free throw line if you have good shooters. We have players doing the extra work every day with their positional coaches to get better every day and one of those skills is free throw shooting.

“When you get good, and you have the program where you want it, and you have that belief in yourself, then free throws become an easy thing.”

The problems at the free throw line were compounded by the fact that the Rams also let Mike Powell and senior Andre Malone, Powell, who averages 9.4 points per game, get the points from the field and turned the ball over four times. Malone went 1-4 with four points.

Hurley said he thought the guards were wearing down having to bear the brunt of the minutes this season.

“When you have so little scoring and you’re playing against a team that’s that good offensively, you can’t afford your third and fourth scorers to go 1-11 for 20 points,” Hurley said. “Just one of those days when [Powell] wasn’t making shots. I think Mike and X are a little bit tired with all the things they’re asked to do, and Mike’s got to find a way to push through at the end of the year.”

Freshman center Jordan Hare dressed, but did not play on Sunday. Aaman and senior Ryan shot on day two after Zabludoff’s grabbed their rebounding. Despite losing the minutes in the paint in Hare’s place, and Hurley said he was happy with the performance.

“I thought Ryan Brooks and Mike Aaman gave us the best production at that position combined that we’ve probably had this year,” Hurley said.

Hurley also said that he holds everyone involved with the program to a high standard.

“The thing that needs to get fixed this year is the whole culture thing that we talk about,” Hurley said. “Before we get to the big games, I believe that every member of our program has to carry themselves at all times. That’s the expectation here.”

“I’ve said this before; before you can get to the business of winning there’s a certain mindset that members of your program have to have every single day.”

Women’s swimming and diving team finishes sixth at Atlantic-10 Championship

BY JAKE MARROCCO
Sports Staff Reporter

The University of Rhode Island women’s swimming and diving team finished sixth out of 11 teams at the Atlantic-10 Championships at the Sport Institute in Geneva, Ohio this past weekend.

Though the Rams beat last year’s team of 125.5 points and achieved their highest-ever total in the competition, they fell one spot from their fifth-place finish at the championship last season. Rhode Island finished with 269.5 points.

On the first day of competition, the Rams were able to net a fourth-place finish in the 800-yard freestyle relay with a time of 7:27.55, led by sophomores Chaya Zabludoff and Sarah Keshishian, junior Taylor Gannon and senior captain Susan Nugent.

The team’s fourth-place finish came after Rhode Island’s first attempt, which yielded them a first-place finish, was disqualified. The disqualified swimmer left her position early.

Rhode Island finished the first day of events in ninth place with 33 points.

“They held together really well,” Rhode Island head coach Mick Westcott said. “They could have folded after the first night when they had the relay disqualified. It was nothing but positive. We didn’t fold but we weren’t quite ready for that.”

The Rams moved up one spot on day two after Zabludoff’s first-place finish in the 500-yard freestyle gave the team 20 points and helped her set a pool record and break her own varsity record. Zabludoff finished the championship fourth overall in points with 51.

Keshishian, senior Eileen Morrison and sophomores Colette Aubin and Rachel Revolinski netted sixth-place in the 200-yard freestyle relay with a time of 1:35.43, giving Rhode Island an additional 26 points for a total of 84 at the end of the evening.

“We set 12 varsity records at the meet last year and many of the records we broke this year were the ones set last year,” Westcott said. “We gained a lot of experience from that and knew how to get better from that.”

The Rams shot up two spots on the third day of competition after grabbing 103 points, being led by Zabludoff’s second-place finish in the 200-yard freestyle, clocking in at 1:48.88, and sophomore Emily Thomesen reeling in a third place in the 100-yard backstroke, finishing in only 54.95 seconds.

Revolinski, Nugent and Zabludoff continued to get points for Rhode Island after they grabbed fifth place in the 400-yard medley relay with a time of 3:46.71.

Thomesen continued her efforts on the final day of events, finishing in a tie for third place in the 200-yard backstroke with a time of 200.12. Zabludoff took 12th in the 500-yard freestyle and Revolinski and sophomore Jessica Andruzzi grabbed top-ten finishes in the 200-yard backstroke.

Zabludoff, Keshishian, Aubin and Nugent closed out the competition with an eighth-place finish in the 400-yard relay, clocking in at 3:27.99.

“Our offseason is really important,” Westcott said. “The teams that do best are training more in the offseason and we have to follow that pattern. Talking to some of the team on the way back from Ohio they are ready to do that. If we want to move up we have to be ready to move in that direction.”

Women’s basketball team loses to St. Louis, 67-48

BY EMILY JACOBS
Sports Staff Reporter

The University of Rhode Island women’s basketball team lost to St. Louis University (SLU) 67-48 on Sunday night.

The Rams fell on a 12-0 run in the first half, which the Rams were unable to answer. The Rams were able to get within seven in the second half, but were quickly shutdown by SLU guard Jacy Bradley and forward Mallory Eggert, who finished with 28 and 12 points, respectively.

The Rams lost out the Billikens 46.5 percent to 45.3 percent. Freshmen Samantha Tabakman and Brianna Thomas both scored in the double digits for the Rams. Tabakman did her work down low, gathering 16 rebounds and Thomas hit 7-9 from the field and scored the outside, scoring 14.

Turnovers and defense hampered the Rhode Island attack. The Rams committed 17 turnovers in the game, 10 of them coming in the first half. This allowed the Billikens to pick up 16 points.

“This has been something we have struggled with all season,” Rhode Island coach Cathy Inglese said. “I think part of it is that we are young, we have people that aren’t practicing but are playing basketball, and that has thrown us off a bit.”

The Rams saw struggles on the defensive end, especially against SLU senior Mollie Baker. The Rams’ leading scorer, junior, Kelly Wallace’s season-best 10 boards, the Rams allowed Saint Louis to grab 14 offensive rebounds and led to 20 second-chance points.

“I think we played inconsistently,” Inglese said. “I think our defense has been really good this whole season, we have been able to out-rebound our opponents. Overall, tonight was disappointing that we weren’t able to defend like we normally do. I think that could have given us a few more points on transition.”

The Rams are heading into their bye week this coming week. They will return to the Ryan Center for their final home game against Davidson on Friday night.

“We are looking to just play hard (in the last couple games),” Inglese said. “We want to try and get two more wins. We are in situations where both teams are beatable, but we have to put together real consistent games. We need to go back to playing tough defense, and cut down our turnovers.”