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University of Rhode Island

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Archivist speaks on finding valise, tracks owner’s voyage from Germany to U.S.

BY ALLISON FARRELL
News Reporter

Yesterday the consulting archivist at the Holocaust Education and Resource Center of Rhode Island spoke in the Galante Lounge here at the University of Rhode Island as part of Holocaust Remembrance Week.

Caldwell, who is also an archivist and special collections consultant at the Robert L. Carothers Library here at the University of Rhode Island, has been using the unusual artifact, known as “The Valise,” to track the remarkable journey of lives of Viennese Jews. The artifact, which she has been tracking since 2011 allows her to follow the lives of Viennese Jews. The artifact, which she has been tracking since 2011 allows her to follow the lives of Viennese Jews.

Inside the valise, Caldwell found between 300 and 400 documents perfectly cataloging the lives of the Schäfranics. She found personal letters, marriage certificates, visas to Cuba, tickets for a voyage on the SS St. Louis, a ship whose voyage has come to be known as “the voyage of the damned” and most uniquely, copies of every Nazi document the family had to fill out, saved by Heinrich.

The valise is a truly unique artifact for many reasons, according to Caldwell. It documents someone who was interned in Britain during the Holocaust and as a result of internment, and it involves the journey of the St. Louis, a voyage that only had 937 people aboard.

Through her document prompted research, Caldwell was able to piece together that Erich, who had taken the trade of a machinist like his father, had received a visa to go to the United States and relocated to Providence without his parents.

The aim of their project is to attract interest to the environment advocacy movement by making it relevant to the students on campus.

It’s basically an attempt to make environmental issues relevant,” said Vidal.

By JULIA GEROBONI
Contributing News Reporter

Two University of Rhode Island students are helping make an environmental impact on campus with help of a coffee shop in the emporium.

Known as the “Green Girls,” Maggie Vidal and Alyssa Mason have started a blog about environmental issues as they relate to URI students and college students in general.

The idea is to encourage students and faculty to start using a reusable mug. Mason and Vidal stated in an email.

Using a travel mug is important because it prevents trash from ultimately less waste around campus.

“First off, you don’t have to use one item and also styrofoam is directly related to cancers and other health issues...[reusable mugs are] very worth it for your wallet,” Mason wrote.

Mason and Vidal’s blog can be found at thegreen­girls92.wordpress.com. According to the blog, “Free Coffee Day” is a weekly event that happens each Monday and allows anyone who has a reusable coffee mug to enjoy a free cup of hot coffee.

The theme of their project is to attract interest to the environmental advocacy movement by making it relevant to the students on campus.

By JACOB MARROCCO
Sports Staff Reporter

The University of Rhode Island Police Major Stephen Baker addressed last Thursday’s reported gunman incident at the Student Senate during last night’s meeting.

Baker said the campus police are “fairly confident” there was no firearm. Though not being able to comment on the details of the incident, Baker said the event has brought the prospect of arming campus police back to the forefront, an issue which has been tabled four times since 2001.

URI police officer Mark Chearino said the main reason campus police officers are unarmed is due to a lack of sufficient funds. However, Chearino said that if he and his colleagues, who were trained with firearms during their time at the police academy, were given guns after completion of the academy that funding would not be an issue. The most recent push for arming campus police occurred in 2010 in a report commissioned by the Board of Governors.

“We go to all sorts of alarms and we go in there unarmed,” Chearino said. “It’s a tough job to be a police officer without hav­ing [a firearm] to do it with makes it more difficult.”

The central problem about keeping the campus police un­armed, according to Baker and Chearino, is that officers cannot enter an area where someone carrying a weapon of any kind is located. They would at this time, have to wait for South Kingstown Police to arrive before taking action on the scene. According to the Associated Press, Rhode Island remains the only state in the country that bars campus police from carrying firearms.

Assistant Vice President of Student Affairs and Dean of Students Mary Jo Gonzales later lauded campus police and the students and faculty involved in the incident for following protocol.

Gonzales said officials will now examine what was done cor­rectly, what areas can be improved upon and the impact on students following the event.

Gonzales said the same mistakes “will never be made again.”

In a separate interview, Baker said that campus police walk throughways will occur in Chafee until students begin to feel safe and additional officers have been hired to assist with the matter. He said that the force will work together to devise several different crisis plans for the future as well.

Baker also commented on the status of the 21-year-old male skateboarder who fell and suff­ered a head injury in Barlow Circle Tuesday night. The skate­boarder was identified as a 21-year-old male, but his identity has not been released. Baker said that the skateboarder, who is a stu­dent at URI, is “doing better.”

The Senate approved a program­ming contingency grant of $7,010 for the Asian Student Association to hold their 26th annual Cultural Show, which will take place on Tuesday, April 30. The event will feature several cultural dances from ASA and other groups, such as the Student Association for the Welfare of Africa (SAWA). The funding will also grow towards bringing Erica David and The Fung Brothers, all of whom are well-known YouTube contributors, to the show.

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Thursday, April 11, 2013

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From page 4

deal with the weather but it did warm up. We had several good performances so we were pleased with the start.”

Although the Rams finished with yet another successful meet to start the season, Feit-Melnick said that some members of the team won’t be suit ing up at Brown to instead prepare for next weekend’s meet at Princeton, but the team will still be together for the most part.

“Some people might rest this weekend and then get ready for Princeton,” Feit-Melnick said. “The majority of us will compete. We’re hoping for good weather, we’re hop ing for opportunities to have good performances, good marks, good throws – etcetera - to better our seed times for later on in the season.”

With Atlantic 10 Championships quickly approaching, Feit-Melnick also said she is excited for the Brown Invitational so the team can continue to progress as the meet draws closer.

“We definitely feel you can’t take any meet for granted because the season goes by so quickly and we’re trying to obviously be at our best once the championships come around,” she said. “We’re looking forward to a good, solid meet at Brown this weekend.”

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Michael Ian Black brings funny to URI

BY MARTIN LANNAN
 Contributing Entertainment Writer

On Monday night, comedian Michael Ian Black graced the Edwards Auditorium stage. The writer of 2007’s British comedy film “Run Fat, Boy Run” (starring Simon Pegg) and actor in the cult film “Wet Hot American Summer” gave the audience of more than 200 an enjoyable evening.

Mixed with the right amount of audience interaction, stanky narratives and raunchy gags, Michael Ian Black’s set impressed. Whether it was alcohol, pot, parenting or visiting parents while on pot, Black had the crowd bursting with laughter throughout the night. In fact, I can’t even write about some of his material.

Perhaps my favorite part of the evening was the story he told about his honeymoon, which happened to be the first time he tried marijuana. Naturally, it was in Amsterdam and Black happened to “be that guy” who passed out in the coffee shop, whom he prefaced earlier as always being an American tourist. Keeping on the subject of marijuana, he went on to explain the logistics of smoking while juggling parenting.

In a rather hilarious rant, he explained the delicate timing balance of smoking and your child getting off of the school bus and how this can turn into a bad experience relatively quickly. Other topics included his children, whom he described as “very average,” his rendition of the Creed song, “With Arms Wide Open” and his habit of only drinking “specifically the most girly cocktail on the menu.” Black hilariously described his desire for children as being abstract, “like the desire to own a jukebox.”

“Like yeah I want one and it would be cool to have, but I don’t really need a jukebox in my life,” he said. At 41 years old, this comedian is certainly a well-versed stand-up veteran and it showed.

Capping off a night that also featured Bob Dylan performing at the Ryan Center, Michael Ian Black ended his set with a hysterical narrative about a trip to the doctor’s office to check on a possible prostate problem. Between the act dropping his pants, not knowing which position to assume and the actual inquisition, Black did not miss an opportunity to get the crowd going. In what was described by Black as a “cautious narrative” about doctor “violations.”

I had a great time and the nearly two-hour-long show was certainly worth the $5 student ticket price. I highly recommend looking up Black’s previous work online, I guarantee you will laugh. All readers also need to watch “Wet Hot American Summer,” a movie that includes then up-and-coming actors Bradley Cooper, Joe Lo Truglio, Paul Rudd, Elizabeth Banks and H. Jon Benjamin; a much overlooked classic comedy.

Voyage

From page 1

realized they could not remain anywhere near Germany, they obtained visas to go to Cuba, and by the second semester he disembarked early in Britain instead. Many of the passengers on their voyage were killed, committed suicide or were sent back to Germany, according to Caldwell. This was because once in Cuba, officials would not allow the Jewish refugees off of the boat.

Through some letters in the valise, Caldwell was able to tell that once in Britain, Heinrich was placed in one of 14 concentration camps implemented by Winston Churchill, and was paralyzed from the waist down because of the extreme conditions, before being released six months after his arrival.

“The internment camp had a reputation of being some kind of concentration camp, but I don’t see how it could be a resort,” Caldwell said. “It is a shameful, shameful thing the British did and they still haven’t really spoken about it.”

After Heinrich’s death a year after his release, Lola traveled to Providence where she was reunited with Erich and lived out the rest of her life.

In the future, Caldwell intends to get a large social media presence for “The Little Valise,” and is in the works of turning it into an E-book.

“I hope to get responses from people who know more about the Schiransky and the voyage cups at MS St. Louis,” Caldwell said.

The Little Valise can be found currently at the Digital Archive in Providence. Caldwell has plans to one day donate it to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C.

To emphasize the artifact’s significance, Caldwell spent a large portion of her hour-long presentation explaining major events of the Holocaust to the audience.

Caldwell’s presentation was introduced by URI’s Hillel community chair, first year student Erica Allen.

Before sharing Caldwell’s anecdotes, Allen spoke about her own experiences visiting concentration camps in Poland this past year.

“You can’t let history like that repeat itself,” Allen said. “I realized I’m a proud Jew.”

Bagelz

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Coffee Mondays” was created with the help of the URI Honors Program. The event will continue until the second-to-last day of this semester on April 29th.

According to the blog it is estimated that about 300 styrofoam cups are used everyday. All of those cups end up either on campus grounds or in the Johnston, R.I. landfill.

“Free Coffee Day” advertisement campaigns are highly throughout campus and also on Facebook on the “Free Coffee Day” event page.

There definitely has been a lot of positive feedback, she said, "The project started off small and has been building and building, the amount that have been participated in the event has increased" said Vidal.

Mason and Vidal are going to great lengths through their project to warn students about the health hazards of littering and overusing plastic and styrofoam containers.

“Our goal is to provide info-to readers about the environment and get people to follow through by benefiting from doing something sustainable and encourage them to do something sustainable in their day to day,” Vidal said.

The “Green Girls” hope to spread their message throughout campus and the community, even after they graduate.
Eleven Rams qualify in women's track invitational

By Brandon Maxwell

Sports Staff Reporter

The University of Rhode Island women's track team finished the University of Connecticut Invitational with 11 New England Championship qualifiers and one Eastern College Athletic Conference Championship bid on Saturday.

Junior Hannah Janacek took first place in the 100-meter dash with a final time of 12.04, qualifying for not only New England, but also for the ECACs.

"Hannah had a phenomenal meet," head coach Laurie Feit-Melnick said. "She also ran a leg on the 4x4 relay and that was just a huge breakthrough for her [because] she doesn’t usually run the 400 [meter]. Hannah is en route to having a phenomenal season." Both in the 400m dash, sophomore Lauren Burke and freshman Marijah Claudio finished fourth and sixth, respectively, with times of 57.75 and 58.32.

In the 800m run, senior Hayley Madsen finished in second with a time of 2:13.42. Junior Frankie Brallante finished right after, in third place, with a time of 2:13.92, while junior Juliana Galante finished in fifth in 2:15.28. All qualified for New England.

Sophomore Emily Renna finished fifth with a final time of 14.57 in the hurdles. Senior Caroline Warren finished sixth in 14.64. Freshman Jennifer Czaperowicz finished third in the triple jump with a final score of 38.95.

In the hammer throw both freshman Grace Grzesz and senior Emily Creweshead finished third and fourth, respectively, with distances of 160-157.6.

"We had a very good meet," Janacek said. "The majority of the team was together but we still had some illness and some different things going on, but it was a good meet. It was still cold so we had to start the ball rolling.

The beginning of conference play has really allowed us to have a renewed focus and love for the game. Winning A-10's is our ultimate goal every year. We want to be the best so we have to beat the best, and our conference competition is some of the best around.

Winning conference games is what is most important to us because that determines who goes to the tournament and we want to be there come the beginning of May. With this in mind, we continued with conference play over the weekend, taking on La Salle and Fordham University.

La Salle and Fordham are travel partners, so we always play them together on the same weekend. First up was La Salle for a pair of home games. Last year we did not have good games against La Salle and were especially wanted to come out and prove we were the better team. Friday did not go the way we wanted, but Saturday we were able to put everything together and come out with another A-10 victory.

Against La Salle you can pick up a win it’s important, but it’s even more important when these games are A-10 games.

To round out the weekend, we went to Fordham for a doubleheader on Sunday. Since Fordham is in the Bronx and we have a few N.Y. girls on our team, there was a lot of fan support for us there. It’s always nice to have fan support at your games and it’s even better when it’s at an opposing team’s home and you’re always nicest when your close family and friends can be there to watch you play.

We also happened to be playing the same time as Rhody Tennis, whose courts were just beyond the left field fence of the softball field. We had some great support from them as well. The Fordham games also saw the return of Stacey Fox, one of our catchers and outfielders. She missed the last 18 games with a knee injury. She is a key bat in our lineup, and having her back will be a boost for this team.

It was a battle from the start of the game. Traditionally, Fordham is one of the best teams in our conference, so we had to be ready to scratch and claw for each run. We were able to take the lead right off the bat, scoring in the first inning. It was a two-run game through the fourth and sixth, respectively, with times of 57.75 and 58.32.

In the 400m dash, sophomore Lauren Burke and freshman Marijah Claudio finished fourth and sixth, respectively, with times of 57.75 and 58.32.

Rhody softball earns two wins in doubleheader against rival Brown

By Emily Jacobs

Sports Staff Reporter

For the first time in 10 years the University of Rhode Island women’s softball team blanked their opponent in a doubleheader, defeating Brown 2-0 and 4-0 on Tuesday.

According to the scoreboard, it was no doubt that pitching was the highlight of Tuesday’s doubleheader. Freshmen Erika Sherman and Sam Bedore both had complete game shutouts, while also collecting three hits.

"Our pitching was great, both Sam and Erika were very sharp and confident, and our defense is what we were looking to focus on," head coach Eric Layton said. "Going into this weekend against Charlotte, this win was really big for us and gave us some confidence.

In the first game of the afternoon, Szymanski allowed only three hits through eight innings. She struck-out a career high eight batters while giving up one walk.

Bedore was equally as impressive in the second game. She allowed three hits, two walks and picked up four strikeouts.

On the offensive side of both games, Rhody saw hits from multiple players. Senior Courtney Prendergast doubled, singled three times and scored one run. Lauren Klepchick doubled twice and singled, scored once and had an RBI on the day.

After recently returning from an injury, Stacey Fox was hit by four pitches on the day, twice in each game.

Both Jocelyn Mattison and Ashley Olson doubled on the day. Mattison also singled twice and had one RBI, while Olson had one single.

Hendricks also added a single to the mix. Kelly Coker’s big moment came in the eighth inning of the first game as she delivered her