Public relations class collects items during 'baby shower,'
donations benefit Jonnycake Center Mother’s Day drive

BY BRI BLANK
Contributing News Reporter

Students of the public relations program at the University of Rhode Island hosted their second annual baby shower at the Phi Sigma Sigma sorority house yesterday afternoon.

Professor Regina Bell’s Public Relations Practices class (PRS 441) asked guests to donate new baby items to benefit the Jonnycake Center. The Center will be giving the donated items to mothers in need on Mother’s Day weekend. Some of the donations included diapers, clothes, bottles, toys and baby food.

From May 10 to 12, the center will put two tables with baby items outside for local mothers to take.

“A any local mother is welcome at the Jonnycake Center and she’s welcome to pick up an item for her child in celebration of Mother’s Day,” Bell said.

Bell and her students worked with Jonnycake Center’s "Lil Cakes" program, which provides personal care items to newborns and other children up to 5 years old.

"Last year, as a class, we decided to develop a relationship with a local nonprofit organization and the first organization that came to mind was the Jonnycake Center," Bell said. "It was a natural fit because our [public relations] majors are destined to make a difference in the community, so we said okay, let’s start right here in Peacedale."

Senior Madeline Dombi and juniors Phyllis Francis and Alexandra Baccari organized the event. "Last year’s class came up with the idea and we just decided it was such a success last year [that we wanted to keep] the momentum going this year," Francis said. Francis and Baccari are members of the Phi Sigma Sigma sorority and Dombi is a member of the Alpha Xi Delta sorority.

After thanking the attendees and speaking about the charity, the students provided guests with pizza and desserts, as well as raffle tickets. The prizes included four sets of Coloud headphones and two gift cards to Panera Bread.

“It’s for a great cause and I think it’s a cute idea to host a baby shower in honor of it,” Phi Sigma Sigma member and junior Daren DeFrank said.

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International journalist, GlobalPost co-founder, talks bombing coverage

BY ALLESON FARRARLEY
News Reporter

Award-winning reporter Charles M. Sennott delivered the sixth annual Christiane Amanpour Lecture at the University of Rhode Island’s pharmacy building auditorium last Thursday.

In the aftermath of the Boston Marathon bombings, Sennott, the co-founder, vice president and executive editor of the world-news site GlobalPost, changed his talk from covering international reporting in order to address both the terrorist bombings he has covered in his 25 years as a foreign correspondent and the Boston bombings.

“This week in Boston we had a news event of specific enormity,” Sennott said. “I have covered a minimum of 10 bombings in areas of conflict and the moment of the explosions from a neighbor... or not... just rain.

Sennott, a resident of Boston, was unable to attend a day he describes as his favorite day of the year, this year’s Boston Marathon, as a result of his recent knee surgery. At home with his wife, four sons and new golden lab puppies, he heard the news of the explosions from a neighbor.

“It is the choreography of some terrible tragedy, some play I never want to see again, but this time the theatre is in my hometown,” Sennott said. "Suddenly, Boston has an event that is the type of event I’ve covered all over the world.”

Sennott’s experience covering bombings in areas of conflict such as Colombia, Belfast and Afghanistan gave him insight into these attacks that the average citizen does not have.

"The actual perpetrators may be domestic, but the event is global," Sennott said. "It’s always someone’s hometown and we need to cover these events like that.”

Despite the three-person death count of this incident, Sennott did not compare this event to a large-scale act of terror.

"I think it’s nowhere close to a 9/11 event, I think it’s a shocking gut punch to a city on a beautiful day," Sennott said. "Three people were killed and that’s horrific enough, but you need to draw perspective that it’s not 3,000.”

One of the large issues surrounding the Boston bombings was the fast spreading of information through social media and incorrect reporting.

"[One of the issues was] reporters scrambling for facts and making mistakes because they’re going too far," Sennott said. "I think you’re a journalist if you’re..."

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Jonnycake

From page 1

The Jonnycake Center's Client Services Manager, Carol Brock, attended the event and collected the donated baby items. "We have a lot of organizations that have [baby] showers throughout the year, but our big push is during the Mother's Day week," said Brock.

The Jonnycake Center strives to help those in need in the areas of Narragansett and South Kingstown. The organization supplies food, clothing and household items to people in need, Brock said. It also provides snacks and toiletries to the local high schools.

"They're well-established, they're very strategic in their mission, they're receptive to help, so they welcomed us with open arms," Bell said.

Baseball

From page 4

4-0 this week, holding opponents to a .176 batting average. The Rams and had an ERA of 24 in 37 innings of work.

"The pitching has been big for us lately," Foster said. "We know in order to win we need some good pitching, and we're getting good pitching. That's why we're winning."

After struggling for the first half of the season, Roy went 6-11 with four stolen bases and five runs during the weekend series.

"Getting him going is important for us to put up runs," Famiglietti said. "When he gets on he gets in the pitcher's head and it makes it easier for the middle of the order to get quality at-bats."

This week the Rams have a busy week as they play five games—all on the road. Rhody plays Brown University today at 3:30 p.m. in Providence and Hartford University at 3 p.m. tomorrow before going on the road to face conference opponent Xavier University.

Bombings

From page 1

a story teller and I think this week Boston has a story that needs to be told."

Before addressing his topics of presentation, Sennott spoke words of praise for the nationally known journalist and URI graduate whose donation to the university has made the Amanpour lecture series possible.

"There are givers and there are takers," Sennott said. "And Christiane [Amanpour] is very much a giver."

John Pantalone, the URI journalism department chair, introduced Sennott's presentation.

"Tonight we hit the jackpot," Pantalone said in reference to Sennott's many accolades.

Hempfest

From page 3

Dogg shows, but instead a remarkably diverse spread of age groups, styles of dress and levels of involvement in The War on Drugs — so as to alleviate the risk of guest speakers, such as hemophiliologist John Dvorak and representatives from Law Enforcement Against Prostitution (or LEAP!) from preaching to the proverbial choir.

Watching an older, professor-looking gentleman in a tweed jacket stand next to a drug rug-adormed longhair as the pair while discussing the merits and drawbacks of two different types of irrigational tubing in front of the Growin' Crazy hydroponic company booth was easily one of the most beautiful sights I saw all day. It spoke to the communal powers of events like Hempfest.

From The Fest, SSDP has been more active than ever after the recent statewide decriminalization of marijuana possession. According to Cotter, one of the proudest moments of her involvement with SSDP was "going to the State House to testify for legalization and regulation."

"The most real moment for me was sitting in front of all these people in a government setting who've fought so strongly for such a long time, who've really dedicated their lives to this cause," she said. "Even talking face to face with people [who] were opposing [the decriminalization bill] was huge opportunity...while it's been a great year with legalization in Colorado and Washington, we still have a long way to go."
Hempfest 2013 provides fun, drug awareness for students

BY CONOR FAGAN
Contributing Entertainment Writer

Despite the looming threat of a rainy Saturday afternoon, the University of Rhode Island’s fifth annual Hempfest was a day filled with music, sunshine, and zealous discussions about legislation reform and progressive occasion.

The all-day event was organized by the URI student organization Students For a Sensible Drug Policy (SSDP), with the ambitious goals of “raising awareness, specifically for the types of marijuana legislation that’s been put into effect in Rhode Island, and also taking the opportunity getting exposure to local talent and local music,” SSDP member Emily Cotter said.

Hempfest 2013 sported the most packed lineup thus far, featuring everything from the music of hometown heroes Roz Raskin and The Rice Cakes to live glassblowing demonstrations from artists Freeek and Jesse Haskins (the former of whom was the winner of 2010 Functional Glass Industry Awards). Of all the oddities, the booth that immediately caught my attention was the one that held the wares of David Renner, a designer and fashioner of “battle-ready” armor. Seriously, though, don’t let the quotation marks fool you; on display were chainmail vests and coverall medieval helmets that looked and felt straight out of Game of Thrones.

The list of musical performers was no less eclectic than the groups running the dozens of sporadically placed pot-themed kiosks that dotted the quad. Of all the oddities, the booth that immediately caught my attention was the one that held the wares of David Renner, a designer and fashioner of “battle-ready” armor. Seriously, though, don’t let the quotation marks fool you; on display were chainmail vests and coverall medieval helmets that looked and felt straight out of Game of Thrones.

The band that impressed me the most was electronic act The Colour Cult, who played rapid fire synth-pop in the vein of early Depeche Mode and Hot Chip.

They too took the stage as no more than two guys with a retro vocoder and pair of synthesizers, the bands hypnotic, post-punk rhythms seemed more enveloping and organic than watching a big band on Broadway. Their oddly ethereal bloops and bleeps seemed to gain in ferocity as the sun slowly descended that evening, eventually devolving into an aggressive montage of tuneful static that ended with a climactic crash. I’m pleased to report that the sound and mixing of every band throughout each of their Hempfest sets was nearly flawless, barring those rare, unavoidable spurs of feedback from the monitors.

Chris Warren, president of WRUI, URI’s radio station, seemed as thrilled about the pristine sound and amiable atmosphere as I was.

“We’re into the idea of bringing people together, bringing people to URI and doing something outside that revolves around music,” Warren said. “There’s precious few free events like this that people can come out to and we really wanted to do something great for everyone.”

WRUI conducted the first live broadcast of Hempfest in 2011.

The event crowd was far from the stereotypical flock of listless stoners that populate Slightly Stoopid and Snoop

Glassblowing artists such as Freeek and Jesse Haskins were among the Hempfest 2013 entertainment contributors.

Continued on page 2
Baseball pulls off second consecutive weekend sweep of Atlantic-10 opponent

BY JONATHAN MARROCCO Staff Sports Reporter

The University of Rhode Island baseball team (22-17) for the second straight weekend, swept an Atlantic-10 opponent. The Rams’ three wins against Temple University pulsed its win streak to seven and elevated Rhody to second place in the conference with a record of 9-3.

"It’s good to get three more conference wins under the belt," head coach Jim Foster said. "The team is playing good right now on both sides of the field, we just need to keep it going.

The Rams pitching staff was pivotal in the weekend sweep as senior Mike Bradstreet (6-3) set the pace for the weekend. Bradstreet struck out 11 batters through 7.2 innings of work on Friday in the Rams 3-0 victory.

Rhody struggled to score until junior Jeff Roy drove in senior Chris Farniglietti to score the first run of the game. Roy belted a double to left-center field that drove in Roy and sophomore Tim Caputo.

The Rams won the second game 2-0 on both sides of the field, we just need to keep it going. The Rams pitching staff was pivotal in the weekend sweep as senior Mike Bradstreet (6-3) set the pace for the weekend. Bradstreet struck out 11 batters through 7.2 innings of work on Friday in the Rams 3-0 victory.

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The Rams won the second game 2-0 and went on to add seven, getting runs in both the fifth and sixth innings.

"The game on Saturday was really disappointing," Layton said. "It looked like it would be a close game that would go in our favor, but GW got a 1-0 lead in the bottom of the first. However, this would be the only run of the game for the Rams. George Washington began their nine-run streak in the fourth with two runs. They went on to add seven, getting runs in both the fifth and sixth innings.

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Softball drop two games against George Washington

BY EMILY JACOBS Staff Sports Reporter

The University of Rhode Island softball team continues to struggle, losing their seventh straight on the weekend. The Rams lost a pair at home against George Washington, 9-8 and 9-1.

On Friday the Rams played in their first game of the two game series. Despite the rainy conditions and five stops of play, the game came right down till the end.

George Washington got an early lead scoring two runs in each of the first and second innings. The Rams were within two when they scored a pair of runs in the bottom of the second.

Going into the bottom of the sixth inning the Rams trailed 9-2. Freshman Taylor Archer started off the inning with her first career home run out to left field.

With a walk and a single, Courtney Frenendegast had two players on base. She was able to drive in one run, but the Rams left the inning still down two.

The Colonials were tested in the bottom of the seventh, as hitting streak.

Our goal is to win the A-10 championship and to do that we want to put ourselves in the best position possible to win the conference," Farniglietti said. Inside the numbers: The Rams pitching staff went 0-3 on the weekend, despite the losses. In Friday’s game, they walked three; drove in one run and scored one run. In the second game on Saturday, Olson singled and drove in the only run. She now has a four game hitting streak.

Sam Bedore got the start on Friday, completing five innings. She allowed nine hits, and struck out four. Erika Szemynski, who also started Saturday, came in for relief pitching for two innings.

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Women’s rowing tests waters during Clemson Invitational, unable to finish above 14th place

BY JACOB MARROCCO Staff Sports Reporter

The University of Rhode Island women’s rowing team had a rough weekend at the Clemson Invitational in South Carolina.

The Rams were not able to finish higher than 14th on the first day of action, but grabbed fourth place in the Varsity 4+ race on Sunday afternoon after beating the University of Miami and University of Tennessee.

Seniors Siobhan Norton and Alyssa Goley, freshman Quinn Smith, freshman Ali Paternoster, sophomore Camille Milam and freshman cowxswain Avery Cohen took 14th on Saturday in the varsity 4+.

The Rams’ varsity-eight boat finished second-last to 19 out of 19 teams in their Saturday race. Seniors Anne Mulholland, Ari Wokamom, Lotte Sherman and Anne Edwards along with sophomores Kari Tomeney and sophomore Kate Capistran and juniors Lindsay Stephenson and Kris Hudak - cowxswain - finished with a time of 6:54.9. The group shaved 20 seconds off their time in the evening race, rising two spots and achieving a 16th-place finish.

"We raced against the top 10 to 15 schools in the country and we wanted to see where we were," Rhode Island head coach Shelagh Donohoe said. "We’re not as fast as the top 10 in the country, but on the other hand, we weren’t too far out of it. I feel like we raced hard and like it will help us for the Atlantic-10 Championship."

The second varsity-eight squad, led by sophomore Sophia Labeko, senior Hannah Johnson, junior Meghan Sickinger, senior Alice Murray, senior Lauren Carter, junior Kaitlyn Rupert, sophomore Chloe Beach, junior Celine Gill and junior cowxswain Chelsea Paulin, finished 18th in their afternoon and afternoon races. The team took 7.7 seconds off their afternoon time in the second competition.

Rhode Island continued to fight during their races on Sunday, which saw their highest finish of the invitational. The varsity 4+ secured a fourth-place finish with a time of 8:23.6, once more defeating Tennessee and Miami.

The varsity-eight boats were both able to avoid last-place finishes in their respective races. The first varsity-eight group netted a 14th-place finish out of 16 teams in their race after posting a time of 7:09.1. Rhode Island raced against no. 3-ranked University of Virginia on Sunday, who finished first in this contest at 6:38.2. The second varsity-eight boat moved up three spots from their 18th-place posting on Saturday after finishing with a time of 7:22.1.

Rhode Island will be back in action Saturday when they travel to Boston for a regatta against Boston University, Boston College and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Their races at Boston University will be the last competition for the Rams before they travel to Camden, N.J., for the 2013 Atlantic-10 Championship on May 4.

"We’re developing our program, I don’t feel like we’re developing one boat," Donohoe said. "I think we’ve got to continue to increase our depth. Every week we need to build on what we learned the last weekend, and from the last weekend we really learned a lot. Hopefully this race will make us even faster for our Atlantic-10 Championship."