URI journalism professor, Providence Journal reporter passes away at 60 after battle with long-term illness

BY NANCY LAVIN
News Editor

University of Rhode Island journalism professor and award-winning environmental journalist for The Providence Journal Peter Lord passed away Wednesday after a long struggle with cancer. He was 60 years old.

At URI, Lord served as the journalism director for the Metcalf Institute for Marine and Environmental Journalism, as well as an adjunct professor in the journalism department, teaching classes including Media Writing, Public Affairs Reporting, Magazine Article and Feature Writing.

"Mr. Lord taught journalism classes at URI for about 12 years and he was deeply loved by his students," said Linda Levin, journalism professor and former chair of the journalism department. "He brought years of experience as a reporter into the classroom and helped the students learn in a way that was both fun and useful."

Lord created a national presence for himself as an environmental reporter for The Providence Journal, covering stories on oil spills, climate change and even journeying to The Arctic Circle, according to a Providence Journal report. Just last week, Lord was honored by the Rhode Island Natural History Survey as one of its 2012 Distinguished Naturalists for his lifelong commitment to environmental causes.

Lord also spent one year teaching full-time from during the 1988-89 academic year on a URI Freedom Forum grant. During this year, he taught many of the same classes he taught as an adjunct, as well as environmental reporting.

"After he finished the year on our staff, we brought him back and all the time I was chair, I tried to get him."

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Center for Nonviolence and Peace Studies spreads message, unique training program in Rhode Island, internationally

BY FAYAH CASALINI
News Editor

Peace and nonviolence might not be ideas one would immediately associate with the University of Rhode Island. But to other countries, and to other schools, they are the biggest accomplishments the university has achieved, ever.

The Center for Nonviolence and Peace Studies at URI spreads its theories of peaceful conflict resolution across the state, the nation and the world, reaching as far as Nigeria, and as close as the Central Falls School District. Director Paul Bueno de Mesquita said the Center has ties in Yemen, Egypt and Kashmir, just to name three out of the total three dozen countries.

The Center was founded in 1998 by Bernard Lafayette, a Civil Rights Movement activist who worked closely with Martin Luther King Jr., who created the Center with the ultimate goal of providing education and training in nonviolence and peace studies, Bueno de Mesquita said.

"His mission was to spread nonviolence internationally," Bueno de Mesquita said.

The current mission of the Center, Bueno de Mesquita said, is to provide education and training, promote research and scholarly work and create outreach programs internationally and here in the nation.

In order to reach these goals, the center has created unique training programs that teach others how to solve conflicts using Kingian nonviolence techniques, which are rooted in the methodology based on the work of Martin Luther King Jr.

The center's signature program is its international Nonviolence Summer Institute, where participants spend two to three weeks in intensive training, learning Kingian nonviolence conflict reconciliation and at the end, become qualified to provide nonviolence training to others.

"[URI] is the only university that offers this kind of significant training," Bueno de Mesquita said.

People come from places all over the world to be a part of this training, Bueno de Mesquita said, including Thupai Pendhar, who trained at this program and eventually coordinated the 2008 protest of the Beijing Olympics in New York City.

Now, Pendhar is a Buddhist geshe scholar, the highest doctoral degree in Buddhist studies, in residence at URI.

"The fact that [URI has] one is really very unique," Bueno de Mesquita said, adding that there are not many people who have reached the level of geshe.

Despite the center's accomplishments, Bueno de Mesquita said he wishes student involvement would be higher.

He said he has found that some students don't even know that the center exists, let alone what it is striving to do.

"In order to try and increase involvement, the center has established a minor program in nonviolence and peace studies and is hoping to initiate a graduate program in the future.

"Not enough students know about [the center]," Bueno de Mesquita said.

Even though it's not as well-known as hoped for, Bueno de Mesquita said the center is extremely significant to the campus and campus life. He said our culture is "illiterate" about how to go about solving problems peacefully and nonviolently, as seen in the Trayvon Martin case and in all examples of oppression, discrimination and bullying in our society.

"All you have to do is turn on the TV set to see why it's important to learn peace studies," he said.

He went on to say that "violence is penetrating every aspect of our lives, and its irreparable damage has begun to affect our health and our environment.

"Everyday, in our culture, we are taught violence," he said. "But we don't know much about nonviolence and peace.

"While Bueno de Mesquita hopes for some improvements, he believes the Center is "closer to fulfilling the vision now more than ever before," and it is what "sets

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The Good 5¢ Cigar

Today's forecast 57 °F

Sunny!

Nickel Brief:
Learn more about the LGBTQ symposiums this week in tomorrow's issue.

Are the 'Hunger Games' fans racist?

See page 2.

Senate elects 14 members to positions

BY SHEAWN SAIYA
Managing Editor

The University of Rhode Island Student Senate appoint-ed and elected 14 members into executive, chair and committee positions at its meeting last night. Along with the newly elected, one appointment was denied and the position was reopened to a candidate search.

Two of Stephanie Segal's presidential appointments were voted and sworn in by the members of the senate. Jacqueline Atkins is the new Director of Communications and senator Matthew Kidd is now the Chief Information Officer for the senate.

A third appointment by Segal was rejected. Senator

Continued on page 3
BY AUGIE KING
Entertainment Editor

By now, the fervor behind the theatrical release of the "Hunger Games" film adaptation has mostly died down; although the film is still running strong at number one at the box-office. During the time of its release, however, a small uprising of fans on Twitter began voicing their opinions on the film and the casting of African-American actors in certain roles, namely Lenny Kravitz (Cinna), Amanda Stenberg (Rue) and Dayo Okeniyi (Thresh).

Many of the tweets are unprintable because of their harsh language and racial slurs, but here are some examples of reactions people had to the casting, minus the Twitter account names: "Why does Rue have to be black not Cinna, then their skin color is irrelevant to the discussion. It's not entirely clear whether these fans of "The Hunger Games" simply missed those descriptions of Rue and Thresh, or have such a strong Caucasian image in their head that it blocks those descriptions out. The latter could in fact be true as Katniss, the main protagonist of the plot, is described as having "olive-colored skin" (i.e. tanned brown) in the novel. Why weren't these fans up in arms over the casting of the very much Caucasian Jennifer Lawrence? Not to put down her amazing performance, but I guess these fickle fans let it slide when a white actor/actress takes over a role meant for someone of darker complexion.

One of the most recent examples of this is "Avatar: The Last Airbender" film, which cast Caucasian actors in the major roles of Asian characters. In this case, fans of the original series were very vocal about the race of the actors too. But this was not because of buried racism or blind ignorance; it was because these fans were vocal about roles that could have gone to Asian-American actors instead of whitewashing the characters. Asian and African-American characters already get sidelined to supporting roles against Caucasian protagonisists, so when their opportunities for major roles get lost (as has happened since the dawn of cinema over 100 years ago) there's much more of a sting behind the changes. These reactions to "The Hunger Games" unfortunately reveal the prejudices and racism that still runs through our society, even if it took an website such as Twitter to do this. Clearly not all "Hunger Games" fans are racist, as the overall reception of the film has been of rapturous praise, but this small minority has sadly put a negative cloud over the fan base in the last couple of weeks. It also proves that some people just can't read the words right in front of them in the book they supposedly adore and treasure.
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**From page 1**

Lord

**Tebow**

**From page 4**

spring in his step and have to be put back.

Tebow, like all star athletes, exists in the same place in the American psyche. Athletes “are us” by unconditionally performing their highest level for us. We love them by cheering and purchasing their merchandise. Our athletes will always be at the top of the game when they grace our television screens. Yet, someday our favorite athletes will lose a few inches off their jump and their speed will slow down, but rather than being put down they will be sent off into the world of retirement.

Wouldn’t you think a less of your pet if it was just as giddy as you after you got home would you?

However, when an athlete doesn’t live up to people’s perceived notions of what an athlete should be he/she is vilified. Kobe Bryant committed adultery and was arrested for sexual assault, but today he is a demigod to many basketball fans. So much for getting his nose rubbed in it after peeing on the rug.

We love our pets because they provide us companionship, but we train them to be obedient. We love our athletes because they provide us “companionship”, but we will bend over backwards not to discipline them. The athletes and the community they live in should be commended; not condemned.

Tim Tebow is a talented athlete who has used his gifts to build a career for himself as a professional football player, and he has done it with class, grace and a humility that is missing from professional sports these days.

Who are we to judge him for that?
The Bottom Line: Is Tebow good or bad?

BY MIKE ARELSON
Sports Staff Reporter

Back on March 22, Tim Tebow was traded to the New York Jets. The reaction of many Jets fans you've had to think that the team had just signed an incarnation of Satan. Many disliked the trade because of Tebow's sub-standard play on the field. He completed 46.5 percent of his passes last season, and I can understand the feeling of a team making a questionable acquisition (Julio Lugo...ough cough).

The part I do not understand is the hatred directed towards Tebow the person. Based on observations on various social media platforms, I saw a fan base that was filled with a vitriolic hate towards a man who had done nothing wrong.

With all this, Tim Tebow is not the best quarterback in the league at the moment, but he is an outstanding individual. He has helped create two charitable foundations, done missionary work abroad, provided medical care to people in the third world and has more potential Huskie runs.

The Rams had a two-out rally in the bottom of the second. They scored five runs on five hits.

Senior Greg Annarummo found himself on second following a hit-by-pitch and a stolen base, his first of two in each category on the day. Roy struck a double to plate Annarummo and get himself into scoring position. Famiglietti, who went 3-4 with an RBI and a stolen base, dropped a bunt single down the third baseline to advance Roy to third. Senior Jeff Cammans then drove in both his teammates with a double. Before the inning ended, Quinn and junior Pat Fortunato both singled to each drive in a run.

With a six run lead, O'Sullivan settled in and didn't give up another run. The second inning continued as the Rams plated four more. Quinn plated two, then sophomore Jeff Roy led off with a walk. Junior Chris Famiglietti struck a double down the right field line, which advanced Roy to third. Sophomore Pat Quinn plated Roy with an infield ground out.

In the top of the first, O'Sullivan got out of the inning with an inning-ending double play, strandng two runners on base.

The Rams drew a total of five walks, were hit by pitches three times, and stole five bases throughout the course of the game. Though the team went hitless for four innings, they still managed to get a run on the board due to an error followed by three consecutive walks.

"The hitting comes and goes at times. It's good we got an early lead because it allows us to play to what we want to do. Get on, steal bases and keep an up-tempo pace," Foster said.

This weekend the Rams will be hosting George Washington. There is huge excitement in their second home series of the season. On Friday first pitch will be at 3 p.m., Saturday at 1 p.m., followed by Sunday game at noon to wrap up the weekend.

Not so average Joe: Other A-Rod deserves credit too

BY JOE HOLLENBECK
Sports Editor

Many of you reading this might not have any idea who I'm talking about when I say "the other A-Rod," so I will do my best to clarify. I am NOT talking about the New York Yankees third baseman, Alex Rodriguez. I'm referring to the former top-10 world-ranking tennis player, Andy Roddick.

Most of Roddick's success came early on in his career. He made a name for himself with his first major win during the US Open all the way back in 2001. For a short time he was ranked number one in the world and was a National sensation.

Unfortunately, his major success was short-lived, as one of the best tennis players ever began to emerge on the court. Roger Federer began to win major after major and put too much pressure on Roddick, who began to fade from the top of the rankings.

Injury-plagued seasons continued to add up and soon Roddick found himself in a five-year drought without a major tournament victory. Soon his game became more and more reliant upon his strong serve (which earned him a tennis record and made him a fan favorite) until he began losing a lot of tournaments and almost called it quits in 2008.

The last major opportunity for Roddick to reclaim some glory in his career came back in 2009 during the Wimbledon tournament when he played some of the best all around tennis of his career, but unfortunately lost in the finals to Federer in one of the best matches of all time.

Now Roddick is fighting more nagging injuries and the new wave of younger players that seem to be hitting the international tennis scene. Do I think his chances of winning another major title are over? Not yet. He still has a chance to change his game and become a more well-rounded player. If he can do that, then he can play with any of the highly ranked players out there.

As far as his image goes, I think he is still one of the few favorites in the sport right now. He has traded in his agent issues and mouthing off (which are fun too watch) for more humble play and genuine excitement. Also, now that he has dropped down in the rankings and under the radar he has virtually become an underdog. And everybody loves to root for the underdog.