4-13-2012

The Good 5 Cent Cigar (4/13/2012)

University of Rhode Island

Follow this and additional works at: http://digitalcommons.uri.edu/cigar

Recommended Citation
http://digitalcommons.uri.edu/cigar/35

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the University Archives at DigitalCommons@URI. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Good 5 Cent Cigar (Student Newspaper) by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@URI. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@etal.uri.edu.
Rob Gronkowski comes to URI

BY TIM LIMA
Contributing Sports Reporter

Not even a 100-degree fever could keep Patriots tight end Rob Gronkowski from having fun while answering questions for hundreds at the University of Rhode Island’s Edwards Auditorium last night.

The URI Student Entertainment Committee’s speakers committee, led by president Kerrin Svarttari, sponsored the event to host the Patriot casually known as “Gronk.” Once introduced, he performed as only he knows how—with fun being his main priority. The 22-year-old Patriot explained that he woke up with a high fever, but not wanting to miss the event, he “downed” vitamin-C until he felt well enough to put on a show.

Vice president of concerts for the SEC Maura Quigley explained her delight in having Gronkowski visit URI. “I am a big Pats fan,” Quigley said. “I told my father about this and he said ‘make sure you get an autograph’ because we are always on a wide variety of questions throughout the night, including what he eats before a game. I don’t eat dessert all week, but the night before a game, that is all I eat,” said Gronkowski. “I usually gain about four pounds before a game, but then lose six.”

Continued on page 3

Two students win nationally competitive scholarship

BY FARAH CASALINI
News Editor

Nationwide, only 238 students are awarded the Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship, and two of the recipients are University of Rhode Island students.

Juniors Christopher Bobba and Russell Dauksis won the $7,500 Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship. This scholarship is considered the most prestigious undergraduate scholarship for students interested in pursuing a career in mathematics, natural sciences and engineering.

Bobba, a Portsmouth native, is looking to earn a bachelor’s degree in chemical engineering with a minor in biology, with hopes of going to medical school in the future. He said with this scholarship, he feels more confident in achieving his goals.

“I realized I have a chance in succeeding and doing well in what I want to do,” he said. “I’m smarter than I thought I was.”

Dauksis, of North Kingstown, is looking to pursue an entirely different career path, with a major in marine biology. Dauksis said he also feels as if this scholarship will give him an advantage in his career.

“Hopefully it will make getting into graduate school easier,” he said.

Both students said they were surprised to have won the award because of the intense competition, adding that they applied because of their advisor’s advice.

“My advisor suggested it and I thought it was a good idea,” Dauksis said. When Dauksis walked

Continued on page 3

Nickel Brief:
Check out our next issue to find out why some students are choosing to take a vow of silence today.

Find out how the women’s track team fared at their All-Region Invitational.

See page 4.

Roommates arrested on unrelated criminal charges

BY FARAH CASALINI
News Editor

A University of Rhode Island student was arrested in a child pornography bust and another for possession of a controlled substance, according to Patch.com.

In a 10-man child pornography arrest, URI student Dylan Byrne, 18, of Norwalk, Conn., was arrested and charged yesterday with one count of possession of child pornography. His room­mate, Steven Dasho, 19, of Stoneham, Mass., was also arrest­ed and charged with possession of a controlled substance (psychedelic mushrooms).

According to Patch.com, Byrne’s and Dasho’s arrests fol­lowed an investigation into child pornography by the State Police Computer Crime Unit and Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force and several other departments.

Both students are residents of Hitchinsen Hall.

In order to track down sus­pects, officers tracked downloads made by suspects through peer­to-peer file sharing networks, Patch.com reported. Arrest warrants were then issued for their property and computers.

At a press conference in Scituate yesterday, Rhode Island State Police Lt. Col. Raymond Studley said the suspects had images of children from “tod­dlers to pre-teens.” Patch.com reported.

“Child exploitation is a glob­al problem,” Studley said in a video of the press conference on the Providence Journal website. “And that’s why we are going to be continue to be proactive to combat that and curtail it.”

Some of the [suspects] are retired, some of them are hockey coaches, some of them are involved in the community in various professions,” he said.

He said children were observed in videos and still pho­tos, “performing various sexual acts or posing in a provocative and sexual manner.”

Patch wrote that other sus­pects are yet to be identified.

Continued on page 3

Department of communications and marketing holds campus-wide scavenger hunt, spreads school spirit

BY AUDREY ONELI
Contributing News Reporter

Students have been simultaneously spreading school spirit while engaging in challenges around campus.

The University of Rhode Island’s department of commu­nications and marketing is conducting a campus-wide scavenger hunt that began yesterday and ends tonight.

Students can take part in the scavenger hunt by downloading the mobile application SCVNGR onto their smartphones. Those without a smartphone can still take part by texting students send the text, “TODAY’S Hint: a 35-year-old is a global star.” Students who text “I ate” before 728647.

The department created the event in order to have stu­dents become more involved around campus and to spread school spirit while engaging in challenges around campus.

“The main goal was to spread the brand name, and the understanding of thinking big.” Tapangan said. “This was the first time that we have ever done an event mostly on the web because we wanted to see how effective using social media, like Facebook and Twitter, was.”

Not only are students able to focus on ways to expand URI into the social media.

“We depend on its difficulty. Each challenge takes students to different locations throughout the campus. The challenges range from taking a photo at the Memorial Union, to writing down a “big idea” for the future of URI at the Alumni Center. Each chal­lenge allows students to earn points toward a variety of prizes. Prizes include a full refund on their parking pass, alumni sports gear and DAY­GLOW: Life in Color tickets, among others. Each challenge is worth three to five points, all dependent on its difficulty. Once students earn more than 20 points, they are entered into the raffle. If the students earn more than 35 points, they are entered again.

Tapangan said she want­ed to focus on ways to expand URI into the social media.

“The main goal was to spread the brand name, and the understanding of thinking big.” Tapangan said. “This was the first time that we have ever done an event mostly on the web because we wanted to see how effective using social media, like Facebook and Twitter, was.”

Not only are students able to

Continued on page 3

The Good 5-Cent Cigar

Today's forecast
62 °F
Mr. Sun, Sun, Mr. Golden Sun, please shine down on me...
3-D movie releases too often a gimmick to make extra money

BY MATT GOUDEAUV
Entertainment Writer

After the critical and overwhelming commercial success of James Cameron’s “Avatar” in 3-D, Hollywood’s major studios and filmmakers took the opportunity to increase profits. While 3-D was originally introduced as a way to compete with its European rival, 2-D, it has since become a standard feature in new releases.

However, the hype surrounding 3-D has often resulted in a marketing strategy that prioritizes profit over quality. Films such as “Clash of the Titans,” “Thor,” and “Mars Needs Moms” fall into this category. I view this form of 3-D as an attempt to increase revenue from higher ticket sales at the expense of quality. Although two of the films mentioned above couldn’t be saved even with well-done 3-D.

Other times you have films that are designed for 3-D and are incredibly effective. Although I’ve gone on record about the many flaws of “Avatar,” it is impossible to criticize the 3-D effects of the film, which were incredible. Additionally, one of the best uses of 3-D in film is a two-way tie for me in regard to animation. “How to Train Your Dragon” is the most visually stunning use of 3-D. With that said, “Hugo” is the single greatest use of 3-D because it completely changes the story as well as the visuals. This is a film where the 3-D enhances the experience, not take away from it, which is what the majority of 3-D films do. I was captivated and wish every 3-D film matched the ingenuity of Scorsese’s soon-to-be classic.

Then you have 3-D releases of older films. I would like to take this opportunity to say that these are generally well done. Disney has been relatively successful with their releases of “The Lion King” and “Beauty and the Beast,” although I didn’t find the 3-D necessary. It was more of a joy seeing them on the big screen, but the 3-D certainly would work great for first-time viewers. Speaking of first-time viewing, “Titanic” in 3-D is easily my choice for the finest use of 3-D in a theatrical release. Much like “Hugo,” it is a perfect use of 3-D in its entirety and makes you feel like you are part of the film. I find “Titanic” warranted the 3-D treatment, and it reminds us of some other similar films that could use the treatment including “Raiders of the Lost Ark” and “Indiana Jones.”

Looking at the future, it seems like 3-D will be here to stay. Hopefully, filmmakers will begin to make better choices regarding what films need it and the others that don’t. James Cameron, thanks, but no thanks, for your advancement.
Help Wanted

Looking for an energetic assistant for a short term marketing project. Part-time. Flexible hours. Need to start immediately and pay is $10. Call 508-494-8095.


 helpers.

WORLD TODAY

North Korea will launch the rocket.

"North Korea's long-standing development of missiles and pursuit of nuclear weapons have restricted its proliferation activities."

WASHINGTON (AP)—U.S. officials say a rocket launched by North Korea failed moments after being fired, but the Obama administration still described the launch as a "provocative action" that threatens regional security. It said it has lost confidence in Pyongyang and would carry out its threat to halt a planned delivery of food aid to the communist country.

In a statement, White House spokesman Jay Carney said the actions of the North Korean regime were further isolating it from the international community.

"While this action is not surprising, given North Korea's history of provocative behavior, any missile activity by North Korea is of concern to the international community," Carney said.

His statement came after the North American Aerospace Defense Command and U.S. Northern Command said the first stage of the North Korean rocket fell to the Yellow Sea and that the remaining stages failed.

North Korea had said for weeks that it would launch a satellite over the East China Sea. The North says its satellite launch is not prohibited, and is part of celebrations marking the 100th anniversary of the birth of the regime's founder, the late Kim Il Sung. It insisted it was a peaceful mission to place a satellite in space.

The U.S. and much of the rest of the world, however, consider it a test of a long-range missile.

An administration official, speaking on the condition of anonymity to discuss the sensitive developments, said the planned delivery of food aid to North Korea had no effect on the discussions, nor did the satellite.

The official said the U.S. has no confidence those agreements can be implemented.

The U.S. National Security Council, which the United States is currently serving in the rotating presidency, would meet on Friday morning to discuss the North Korean action, an official said.

But the U.S. is not expected to seek an additional Security Council resolution against North Korea. Another administration official said existing sanctions resolutions against North Korea are adequate and said their enforcement could be "natched up.

The administration believes U.S. sanctions against North Korea, particularly on its ability to obtain advanced electronics for guidance systems, have restricted its proliferation activities.

"Instead of approaching Pyongyang from a position of strength, President Obama sought to provide a source of high-quality individuals to the fields of mathematics, national sciences and engineering, the award website said.

White House calls failed North Korean rocket launch 'provocative', threat to regional security

Bobba also didn't expect to win, saying his advisor "sprung" the news of his achievement on him. "I was so surprised [and] I was happy," he said.

After being nominated for the scholarship, both students were asked to submit a resume, transcript and an essay describing research they had conducted. Bobba explored the development of "nano-carriers" for cancer treatment, while Dauksis had been working on a coral reef restoration project.

Both students have their own reasons for pursuing their respective fields. Bobba said he wants to work in a more hands-on career field where "research could be more applied," and Dauksis said he liked the ocean because of his mother's influence.

"Biotechnology doesn't develop applications or solve problems," Bobba said of the typical major students pursue before going on to medical school. At present, Bobba would like to become a medical researcher to develop new treatments.

Dauksis, on the other hand, would like to go to graduate school and become a professor.

The Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship was created in 1986 in honor of Sen. Barry M. Goldwater of Arizona, who "hoped to "provide a source of highly qualified individuals" to the fields of mathematics, natural sciences and engineering, the award website said.

For a date this weekend?

Need a date this weekend?

Place an ad in the Cigar today!
Rhody SPORTS

Under the Fedora: Changes I'd like to see

BY MIKE ABELESON
Sports Staff Writer

-Move men's and women's hockey up to the varsity level.
I understand that there are numerous costs involved with this move in terms of scholarships and travel costs, but it is something I would dearly love to see happen. Both teams are national powers at the club level and are among the most consistently successful teams on campus.

The facility is already Division-I ready. If both teams were to move up, I feel there is where they would fit best. Look at the most logical varsity league for the men, Atlantic Hockey. For the women, it would be a fine venue for a team in Atlantic Hockey.

Travel shouldn't be a factor in terms of the rise to varsity. If the men were to join the Atlantic, the farthest trip would be to Air Force in Colorado, but that trip would only be made once every two years. Remove Air Force, and the farthest travel destinations are Pittsburgh and Rochester.

From the women's perspective: a move to varsity (and a potential spot in Hockey East) would keep them in New England for all of their league games.

At the end of the day, I understand that money will dictate everything, but I would love to be able to come back to the University of Rhode Island one day in the near future, find a seat in a packed Boss Arena and enjoy varsity hockey in Kingston.

-Play one to three regular season men's basketball games in Keaney Gym every year.

Keaney Gym is one of the most historic venues in college basketball, and URI should embrace the history and play it up.

The men should play a few non-conference games there a year that wouldn't normally fill the Ryan Center. For example was last year's game against Maine, which drew 2,710 people. At the Ryan Center that is not even half capacity, but in Keaney it is almost a sellout.

If properly marketed, it could be a fun experience for everyone. Bring the '80s- and '90s-era uniforms out of storage, put together an old school playlist, brand it as "Rhody goes Retro" and you have the makings of a few fun nights in a legendary gym.

-Move the bulk of regular season women's basketball games to Keaney Gym.

This is no slight against Cathy Inglese and her squad, but it would give the team a sense of identity.

Look north up Interstate 95 and you'll see that Providence College applies this same concept. The women play at Alumni Hall, and (sans one men's exhibition game) their floor exclusively. Playing the bulk of its games in Keaney would allow the women's team to have its own floor and would bring an added energy to the games.

-Allow club sports to use varsity facilities.

The outdoor club programs play on the field hockey and lacrosse should be able to play their games on the fields of either Meade Stadium or the Soccer Complex. Both of the aforementioned teams have less than two dozen home games combined, and, as members of the URI athletics community, should be able to play their games on level, well-kept fields rather than the pastures surrounding Plains Road.

Former Lions player, sitcom star Alex Karras joins players suing NFL

To a generation of TV and film fans, Alex Karras will forever be the loving adoptive dad on the 1980s sitcom "Webster" or the big guy who punched a horse in 1974's "Blazing Saddles." Before his acting days, he was a football star, a three-time All-Pro defensive tackle for the Detroit Lions in the 1960s.

Now 76, and diagnosed with dementia, Karras is taking on the role of head plaintiff. He and his wife, Susan Clark, are two of 119 people who filed suit Thursday in U.S. District Court in Philadelphia, the latest complaint brought against the NFL by ex-players who say the league didn't do enough to protect them from head injuries.

"All through the time that I've been with him, he has suffered headaches and dizziness and high blood pressure and all kinds of things that are a result of multiple concussions," Clark said from Los Angeles in a telephone interview with The Associated Press.

"This physical beating that he took as a football player has impacted his life, and therefore it has impacted his family life," Clark said. "He is interested in making the game of football safer and hoping that other families of retired players will have a healthier and happier retirement." Clark, who also played the wife of Karras character on "Webster," said he was formally diagnosed with dementia about seven years ago, but symptoms first showed up more than a dozen years ago.

Day-to-day life, Clark said, "would be very difficult for him without the help. He doesn't drive a car anymore. He used to love to drive. He was an amazing cook, Italian food. He doesn't cook anything at all anymore — he can't remember what his recipes were."

Karras and 69 other ex-players named in Thursday's suit are among more than 1,000 former NFL players suing the league, lawyers involved say. The cases say not enough was done to inform players about the dangers of concussions in the past, and not enough is done to take care of them today.

The 10th overall pick in the first round of the 1958 NFL draft out of Iowa, Karras played his entire career with the Lions before retiring in 1970 at age 35. He was a first-team All-Pro in 1960, 1961 and 1965, and he made the Pro Bowl four times. He missed the 1963 season when he was suspended by NFL Commissioner Pete Rozelle in a gambling probe.

The complaint filed Thursday states: "During his NFL career, Mr. Karras sustained repetitive traumatic impacts to the head and face concussions on multiple occasions. Currently, Mr. Karras suffers from various neurological conditions and symptoms related to the multiple head traumas." One of the lawyers representing Karras and more than 500 other former players in their cases against the NFL, Craig Mitchick, said: "The NFL not only misled players, and not only was negligent but, we believe, deliberately withheld information that could have protected these former players, and ... could have changed the way their lives were lived." Mitchick declined to make Karras available for an interview.

NFL spokesman Greg Aiello commented Thursday. In the past, the NFL has said it did not intentionally seek to mislead players and has taken steps to better protect players and to advance the science of concussion management and treatment.

"Here's the thing: The bigger picture is what interests me and Alex. There are millions of people with dementia or Alzheimer's. The football players are maybe the worst cases, because they have had multiple concussions and brain stem injuries. But this is a public-health issue. This is the beginning of a long, long discussion," said Clark, who married Karras in 1980. "The football players and their families — all of us — are shaking it up a bit, saying, 'Hey, you have to pay attention to this.'"