9-14-2012

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University of Rhode Island

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A University of Rhode Island student hopes to share her unconventional way of dealing with stress with others.

Junior mechanical engineering major, Kevin Gemmell, says he is a lacrosse player and like most people, has a soft side. When some people have a rough day, they work out. Others "scream-eat," watch TV, or even listen to music.

Gemmell, however, deals with his rough days a little differently; he writes poetry.

"I started about three years ago," Gemmell said. "It was my senior year of high school and my good friends and I would always have talks about life and stuff that was bothering us. One day we stumbled across a few videos of people performing poetry and from there we started writing our own stuff." Gemmell writes "slam poetry," a form of free verse writing intended to be presented out loud. He finds poetry to be a release, a way of dealing with things that are bothering him and letting them go, a release he wants to share with his fellow students.

"It’s a form of poetry that’s more trying to convey a message, I’d say," Gemmell said. "Everyone has a story and everyone has their own experiences like romance, relationships, school, or politics to talk about."

Slam poetry is "a form of poetry that’s more trying to convey a message," Gemmell said. "I’ve been writing for a few years now, but I’ve never taken a poetry class. It’s just something I picked up because I wanted to do it." Gemmell is on a mission to start a slam poetry club at URI.

"It hasn’t officially started yet. I’m still in the process of getting it going," Gemmell said. "I need 10 people to officially apply to be a club, and I only have four or five right now."

Gemmell explained why he would like to start a slam poetry club.

"My main goal is to create a judgment free environment where you can just be yourself," Gemmell said. "Everyone has a story and I want to hear their stories. I want to hear what’s bothering you."

He says he hopes students to be able to write, "because it really is painful to have an untold story inside of you and to not be able to tell it.

Slam poetry is also an excellent way for students to improve their overall writing, according to Gemmell. "It really improves every aspect of your writing from your creative writing to how to convey what you want to say. [This is why] writing papers isn’t hard for me anymore," he explained.

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Library holds tour for faculty and students

BY AUDREY O'NEIL
News Reporter

Faculty members and students at the University of Rhode Island joined together Thursday to celebrate the open house of the new Learning Commons at the Robert L. Carothers Library.

At the open house, students and faculty were given a tour of the new learning commons. Faculty members who attended the open house included URI President David M. Dooley and former president of URI, John Loines.

The Learning Commons have made the library a more comfortable and casual place for students to go and study. New additions include an improved study area for students with study pods, booths, and couches. There are available study group rooms available for private group studying which include whiteboards on the walls for note taking. Students now also have access to a video and power point presentation practice room in which they can practice presenting with fellow classmates.

Senior communications major, Steve Durkin, has worked for the Circulation Desk at the library for three semesters and is enjoying the recent changes that have been made.

"I think it’s great to have the new study rooms and places to lounge, especially with all the new places to sit," Durkin said. "It has really made it a chiller atmosphere and is a lot quieter than last year."

The new equipment available to students includes hall call buttons and computers. Students are able to use the computer lounge and can also rent the laptops for personal use. Adjunct librarian, Ida D. McGhee, is looking forward to the students using the Learning Commons.

There have been really good changes and betterment of students, especially for the

Continued on page 2

Health studies student talks experience, career goals, provides advice for students searching for internships

BY JULIE DAWSON
Contributing News Reporter

Meet Alexis Durfee

A senior health studies major at the University of Rhode Island stayed within the campus for an internship this past spring.

Alexis Durfee became interested in working for URI’s Health Services when an internship opening was brought to her attention by the director of health studies. Durfee had dreamed about a future career in health care administration, so she jumped at the opportunity.

While interning at URI, she said she got a feel for "absolutely everything." One of the things she liked most about her internship is how

unique health services is than any other health center in the United States. "Doctors, nurses, x-ray technicians, labs; everything is in one building and everything is career potential," Alexis said.

Durfee said the best part of her internship was being able to interact with staff from all the different departments.

"Meeting so many different people in so many careers each week...talking to doctors, nurses, x-ray technicians, I was never limited to one part of health care," Durfee said.

Durfee said she not only learned more about health care administration, but also learned more about herself. "After my internship I realized I am more of a people person. I love interacting with people," she said.

The internship at URI Health Services also helped

her decide what she wanted to do after graduation.

"If there was a possibility to work for Health Services after graduation I would take it in a heartbeat," Durfee said. "I plan on pursuing more of a degree in clinical health care."

"There’s nothing that I would have changed or didn’t like about it. My supervisor was awesome and I got so much experience from it. There were no regrets. I loved all of it."

Her advice for other students trying to find an internship is to "definitely go out there and look out for something that interests you. It will confirm that this is definitely the job you want to do and help you reevaluate what you want to do. Either way, it is such a great opportunity."
CONTINUED

Poetry
From page 1

As a member of the URI men's lacrosse team, and being a physics tutor, Gemmell proves that anyone can write poetry.

"It's just your own emotions on paper," Gemmell said. "You become more vivid and you paint pictures for an audience."

Gemmell has advice for those interested in tapping into his or her inner poet. "Don't be afraid of being judged," Gemmell said. "There are times where it gets personal and uncomfortable, but its better to get it all out then keep it bottled up, right? Those interested in helping start URI's first slam poetry club can email Kevin Gemmell at kevin_gemmell@uri.edu or search for "Slam Poetry Club" under the groups at URI on Facebook.

Commons
From page 1

freshman who are experiencing it McGhee said. "I really hope students will come in here and take advantage of the great new area."

The room has also been additions to the 24-hour room including a meditation room and a mother's room. The circulation supervisor of the library, Jeannette McKay, has watched the library change throughout the three years she has been working there.

"I can't believe it's finally done and ready for students to use because the learning commons definitely give more room, more places to study, and more places to work" McKay said, "This is a really great opportunity for students and they can really better their education."

Bon Iver
From page 3

"Blood Bank," one of the group's most instrumentally sparse recordings to date, into a fist-pumping, foot-stomping rock beat that moved the entire audience to their feet and featured a David Gilmour-inspired guitar lead.

"I feel bad for people that aren't, you know, here right now," Vroomen said sheepishly before closing with "Skinny Love," and another acoustic single off of his first LP, "For Emma, Forever Ago." After the stunning performance I witnessed from Bon Iver that night, I am inclined to agree with him.

Female-led band heads music renaissance

(NewsUSA) - Some bands never get the acclaim they deserve despite bucketfuls of talent, while others strap on jet packs and launch onto the scene with serious impact.

Rock band Dead Sara belongs to the latter category. A female-fronted, gritty garage band that created their own record label to avoid altering their primal, unforgiving sound? A group that wrote its hit single during its first-ever jam session as a band? Serious impact.

Dead Sara has been breaking molds and making waves since their conception. As the band burst onto the national radar with a self-titled debut album and a tour with Chevelle, some are calling it the renaissance of rock 'n' roll. Music, especially rock, needs new ways to stay true to its roots, &quot;wells&quot; writes MarsBands.com, a website dedicated to scouring the world for up-and-coming artists (or just the underappreciated), after discovering Dead Sara.

quot;Dead Sara could be the band we look back on in 20 or 30 years and say, 'yep, they saved rock. They made music good again.' MarsBands isn't the only one making grand predictions about Dead Sara's future.

"A.L.-based music publication Campus Circle declared that radio stations everywhere have been waiting for this diamond in the rough."


Opportunities seem to crop up as often as sweaty new fans. In addition to Chevelle, Dead Sara will be touring with the Used too. The L.A. quartet, featuring Armstrong's best friend and killer guitarist Siouxsie Medley, bassist Chris Null and drummer Sean Friday, will make its late-night TV debut on Jimmy Kimmel Live! in June.

Dead Sara's whirlwind schedule promotes its first record, produced by Noah Shain and distributed by Universal/Fontana through Pocket Kid Records. Shain has worked with other rock groups like Atreyu and Skrillex.

Armstrong also wants to perform at loads of venues before Dead Sara features on one of the hottest rock tours of the year, Van's Warped Tour. But according to an interview Armstrong did with Rolling Stone magazine, Dead Sara is absolutely ready.

It's like the power of rock and roll, it just frees Armstrong told Rolling Stone. &quot;Well this release, it's explainable, when you're up there it's like you're in a different world and that's when I feel most like myself. So it's free and it's amazing."

With such notable tours lined up and a hit debut album, Dead Sara is on the fast track toward critical acclaim. Learn more about the band leading the rock 'n' roll renaissance at www.dead-sara.com.

Every thought about writing for the school paper? Meetings are Thursdays at 7 p.m.! Come and join us!
Rapper Action Bronson cooking up great music

BY HENSLEY CARTERSCO
Editor-in-Chief

Arian "Action Bronson" Asilanci has been slowly, but steadily, making his way through the ranks of the underground hip-hop scene in order to make his name more notorious. Bronson, a Jewish-Albanian chef-turned-rapper from Flushing, Queens, isn't another rapper from New York. Bronson, 27, studied in the culinary program at the Art Institute of New York City before "working at immortalable steakhouses, a vegetarian restaurant in downtown Manhattan—and Cit Field, where he helped prepare post-game meals for the Mets," according to Rolling Stone. His chef-side is evident in many of his songs as he frequently raps about all kinds of food.

A consistent theme in Bronson's delivery is the idea he sounds similar—or identical—to another New York rapper, Ghostface Killah. Bronson has been quoted as saying he thinks being compared to Ghostface is "all good" because he finds Ghostface as being one of the greatest rappers alive, "so if I sound similar to the best rapper alive, then that is fine."

Bronson told HipHopDX. In a different light, Bronson said he is beginning to get tired of being compared because he wants to be known as Action Bronson and not someone that sounds like Ghostface Killah. This is not to say he hasn't worked with Ghostface. In 2011, Bronson linked up with Termainology (rapper) and Ghostface Killah on the song called "Météorites" (Hammer), which is found on their 2011 album "Legendary Weapons."

Bronson's name is derived from gangster William "Action" Jackson, who was tortured to death by members of his gang because they thought he betrayed them, and Charles Bronson, a popular actor in the 1960s. If you're not familiar with what Bronson looks like, think of a Caucasian Rick Ross with a Freeway-esque, red beard. A quick Google image search reveals Bronson has no fear in letting the guns out. His pictures with well-known photographer Terry Richardson prove that point.

On March 15, 2011, Bronson released his debut studio album "Dr. Lecter," an album that was entirely pro... Continued on page 2

Hip-Hop: passing fad or way of life?

(NewsUSA) - In the 30 years since hip-hop developed from basement jams and Bronx block parties, it has run the gamut from fame (and infamy) in the late '70s through the '90s, to a somewhat recent fall from grace and every stop in between. But rap is not dead. One has only to look at artists like DMX and the Beastie Boys -- both of whom are dropping new albums this year -- to know that hip hop is alive and well and enjoying something of a rebirth. The point is underscored by: noting that the Beastie Boys were inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame this year and that the 40-year-old X, who was recently released from an almost one-year stint in prison in Arizona, is releasing his seventh album. This, said Jake Shapiro, COO of Big Jake Music, a Los Angeles-based indie record label that represents DMX, is a testament to the fact that hip hop may have started back in the '70s as a popular trend, but is still relevant today. "Artists, like X, are hip-hop's most beloved and influential people," said Shapiro. "He embodies everything that is hip-hop -- an amalgam of barking and rhyming in loud bursts of music... energy."

Born Earl Simmons in December 1970, DMX was signed by a subsidiary of Columbia Records at the age of 22 and has enjoyed almost two decades of honors and accolades, including multi-platinum-selling records, and being the only artist in Billboard history to reach number one with five consecutive albums. Even with various legal woes and drug problems plaguing him over the last decade, his supporters are not about to count him out. "We're thrilled to be working with DMX," said Shapiro. "His fan base contin... Continued on page 2
Fencing club accepting additional members, prepares for intercollegiate competitions

BY MIKE ABELSON
Sports Editor

The airport lounge is nearly empty, but there is still a cacophony of sounds bouncing around the walls of the terminal.

The slaps of metal on metal echoing about can only mean one thing: the fencing club is back in session.

The fencing club, a recognized club sport, started its 2012-2013 season Monday. Every Monday and Thursday between 5 and 8 p.m., several dozen students gathered in the Cedarville Ballroom to engage in bouts across all three fencing disciplines (saber, foil and epee).

It’sawesome,” Wolk said. “I mean, you get to walk around with a mask and a weapon and be like ‘hey guys.’”

Wolk, a mechanical engineering major, acts as the team’s armorer (a fencing repairman if you will).

Wolk fences in the epee style. Epee is one of the freest forms of fencing because strikes are allowed on any part of the body as long as it is the tip of the blade, and not the side, that strikes an opponent.

“Basically it’s whoever hits the other person first gets the point,” Wolk said. “It doesn’t matter who hits what when.”

The team is co-ed and does compete in intercollegiate events. Sophomore Jacob Ricci said that the team will be competing at events at Smith College and the University of New Hampshire later this year.

Ricci, a double major in history and secondary education, grew up fencing in his hometown of Portsmouth, RI but had to give up the sport in high school before coming back to it last year. His older brother, Ben, is the captain of the team.

Ricci competes in foil which is much more deliberate than epee and has a much smaller area where you can strike an opponent, but Ricci said he loves the tactical nature of the sport.

“I am interested mainly in the strategy of it,” Ricci said. “You can really judge another person’s moves, their character, their strategy and try to build your own strategy exactly to that effect and it changes with each person you fence.”

Wolk said that the club’s schedule is very flexible and encouraged that student come out and try a sport that “is boxing like a sit.”

“What I particularly like about the fencing [club] is that we’re not particularly mandatory; we don’t make everyone show up to every meeting,” Wolk said. “If you show up once a month I believe that makes you a member. If that’s all you can make that’s fine; we just ask that people show up.”

For more follow Mike on Twitter @MikeAbelson

Rhody baseball team gets locally involved, hopeful for another successful season

BY JONATHAN SHELDER
Sports Staff Reporter

Summer may be over and spring may seem far away, but do not tell that to the University of Rhode Island baseball team.

The Rhode island baseball team began fall practices this week and has been extremely active in local communities, attempting to spread the word of their upcoming and promising spring season.

“Giving back to the community is really important for the team,” head coach Jim Foster said.

Last Friday the team participated in the Galilee 5K Road Race for Autism Awareness, and all proceeds went to the Autism Project. On Oct. 13, the team will partake in an Autism Walk. Various players will also be reading in local schools and working with local merchants in programs with inner city kids.

This past Tuesday all of the Rams went door to door in Newport, Wakefield, Scarborough, Galilee and other South County communities handing out rosters and schedules for their upcoming season.

“We want to do our best to get the word out for the program,” Foster said. “We want to build this program into the next big thing. We want people to get excited to take the team.”

head coach Jim Foster

The team’s word of their upcoming and promising spring season.

On Saturday leading up to a best-two-out-of-three series against the University of Scranton the Rhode Island Rams will compete against the Scranton father, Ben, is the captain of the team.

Licciardi led the team this year. He was the first Rhody fencer since 1990 to be selected.

The team is co-ed and will be competing at the USF/CareerTech National Championships, seven New England Division-I titles, and was inducted into the Golf Coaches Association Hall of Fame. The Rams only have three golfers returning who played at least 10 events last season.

One of these freshmen is senior Branden Ciciora, the team’s third at-batter.

Ciciora is a member of the PING All-Region team this past year. He was the first Rhody fencer since 2009 to be selected. He also finished third at the New England Championships.

“Branden returns as a top-three [golfer] in New England and works hard enough to be the best in New England,” Burke said.

Ciciora was one of ten other golfers to be on the All-New England team chosen by the New England Division I Golf Coaches. He led all URI golfers in stroke average, with an average73.75 per round, over the course of 28 rounds played.

Last year Ciciora had seven top-five finishes. Another URI golfer who was honored by the New England Division I Coaches was junior Jared Adams.

Adams was selected for the New England All-Rookie team. He will return this year after shooting an average of 75.8, the second lowest on the team.

In the spring, Adams finished seventh at the New England D-I championships. In seven tournaments he finished in the top 20, providing the Rams some consistency.

The third golfer who played at least 10 events last season was junior Andrew Fiorenzano, who could potentially give Adams a run for the number two spot. Fiorenzano tied for fifth at the Atlantic-10 Championship, only three strokes back from first.

“The freshmen are really good this year,” Burke said. “One or two could play in the first tournament.”

One of these freshmen includes Nick Celestino, winner of the 41st annual Sarasota Men’s City Championship, one of the top men’s amateur tournaments in southwest Florida. Another freshman that could help the Rams this year is Nick Fairweather of New Hampshire. Fairweather was the Division II champion for Windham High School this past fall,

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Golf using experience to help train new members

BY COLIN HOWARTH
Contributing Sports Reporter

The University of Rhode Island golf team may be young, but their goals are high.

“Our goal is to be the best in New England,” second year head coach Gregg Burke said.

Burke took over the head coaching duties last year following Tom Drennan’s retirement after 22 years at the helm.

In those 22 years, Drennan helped URI win five Atlantic 10 Championships, 10 New England Intercollegiate Championships, seven New England Division-I titles, and was inducted into the Golf Coaches Association Hall of Fame.

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