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University of Rhode Island

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Recommended Citation
Students explore opportunities at study abroad fair

BY KASSANDRA FLOREZ AND NANCY LAVIN
Contribution and Managing Editor

Yesterday’s study abroad fair at the University of Rhode Island’s Memorial Union allowed students to explore, quite literally, a world of opportunities, featuring more than 35 different programs in various countries. Although not all programs were represented at the fair, URI has, in total, more than 10 different programs in more than 70 countries worldwide.

Study abroad programs offer students the opportunity to broaden their horizons and experience “in-depth” new cultures, according to Olga Wright, the Coordinator from the Center of Hellenic Study Abroad program who attended the fair. Wright advertised two Greek universities to students at the fair, explaining that her program offers everything, from mythology and language to communication and economics.

When asked about the cost of studying abroad, Wright said that with all expenses included, students should not have to spend more than they do for in-state tuition at URI. “It all depends on how much you like to spend on entertainment,” Wright said.

Wright added that the master’s program students can receive between 12 and 18 credits for one semester. For this program in particular, all classes that are conducted are in English, no previous knowledge of Greek is required. Internship opportunities are also available, and the Hellenic Study Abroad program offers full-time programs in both the fall and spring.

There are many scholarships, such as the Academic Programs International Affiliate Scholarship, which helps students achieve their study abroad aspirations, according to the URI study abroad website. In most study abroad programs, dining is included. The only additional costs are for miscellaneous expenses, such as shopping, traveling and cultural activities.

Eric Reels, a senior French/Chinese and anthropology major, also agreed that studying abroad is something everyone should experience sometime during their college career.

“She, really wanted to take Chinese, because she was doing Chinese homework,” Reels said. “I noticed that from Japanese I could understand some of the Chinese that she was doing... [in my] sophomore year I started taking Chinese. I also joined the Chinese Language Flagship Program. Prior to taking Chinese, Reels had also taught himself some Japanese. He wanted to study abroad without leaving the country, another alternative is the National Student Exchange program (NSE), in which students visit another university in the United States, or a U.S. territory.

For more information on the URI Abroad Fair in the Memorial Union.

Melissa Lichtman | Cigar

Students learn about their options for foreign study at the Study Abroad Fair in the Memorial Union.

Students explore opportunities at study abroad fair

BY AUDREY O’NEIL
News Reporter

Vocal performance and music education major Billy Ray Poli, a fifth year senior at the University of Rhode Island, has made his years on campus significant. He is both a Resident Advisor (RA) and recognition chair of the Resident Advisor Board, furthering his involvement on campus.

Poli was motivated by his own RA during his freshman year to become one himself. Poli said it was because of the community and bond that was built between the students.

“I really wanted to make that difference and be the change in that person’s life and be the first person they see when they get to college,” Poli said. “I really wanted to be someone that they can depend on when they arrive on campus for the first time and leave their parents and just make them feel welcomed.”

Poli has also been the president of Tau Beta Sigma, the university’s co-ed band sorority, since he was elected last December. Tau Beta Sigma has enabled Poli to follow his passion of music.

“Sisterhood means a lot to me because I have five older sisters and I have always felt a connection with music as well; music is my passion,” Poli said. “And really being able to help out musical organizations is something that I strive for, and helping out the music department in any way possible is something that I always have wanted to do and love to do in this organization.”

Tau Beta Sigma is a service-based sorority that conducts service projects around URI. The sorority helps organize the high school jazz festival that is held on the university and it helps out at other music department-related events. The sorority also conducts a campus beautification project where members choose a day to come together and clean around the Fine Arts Center. The money the sorority raises through the projects goes toward the music department.

Poli is also on the district council of Tau Beta Sigma, in the position of the Tau Beta Sigma northeast district alumnus secretary. To be elected the position, Poli was required to attend a district convention, where he was nominated off of the floor for the position and was required to give a speech. Poli was elected March 2012 and will hold the position until March 2013.

“T here are [more than] 35 Tau Beta Sigma chapters in the northeast district and I was elected the position,” Poli said. “I am in charge of all alumni relations for the entire northeast district and I collect and update the district historian’s archives.”

Although Poli is primarily a vocalist and is not currently a member of the band, he was previously in the pep band for one year and concert band for two years. During that time, he played two instruments, the mellotone percussion and alto saxophone.

In the past two years, Poli was a featured soloist through URI’s Vocal Ensembles and Opera Workshop. Poli has also been a guest performing artist for Opera Providence for three years and was able to perform on a professional level.

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Fifth year senior at URI makes his years count

BY SHAWN SATAYA
Managing Editor

The University of Rhode Island Student Senate unanimously approved two new student organizations at its meeting last night. The senate also elected Emily Diene and David Pickard onto its Rules and Ethics Committee.

CIAO, the Cultural Italian American Organization, and the Hellenic Student Association of Paideia were both approved as “Category A” and “Category R” organizations respectively.

CIAO currently has approximately 50 members and the club’s focus will be on celebrating Italian culture, as well as the language. Plans to begin this fall, the Academic Enhancement Center to help tutor students taking Italian classes at URI. CIAO will have an affiliation with the Italian department and the two may plan events in coordination with each other.

The Hellenic Student Association of Paideia will focus on celebrating Greek culture and traditions. The group currently does not have plans to practice the language, but representatives said that might change in the future.

In other news:

-Students have until Friday at 3 p.m. to declare their candidacy for Student Senate. There are seven seats open for freshman, at-large and off-campus representatives. All candidates must submit their declarations by June 11 to the Student Senate office in the Memorial Union.

-Clr

Students explore opportunities at study abroad fair
Will Allegretto hopes to get good grades, meet new people, have new experiences and get involved with clubs.

Matt Egan just says, "New friends."

Paola Arroyo wants to meet new people and get a better understanding of her major, which is early childhood education.

Shinbey Moua says he would like to meet new people, build new connections, study hard, not slack off and just have fun.

Molly Chann has set her sights on getting involved with as much as she can, as well as figuring out what she wants to major in.

Jose Diaz is hoping to meet new people, join organizations and get a good education.

Devon Andrews wants to figure out the "Big Decision": whether or not his major is really what he wants to do.

Jacquilyn Camacho is hoping to perform the amazing balancing act: pass all her classes and still have a social life, and make the best out of it.
Senior
From page 1
throughout the entire state.
"Music is my passion, especially singing, because it is something I could do all day everyday," Poli said. "I started singing when I was four and started playing mal- let percussion in high school and realized singing was my passion so [I have] focused more on my voice ever since."
Poli’s love for music has encouraged him to follow a career in music education. He is currently a student teacher at the Portsmouth Elementary School, teaching general music in kindergarten through third grade.
“My teacher is so incred­ible, [I'm] learning so much, and have discovered that [this] is something I want to do for the rest of my life," Poli said.

Campus

Fair
From page 1
studying abroad at the University of Rhode Island, visit the International Center, or the study abroad website.

Senate
From page 1
is putting forth a bill next meeting to have changes approved to the Finance Handbook for the new academic year. All senate recog­nized student organizations are required to be in compli­ance with the Finance Handbook or face penalties.

- newly elected Academic Affairs chairperson David Zawatsky said that he is plan­ning to perform a student survey following the conclu­sion of the new class drop period before moving the issue forward.

Rhody pic of the day

BLUNDERGRADS

...DO YOU GET A LOT OF STUDENTS IN THE EMERGENCY ROOM ON BIG FOOTBALL WEEKENDS?

INDEED! WE SEE LOTS OF ALCOHOL POISONINGS, SPRAINED ANKLES, HEAT STROKE, CONCUSSIONS, LACERATIONS...

IS MY FRIEND THE FIRST TIME YOU’VE SEEN ALL OF THOSE IN ONE PATIENT?

UM... YES.

Just a reminder to drop by the Dean’s Office in Room 257, Chafee to let us know that you intend to graduate.
You must APPLY IN PERSON by completing your intent to graduate worksheet by the deadline of October 1, 2012.
If you plan on graduating in August 2013, the deadline is April 1, 2013.
If you plan on graduating in December 2013, the deadline is August 1, 2013.
Forms are available in the Dean’s Office or online at www.uri.edu/artsci
Please note that you will not automatically graduate unless you have completed your requirements.
Overspending on political campaigns corrupts government, student says

Dear Editor:

In the midst of this political season, I am disappointingly struck by the tremendous amount of money being spent on two presidential campaigns and other federal, state and local campaigns. I believe this not only saddens me, but tens of millions of Americans. Viewing this tremendous amount of money being spent by so few people seeking political offices, I feel driven to write this letter.

Considering how much of the salaries for these political offices pale in comparison to the money spent to gain these offices, I truly believe that most Americans have taken off their blinders to realize just how much under-hand edness and corruption exists on all levels of our government. Americans are no longer idealistic or faithful about our government officials being pure and willing to go all out to help each and every citizen, regardless of our financial status. There can be no doubt that money buys access to government policies and, therefore, campaign contributions are, in actuality, investments in rich and powerful people’s futures.

Is there any wonder why so many voters don’t bother to vote? Are my views cynical or true? Can American government, at all levels, be guilty of some of the biggest white-collar crimes on Earth? Just some questions to ponder during this political season.

Timothy (Tim) Monroe Bledsoe

BY HENESLY CARRASCO
Editor-in-Chief

Being a senior is a tough thing to take in. Not just being any kind of senior. There are seniors who are in pharmacy, nursing or other majors who have been here for the same amount of time that I have been here, but they aren’t due to graduate yet. Being a graduating senior is what’s so nerve-wracking. I have to fill out my intent-to-graduate form, my minor papers, get all of my degrees in place and any extracurriculars that may be affecting me. Questions go unanswered: Am I going to miss this school? What am I going to do after school? Will I miss my friends? Will people still talk to me? Is this the last of my education career? Will I get my dream job? All unanswered.

I know what I want to do—and that is pursuing a journalistic career. In the same light, though, I want to continue going to school, but for what? I’m not sure. Time is running out for me, for sure. Don’t be anxious on increasing the pressure to hurry and look into these things. Sure, I should’ve spent more time of the summer doing all of this, but with all the great weather out there, who has time? Right? Not.

If my procrastination skills are uncanny, I think I need my own kingdom. Let’s call it “Procrastination Island.” I’ll eventually elect my kind of government and figure out where I want it.

I digress. With wanting to go to graduate school, comes the GREs, or, what I like to call, SATs for graduate school. I’ve heard they’re more difficult than the SATs, so it’s really putting me off, but I can manage. A whole lot of studying is due for the test. I’ve had the practice exam open as a tab on my laptop for the last month or so.

If I don’t go to graduate school, my other option is to start applying for jobs and try to get a head start on my career. I know people who graduated from their respective college and go right into their career of choice. At times, the internship you choose can have a high retention rate, so worrying about a job after school won’t be your first concern. Call it being at the right place at the right time, if you will, but I, and anyone else reading this, should make sure they’re putting themselves out there in order to get jobs. It’s better to over-qualify than to find yourself at the bottom of the heap.

If I put on my extreme thinking hat, I can think of options of what I really want to do post-URI. There is an entire market for people like me, and people of all majors. It all depends on what sacrifices you’re willing to make to get them. I have professors who aren’t originally from Rhode Island. Do you know what they had to do? Make sacrifices and move. Keep searching and the right path can be easily found. It may be difficult for some, but just making sure you stay focused can put you right up at an advantage. You don’t want to be that person that gives up because it’s difficult. You’ve made it this far, why stop now?

If this doesn’t work out, I’m going to have to find a new career path. It would have to be something unlike- ly, though. Something not many people would expect. It would have to be a get-rich-quick career. Know what? I think I’m just going to become a rapper. Call me “ThurHood Marshall.”

Senior year brings daunting decisions

The Good 5¢ Cigar

HENESLY CARRASCO Editor-in-Chief

The Good 5¢ Cigar is published four times a week during the school year except for vacations and holidays. The Cigar has a circulation of 5,000. All signed columns, commentaries and letters to the editor must be typed, double-spaced with the author’s full name and phone number or the submission will not be accepted. Submissions are limited to 700 words. The Cigar reserves the right to edit all material for publication.

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CORRECTION POLICY

The Cigar will gladly print corrections if the error brought to our attention within seven calendar days of publication.
"Resident Evil: Retribution" just another disposable video game movie

BY AUGIE KING
Entertainment Editor

At this point, is anyone really expecting something worthwhile out of the "Resident Evil" movie franchise? The first one may have been a passable horror/action B-movie, but since then, the series has descended into excess and overall idiocy. This fifth movie doesn't change the status quo; the same "Matrix"-influenced action is in full effect and the actors are just as flat as ever. However, I would be lying in saying that I didn't get some enjoyment out of "Retribution," which is more than I can say for "Apocalypse," the second film, and "Afterlife," the fourth.

Picking up right where "Afterlife" left off, Alice and the other survivors are attacked at sea and overwhelmed by Umbrella's forces. Alice then wakes up in a holding cell, where she learns that the Red Queen computer has taken over Umbrella. Because of this, previous Umbrella head henchman Wesker enlists Alice's help in stopping the renegade A.I. It turns out Alice is being held in a massive underground testing facility, so Wesker sends a team of soldiers to extract Alice while wading through the hordes of monsters remaining around the facility.

That may sound like a plot synopsis, but in the context of the movie itself, "Retribution" has only the illusion of a plot. I owe a few apologies to any action movie I've ever called plotless in the past, because this movie takes the same tactic as "Afterlife" and literally has only a bare-bones skeleton of a plot. There's a semblance of a beginning, and arguably a middle, but there's no ending. Remember the beginnings of "The Matrix Revolution" and "Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's End" where Neo and Sparrow have to be rescued from some holding place? "Retribution" is those 20-minute segments stretched to feature length and padded out with exposition and relentless action.

On those grounds, it may be objectively the worst movie of the series. I hesitate to go there.

Continued on page 7

New Fox television drama starts off shaky, but has good hook

BY ALISON WARRINGTON
Contributing Entertainment Writer

This past Monday, the new drama series "Mob Doctor" premiered on Fox, starring Jordana Spiro, Floriana Lima and William Forsythe. Different from other hit shows such as "House" or "Scrubs," "Mob Doctor" doesn't only include medical mysteries, but it adds a plot twist to those mysteries that brings the Chicago mafia into the hospitals.

As a successful surgeon in one of Chicago's top hospitals, main character Dr. Grace Devlin (Spiro), is hardworking, passionate and well educated. Torn between her family life and her career, Grace must make a life-changing decision. She has grown up with a promising career and stable future, but puts it all on the line when she is put into a disposable role.

Continued on page 7
Video games adapted into film get lost in translation

BY CONOR FAGAN Contributing Entertainment Writer

Like a crowd of lumbering, organ-hungry undead undead, the release of yet another "Resident Evil" film lies just over the ever-dimming horizon. "Resident Evil: Retribution" will be the fifth (but most likely not final) installment of Paul Anderson's (of "Event Horizon" fame) series of gung-ho action films that somehow acquired the legal permission to slap the name of the beloved Capcom survival horror franchise across its visually abrasive posters and trailers. If the previous four "Resident Evils" serve as any sort of indicators, "Retribution" (expect a review later this week) will best be another standard display of overstylized violence that replaces the expected similarities to its beloved source material with a handful of shallow references to the iconography of the original game series' most popular titles.

Sadly, this is old news. American audiences have been sitting through half-asleep, critically-panned video game-inspired movies for almost two decades. Not a thing has changed since the ultra-cheesy live-action "Super Mario Bros." flopped back in 1993, but the question at the heart of the matter still remains: Why are all movies based on video games utterly horrible? What makes the themes and plot lines of interactive gaming experiences so confoundingly difficult to port over? To answer that question, let's take a brief look back.

Aside from the slightly better-than-average box office performance of Paul Anderson's own "Mortal Kombat" in 1995 (you'd think he'd be better at making these kinds of films by now), 2003's attempted feature "Final Fantasy: The Spirits Within" remains one of the few video game-based films not universally hated by fans of the game series. Hironobu Sakaguchi's very loose interpretation of the classic role-playing game was praised upon its release for its technological innovations and the creation of a strikingly detailed post-apocalyptic CGI world. That statement was by no means an endorsement. "Spirits Within" is passable at best, and turned such disastrous profits that it secured the defunding of the entire film-making branch of Square Enix game company. Bonuses if you're down to watch it Steve Wozniak, Alec Baldwin and James Woods.

Films such as the original "Resident Evil" and "Final Fantasy" narrowly avoid landing in the critical/commercial failure bucket alongside "BloodRayne" and "Alone in the Dark" by almost completely disregarding their respective video game source material. Films like Universal Studio's "Prince of Persia" (with Jake Gyllenhaal). "Doom" series suffer from being a bit too faithful to their divine, violent inspiration. Attempting to portray fast-paced wildfires with intergalactic hell-beasts from a first-person perspective à la the recently released "Dark Souls" III" was their first mistake; their second was hiring Owayne "The Rock" Johnson. However, it would appear that even the most star-studded cast of well-respected Hollywood stars- Angelina Jolie and Jake Gyllenhaal- couldn't keep the video game-movie ship afloat. Jolie seems almost born to play "Laure Croft;" all it would have taken was a script with less obvious, clunky expository dialogue to elevate the 2001 "Tomb Raider" movie from its current status of mildly entertaining popcorn flick to exciting reinterpretation. The story goes for the recent "Prince of Persia." The pieces are all there, the story makes sense, and Jake Gyllenhaal does a fair job at depicting the arrogant aristocratic acrobat. But all of these standard aspects just add up to another bland action movie with a few unique visuals.

If Hollywood continues its consumption of the iconography and imagery of games only to pump out generic shoot-'em-up after generic shoot-'em-up, wealthy studios and talented directors and writers will start to completely lose interest in the subject matter, condemning video game movies as a failed turn-of-the-century-entertainment. Let's hope we don't have to sit through a defamation of any more classic game characters before the industry makes up its mind.

From the minds that brought you entertainment masterpieces like fan-favorites "Lost,; "Supernatural" and "Iron Man," the all-star mash-up of J.J. Abrams, Eric Kripke and Jon Favreau (respectively) have teamed up to produce a new show that premiered on NBC this past Monday. "Revolution" combines an in-vogue topic with a lot of adventure to draw in fantasy and "end-of-the-world" situation-lovers everywhere. With its apocalyptic approach, most people would assume erupting volcanoes and God-sized tsunamis would be sure to follow in the show's hour-long block; however, instead of all of those cataclysmic events, the show takes place in a world desolate of something that each and every one of us held dear, something most of us could not go a day without-technology.

After major hype coming off of this year's San Diego Comic-Con International 2012 Exhibition, "Revolution" prompts us as viewers to consider what life would be like without all of our gadgets, gizmos, and "E-products." In this world, everything from planes to batteries is off-limits.

Thus the story begins, and then begins again, 15 years after all the power goes out in the world. Personally, I enjoyed the fact that the "all-star mash-up" team decided to cut out the 14 grueling years between what the first 10 minutes of the show established, the night the power goes out, and where the rest of the show picks up. Originally, I would have figured that "Revolution" would deal with the immediate impact of the outage as other shows such as AMC's "The Walking Dead" did. However, it was a relief when the producers decided to skip over that period and pick up when everything was somewhat functional again, not a crazed disaster zone.

These past 14 years have left the once young girl, Charlie (Tracy Spiridakos), more responsible and wiser as she looks after her brother Danny (Graham Rogers) in their man-made "New World."
The Good 5¢ Cigar
It's YOUR paper URI,
Come write for us!

Attention URI Students!
2012 HOLIDAY ART COMPETITION

$500 Cash Award

Original art is being solicited from the URI student community for President David Dooley and Reverend Lynn Baker-Dooley's Holiday Card. Each year the President of the University sends a holiday card to a select mailing list. The winner will have a copy of their work sent to thousands of students, faculty, and staff.

Winifred Brownell, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, will pick a second place winner.

Guidelines: Work in any medium accepted. Please provide an image only. URI Publications will design the card with the award winning art. Multiple entries accepted. All submissions must be submitted digitally with a minimum of 300 dpi to:

uriholidaycard@gmail.com

Deadline: Friday, October 5th, 4 p.m.
Notification: October 26th
Questions: Email bpagh@uri.edu

Please include the following information with your submission: Name, College/Majors, Year of graduation, Address, Email, Phone.

The Good Five Cent Cigar • Thursday, September 20, 2012 • Page 7
Inept officials mar NFL season

BY MIKE ABELOSN
Sports Editor

With the University of Rhode Island football team opening its home schedule this weekend, I’m happy that the players, as far as football players can be anyway, will be safe. Why? Because there will be competent officials working the game.

If you’ve watched the NFL, over the last few weeks, you’ll no doubt have noticed the replacement officials working the games. They were hired out of the finest lower-division collegiate conference cheap money could buy. As a result, fans have been able to enjoy errant calls, incorrectly announced teams and a slew of other mistakes that have left football fans to love their faces in their palms.

The NFL’s inability to come to an agreement with the NFL Referee’s Association has plagued the on-field product and showed just how little the NFL cares about its players. After spending billions of dollars on player safety initiatives in recent years, the NFL has shown that it is talking out of both sides of its mouth. The league will protect its players, the people fans pay to see, but only if the money is right.

For a league making nearly $10 billion dollars in revenue, an extra $250,000 or so per team to meet the referee’s demands seems like peanuts. Alas, no. The league is content to leave its players, a very high-priced commodity, in the capable hands of men who were only charging for players to do well so they would have success in their fantasy football league, as Philadelphia Eagles running back Lesean McCoy claimed earlier this week.

Luckily for Rhode Island, and all other Football Bowl and Football Championship Subdivision teams, the conferences refused to guarantee their referees a job if they tested the NFL waters.

In a sporting world that demands excellence from everyone (from the players and coaches, to the announcers and officials), it is a bit odd that the professional league of the most popular sport in America will be more properly officiated at the amateur level rather than the professional level.

Think you can hit a home run at the Cigar?

Come write for sports! Meetings at 7 p.m. every Thursday or e-mail the sports editor at rhodysports@gmail.com

Women’s volleyball team takes tough losses at weekend tournament in N.Y.

BY JONATHAN SHIDDLER
Sports Staff Writer

The University of Rhode Island’s women volleyball team traveled to New York City this past weekend to take part in the Columbia Invitational. It was a tough weekend for Rhody as it lost all three matches it played.

The tournament began on Friday against Hofstra University. After dropping the first set 25-20 the Rams battled back to win the second set 27-25, and the third set 25-26. However the Pride would rally to take the fourth set 25-17 and the final set 15-8.

Freshman1 Darnold led Rhody with a team-high 14 kills. Sophomore Kelly Rosenberg came off of the bench and put up a career-high 27 assists along with 15 digs giving herself two double-doubles on the day.

“The Rams are a very tough team to play against,” head coach Bob Schneck said. “It is important to have her out there. She has a kill in almost every game as good as anyone on the team.”

Steffen finished with another filled stat sheet, notching a total of 12 kills and 10 digs giving her two double-doubles during the tournament.

Senior Annie Nelson finished with a combined 70 assists on the day between the two matches as she notched 29 against Columbia and 41 against Colgate.

The three losses in the tournament gives Rhody a record of 4-8, and with Atlantic-10 conference play starting this weekend, the team, and Coach Schneck, know they need to improve.

“We played through the weekend,” Schneck said. “We pushed hard through all the games we just didn’t play clean enough. If we want to succeed in A-10s we need to play cleaner. We have a great team unity and everyone is on the same page. The problems we’ve faced early on are all things that can be fixed.”

“The Rams will be traveling to Temple University on Friday and La Salle University on Saturday to begin their Atlantic-10 campaign.”

Follow Jon on Twitter @shidjjon.