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Dalai Lama speaks at convention center

BY MIKE ABELSON
Sports Editor

Nearly 6,000 people crammed into the main exhibition hall at the Rhode Island Convention Center yesterday afternoon to hear one of the great leaders of the world speak.

His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama of Tibet was the speaker at the 86th Stephen A. Ogden '60 Memorial Lecture on International Affairs at Brown University.

The Dalai Lama spoke about the need for peace and the importance of happiness and how it impacts every other part of life.

"Everyone wants a happy life," he said. "No one loves suffering; no one loves problems. And because of that, we all desire to have a happy life, and everyone has the right to achieve a happy life. Success is very much related to inner peace."

Born in 1935, and raised during the tumultuous 1940s and 1950s, the Dalai Lama said he saw much devastation growing up, and, because of this, the current generation must find a way to create a more harmonious way of life in the world.

"When I look back on a major portion of my life [it] sadly became central to my life," he said. "Now, we have to think seriously how to build a more peaceful world. We can make this a century of compassion."

The Dalai Lama was very open and honest, and at times quite funny, in speaking about the changing of the guard between Baby Boomers and the next generation. He said that "people of his age" were of the 20th century and that their children are of the 21st century.

He elaborated and said that today's generation has the chance to learn from the mistakes of the previous century and improve on them.

"As a leader of the Tibetan independence movement, he went into exile in 1959 at the age of 18. His Holiness said that Tibetans, and indigenous people from across the world, have seen great leaps in acceptance in recent decades, which is a start to full recognition."

"Whenever I meet [indigenous people] I tell them unlike [the past, the world recognizes these cultures and languages," he said. "So all people have the right to preserve their language, culture, and identities."

After speaking for a little more than 90 minutes, His Holiness received a standing ovation from the crowd. Brown junior Alex Friedland said that he enjoyed the event and what The Dalai Lama had to say.

"The positions he offered were reasonable and honest," Friedland said. "They weren't biased towards one particular person or religion.

"I think we do have a responsibility and we should try to differentiate ourselves from the past. I agree that we have a lot to do, but he's right: we should be optimistic about it."

Student Senate approves grant for Halloween dance

BY JAKE MARROCCO
Contributing News Reporter

The University of Rhode Island Student Senate approved a bill to give a programming contingency grant to the Gay-Straight Alliance (GSA) to fund a Halloween dance.

"It's [an event] to just bring the community together," Brian Sit, a member of the GSA and the Student Senate, said. "It's there to provide a safe space for a Halloween party and to bring together the multicultural groups.

The dance, which will take place on Friday, Oct. 26, from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m., received a grant of $672.91. The event will include many different activities, including a photo booth, which is also being co-sponsored by the Student Senate.

In other news:

- The External Affairs Committee will be holding a Commuter Appreciation Day on Wednesday, Oct. 24 from 7 to 10 a.m. in the Fine Arts Lot and Plains Road Lot. Senate members will provide free coffee to commuter students that come by the stands.

- The Senate will vote next week on bills to recognize two new clubs at the university: the Slam Poetry Club and URI Breakers. The Slam Poetry Club provides a venue for aspiring poets to share their work in an open forum. URI Breakers is a group centered on break-dancing and promoting this style as an art form.

- There are currently five vacancies in the Senate that must be filled: two Off-Campus Representatives, an At-Large Representative, a representative for the College of Nursing and a representative for University College. Any student interested in declaring his or her candidacy can stop by the Student Senate office in the Memorial Union for details. Interested students must be nominated and seconded by members of the Student Senate. An internal election will be held at the Student Senate meeting on Wednesday, Oct. 31.

Rhody pic of the day

University of Rhode Island students Andrea Barbosa and Clarizzo Tijeda work on their painting in front of the Fine Arts Center.

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Recent URI graduate discusses value of internship experiences

BY JULIE DAWSON
Contributing News Reporter

Recent graduate from the University of Rhode Island William Barber credited his internships during his college years as the reason he has decided to pursue a career in a marine affairs-related field of study.

Before graduating last spring with a Bachelor of Science in Marine Affairs, he interned for both the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management Division of Fish and Wildlife (DEM) and for Mystic Aquarium in Connecticut.

"Both internships displayed different careers that are possible with a marine affairs major," Barber said. "The best of my internships overall was being able to work with something I enjoy to study."

Barber said he found the DEM internship by contacting the organization directly and was able to land a second job at Mystic Aquarium through his internship advisor, Rosie Malaghan.

"Both experiences have definitely helped me figure out what I want to do for a career now that I graduated college. If I didn't actively work and learn, with the hands-on experience I gained, I wouldn't be able to really know what I wanted to do," Barber said.

He added that his most memorable day at Mystic Aquarium was when he got the opportunity to shadow the Marine Mammal Stranding Program and work with local seals that had been found during last spring. Barber said he was able to watch specific veterinary techniques, as well as help feed the seals.

At the DEM, Barber said his favorite day was when he collected samples of species in various locations throughout the Narragansett Bay on a survey trawl, which is a method of fishing that involves pulling a fishing net through the water behind a boat.

"I was able to see unique species and learn the basic abundance of each species relative to where we were located on the bay," Barber said.

Barber added that if he was offered a full-time position with the DEM, he would take it without hesitation. One day, he hopes to become a supervisor in fisheries management.

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The Good 5¢ Cigar

Today's forecast: 69°F
Here comes the sun, little darling...

Nickel Brief:

Check out the next issue of the Cigar for the full scoop on tonight's Political Roundtable with Rhode Island Public Radio.

Have you seen the URI Theatre Department's newest play?
See page 2.
**Arts & Entertainment**

**Ben Affleck’s new movie ‘Argo’ a thriller that never lets up on suspense**

**BY ALISON WARBURTON**

Contributing Entertainment Writer

Opening Thursday, Oct. 11, “Marvin’s Room,” the latest play presented by the University of Rhode Island’s Theatre Department, focuses on tough issues like cancer while maintaining comedic aspects throughout.

In a nod to the 2012 URI Honors Colloquium on healthcare change and the heavily debated health care policies of this election year, “Marvin’s Room” is a suitable choice for the fall production. It is apparent that the time spent by director Bryna Wortman and key designers Marilyn Salvatore (costumes), Cheryl delWardener (set), Jen Rock (lighting), Michael Hyde (sound) and Lauren Hanson (stage management) has been part of a grand effort to make “Marvin’s Room” the empathetic yet hilarious play it was written to be.

To call this play a comedy before I would call it a drama, as the comical features were just as prevalent and stood out in my mind more so than the darker issues that were undertakings. The original play written by Scott McPherson centers on a family in the 1990s in Florida of which three members are either ill or have a form of cancer. Specifically, it concerns the relationship between two sisters, Bessie (played by Sarah Leach), a deeply compassionate individual who has spent her last 20 years caring for her sick father (Marvin, for which the play gets its name) and Lee, the free-spirited younger sister and mother of two boys: the troubled Hank (Stephen Peterson) and quirky Charlie (Americo Lanni). The story begins by exposing the frightful diagnosis of Bessie’s leukemia. Feeling as if she might have spent her time caring for both her ill father and ill Aunt Ruth, Bessie contacts Lee (Christine O’Connell) in an attempt to rekindle their relationship and possibly find a fitting match to help in her recovery process. This proves to be a fruitful decision as Bessie realizes it was not time wasted, but an opportunity to experience more love in her life. Coming to terms with death after none of her relatives are matches, Bessie and the rest of the family develop greater bonds and forge healthy relationships before a single death has to occur in the play. This is the most comforting part of the play, as it deals with the humane aspects of sickness.

The highlight of this production is by far the acting. Leah’s portrayal of Bessie grounds the dramatic parts of the play, while Christine O’Connell’s Lee plays a perfect foil filled with capricious nuances. Andrew Burnap’s troubled Hank (Lee) along with some bad news in this particular case, does an exquisite job of bringing together of a classic doctor character that has a very naïve and foolish, yet considerate, mind-set. The character of Aunt Ruth played by Maria Day Hyde was superb. It is apparent that Day Hyde has acting experience as she does a remarkable job of filling the play with hilarious one-liners such as, “Have you made stinky yet today?” and provides comedic relief from the troubling aspects of the play. I was surprised to see that the actual character of Marvin does not have much of an actual speaking part in the play, but McPherson did this in part to emphasize the coming together of the other relationships and the growth and repair that can come out of such horrible diseases.

The lighting design created a sense of nighttime on a street corner or under the cover of the moon and stars. The realistic set made great use of the space provided on stage. The most interesting aspect was the actual “Marvin’s Room.” Cheryl deWardener constructed an opaque wall which made the wall facing the audience rock solid, yet when a light was turned on in the room, one could easily see the characters inside acting out their parts. This ingenious structure made hearing the actors speak more difficult, but the overall appearance of it gave depth to stage. Costumes and makeup added to each actor’s distinct personality.

Overall, the play that began taping around, then really delved into those bleak topics that are prominent in the midst of illness, did a great job. Unfortunately, I took more from the comedic parts of the play than the moving dramatic components. But those comedic elements were fantastic and so I did not mind at all. The audience laughed at all of these parts and one could easily tell this play was enjoyed by all in attendance.

“Marvin’s Room” will continue playing Oct. 11 to 13 and Oct. 18 to 20 at 7:30 p.m. and on Oct. 14 and 21 at 3 p.m. at the Robert E. Will Theatre.
Help Wanted

Ram Sign Shop + Campus Copy
Responsibilities include helping in all stages of sign making as well as assisting in campus copy center. Adobe Design Software experience preferred. Send resume to signshop@et.al.uri.edu.

Living
Narragansett Pier, 6 bedroom home, large deck, parking, minutes to URI, 2-3 minute walk to beach. Available: Sept. 2013 to May 2014. E-Mail for pictures at tuliez4321@live.com. Contact at 413-552-1228 for appointment.
Waterfront Narragansett Pier. Parents, vis., visiting professors, alumni. 3 bedrooms, furnished, clean, kayaks. Egeria, 10 min.—campus. Rent week-ends/during school.

Services
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Graduate

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Agreement at the state or federal level.
“I want to be able to assist in sustaining fish populations for future generations from issues such as climate change, and human induced effects such as pollution,” he said.
Barber’s advice to current students was that they can’t learn everything they need to know from just reading books, and it’s important to have a real-world work experience while still in school.
“Having an internship is an eye-opener of what your career can potentially be. You learn hands-on experience that you won’t gain from any classroom. Also, intern while you are still in school, it will help save time to figure out your exact direction after you graduate,” Barber said.

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crew. Left with no other options, the CIA approves the idea and the classified operation goes into effect.
John Goodman stars as John Chambers, the famous makeup artist who won an Oscar for “Planet of the Apes” and helped make the whole operation possible. Chambers and Mendes take on Hollywood as they publicize their fake movie in order to make it believable as possible. With the help of Lester Siegel, played by Alan Arkin, they pull off making a fake script, prop, actors and reviews for their movie entitled “Argo.”

One of the best features of this movie was how well it tied in with the historical event. In the opening scenes, they showed actual photographs and a provided a brief introduction to the “Argo” operation. This gave the viewers background to the historical event and helped make the movie more understandable for those who may not be familiar with the event. Even if viewers knew the outcome of the operation, Affleck manages to hold your attention until the very end. The accuracy of this movie is impeccable. Another great aspect was the progression and pace of the movie. It didn’t drag out, but left viewers with plenty of suspense and anticipation as to what the outcome would be.
Throughout the movie, Affleck keeps you on edge, while Goodman and Chambers provide comic relief to counter the seemingly endless suspense. The combination of thrill and comedy makes “Argo” easy and enjoyable to watch. As it builds up to the climatic ending, this movie will keep your heart racing for its entire 120 minutes.

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Women's rowing team works hard to prepare for upcoming meet in Boston

The University of Rhode Island women's rowing team is preparing diligently to succeed in their upcoming meet at Head of the Charles in Boston on Sunday.

"To prepare for a race, we study the course with our coxswain and prepare a race plan," senior Anne Mulholland said. "Our race plan consists of where we are taking moves and, for the Charles course, where the big turns and bridges are because the side may have to back off the power to make the turn."

Sunday will be the first time the Rams have had a real competition in this year. Earlier this season, they attended a scrimmage against Boston University. While Sunday's race is at the Head of the Charles, they also have one at the Foot of the Charles on Nov. 11.

"We race in the championship-eight division, which is the most competitive category," Mulholland said. "It includes top college programs and national teams. We are aiming to place in the top 10. Our past performance was top 20."

The fall season serves as a tune-up for the real competitive season in spring. That doesn't mean that the Rams are taking this brief three-race fall schedule lightly, though.

"It is key to hit a good rhythm at the start of the race because it sets the tone for the rest of it," Mulholland continued. "If we are not driving our legs and moving together, the boat will not move as fast as it should. The Charles course has some sharp turns and if you are not in the right place or under the correct arch, a crash between another boat or abandonment could occur."

The Rams have a national championship on their minds. "This year the Atlantic-10 Championship is an automatic qualifier for the NCAA's," senior coxswain Hayley Madsen said. "We have come back this year more fit than past seasons. We are starting to blend as a team."

The match Sunday will be the first for the Rams. After traveling to Boston, the Rams will travel to Princeton, N.J. to compete a week later on Oct. 28.