## **University of Rhode Island**



Baseball

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Rhode Island (38-20) at Baton Rouge Regional

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## WE ARE THE CHAMPIONS

- Just one year after missing the postseason entirely, Rhode Island Baseball returned as the top seed and won its third Atlantic 10 conference title in program history.
- The Rams, who captured the regular season championship, knocked off four-seed Davidson and three-seed Saint Louis before defeating two-seed George Mason in Saturday's championship game.
- Four Rhody student-athletes were named to the All-Tournament Team, led by Most Outstanding Player DJ Perron.
- The graduate student was joined by classmates <u>Trystan Levesque</u> and <u>Nic Notarangelo</u>, along with senior <u>Anthony DePino</u>.
- Closer <u>Joe Sabbath</u> went viral for his championship celebration, which he went into as second baseman <u>Scott Penney</u> tossed a fielded ground ball over to Perron at first. He was featured by NCAA Baseball, CBS Sports and numerous other media outlets.
- The 2025 Rams join the 2016 squad and the 2005 group in terms of bringing Atlantic 10 Tournament titles back to Kingston.

## RHODY AT REGIONALS

- · URI is making its third NCAA Regional appearance in program history and first in nearly a decade.
- The Rams secured the Atlantic 10's automatic bid to the NCAA Baseball Championship by winning the league title and were officially named to the field as a three-seed during Monday's selection show.
- Rhode Island earned its highest seeding in program history, thanks in part to its RPI of 68.
- The trip to Baton Rouge will be Rhody's second-longest for NCAA Tournament play, having been to Long Beach State in 2005 and South Carolina in 2016.
- It is URI's second time traveling to face the sixth-ranked team in the country for an NCAA Regional, having done so when the team went to Columbia to take on No. 6 South Carolina.
- Rhody has a 1-4 record in the NCAA Tournament entering competition at No. 6 LSU.
- The lone win was a 5-4 upset over the Gamecocks on June 3, 2016 when head coach <u>Raphael Cerrato</u> was in his second year at the helm and assistant coach <u>Kevin Heiss</u> was a freshman shortstop.

## A LOOK AT THE BRACKET

- · All three opponents that the Rams have the potential of facing in this weekend's double-elimination bracket would be first-time foes for URI.
- On Friday, Rhode Island will take on two-seed Dallas Baptist, a member of Conference USA. URI has a 2-21-2 record against C-USA schools, having previously
  played FIU, New Mexico State, Liberty and Sam Houston.
- The Patriots received an at-large selection to the NCAA Baseball Championship after falling to Jacksonville State in the Conference USA Tournament. Dallas Baptist won the first game before dropping the final two.
- Top-seed LSU, the sixth-ranked team on the NCAA Baseball Championship graphic, also enters the postseason as an at-large selection.
- The Tigers tied with Vanderbilt for third in the Southeastern Conference standings at the end of the regular season. Rhode Island has a 5-41 all-time record against SEC teams, with wins over Arkansas, Alabama, Kentucky, South Carolina and Missouri.
- Like the Rams, four-seed Little Rock won its league to receive an automatic bid to the NCAA Baseball Championship. The Trojans went 5-0 at the Ohio Valley
  Conference Tournament to prolong their season.
- Rhode Island is relatively inexperienced with the OVC, having only played Southeast Missouri (W) and Morehead State (L). Both were single meetings in 1984.

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