

University of Rhode Island



CHAMPS! Rhode Island Beats George Mason To Clinch Title
Baseball

Posted: 5/24/2025 3:04:00 PM

Rhode Island Starters (38-20)

DePino (3B), Genther (RF), Moroney (SS), Hopko (DH), Perron (1B), Notarangelo (LF), Penney (2B), Butler (C), McKenzie (CF), Cullen (P)

George Mason Starters (40-21)

Clyne (SS), Hull (RF), Quinn-Irons (CF), Butler (2B), Alberti (LF), Raymond (C), Hueber (2B), Lavin (DH), Wall (1B), Cassedy (P)

How it Happened

Rhode Island won its third Atlantic 10 Championship, knocking off No. 2 George Mason 4-1 Saturday to win the league title for the first time since 2016. The top-seeded Rams won all three of its games in the championship, earning the A-10's automatic bid to the NCAA Baseball Championship.

George Mason took a quick 1-0 lead. Owen Clyne drew a leadoff walk and was on second with two outs. Jake Butler delivered him home with a single through the left side.

In the bottom of the second, [DJ Perron](#) gave Rhody its first lead with his second two-run home run in as many games. With [Jack Hopko](#) on second after a leadoff double, Perron lofted a long, opposite field fly ball over the fence in right center for a 2-1 URI lead.

The momentum continued as [Scott Penney](#) singled and then scored all the way from first when [Brody McKenzie](#) laced a double into the left field corner, putting Rhode Island ahead 3-1.

In the bottom of the sixth, [Reece Moroney](#) led off with a double. He tagged up and moved to third on a fly ball to left by Hopko. Nic Notarangelo brought Moroney in with a sacrifice fly for a key insurance run.

The pitching trio of [Jake Cullen](#), [Parker Aikens](#) (4-2) and [Joe Sabbath](#) limited the Patriots to one run on five hits. Cullen went the first 4.1 innings before Aikens dealt 3.1 scoreless innings to earn his second win of the championship. Sabbath retired the final four batters to earn the save and clinch the title.

Inside the Box Score

- Rhode Island had four players named to the Atlantic 10 All-Championship Team. [DJ Perron](#) was named the tournament's Most Outstanding Player.
- Joining him on the team were [Anthony DePino](#), [Trystan Levesque](#) and [Nic Notarangelo](#).
- Rhode Island set a new program record with its 38th victory of the season.
- The Rams went 3-0 in the Atlantic 10 Championship while facing the No. 2, No. 3 and No. 4 seeds, the most difficult path possible for a top seed.
- URI's middle infield turned three double plays.
- Starter [Jake Cullen](#) gave the Rams 4.1 innings of strong work, allowing just one run on three hits and three walks. He also struck out two batters.
- Rhode Island is now 8-2 in games Cullen has started this season.
- [Parker Aikens](#) made his second appearance of the championship, and 27th of the season. He won his second game of the tournament with 3.1 scoreless innings of work.
- Closer [Joe Sabbath](#) earned his eighth save of the season with 1.1 perfect innings.
- Aikens is tied with Blaise Whitman (2017) for the most appearances in a season in team history.
- [DJ Perron](#) hit his second home run of the championship and was also hit by a pitch. He had a two-run shot in the 8-2 win over Saint Louis Friday as well.
- Perron is the third Ram to reach 15 home runs this season, joining [Anthony DePino](#) (19) and [Jack Hopko](#) (15). Before this season, URI had four players with 15 or more homers in a season in program history.
- Jake Hopko doubled and scored one run.
- [Reece Moroney](#) doubled and scored once.
- [Scott Penney](#) singled and scored once.
- [Brody McKenzie](#) doubled and had one run batted in. He also laid down a sacrifice bunt.
- [Rob Butler](#), [Eric Genther](#) and [Nic Notarangelo](#) each had one single.
- Rhode Island had eight hits, which came from eight different players.

Up Next

Rhode Island has earned an automatic bid to the 2025 NCAA College Baseball Championship. The Rams will learn their destination and next opponent during Monday's selection show, which will air on ESPN2 at 12 p.m.