



WHAT'S NEWS

AT RHODE ISLAND COLLEGE

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Actress Viola Davis cited for achievement

by George LaTour
What's News Associate Editor

Theatre, film and television actress Viola Davis, who graduated from Rhode Island College's Upward Bound program in 1983 and went on to earn a degree in theatre studies at RIC in 1988, has been honored by the New England Educational Opportunity Association (NEEOA) with its Achiever Award.

"A small number of Achiever Awards are presented annually to outstanding graduates of New England area educational opportunity programs such as yourself," said Meredith A. Maust, NEEOA 2001 Achiever co-chair, in a letter to Davis.

She and Mariam Z. Boyajian, RIC Upward Bound director who nominated her for the award, will attend an Achiever luncheon at the Sheraton Hotel in Burlington, Vt., April 3. At that time she will be asked to "share her personal journey and discuss the impact that your participation in TRIO has had on your life."

Upward Bound is part of the TRIO educational opportunity programs at RIC along with Student Support Services.

"As a shy, awkward, self-conscious young girl, I needed permission to be myself," Davis recalled.

"I needed validation that being poor and black was okay. I needed someone with vision to see that I had gifts that the world would deem important.

"And, most importantly, I needed someone to show me, to teach me how to express that. The educational environment at Upward Bound gave

See Viola Davis, page 8

Poetry reading



"POETS ACROSS THE AFRICAN DIASPORA:" *Nehassiu Degannes (above, standing), who teaches at Rhode Island School of Design, and Ghislaine Jean, a RIC student, are among the four poets who read from their work in Craig-Lee 255 on Feb. 21 as part of African-American History Month. For more sights of the month-long celebration, see pages 6 and 7. (What's News Photo by Gordon E. Rowley)*

Annual Fund phonathon begins April 3

by Shelly Murphy
What's News Editor

Seven months into the Annual Fund campaign and with the Spring Phonathon about a month away, the Rhode Island College Alumni Association is on course to meet its annual appeal goal of \$325,000. As of the end of February, the annual appeal has received \$232,875 in cash gifts from alumni and friends.

"We are actually 10 percent ahead of last February. It's been my experience that people continue to support the causes and organizations they care about, despite the economic climate," commented Nancy Hoogasian, Annual Fund director. "Alumni and friends have displayed a strong commitment to financially supporting the Annual Fund, but we still need a lot more help to achieve our year-end goal," she added. This fiscal year runs from July 1, 2000 to June 30, 2001.

Later this month, alumni will receive the Spring Appeal with information about scholarship recipients who have benefited from the fund. They will share information about their programs of study and plans for the future in this mailing. Beginning April 3, students will be calling alumni and friends asking for their pledges on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. The Spring Phonathon runs through April 26.

The Alumni Association relies on contributions to the Annual Fund to grant scholarships to students, encouraging them to attain their academic goals while offering much needed financial assistance. In addition to scholarships, contributions to the Annual Fund support faculty research

See Annual Fund, page 4

RIC gets down to business

Join us at the Greater Providence Chamber of Commerce Business Expo.

**Tuesday, April 10
& Wednesday, April 11
at Booth #730.**

**Rhode Island
Convention Center**

Stop by to visit
and register to win prizes.

Where are they now...?

by George LaTour
What's News Associate Editor

You could say Adam Gertsacov of Providence has just been clowning around since earning his master's degree in 1990 from Rhode Island College.

And, you'd be right!

But the clowning has been honed into an art form with Gertsacov practicing it all over the world.

Gertsacov graduated from the Ivy League University of Pennsylvania in 1986 with a degree in theoretical communications with minor emphasis in theatre. He obtained his master of arts degree in theatre and group communication through the RIC/Trinity Rep Conservatory Cooperative Masters Program, and attended Bryant College for its entrepreneur program — "This is a

business. I'm a small businessman who provides a service and I'm also an artist," he explains.

His biography states that he is "one of the most educated clowns in America...barring certain elected officials."

Gertsacov was an actor at Trinity Rep and not "working on plays I was interested in" when "on a whim" he applied to clown college.

"I wanted a skill, like how to juggle," he says. "I didn't have those kind of skills, but I realized all of my acting skills were really about clowning. I'm not really a juggler."

He is now a graduate of the Ringling Brothers Clown College and the Dell'arte School of Physical Theatre. And he has taken master classes with many international clown luminaries such as Dario Fo in Copenhagen; Bill Irwin, a MacArthur Fellow; Daniel Stein,



ADAM GERTSACOV

world-renowned mime, and Fred Curchak, whom he first met at RIC where Curchak was performing a one-man show based on Shakespeare's *The Tempest* called "Stuff as

Dreams Are Made On."

He has performed and taught "all over the world." Past engagements have included those in Canada, Chile and Brazil. This summer he will perform in Ontario.

And, starting April 1 for six weeks he will be the official "Clown Laureate" of Greenbelt, Md., and "in general, make a fool out of himself"

See Where are they now?, page 8

The Way We Were...

This popular item in What's News continues in order for you to be able to revisit your alma mater with a selection of photos from the past — the College's past, whether the current era (Rhode Island College) or past eras (Rhode Island College of Education or Rhode Island State Normal School). We invite your contribution of old photos, along with sufficient information about each, such as who's in the photo and what they are doing, the year it was taken and place (if possible). In the meantime, we'll continue searching our files for interesting pictures of past College life.



"THE GREATEST GENERATION," a term coined by journalist Tom Brokaw to describe Americans who fought in World War II, is how Daniel Kitchen '41 likes to describe this photo. He sent us the photo and that is he, as class president, being lifted to the shoulders of his classmates, while holding the anchor, the symbol of the College. It was the tradition, Kitchen writes, for the graduating class of Rhode Island College of Education to give the anchor to the "most deserving class" to follow them. In 1939, that was the sophomore class, the Class of 1941.

Spring 2001 CDC recruitment schedule

Over 50 local employers are represented on the Spring 2001 Career Development Center Recruitment schedule. New listings include Tannerhill, Inc., Premier Insurance Co. of MA, Evergreen House Health Center, St. Vincent's and Memorial Hospital.

Upcoming recruiters already scheduled include the Newport public schools, Fleet Bank and Medical Information Technologies, Inc. Seniors planning graduation in May or August are encouraged to contact the Career Development Center in Craig-Lee 054 as soon as possible.

The next issue of
What's News
is Monday, March 26.

DEADLINE

for submission of copy, photos, etc.
is Friday, March 16.

Story ideas can be e-mailed
to smurphy@ric.edu.

WHAT'S NEWS
AT RHODE ISLAND COLLEGE

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Focus on Faculty and Staff

Faculty and staff are encouraged to submit items of information about their professional endeavors to What's News, Office of News and Public Relations, 300 Roberts Hall or e-mail them to csousa@ric.edu.



Ying Zhou, associate professor of computer science, (together with her husband Wally Gall) wrote "An Organizing Center for Planar Neural Excitability" which was published in *Neurocomputing*. This article also was included in the book *Computational Neuroscience*.

Karen S. Castagno, associate professor of health and physical education and **Robin Kirkwood Auld**, assistant professor Henry Barnard School, have conducted two professional development workshops. The title of these was "Incorporating Fitness into the Physical Education Curriculum" and included hands-on participation, discussion of the current trends in fitness development for children, and a demonstration of the emerging technology and software for use in the public schools. The workshops were presented to over 35 elementary and secondary health and physical education staff at the Warwick Public School Department.

Mary M. Sullivan, associate professor of mathematics, presented the contributed paper "When Statistics is Not a Full-Semester Course" at the AMS/MAA joint national meeting. In addition, she presented "Statistical



Fallacies, Lies or Paradoxes: Which is What?" at the Association of Teachers of Mathematics in New England in Springfield and "Deciphering Functions in the Middle School Classroom." at the Discrete Mathematics Interface Conference at Boston College, in December. Sullivan is a co-organizer and chair-elect of the newly formed special interest group in statistics education at the MAA.

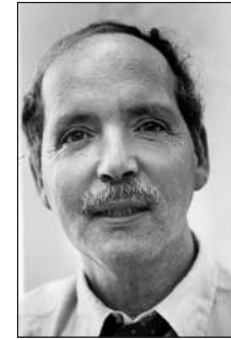
William M. Jones and **Philip T. McClintock**, professors of music, have been invited to review selected chapters of the forthcoming book, *Second Handbook of Research on*

Music Teaching and Learning. The chapters include those by leading researchers in music education. The book will be published by Oxford University Press next year.

Helen E. Salzberg, professor of mathematics, was the panel moderator of "How the NCTM Standards Affect Mathematics Teaching, K-16" at the Northeastern Section of the Mathematical Association of America (MAA) fall meeting at Providence College.

Kathryn Sanders, assistant professor of computer science, gave a presentation on "Computers in the Classroom: How Do They Really Work?" as a "new colleague" at the MAA fall meeting.

Barry Schiller, professor of mathematics, presented the contributed paper "Don't Neglect Descriptive Statistics in a First Business Statistics Class" at the AMS/MAA joint national meeting, in New Orleans Jan. 10-13. He also



made a presentation entitled "Very Large Numbers" at the Association of Teachers of Mathematics in New England in Springfield, Mass., in November.

James T. Sedlock, professor of mathematics, was a panelist on "How the NCTM Standards Effect Mathematics Teaching, K-16" at the Northeastern Section of the MAA fall meeting.

Roger A. Simons, professor of mathematics, presented the contributed paper "What is a Mathematical Entity?" at the AMS/MAA joint national meeting.

Chris Teixeira, assistant professor of mathematics, (along with other co-authors) published "On the Recursive Sequence $y_{n+1} = (p+y_{n-1})/(qy_n+y_{n-1})$ " in the *Journal of Mathematical Analysis and Applications*. In addition, he presented the paper "Global Behavior of Solutions of $x_{[n+1]} = \max A, x_{[n]}$ " at the AMS/MAA joint national meeting in New Orleans. He also presented this paper at the Northeastern Section of the MAA fall meeting as part of "new colleague talks."

Honors Academy colloquium series program lecture March 21

"Conrad Among the Cannibals" is the topic of a lecture and discussion by Frances B. Singh of Hostos Community College of the City University of New York at the Rhode Island College Junior/Senior Year Honors Academy colloquium series Wednesday, March 21, from 12:30 to 2 p.m. in the Forman Center, classroom C.

The daughter of immigrant parents, Singh was born in New York City. She received her bachelor's degree from Queens College and, after a year studying at the University of Reading in the United Kingdom, went on to earn her master's and doctorate at Yale.

She met her future husband at Yale and, upon graduating, moved with him to India where they lived in Delhi and Shillong between 1973 and 1983.

Singh joined the faculty of Hostos in 1983. She has published on Conrad and Foster as well as on Sophocles and is currently working a memoir, which may end up being called either *Tense Plurality* or *Kneading Time*, and an article on cannibalism in *The Heart of Darkness*.

The colloquium series is being sponsored by the College Lectures Committee, the Office of the Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences and the Portz Fund Committee of the National Collegiate Honors Council.

Going for the OLYMPRIC'S TROPHY

In what has become a tradition of friendly yet intense competition for the trophy and bragging rights, about 120 students and staff members competed in the 10th annual OlympRICs on March 3.

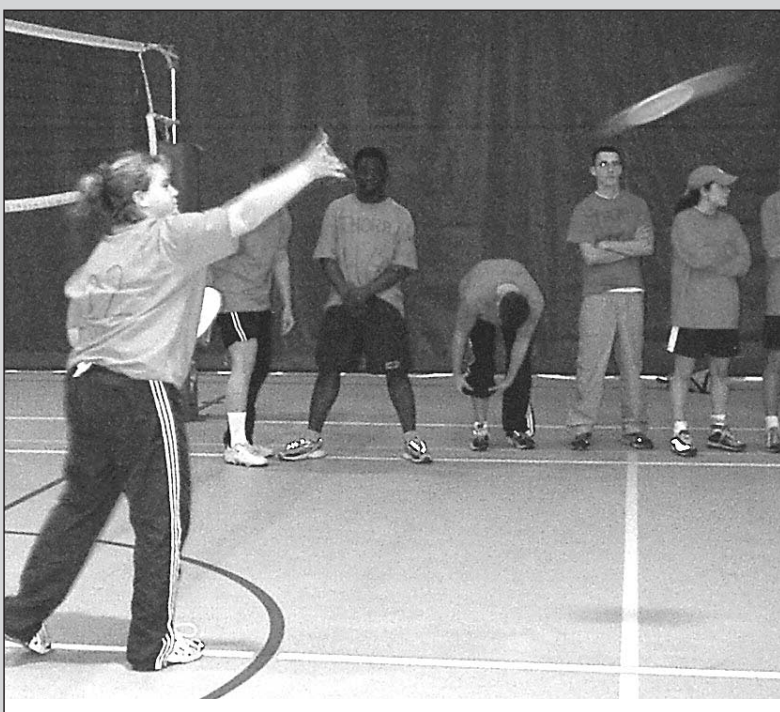
Teams representing the five residence halls and a team comprised of commuter students competed in eight events in the Recreation Center. The events included a Wacky Relay Race, Mindbender Trivia, basketball free throw, homerun derby, water obstacle course, running, beach-ball volleyball, and Frisbee toss.

Teams compete as units, rotating through the events rather than competing directly. The scores from each of the eight events are averaged to determine the winner. The Browne Hall team captured the trophy and the bragging rights this year.

OlympRICs was started 10 years ago to break the winter doldrums and foster a sense of community, according to Kristen Salemi, '86 and master's '93, director of student activities, who along with Frank Anzeveno, '81, interim assistant director of intramurals and recreation, has been involved in planning the event since its inception.

OlympRICs is sponsored by the Office of Student Activities, the Recreation Center, and the Office of Residential Life and Housing.

Top, the commuter team tackles Mindbender Trivia. At right: Roger Fry, who volunteered to join the all-female Browne Hall team, competes in the Wacky Relay. Below: Betsy Thayer of Thorp Hall throws a Frisbee. (What's News Photos by Gordon E. Rowley)



What's News

Teacher Job Fair April 17

The Seventh Annual Teacher Job Fair, sponsored by the Rhode Island Consortium for Educators, will be held on Tuesday, April 17, at Rhodes on the Pawtuxet in Cranston from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Preference in registration will be given to all graduating seniors of the six consortium schools. Those schools include Brown University, Providence College, Rhode Island College, Roger Williams University, Salve Regina University and the University of Rhode Island. Alumni who wish to participate will be put on a waiting list until March 23, at which time they may register if space is available.

Pre-registration with the Career Development Center is required. The cost is \$12. This includes morning coffee and a box lunch. Registrations for students and alumni will not be taken after Friday, April 6.

So far 60 schools from all over the country have signed up. For more information, visit the consortium's website: rice.thewisdomgroup.net or call Phyllis Hunt at 401-456-8032.

Conference on 'Making a Life' March 31

Rhode Island Campus Compact, of which Rhode Island College is a member, and Providence College are sponsoring an all-day conference called "Making a Life, Making a Difference: Public Service in People's Lives" Saturday, March 31, at the Feinstein Academic Center at PC from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Bernard Lafayette, director of the University of Rhode Island's Center for Non-Violence and Peace Studies, will speak.

The conference will include workshops on community building, careers in the public good and organizing for social change.

As a member of the Campus Compact, RIC may send up to 10 faculty, staff and students to this event. Contact Sandra Enos, assistant professor of sociology, at 401-456-8727.

Children's Literature Workshop

Once Upon A Time... Reading Program for Preschoolers has planned a workshop for volunteers on Friday, March 30, from 10-11:30 a.m. at the Cranston Public Library on Sockanosset Road.

Michelle Valle, children's librarian, will advise volunteers on how to choose appropriate preschool literature, teach them how to recognize and identify key story elements, and explain how to effectively use the library as the primary resource for books.

For more information, contact Liz Garofalo at 401-456-8877, or lgarofalo@ric.edu.

Foundation & Alumni Affairs

From the alumni director's desk



Ellie O'Neill
Director,
Alumni Affairs

The Alumni Association's nominating committee chaired by Miguel Lopes '71 is recruiting interested alumni who would like to serve on the alumni board. Several vacancies will occur this June and the committee is actively seeking alumni who would like to become involved in the organization.

In addition to board positions we have expanded our committees to non-board members. Standing committees that are open to alumni and a brief description of their role are listed below.

- Finance committee meets three to four times a year, sets the budget and monitors revenues and expenses.
- Scholarship committee meets two times in June to review applications and award scholarships.
- RICochet committee awards emergency financial scholarships on an "as needed basis." This program is funded through revenue from the golf tournament.
- Alumni Awards/Honor Roll committee meets three times between January and May to review applications for awards.
- *Alumni Magazine* committee meets on an as needed basis.
- By-laws committee meets on an as needed basis.
- Homecoming committee is a very active group of alumni and campus

representatives who meet regularly from April through October to plan and execute our biggest campus event. This year's Homecoming will be held Oct. 12-13.

- Nominating committee meets several times in the spring to interview potential board candidates.
- The book awards program is monitored through the alumni office and chaired by one board member.
- Young Alumni Group meets six to seven times a year planning activities for graduates from the last decade.

If you are interested in serving in a board position or on a committee, please call the Alumni Office at 401-456-8086 or e-mail us at alumni@ric.edu.

* The Young Alumni Group sponsored event on March 27 at the Feinstein IMAX Theatre is generating enthusiastic support on and off campus. For more information on the event, contact Shana Murrell at 401-456-9625.

* Last fall when members of the Class of 1950 committee met to de-brief their golden anniversary celebration, they had suggested we look into sponsoring a luncheon on the Bay Queen for classes 1947-1953. We did a survey and over 60 alumni responded with a "yes, we are interested." Mark your calendars now for Thursday, June 7, for a Rhode Island College day on Narragansett Bay. If our numbers increase we can reserve one whole deck. Watch your mail for details. If groups from other classes (besides 1947-1953) are interested, please call the Alumni Office.



MERENDA SCHOLARS: In 1992, when Rose Merenda retired after 32 years of teaching at Henry Barnard School, she established a scholarship fund for Barnard students. This year two students were each awarded \$275 scholarships. They are Shirley Seri, 6 1/2, (left) and Rochelle Noreau, 7. (What's News Photo by Gordon E. Rowley)

Annual Fund

Continued from page 1

projects and a range of alumni-related programs such as class reunions, the Alumni Awards and Honor Roll event, Homecoming and the *Alumni Magazine*.

Donors gave \$93,424 to the fall appeal, a total of 1,699 gifts in all. To date 1,429 fall phone-at-hon pledge gifts amounting to \$61,639 have been received. The holiday appeal brought in 459 gifts totaling

\$18,716. Hoogasian extended special thanks to *21st Century Club* (\$2,500 to \$5,000) donors: Helen Lombardi '40, \$3,255; President John Nazarian '54, \$3,500; Lucretia Marcus '68, \$2,500; Paul Bourget '69, \$3,000; and Judy Roy '74, \$2,500. She also recognized the most recent *1854 Society* donor (\$5,000 to \$9,999), the estate of Cecilia Dillon '30, and the gifts in memory of John Sadlier '58, which totalled almost \$2,500.

For more information about the Annual Fund, visit our website at www.ric.edu/alumni/fund. Contact Hoogasian at 401-456-8827 or e-mail her at annualfund@ric.edu for more information about making a donation.

Workshops to follow diversity keynote March 28

The workshops to follow Kevin Gover's keynote address on "The Role of Native Americans in a Diverse America" at Rhode Island College's Sixth Annual Dialogue on Diversity Spring Symposium on Wednesday, March 28, will include a workshop convened by the Rhode Island Indian Council discussing the cultural significance of the "Red Earth Tobacco Program" and a workshop focusing on the film, *Cheyenne Warriors*, followed by a discussion led by Laura Khoury, assistant professor of sociology.

Gover, an attorney in Washington, D.C. and formerly assistant secretary of the Bureau of Indian Affairs in the Clinton Administration, will present the keynote address from 12:30 to 2 p.m. in Gaige Hall auditorium. The workshops will run concurrently from 2:10 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Gover was confirmed by the U.S. Senate in November 1997. In September 2000, on the occasion of the 175th anniversary of the establishment of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, he delivered thought-provoking remarks that denounced many of the Bureau's historical actions.

Randy Noka, first councilman of the Narragansett Indian tribe, will be a respondent after the keynote address.



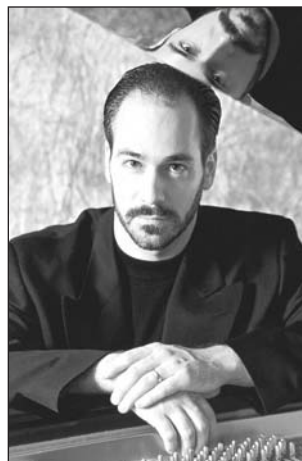
The Dedicatory Season Finale
JOHN NAZARIAN CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

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and
RIC Foundation 12th Annual Gala

April 6, 2001
8 p.m.

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Nazarian Center for the Performing Arts



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Class of 1991
Rhode Island College



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RIC alumni in Guard unit in Balkans; to return March 18

by George LaTour
What's News Associate Editor

Americans are part of the multi-national force on guard in the troubled Balkans and Rhode Islanders, including those from Rhode Island College, play an integral part in that operation.

Last August the 119th Military Police Company out of Warwick sent over 136 soldiers. Headed by Capt. Luis F. San Lucas '88 and '92, the MPs included 1st Lt. Kathleen M. White, a RIC senior studying education, and 1st Lt. Peter R. Walsh '97, who studied political science.

Their duties included providing support for the U.S. Army troops

Other duties included escorting convoys of busses, ammunition and other military hardware into Bosnia through Croatia.

Since their arrival, they have escorted 89 convoys in and out of Bosnia and 212 supply route patrols have been accomplished, logging the 119th over 125,000 miles.

The MPs also provided protection for the base in Tazsar, an airfield, manning the gates outside the perimeter of the base and generally providing patrols and law enforcement.

This was the first time for the 119th MPs in that area and "the largest group of Rhode Island National Guard mobilized since Desert Storm in 1990," says San Lucas.

San Lucas, a sergeant and patrol supervisor for the Providence Police



PART OF THE RIC CONTINGENT in the Balkans are *Cyrille Cote* (left), director of Security and Safety and a command sergeant major with the 118th Military Police Battalion, and *Kathleen White*, a senior education major who is a first lieutenant with the 119th Military Police Company.



COMPANY COMMANDER Luis F. San Lucas '88 and '92 (right) on board a C-130 military transport with Sgt. Carter Clayton as they head for Tuzla, Bosnia

in Tazsar, Hungary, which is "just above Croatia and about two and half hours away from Bosnia by Humvee," says San Lucas, who came home early due to illness in his family.

Department, had served in Desert Storm with the same unit.

At present, Americans make up less than 25 percent of the 20,000 multi-national peacekeeping force in the Balkans.

General Joseph Ralston, commander in chief of the U.S. European Command and Supreme Allied Commander Europe, NATO, would offer no guess as to how long United Nations forces would have to play the role of Balkan police, as reported by John Howell, publisher of the *Warwick Beacon*, in a recent story in that newspaper.

Ralston reportedly estimated that fewer Americans would be used next year.

With active forces declining, the

Guard and Reserves are playing greater and greater roles as primary forces. Fully 80 percent of the American forces in the Balkans are made up of Reserve and Guard units.

Some of the military brass estimate that it will take a generation before Serbs and Muslims can live peacefully together, reported Howell.

In the meantime, American soldiers are making the best of the situation. And that included "adopting" an orphanage in a place called Symorgot, a town outside of Tazsar about a 15 minute drive from the base.

"We visited them often and during Christmas we collected toys from the United States, donated by Hasbro and other organizations. We introduced to them the idea of having a birthday cake on their actual birthday. The Hungarians usually celebrate on their name date," relates San Lucas.

And a contingent of Rhode Islanders, including Sen. Jack Reed; Lt. Gov. Charles Fogarty; Major General Reginald Centracchio, commander of the Rhode Island National Guard; Beacon publisher Howell and, Command Sergeant Major Cyrille Cote of the 118th Military Police Battalion, visited Dec. 22-26 to spend Christmas with the men and women of the 119th MPs.

"We flew via a C-130 military transport with toys for the children and gifts for the soldiers," says Cote, who is director of Security and Safety at RIC.

San Lucas reports that the 119th MPs have now left the Balkans and as of March 9 are at Fort Benning for re-deployment. They should be flying into T.F. Green Airport March 18, completing their tour of duty.



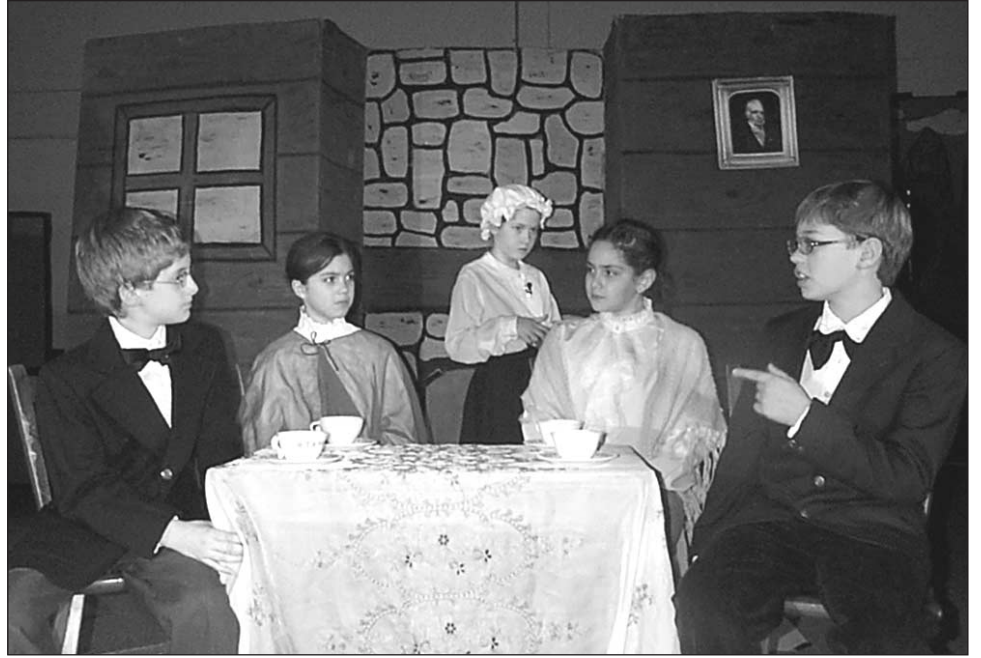
119th MILITARY POLICE COMPANY of the Rhode Island National Guard get off the airplane which has taken them from Fort Benning, Ga., to Tazsar, Hungary, on their way to Bosnia last August for a tour of duty that ends with their return to Rhode Island March 18



Poets, plays and gospel music highlight



A KICK-OFF reception for African-American History Month is held on the Unity Center Feb 1. From left are Jay Latimer, director of the Unity Center; Jennifer Robinson, a student in the Case Management Program; and Nikki Merchant, assistant professor of elementary education.



WALKING TO FREEDOM, a play written Sharon Fennessey, associate professor and teacher at Henry Barnard School, is performed in the Student Union ballroom on Feb 7 and 8. The play traces the life of abolitionist Sojourner Truth from her days as a slave up to the Civil War. Fifth graders (above right, from left) are Adam Coogan, Stephanie Fairbanks, Rosie Young, Christina Lombardi and Christopher Hasslinger.

**Photos and text by
Gordon E. Rowley**



THE CONGDON STREET BAPTIST CHURCH YOUTH CHOIR performs during "Legacy of Celebration," a gospel concert in Roberts Hall auditorium on Feb. 19.



ht African-American History Month



"I LOVE AFRICA" one of several skits on race and diversity is presented by the RIC Unity Players in the Faculty Center on Feb. 14. From left are Sata Jallah, Chris Souza and Sando Moore.



MAKING A JOYFUL SOUND is Julia Robinson during the Feb. 19 gospel concert



SPIRITED RENDITIONS of gospel music are given Feb. 21 by Esther Azeez (left) and Melody Forrest (right).



CHANCE MEETING: During a dinner stop on the way home from a meet with SUNY-Cortland on March 3, members of the Rhode Island College gymnastics team met U.S. Sen. Hillary Clinton (D-NY) who just happened to come into the same restaurant. The team said the former first lady was very amiable and took the time to pose with them for a souvenir shot.

Viola Davis

continued from page 1

me that. The cultural and economic diversity and classroom structure was a playground for learning," she said.

Upward Bound was established at RIC in 1966 as a federal-funded college-based program for selected high



VIOLA DAVIS

school students from low-income families who are potential first generation college students. It helps the students to improve their academic skills so that they may successfully complete high school and enroll in a college or university.

Over 98 percent of all RIC Upward Bound graduates have gone on to college.

"For more than 20 years, Viola has been committed to — and had an impact upon — the Rhode Island College Upward Bound program," noted Boyajian.

"As a college senior, Viola spirited the idea for the Upward Bound Alumni Scholarship Fund, an endowed scholarship program that would benefit seniors in the program.

"Viola used her senior theatre performance to serve as the first fundraiser for this effort," said Boyajian. Twenty-three scholarships have been given since then.

After her graduation from RIC, Davis attended and graduated from

the Juilliard School where she studied theatre arts. Since then she has performed on Broadway, in film and in the CBS television series *City of Angels*.

She was nominated for a Tony award for her leading performance in August Wilson's *Seven Guitars* and in 1999 won an Obie award for Best Actress in an Off-Broadway play, *Everybody's Ruby*.

On April 29, she will open on Broadway in another August Wilson play, *King Hedley II*.

Davis was recognized in 1991 at the 25th anniversary of Upward Bound at RIC as one of the program's outstanding graduates.

In 1996, she and President John Nazarian served as honorary co-chairs for the 30th anniversary celebration. Davis also narrated the program's promotional video and has served as a workshop leader, speaker for new student orientation sessions and as a role model for targeted youth.

Where are they now?

continued from page 1



ADAM GERTSACOV

for Acme Clown Month, according to publicity from the Greenbelt Arts Center.

Gertsacov will conduct workshops, perform shows, curate a clown art exhibit, host informal talks, show films, and act in an "official capacity as Clown Laureate."

"This marks the first time anybody has ever been a clown laureate anywhere in the world," boasts Gertsacov.

Among the shows he'll perform in Greenbelt is his award-winning Acme Miniature Circus, which is one of only a very few authentic Victorian-style flea circuses in existence.

In addition to the flea circus, he'll perform an act he calls "Barbie Oedipus," a Greek tragedy performed with Barbie dolls.

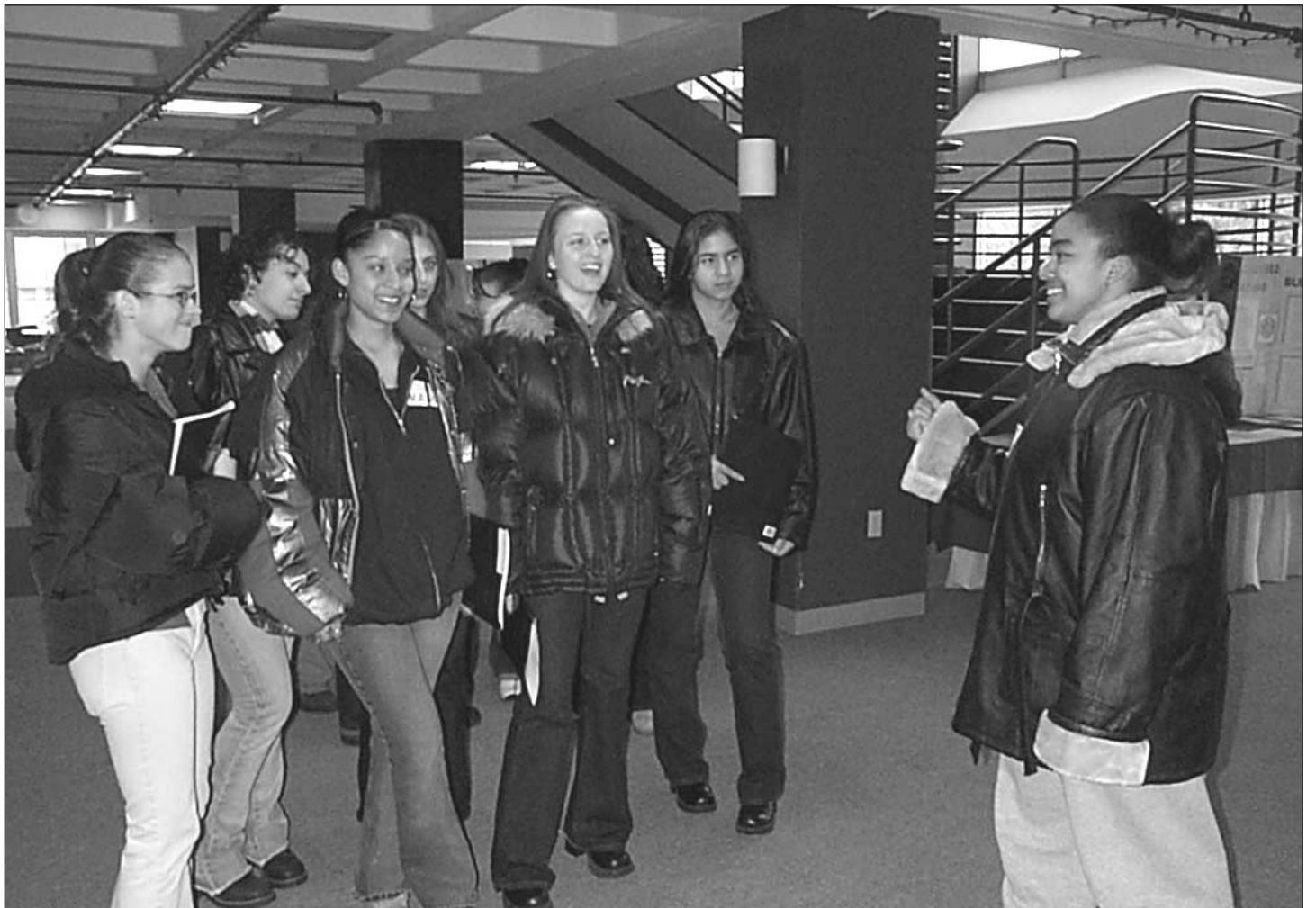
DETAILS magazine called this show "one of the top 10 alternative circuses in the country."

"The mayor will give me a Green Belt to the city, which I will wear like Miss America to all public events," says Gertsacov.

Seriously, though, Gertsacov says he's "pretty happy."

"It's a good job, but it is a job."

Gertsacov can be reached via his web sites appropriately named www.acmec clown.com or www.trained fleas.com.



ON TOUR: Maddie Cruz (right) of Central Falls High School, a student in the Upward Bound Program, leads her high school classmates on a tour of the College campus during the Upward Bound orientation session for new students and their families on March 3. Above, Cruz points out the features of the Donovan Dining Center. (What's New Photo by Gordon E. Rowley)

Athletics

From the athletic director's desk



Donald E. Tencher
Director,
Intercollegiate
Athletics, Intramurals
and Recreation

• For those of you who might have missed John Foley's retirement reception on Monday, March 5, you didn't. The reception was postponed due to inclement weather and rescheduled for Monday, March 19 at the Providence Marriott. For additional information, please call Jeanne D'Agostino at 401-456-8007.

• Congratulations to wrestlers Kevin Munley and Mike Riley who participated in the NCAA Division III National Championship last week in Waterloo, Iowa.

• The baseball team, under the direction of first year head coach Jay Grenier, has been working out since early February in preparation for its southern trip to the Homestead, Fla. area. The team will be playing there during the College's spring break.

• The women's softball team, under the direction of Maria Morin, has also been working out since early February and the Anchorwomen will be heading to South Carolina during the break to start their season. It should be an interesting season for Coach Morin's team which has a blend of solid veterans and some very good new players.

• The women's lacrosse program, in its first season, have been conducting workouts with a solid number of players. The team, under the direction of Matt Coleman, will open its season on March 24.

• The men's and women's outdoor track program, under the guidance of coaches Liz Legault, Matt Hird and Dick Hoppman, will make its transition from the indoor program to the outdoor program during spring break. Both teams are solid and have a number of individuals who are candidates to be national qualifiers.

• The men on the RIC golf team have been hitting balls inside with hopes that winter soon will be behind us. The team, in its second full season, is under the direction of Coach Jerry Morgan.

• The men's tennis program, under Coach Dick Ernst, is still waiting for spring as well and with a little luck, as well as sun, hope to start practice at home during the spring break.

RIC readies for spring sports season

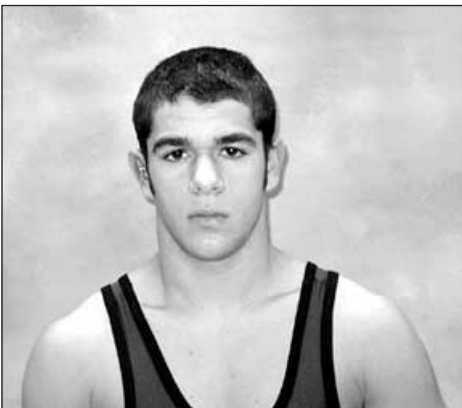
by Scott Gibbons
Sports Information Director

With only the women's gymnastics team still in action for the winter teams, Rhode Island College is preparing for the spring season which begins in just a couple of weeks.

The baseball team will make its annual trek to Florida to participate in the Homestead Challenge during the week of March 12-16. The Anchormen will face Crichton, Western New England College, Albertus Magnus and Palm Beach Atlantic while in the Sunshine State.

RIC is under the guidance of new Head Coach Jay Grenier and his assistants Brad Bustin and Marc Pantazis. Grenier took the RIC job after posting a 221-76 record after eight seasons at the Community College of Rhode Island. While at CCRI, the Knights were a regional power and a regular at the NJCAA World Series.

Senior captains Andy Barron and Scott Virgulak will lead the Anchormen. Virgulak, who played for



KEVIN MUNLEY

Grenier two seasons at CCRI, was a First Team All-Little East selection at third base in 2000. Brandon Labrie and Jeff Steere are two rookie pitchers to watch this spring. RIC will play its first home games of the season with a doubleheader against Anna Maria on March 25.

Head Coach Maria Morin's softball team is coming off a 23-17 season in '00. The Anchorwomen will head to Myrtle Beach, S.C. the week of March 12-16. While down south, RIC will play eight games, beginning with Lindsey Wilson on March 12.

The Anchorwomen will have their work cut out for them. The team lost five key position players from last spring, including its catcher, first baseman, shortstop and centerfielder.

Pitcher Lea Wiggins, who was First Team All-Little East in '00, is poised to have an outstanding senior season. Freshman hurler Kim Warrington impressed everyone during the fall season and is a very capable number two starter.

Around the diamond, Kelly McCaskill returns at third base and Michele Fanelli will most likely play at second base. Speedy outfielder Crissy McCullah is also back. McCullah led the team in stolen bases and was second in batting in just her first season playing fast-pitch softball last spring.

RIC will play its first home games of the season with a doubleheader against Johnson and Wales on March 21.

Head Coach Dick Ernst's men's tennis team perennially challenges for the Little East title and the Anchormen should be tough in 2001 once again.



MIKE RILEY

Junior Paul Perry has been one of the team's top players over the past two seasons. He was the Little East Champion at number six singles as a freshman in 1999 and was the LEC Champion at number four singles in 2000. Senior Jon Cheney is another solid player who may have a breakout season this spring.

RIC has 10 home meets this season, beginning with the University of Rhode Island on March 23.

The men's and women's track and field teams won't miss a beat, jumping from the indoor season to the outdoor campaign in a matter of weeks.

Senior Tom Conley, who was All-New England in three events during the indoor season, will headline the men's team. Bobby Carroll will be a top contender in the high jump and Tim Rudd is coming off a solid indoor season in the 1,000 meters. Dan Fero, last season's MVP, was named All-Alliance/Little East in the steeplechase event a year ago.

The women's squad will look to senior sprinter Keely Subin who has been the club's MVP in each of her three outdoor seasons at RIC. Crisolita da Cruz is coming off an outstanding indoor season in the weight throw in which she qualified for the ECAC Championships. Alicia DeFronzo, RIC's record-holder in the pole vault, will join the team after the women's gymnastics squad concludes their season.

Both squads open the 2001 season at the Smith College Invitational on March 31.

The men's golf team, under the guidance of Head Coach Jerry Morgan,

open its season on March 23 at home against Suffolk University. RIC plays its home meets at Triggs Memorial Golf Course. Mark Pora, one of only a few returnees from last spring, is expected to be one of the team's top players. The men's golf team is in its second season as a varsity sport at the College.

Last, but not least, 2001 marks the first season for women's lacrosse as a varsity sport at RIC. First-year Head Coach Matt Coleman's team is ready for the challenge and will play five home games this spring. RIC will open the season at Eastern Connecticut on March 27 and will host Southern Maine on March 31. Victoria Bilalyan (women's volleyball) and Rena Rossi (women's soccer) are RIC student-athletes who are making the transition



SCOTT VIRGULAK

from their primary sports to women's lacrosse this year.

The spring sports season promises to be an exciting end to the 2000-01 academic year so come by and check out the Anchormen and Anchorwomen in action.

Sports Roundup

Men's Basketball

Kenny Jernigan was named Second Team All-Little East. He led the team in scoring and rebounding, averaging 18.2 ppg and 5.9 rpg.

Women's Basketball

Head Coach Mike Kelley's Anchorwomen bowed out of the 2001 Little East Conference Tournament with a 70-63 loss at Plymouth State on Feb. 20. RIC was 7-17 overall and 4-10 in the LEC on the season.

Women's Gymnastics

Head Coach Nikki Follett's team is 6-11 overall. Sajdah Ahmad, Shannon Hughey and Kristen Oliver are a few of the gymnasts on the team who are candidates for the National Collegiate Gymnastics Association Championships as individuals.

Wrestling

Kevin Munley and Mike Riley returned home from the NCAA Div. III Championships, hosted by Wartburg College in Waterloo, IA on March 2 and 3. Munley went 1-2 at 125 lbs. while Riley was 0-2 at 133 lbs. They are the only RIC wrestlers to qualify for the National Championships since the 1994-95 season.

Men's and Women's Indoor Track and Field

Tom Conley was named All-New England in three events: the shot put, weight throw and the 55 meter dash. Conley placed fifth in the 55 meters at the ECAC Championships. For the women, Crisolita da Cruz placed 12th at the New Englands, and 16th at the ECACs, in the weight throw event.

Concert pianist F. Moyer to perform with RIC Symphony in Chester Performance Award Concert

by George LaTour
What's News Associate Editor

The internationally acclaimed pianist Frederick Moyer will be the featured soloist for Mozart's *Piano Concerto No. 20 in D minor* at the sixth annual Samuel and Esther Chester Performance Award Concert Monday, March 19, at 8 p.m. in the Lila and John Sapinsley Hall in the Nazarian Center for the Performing Arts at Rhode Island College.

Edward Markward will conduct the RIC Symphony Orchestra in a program that opens with the orchestra's continued two-year exploration of the "Twentieth Century: A Retrospective," with Samuel Barber's *First Essay for Orchestra, Opus. 12*.

Concluding the program will be César Franck's first and last tone poems: the evocative *Psyché* (a Rhode Island premiere) and the exciting and dramatic *Le Chasseur Maudit* (The Accursed Huntsman).

Both are scored for a very large orchestra and are colorful works utilizing all of the powers of the full orchestra, says Markward.

Admission to the concert is free due to the donation from Providence music devotees Samuel and Esther Chester, who have underwritten the performers' fees.

Described by the *New York Times* as "a first-class young pianist" whose playing is "clean, unmannered and full of ideas and intelligence," Moyer performs full time on the concert circuit.

He has been to 36 countries and to such far-flung venues as Suntory Hall in Tokyo, the Sydney Opera House in Australia, Windsor Castle in England, Carnegie Recital Hall, Tanglewood and the Kennedy Center.

He has appeared as piano soloist with world renowned orchestras including those in Cleveland,



FREDERICK MOYER

Philadelphia and Minnesota as well as the St. Louis, Dallas, Indianapolis, Milwaukee, Baltimore, Pittsburgh, Houston, Boston, Singapore and London symphony orchestras, among others.

Moyer has made 16 recordings on Biddulph, GM and Jupiter labels. These are comprised of the works

of over 30 composers and reflect his affinity for a wide variety of styles.

His latest recording features a collaboration with the London Symphony of David Ott's *Second Piano Concerto*.

Moyer is well known for his residencies of one day to three weeks that combine major performances,

master classes, workshops, school performances and other activities to promote classical music within communities.

The *Boston Globe* said of one of Moyer's performances: "This was a success on the highest level from first to last. Something to write home about. This young pianist is a natural."

'How Can I Keep From Singing?' choral concert March 23



RIC CHORUS

Rhode Island College Chorus and Chamber Singers, conducted by Teresa S. Coffman, and the RIC Vocal Ensemble, conducted by William Jones, will perform a choral concert of music from different countries entitled "How Can I Keep From Singing?" Friday, March 23, at 8 p.m. in the Lila and John Sapinsley Hall in the Nazarian Center for the Performing Arts.

Featured works include the title song, arranged by Z. Randall Stroope; Song for Athene by John Tavener; My Song in the Night, a Southern folk hymn arranged by Paul Christiansen, and selections from *Zigeunerlieder* (Gypsy Songs) by Johannes Brahms.

Also included will be "Minoi, minoi," a Samoan folk song arranged by Christopher Marshall; *Chamber Music*, a commissioned work for the RIC Chamber Singers by composer Michael Remson based on a set of poetry by James Joyce; Flower Drum Song, a Chinese folk song arranged by Jing Ling Tam, and "I'm gonna sing 'til the spirit moves in my heart," a spiritual by Moses Hogan.

The concert will be dedicated to the memory of Deborah Griffin, a former outstanding chorus member and RIC music major, who was killed, along with four of her children, in a house fire on Dec. 8 in Providence.

Tickets are \$7 and may be purchased at the door.

RIC Performing Arts Series presents —

Alonzo King's **LINES** Contemporary Ballet with Zakir Hussain performs March 22

by George LaTour
What's News Associate Editor

It is said that Alonzo King's **LINES** Contemporary Ballet, a San Francisco-based company, is highly trained in classical ballet yet performs with the speed and sheer energy that belong to the 21st century.

It, along with a live performance by Zakir Hussain, a classical tabla (a pair of small different-sized drums) virtuoso from India, will take the stage in the Auditorium in Roberts Hall in Rhode Island College's Performing Arts Series Thursday, March 22, at 8 p.m.

The *Los Angeles Times* said about a **LINES** performance: "Innovations that turn every *pas de deux* into intense metaphysical drama."

LINES has performed in San Francisco since 1982 and tours throughout the United States and abroad, including at the Third International Festival for Peace and Culture in Guatemala and a tour of Poland where it performed at festivals in Bytom and Warsaw.

Recognized as one of the outstanding companies in the country, **LINES** receives support from such national funds as the Rockefeller and Hewlett foundations and the National Dance Project.

Selected for major support in the first round of Pew Charitable Trust's National Dance Residency Program, it was also one of only two dance companies to be awarded a National Endowment for the Arts Challenge Grant in 1995.

Among its honors, **LINES** was given Isadora Duncan Dance Awards for outstanding achievement in choreography, original score and company performance.

In 1989 **LINES** founded the San Francisco Dance Center, which has grown into one of the largest facilities on the West Coast.

It offers over 100 classes a week in five studios to over 2,000 students

of all ages and levels, and provides classes and workshops in a diverse range of dance disciplines.

LINES' choreographer and artistic director is Alonzo King. He received his early training on full scholarship and stipend at the School of American Ballet, at the American Ballet Theatre School, and at the Harkness House of Ballet Arts.

As a dancer, he worked with a wide range of choreographers and companies including the Dance Theater of Harlem and the Bella Lewitzky Dance Company.

He was commissioned to create four ballets for the Joffrey Ballet and two for the Dance Theatre of Harlem. His work is in the repertoires of the Frankfurt, Dresden, Washington and Hong Kong ballets.

His work has premiered at the New York State Theatre, at the Kennedy Center and the Brooklyn Academy of Music.

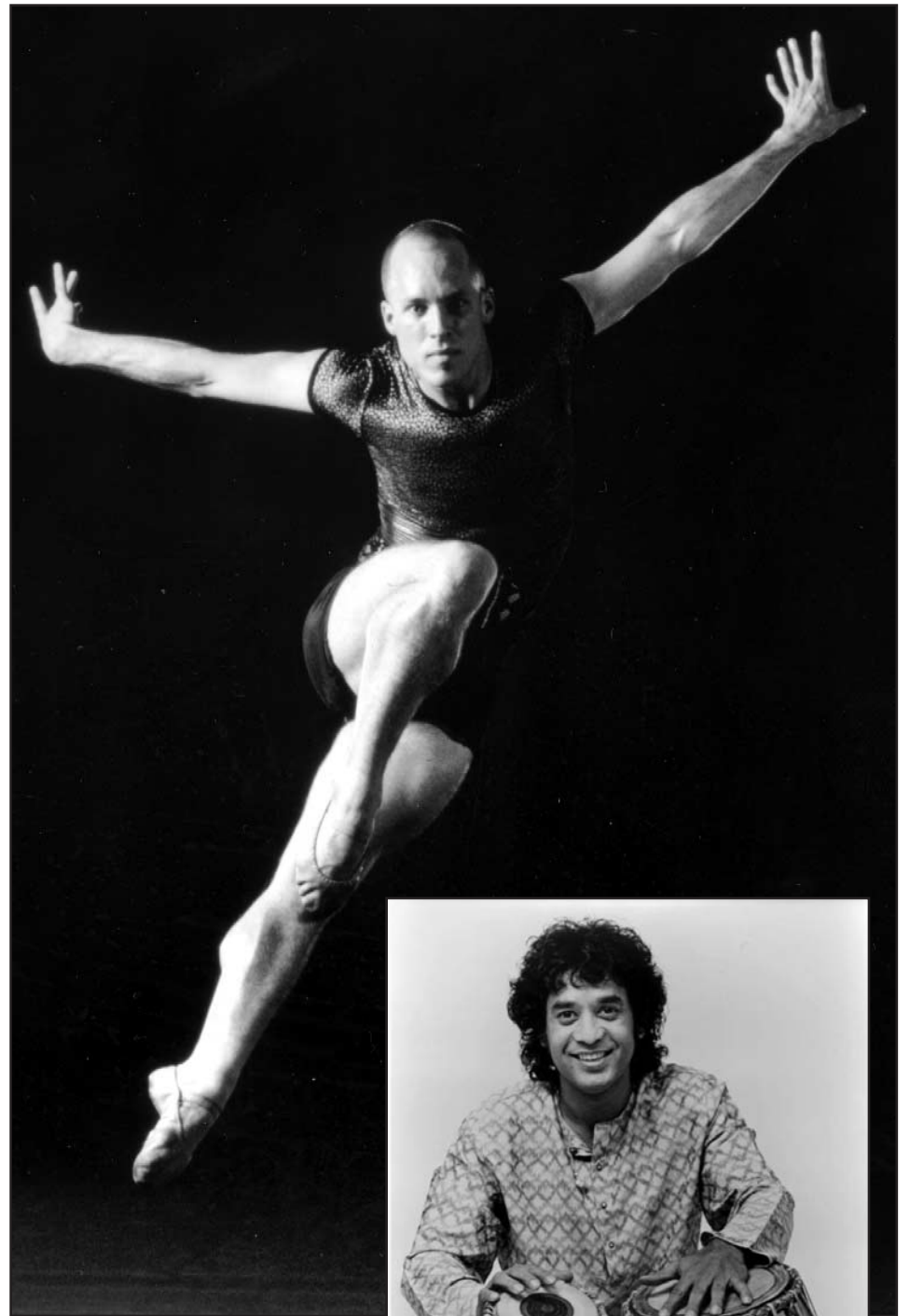
King created two works for prima ballerina Natalia Makarova and has choreographed for film star Patrick Swayze.

As a master teacher, he has worked with Les Ballets de Monte Carlo, London's Ballet Rambert, the National Ballet of Canada and others.

Tabla player Hussain has been the favorite accompanist for many of India's greatest classical musicians and dancers, from Ali Akbar Khan and Ravi Shankar to Birju Maharaj and Shivkumar Sharma.

He has recorded and performed with artists as diverse as George Harrison, Joe Henderson, Van Morrison and Tito Puente.

Tickets are \$21 with discounts for students and senior citizens, and can be ordered by telephone via VISA or MasterCard by calling 401-456-8144 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily. For in-person sales, the Roberts box office will be open from 10 to 4 weekdays and up until time of performance on the day of the event.



Alonzo King's *LINES* contemporary Ballet with Zakir Hussain (right).

Chamber Music Series to feature bass-baritone Frank Ward

Frank Ward Jr., a bass-baritone who is an active performer in recitals, oratorios and opera, will be featured in the Wednesday, March 28, Rhode Island College Chamber Music Series starting at 1 p.m. in the Lila and John Sapinsley Hall in the Nazarian Center for the Performing Arts.

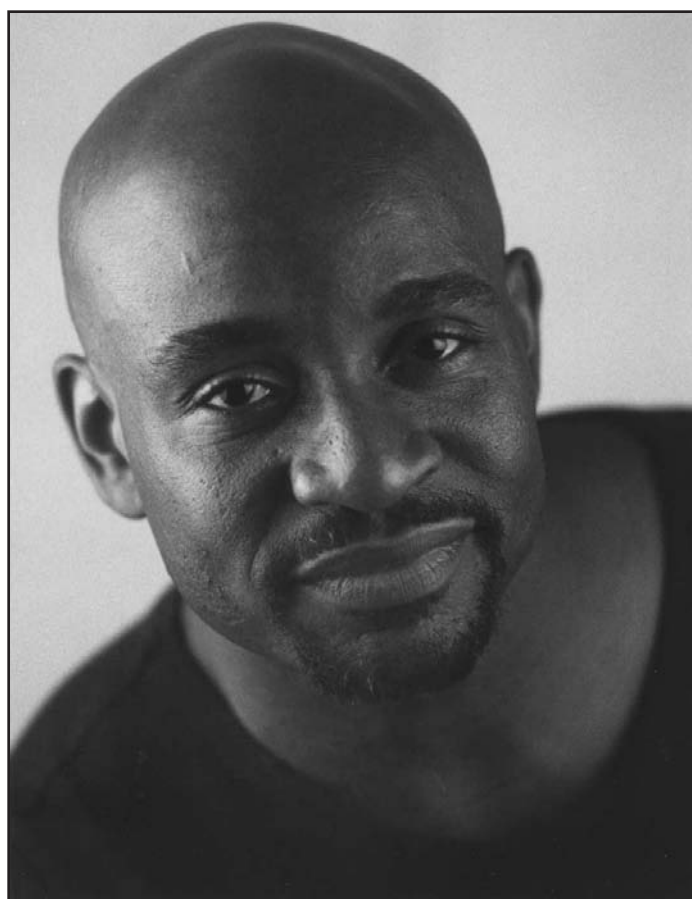
The program will consist of selections by seven composers, including Handel ("See the Raging Flames (Joshua)"); Schubert ("Halt!"); Ravel ("Don Quichotte a Dulcinee"); Adolphus Hailstork ("Little Brown Baby"), and "Ain't-a that Good News!" arranged by Uzee Brown Jr. Stephen Martorella will accompany Ward on piano.

The recital is free and open to the public.

A native of Richmond, Va., Ward is a sought after bass-baritone in the Hampton Roads area of Virginia.

He has appeared with the Virginia and Roanoke operas and Capriole.

His stage experience includes performances in *Showboat*, *La Boheme*, *La*



Traviata, *The Marriage of Figaro* and Scott Joplin's *Treemonisha*.

Last summer Ward made his European debut with Opera Estate 2000 singing the role of Bartolo in Rossini's *Il barbiere di Siviglia* in Rome.

His oratorio performances include Handel's *Messiah*, Brahms' *Requiem* and Haydn's *Lord Nelson Mass*.

Ward's programs include a variety of music ranging from works by Purcell and Handel to Schubert, Hailstork, spirituals and other works by African-American composers.

Critics have praised his "careful attention to diction" and his "great vocal agility and treatment of ornamentation."

One critic noted that he "married showmanship with vocal technique to a great advantage."

Ward is currently vocal coordinator at Old Dominion University in Norfolk, Va.

For more information, call John Pellegrino, series coordinator, at 401-456-9883.

RIC CALENDAR

MARCH 12 - 26, 2001

Sundays

10 p.m.—*Catholic Mass* in the Student Union Ballroom with Fr. Joe Pescatello as the celebrant.

Mondays

Noon to 1 p.m.—*Bible Study* in the Chaplains' Office, Student Union 300. Studying the Book of Revelation. Conducted by Rev. Larry Nichols, Protestant chaplain. Call 401-456-8168 for further information.

2:30 to 4 p.m.—*Workshop: Turning Point* in Craig-Lee 130. Make a positive change in your life! This workshop runs from March 19 - April 19. Sponsored by the Counseling Center, 401-456-8094.

Tuesdays

6 to 8 p.m.—*SCUBA Instruction* in Recreation Center Pool. Class runs from Feb. 6 through April 24. For further information, call RIC Aquatics, 401-456-8227. \$150 fee for RIC students.

Wednesdays

12:30 to 1:45 p.m.—*Christian Student Service Organization (CSSO)* meets in the Chaplains' Office, SU 300. Refreshments are provided. Students meet to discuss faith, pray, and plan service activities to benefit the surrounding community. All are welcome to attend.

12:30 to 2 p.m.—*Open Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting* in CL 105. Sponsored by the Office of Health Promotion. For more information, call Mary Olenn, 401-456-8061.

Thursdays

2 to 3 p.m.—*Mindfulness Meditation* in Craig Lee 130, with Tom Lavin. With mindfulness meditation, the goal is to cultivate moment-to-moment awareness by purposeful direction of attention. This group will offer beginners some basic instruction and more experienced mediators a regular sitting practice. No appointment or intake is required. Open to faculty, staff, and students.

6 to 9:30 p.m.—*Lifeguard Training Course* in Recreation Center pool. For further information, call RIC Aquatics, 401-456-8227. Class runs from Feb. 8 through April 26.

Saturdays

Habitat for Humanity work dates: March 24, and April 21. Meet at the Student Union loop at 8:15 a.m. Call the Chaplains' Office, 456-8168, for more information and to sign up to help.

11-17 Sun.-Sat.

Alternate Spring Break. Call Chaplains' Office for more information, 401-456-8168.

12 Monday

8 p.m.—*Music: Boston Symphony Chamber Players*** in the Lila and John Sapinsley Hall. Part of the President's Music Series. Reserved seating \$20. **Note: Rescheduled from March 5 due to adverse weather conditions.**

14 Wednesday

12:30 to 2 p.m.—“Money Smarts” in Craig-Lee 130 with Counselor Denise DeSesa-Smith. Developing money smarts can make life a lot easier and more secure. Some research even shows that money smarts can improve your grades. Learn how to put together a money plan that can help you live better, save more, and avoid and/or get out of debt.

19 Monday

4 p.m.—*Lecture: “What is Islam?”* in Gaige 307. Abdullah Abdel Hamid, imam of the Providence Islamic Center, will speak. Everyone is invited.

8 p.m.—*Music: 6th Annual Samuel and Esther Chester Performance Award Concert** in the Lila and John Sapinsley Hall, with the RIC Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Edward Markward. Guest pianist: Frederick Moyer.

21 Wednesday

12:30 to 2 p.m.—*Colloquium: “Conrad Among the Cannibals”* is the topic of a lecture and discussion by Frances B. Singh of Hostos Community College of the City University of New York at the Rhode Island College Junior/Senior Year Honors Academy colloquium series. In the Forman Center, classroom C. Sponsored by the College Lectures Committee, the Office of the Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences and the Portz Fund Committee of the National Collegiate Honors Council.

7 p.m.—*Lecture: Center for Management and Technology Business in Education* lecture featuring Tom Schumpert, executive director of the Rhode Island Department of Economic Development. Topic: “What Rhode Island is Doing to Attract High Technology Industry.” SU Ballroom. Free and open to the public.

22 Thursday

8 p.m.—*Dance: Alonzo King's LINES Contemporary Ballet* with Zakir Hussain** in The Auditorium in Roberts Hall. Part of the Performing Arts Series. Reserved seating \$21.

23 Friday

8 p.m.—*Music: How Can I Keep From Singing?**** in the Lila and John Sapinsley Hall, with RIC Chorus, Chamber Singers, and Vocal Ensemble. Conductors: Teresa Coffman and William Jones. General admission \$7.

24 Saturday

10 a.m. to Noon—*Kids Craft and Activity Day* (for children 3-8 years-old) in the SU Ballroom. This event is free. Volunteers needed; call 401-456-8538. Sponsored by Student Activities 401-456-8034.

6:30 p.m.—*Dinner Dance - RIC Angels. Camp Heartland*, a camp for children with HIV/AIDS, will be holding a dinner dance at Evelyn's Villa, 272 Cowsett Avenue (Rt. 3) West Warwick. The cost is \$15. **Just Ince** will be performing. There will also be a DJ and a live band for the dance. For more information or to purchase tickets, call or stop in the Chaplains' Office, SU 300, 401-456-8168.

Performing Arts General Information: 401-456-8194
Box Office: 401-456-8144

*Admission Free

** Admission discounts for senior citizens, faculty /staff, RIC and non-RIC students.

Sports Events

Women's Gymnastics			
Fri.-Sat.	March 23-24	at 20001 NCGA Championships +	TBA
Baseball			
Mon.	March 12	Crichton ^	2:15 p.m.
Tues.	March 13	Western New England ^	2 p.m.
Wed.	March 14	Albertus Magnus ^	10:15 a.m.
Sat.	March 17	Palm Beach Atlantic ^	10:30 a.m.
Tues.	March 20	at Coast Guard	3 p.m.
Sun.	March 25	Anna Maria (DH)	Noon
Softball			
Mon.	March 12	Lindsey Wilson +	9 a.m.
Mon.	March 12	Univ. of the Sciences in Philadelphia +	11:30 a.m.
Tues.	March 13	Lee +	9 a.m.
Tues.	March 13	Marian +	11:30 a.m.
Wed.	March 14	Beaver +	9 a.m.
Wed.	March 14	St. Elizabeth +	11:30 a.m.
Thurs.	March 15	Gordon +	9 a.m.
Thurs.	March 15	Gettysburg +	11:30 a.m.
Wed.	March 21	Johnson and Wales (DH)	3 p.m.
Fri.	March 23	at East Coast Fast Pitch Classic #	TBA
Sat.	March 24	at East Coast Fast Pitch Classic #	TBA
Men's Tennis			
Fri.	March 23	University of Rhode Island	3:00 p.m.
Sun.	March 25	Wheaton	Noon
Men's Golf			
Fri.	March 23	Suffolk	Noon
Mon.	March 26	Brandeis	12:30 p.m.

^ Homestead Challenge game (FL)

+ Snowbird Softball Tournament game in Myrtle Beach, SC

hosted by Bridgewater College (VA)

Notice of Affirmative Action and Nondiscrimination

Rhode Island College is committed to equal opportunity and affirmative action. No student, employee, or applicant will be denied admission, employment, or access to programs and activities because of race, sex, religion, age, color, national origin, handicap/disability status, sexual orientation/preference, or veteran status. This College policy is in concert with state and federal nondiscrimination laws. Inquiries concerning the College's administration of the nondiscrimination laws should be addressed to the College director of affirmative action. Reasonable accommodation upon request.