



WHAT'S NEWS

AT RHODE ISLAND COLLEGE

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Nov. 5, 2001

RIC Alumna is Rhode Island Big Sister of the Year

by George LaTour
What's News Associate Editor

Sheila (Ryan) Burns of Newport, an education major from the Rhode Island College Class of 1965, has been named the Rhode Island Big Sister of the Year.

Announcement of her selection came at the annual dinner and "Volunteer Recognition Evening" Oct. 18 at the Radisson Airport Hotel in Warwick. Burns attended with her 18-year-old Little Sister with whom she was paired nearly eight years ago in Newport.

It was, nonetheless, a complete surprise for Burns, she told *What's News*. She was given a plaque and "a huge bouquet" of flowers.

Word of her selection came by way of Dorothy R. Pieniadz, professor emerita of educational studies at RIC and a "Founding Mother" of the Big Sisters of Rhode Island.

Organized in 1966, the Big Sisters celebrated its 35th anniversary at a recent "grand reunion."

The Big Sisters program provides mentoring for young girls via linking with Big Sisters, enabling the youngsters to be successful in school, substance abuse free and to avoid early parenting, according to the organization's annual report.

After her RIC graduation, Sheila got married and did some substitute teaching in Portsmouth and Connecticut.

"I had a family right away, so I never went back to teaching but established



SHEILA BURNS

a day care business in my home in Vernon, Conn.," she said.

She operated the day care business until her oldest child, Michael, went off to school. The other children are Suzanne and Daniel.

Then Sheila became a receptionist and later administrative assistant at the Hartford Graduate Center,

which is affiliated with New York's Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute.

She remarried in 1994, meeting her present husband, Lou Burns, at the 25th reunion of Rogers High School in Newport. Although they had been former classmates, she had never met him before the reunion, she says.

She relocated back to Newport with her husband and step-daughter (now married) Courtney Ashcraft. She and Lou are now the proud grandparents of three grandchildren.

The year 1994 was an eventful one for Sheila. In addition to getting remarried, she started her affiliation with the Big Sisters of Rhode Island and she and her husband took in a foreign exchange student from Croatia. Sheila had previously hosted an exchange student from Belgium.

Her Little Sister, Francesca Gunn of Newport, has been an honor roll student since the fifth grade when they were matched. Now in high school, she is a member of the National Honor Society.

Sheila and her husband, a pilot for TWA, plan to take Sheila's Little Sister to Spain in February "as a reward for all her hard work."

Educators discuss statewide initiative to bolster K-16 education

William R. Holland, state commissioner of higher education, led a discussion by educators, including a contingent from Rhode Island College led by President John Nazarian, legislators, teacher union officials and others, on Oct. 23 on a proposed three-year initiative called "Building Statewide K-16 Systems for Student Success."

The initiative calls for creating systems that support students from kindergarten through college.

Among those at the meeting in the Providence Marriott were representatives of SHEEO (State Higher Education Executive Officers) out of Denver, Colo., the organization which launched the initiative and chose Rhode Island as one of five states to participate by hosting a case study of the project.

Sponsored by SHEEO with funding from four U.S. Department of Education programs, the project's goal is to build and strengthen connections across federal and state programs within each state through K-16 partnerships.

Case studies began in October and will be conducted in Rhode Island, California, Louisiana, Maryland and Missouri through April. The studies are meant to collect, review and analyze information on the development of statewide K-16 efforts, and to provide opportunities for informational exchanges among state-level practitioners.

Following that, a series of strategy briefs will be developed and published. Policy "roundtables" will follow and then regional forums next year and in 2003 to help encourage interstate sharing of state K-16 initiatives and reinforce promising practices.

Holland said some of the reasons why Rhode Island applied to be part of the initiative were to achieve greater visibility, to put the state in a better position to receive funding, and "get feedback on new directions — steps we've already undertaken."

Speaking on the topic of "Statewide Leadership Structures," Thomas Izzo, a state senator and member of the state Board of Governors for Higher Education, told those gathered at the Marriott, "We're after a systematic change."

Izzo noted that "for so long we've had territorial tensions" and it's going to "take leadership and hard work" to change that.

Sarah T. Dowling, board chair, said that when she advised the governor of the initiative, he cautioned about "beating up on the teachers" and urged help and support for them.

Nazarian pointed out that teacher education was one of the major programs at RIC, and that "the faculty on our campus talk to one another" and work together to bring content into the teaching curriculum.

Robert Carothers, president of the University of Rhode Island, indicated the same cooperation among the fac-

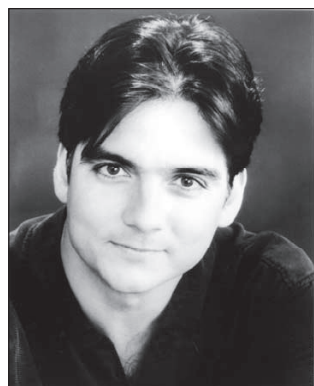
Where are they now...?

A piano-performance major from the Class of 1984, who won both Special Talent and Rita V. Bicho scholarships as a student, is today a successful opera coach and conductor.

John M. Di Costanzo of New York City and formerly of Johnston, reports that his time these days is divided equally between coaching and conducting.

For those of your readers who are not familiar with the term 'opera coach,' let's say that you are a singer and you need to learn *Carmen*. To help you in the preparation of your role, you would go to a coach who would play the orchestra part on the piano and sing all of the other roles so that you would hear how you fit in.

"In New York City I have a lot of singers who sing at the Met and in leading



JOHN DI COSTANZO



THE SPIRIT OF AMERICA: Firemen raising "Old Glory" at Ground Zero in New York City just hours after the terrorist attack on Sept. 11 was photographed by Thomas E. Franklin of the Bergen County (N.J.) Register and captured in intarsia by Rhode Island College staff member Anthony Patriarca, of Physical Plant. Patriarca, holding the carefully crafted woodwork, has offered to make one for New York Mayor Rudolph Giuliani. Patriarca has been crafting intarsia, the ancient craft of making pictures out of different types of wood, as a hobby. (What's News Photo by Gordon E. Rowley.)

See Initiative, page 4

See Where are they, page 8

The Way We Were...

This popular item in What's News continues so you can revisit your alma mater with a selection of photos from 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.



SPRING BREAK '56: Professor Emerita Billie Burrill sent us this photo of Rhode Island College of Education students enjoying a meal at Harmony Hall hotel in Bermuda during Spring Break in 1956. Anyone recognize the diners?

What's News submissions welcome

The Office of News and Public Relations encourages members of the faculty, staff and administration to submit news stories, feature articles and department information for publication consideration in *What's News*.

Send materials directly to our campus office in Roberts Hall or email to jfusco@ric.edu or glatour@ric.edu. All materials are subject to editorial review.



BARNARD SCHOOL FUNDRAISER: Students in Betty Ruggiero's sixth grade class in Henry Barnard School raised \$1,490 for the Red Cross' New York Disaster Relief Fund. (What's News Photo by Gordon E. Rowley)

WHAT'S NEWS AT RHODE ISLAND COLLEGE

Editor: Jane E. Fusco

Associate Editor: George LaTour

Staff: Pauline McCartney, Word Processing Supervisor; Gordon E. Rowley, Photographer; Cynthia L. Page, Writer/Technical Assistant

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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.

Joan H. Rollins, professor of psychology, recently became president-elect of the New England Psychological Association (NEPA). The announcement was made at NEPA's annual conference, where Rollins co-presented a working lunch entitled "Non-intellectual Factors Related to Student Achievement". Rollins also gave a talk on a symposium on Teaching Psychology of Women titled, "Integrating Scientific Psychology and Experiential Psychology in Teaching the Psychology of Women Course" at the Northeastern Conference for Teachers of Psychology, on Oct. 19. Her student, Tiina Ristikari, presented a NEPA/PsiChi poster presentation entitled "A research design for comparing same-sex and cross-sex friendships with romantic relationships."



Duncan A. White, associate professor of psychology, gave an invited talk, "Introducing an Introduction to Psychology: One Animal's Perception" at the Northeastern Conference for Teachers of Psychology, on Oct. 19. He also presented a working lunch at the NEPA conference, entitled "Considering the Grain Beetle for Student Research and Classroom Demonstrations: What Can Insects Teach Humans?" That working lunch followed a paper presentation entitled "Recent Data on T-maze Learning in the Grain Beetle," which was co-authored by one of his students, Tammy Cirioni. Two more of his students, Rhiannon Edwards and Roberta Clitso, co-authored a NEPA/Psi Chi poster presentation entitled "Providing opportunities for undergraduate collaboration in research, classroom demonstrations, and the presentation of psychological science to secondary schools."



Edward Markward, professor of music, has been invited to be part

of an evaluation team Nov. 8-11 for the conductor of the Muncie, Ind., Symphony Orchestra. On Nov. 24, he will conduct the Rhode Island Civic Chorale and soloists (including RIC graduate Mary Phillips) in a performance of Handel's *Messiah* at Grace Church in Providence. On Dec. 1 and 2, he will guest-conduct the Rhode Island Philharmonic in its annual "Home for the Holidays" concert at Veterans Memorial Auditorium.

Nancy H. Gewirtz, professor of social work and director of the Poverty Institute at the School of Social Work, received the Community Advocate Award from the George Wiley Center on the occasion of its 20th anniversary celebration Oct. 10.



She was cited as the founder of the Rhode Island Campaign to Eliminate Childhood Poverty, which she served as chair from 1991 to 1998.

"Her courageous and tireless efforts on behalf of welfare recipients culminated in the enactment of 1996 Rhode Island Family Independence Act, which is frequently cited as one of the very few humane state welfare reform laws in the nation," noted her citation.

"Since then...she has been a strong watchdog and advocate in ensuring that implementation of welfare reform has been consistent with the spirit as well as the letter of the law."

Anne Pascucci, post award coordinator in the College's Office of Research and Grants Administration, is a recipient of a 2001 Travel Award from the New England Chapter of the National Council of University Research Administrators (NCURA), the nation's largest professional development organization of College and University grants and contracts administrators. NCURA serves the profession development needs of approximately 3000 members. The award will enable Pascucci to attend several professional development sessions at NCURA's annual meeting, scheduled for Nov. 11-14 at the Washington Hilton in Washington, D.C.

Christmas Giving Tree and toy collection

The Chaplains' Office will be holding its annual toy collection from Nov. 19 to Dec. 7. Toys collected will be donated to St. Theresa's Church on Manton Ave. and St. Charles Church on Dexter Street, in Providence. The Giving Tree will be in DDC under the mezzanine stairs on Nov. 19, 20, 26, 27, and Dec. 3 and 4, and at the main entrance, on Nov. 28 and 29, from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Pick an ornament from the tree with information on a child, purchase a gift

for that child and return it before Dec. 7. If you can't pick up an ornament, you can purchase any gift for a child up to the age of 15 and drop it off at the office in SU 300 before Dec. 7. It will be matched with a child whose name was not picked from the tree.

Contact the Chaplains' Office for more information or if you want to help (456-8168). Last year, the RIC community provided gifts for 300 children and is hoping to match or exceed that this year.



The next issue of *What's News* is Monday, Nov. 19.

Deadline for submission of copy, photos, etc. is Friday, Nov. 9, at noon.

Story ideas are welcome. Call 401-456-8090 or e-mail jfusco@ric.edu.

All the world's a stage for Jamie Taylor

by Jane Fusco
What's News Editor

Sitting in his classroom could be the next Meryl Streep, Robert DeNiro or even an Anthony Hopkins. But when you step onto Jamie Taylor's stage, he tells you to "leave your ego at the door."

Now in his second year as managing director and assistant professor of theatre at RIC, Taylor brings his passion for southern culture, cross country living experiences, and knowledge of the theatre on and off the stage, to his students and student actors.

"It is up to me to teach them the etiquette and conduct of the theatre, to focus on the script and the moment," Taylor said.

But it is Taylor's unusual style of teaching acting and directing plays that make him a favorite among students. In class, he prefers to educate through entertainment, with creative exercises that include game and talk show scenarios or mock trials rather than all lectures. As a director, Taylor considers himself "an actor's director" who understands the challenges of acting.

"I have a directorial picture in my head before I start casting. I encourage creative freedom and shape that brings creativity into a performance," he explains.

Taylor gives the student actors actual scenes from the play being produced in advance so they have an opportunity to learn and feel the roles, rather than reading a monologue from another play.

"I base my cast choices solely on what I see in the audition, not whether I like them as students or their work in other plays," Taylor

said. "The RIC students have made wonderful casts. They are serious about their work. They're committed to a good performance."

Taylor said that a student has real acting potential when he or she makes the character believable and doesn't come out of that character from beginning to end. "They give their all to the low points in the script as well as the high points. They keep it going," he said.

His advice to students who want to be actors? Two words: double major.

"Have something to fall back on. It's not an easy profession to survive in even if you're good, so be sure you have other alternatives," he advises. Taylor tells students to give themselves two or three years to feel their way around the acting profession and set realistic goals.

Having dealt with some negative reviews, he warns students to take it all in stride and know from the start that it's impossible to impress everyone in the audience.

"You can't please everyone – thank God I got over that. Otherwise, it'll eat you up inside," he adds. "Give it your best and keep your head up."

When asked who he considered to be great actors, Taylor is quick to name Bette Davis and Johnny Depp.

"Bette Davis was the greatest actress of her time. She was totally believable and dedicated to her craft. Johnny Depp is so non-commercial and does a variety of roles well, especially the darker side of characters. He doesn't want to answer to Hollywood's standards of artificial acting."

Taylor first became interested in acting as a youngster in his hometown of Garner, N.C. where he acted in church productions at the Wake Baptist Grove Church and wrote dramatic skits for the church players. In his senior year at Garner High



GETTING DIRECTION: Jamie Taylor, assistant professor of theatre, directs sophomore Casey Harkness and freshman Matt Furtado during a class in

School, he played Walter Lee in a production of *Raisin in the Sun* and Marc Antony in *Julius Caesar*. By then, he was hooked on the theatre, though his mother was apprehensive. She couldn't understand why her son wanted to be in such a risky profession.

At the University of North Carolina, he majored in Radio/TV/Motion Picture to refine his acting abilities, then went on to California State College in Los Angeles, where he realized his desire to teach, and earned a Ph.D. at Florida State University that exposed him to the art of directing and dramaturgy.

Taylor directs one show per academic year that is performed by student actors. Recently, he directed *Five Women Wearing the Same Dress*. Last year he directed *Little Foxes*.

Both plays were set in the south.

A shining moment in his career thus far was the production of "*Bodies that Blow in the Wind*," a play he wrote and directed at Florida State University dealing with the lynching of African Americans in the 1920s South, that garnered critical acclaim.

Taylor wants to continue writing plays based on his background and experiences and have them performed professionally. He would like to direct a stage version of *Othello*.

Quite a set of achievements and challenges for a young man who was once a diehard soap opera fan and enjoys a tear-jerker movie every now and then.

Mrs. Taylor can be proud of her son, the accomplished actor and director.

Upward Bound program sets info sessions

The Upward Bound program at Rhode Island College is for selected high school students in the 9th, 10th or 11th grades at any of the six targeted high schools who wish to prepare for college. Students should plan to attend the designated information sessions at their respective schools beginning in November.

Application deadline for entry into the federal-RIC funded program is Wednesday, Jan. 9. Students should submit their applications to their guidance counselors by that date. Only students who complete the entire application process will be considered for admission.

Schools participating in the program are Central Falls, East Providence, Shea in Pawtucket and Central, Hope and Mt. Pleasant in Providence.

Upward Bound is designed to enhance the skills and provide motivation for potential first generation college students and/or low income individuals, who are citizens or permanent residents of the United States, need extra academic support to do college-level work, and are willing to take college-preparation courses while in high school.

The program, with a 35-year history at RIC, helps students to improve their academic skills so that they may successfully complete high school and, upon graduation, enter and graduate from a program of post-secondary education.

"This is an excellent opportunity for eligible students," says Mariam Z. Boyajian, program director, who

points out that over 99 percent of all Upward Bound graduates have been accepted at colleges and universities around the country.

For more information or applications, prospective students should speak to their high school guidance counselors or call the Upward Bound office at 456-8081.

The information sessions for prospective Upward Bound students by school are:

Central Falls High School

Wednesday, Dec. 5 (grade 11), 12:42 p.m.; Wednesday, Dec. 12 (grades 9 and 10), 9:45 a.m., both in the auditorium.

East Providence High School

Friday, Nov. 30 (grades 10 and 11), 9:15 a.m.; Friday, Dec. 7 (grade 9), 9:15 a.m., both in the auditorium.

Shea High School

Wednesday, Nov. 28 (grade 11), 12:45 p.m.; Tuesday, Dec. 4 (grade 10), 12:45 p.m.; Thursday, Dec. 6 (grade 9), 9:45 a.m., all in the auditorium.

Central High School

Tuesday, Dec. 11 (grade 11), 9:45 a.m.; (grade 10), 10:33 a.m.; Thursday, Dec. 13 (grade 9), 9:45 a.m., all in the auditorium.

Hope High School

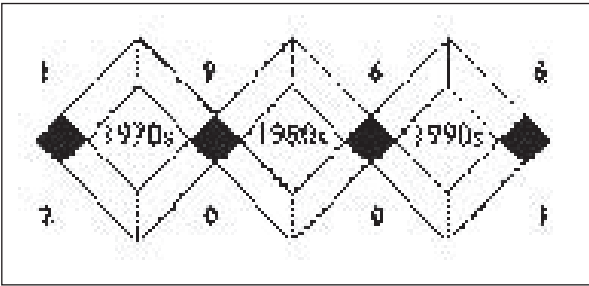
Tuesday, Dec. 4 (grades 10 and 11); Monday, Dec. 10 (grade 9), both at 10:10 a.m. in the auditorium.

Mt. Pleasant High School

Wednesday, Nov. 28 (grade 9), 8:50 a.m.; Wednesday, Dec. 5 (grade 10), 8:50 a.m.; Thursday, Dec. 6 (grade 11), 12:48 p.m., all in the auditorium.

Rhode Island College Upward Bound Program

Remember the Times: 35 Years and Counting



Saturday, December 1, 2001

**Faculty Center
Rhode Island College**

**Open House from 8 p.m. - midnight
Program 9 - 9:15 p.m.**

**International Delicacies & Entertainment
Come anytime • Stay as long as you wish**

*Accommodations for disabilities upon request.
Call 401-456-8081 for assistance.*

The Upward Bound Program will celebrate its 35th anniversary with a gala on Dec. 1. Call Mariam Boyajian, director, at 456-8081 for ticket information.

Foundation & Alumni Affairs

Foundation News



Marguerite M. Brown, Vice President for Development & College Relations

Professional Development Opportunity: As a public institution, the College is committed to providing opportunities for members of the community to participate in a broad range of educational programs. Two years ago, the Foundation and the Alumni Association integrated into their respective budgets and professional development funds to provide programs that addressed trends and issues in fund-raising and board development for our board members, alumni, and friends.

I am pleased to announce that on Dec. 3 we will be hosting a second seminar led by M. Ann Abbe, president, Abbe & Associates, Arlington, TX.

“As more women have the financial ability to make major contributions to nonprofit causes, it is important that we provide them with information about how to give most effectively, and how to get the most personal satisfaction out of giving,” said Abbe, an expert on women’s fundraising.

Abbe offered a first seminar at the College last January. The seminar is scheduled to begin at 8:30 a.m., with registration and a continental breakfast, followed by a review of past data, and a new presentation. Registration is \$25.

For additional information, contact Denise Males at 456-8105.

New Tax Law: As we approach the end of the tax year, many have called to request information on how the May 2001 tax bill enacted by Congress will impact giving. The changes in income, gift, and estate taxes will result in the most extensive federal tax reduction in a generation.

In addition, the new law also features increases in child care credits, limited relief from the so-called “marriage penalty,” and a number of provisions designed to encourage savings for higher education and further subsidize interest. The law also addresses issues of retirement savings incentives.

Perhaps one of the most important changes in the new tax law is the gradual elimination of the federal estate tax. The amounts that will be exempt from estate tax each year will steadily increase through 2010 when the estate tax will be eliminated entirely. However, the gift taxes imposed on certain amounts transferred to non-charitable recipients during life remains.

Under the new tax law, the estate gift of choice for many will continue to be a distribution from a qualified retirement plan such as an IRA or 401 (k). This is because such assets are generally subject to income tax when received by heirs, while most other assets are not.

If you are thinking of making a gift to a charity, remember to review the provisions of the new tax law with your advisor.

If we can provide additional information on gifts to the College, please contact the Foundation Office at 456-8105.

Corporate recruiter praises RIC’s Center for Management & Technology

“We have found Rhode Island College graduates to be innovative, hard working and loyal members of our team,” said an executive with Home Loan and Investment Bank of Warwick whose firm has more than 20 RIC graduates “working in important roles throughout the organization.”

Timothy C. Sawyer, mortgage origination manager and corporate recruiter, praised RIC grads and the “competent and enthusiastic approach” taken by the staff of the Center for Management & Technology that “makes recruitment at RIC a great use of our corporate resources.”

“RIC is head and shoulders above other colleges” when it comes to responding to the firm’s recruitment efforts,” said Sawyer.

Sawyer said that RIC graduates comprise 12 of the 43 loan officers in his department. They came to the company with diverse business-related degrees, including management, marketing and

ciates the importance of the relationship between RIC and the business community,” said Sawyer.

The 12 RIC alumni loan officers with the locally owned and operated federal savings bank — ranging from the Class of 1986 to 2002 — attended a coffee hour arranged just for them at the firm’s headquarters Oct. 19.

Meeting with them were Martin and James A. Schweikart, director of the RIC Center for Management & Technology, in recognition of the success of the collaboration between RIC and a member of the corporate world.

“Speaking from a recruiter’s point of view,” said Sawyer, “the past few years have been very difficult to attract and retain talented students.

“As a result of the (recent past) boom in the economy, more often than not, students seemed to be more interested in discussing what and how the business community could immediately enhance their personal interests.

the same time discussing what long-term opportunities are available to them as they continue to grow with the company.

“You can’t help but be enthusiastic when you’re having these types of exchanges,” said Sawyer.

Bringing the alumni up to date on the happenings over the past few years, Center Director Schweikart told them that the center has enjoyed a 90 percent increase in enrollment (from 675 to 1,180) since 1998, going from eight percent of the student body to 17 percent by 2001.

This represents “real growth” he said, and job “placements have grown exponentially.”

He also reported on the progress the College is making on several fronts related to the center and business education, including the reconstruction of Alger Hall so all of its classrooms will have state-of-the-art technology.

“In a couple of years, come back



SALUTING THEIR ALMA MATER: Rhode Island College alumni, who work as loan officers for Home Loan and Investment Bank, raise their cups in salute to RIC at an Oct. 19 meeting at the Warwick firm. The alumni are Bernard Tremblé '93, Paul Pimentel '00, Scott Martin '96, Mike Tramonti '94, Dan DiPrete '01, Sean Hogan '97, Mark Pora '01, Roger Audette '00, Joe D'Amico '00, Daniel Murphy '86, Lenny Ellis '99, Melissa Goy '97 and Amanda Stratton '02.

computer information systems.

Sawyer specifically cited Lori Martin, career planning and placement officer, for her efforts in working to place RIC grads.

“Lori clearly understands and appre-

ciates the importance of the relationship between RIC and the business community,” said Sawyer.

“First on their minds is how they can add value to the company in terms of their own personal strengths, while at

and you won’t recognize it,” said Schweikart.

He congratulated Martin for doing a “wonderful job” in placing RIC grads overall, and he congratulated the alumni at Home Loan and Investment Bank “for what you’re doing here.”

Initiative

Continued from page 1

ulty existed on his campus.

RIC’s John A. Bucci, dean of the Feinstein School of Education and Human Development, and Richard R. Weiner, dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, elaborated on the subject of faculty cooperation to enhance teacher education.

“Over the last five or six years, the Faculty of Arts and Sciences and School of Education realized they needed each other,” said Weiner, who added that the question arose: “What ever happened to content?”

Bucci reported that now all education students have “a content major.”

“Teaching is a very important profession and not an easy one,” said Nazarian. “We are all working together for the same goal.”



ALUM GIVES BACK: Marc Correia '00 and Peg Brown, vice president for development, carry a gold-leaf mirror for the Alumni Lounge, while President John Nazarian looks in. The mirror is a gift from Correia, who worked his way through RIC partly by his skill of applying gold leaf.

Science⁴ = RIC

Grads credit RIC for their successes

by Holly Shadoian
Director of Admissions

Guidance counselors from around the state joined RIC science faculty and their students, alumni, and the admissions staff for the annual R.I. Guidance Counselor Breakfast on Oct. 23. About 100 participants gathered in the Faculty Center for the popular breakfast program, which explores a different theme every year.

This year's theme focused on the strength of sciences at the College and featured a panel of four distinguished alumni who earned science degrees at RIC and have gone on to prestigious professional careers.

The admissions office coordinated the program to highlight the breadth and quality of RIC's offerings in biology, chemistry, physics and clinical laboratory science.

This year's alumni guest panel included Ross McCurdy '98, a chemistry and biology teacher at Ponagansett High School; Dr. Shazia Latif '97, MD Brown University, pediatric resident at Rhode Island Hospital and Hasbro Children's Hospital; Dr. Farzaneh Seyedi-Esfahani '90, Ph.D Brown University, of Paratek Pharmaceuticals; and John Laiho '96, Ph.D candidate of physics at Princeton University.

The alumni panelists and the current students from the College who spoke at the breakfast made it clear that an undergraduate science degree from RIC has no limitations, whether



ADMISSION ALUM PANEL: The alumni participating in the panel before high school guidance counselors who gathered in the Faculty Center Oct. 23 at the invitation of the undergraduate admissions include: (from left) Ross McCurdy '98, a biology and chemistry teacher at Ponagansett High School; Dr. Shazia Latif '97, a pediatric resident at Hasbro Children's Hospital; Dr. Farzaneh Seyedi-Esfahani '90, of Paratek Pharmaceuticals; and John Laiho '96, a Ph.D. candidate in physics at Princeton University.

going on to research, industry, education or graduate and professional schools in the country or abroad.

The College offers undergraduate degrees in biology, chemistry, clinical laboratory sciences and physics, as well as a master of arts in biology and an MAT in general science.

The event welcomed about 60 guidance counselors, many of whom are RIC alums.

GENIE FROM BOTTLE: Laura Cooley, associate professor of physical science, conducts a flashy experiment to get the attention of the guidance counselors. (What's News Photos by Gordon E. Rowley)



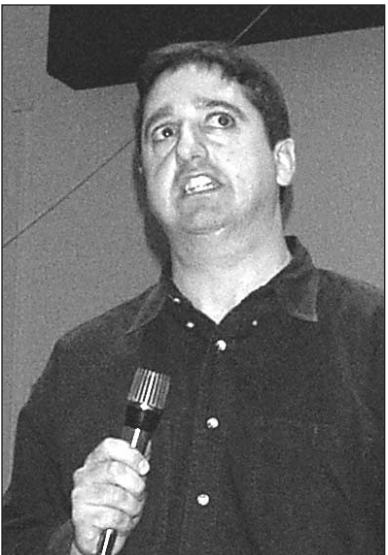
MEAGHAN RICHMOND



MARIA LAWRENCE

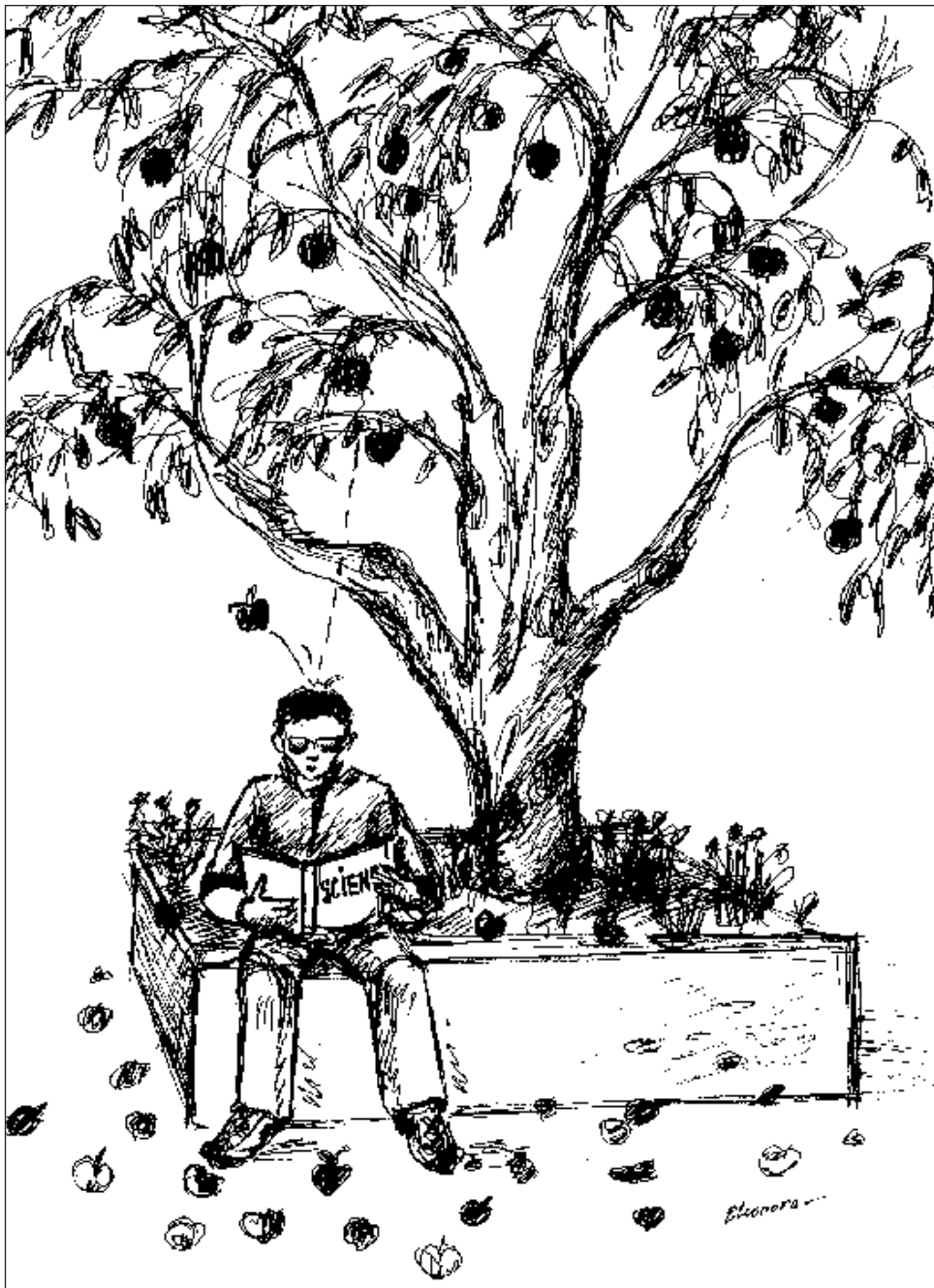


CHRISTOPHER REDDY



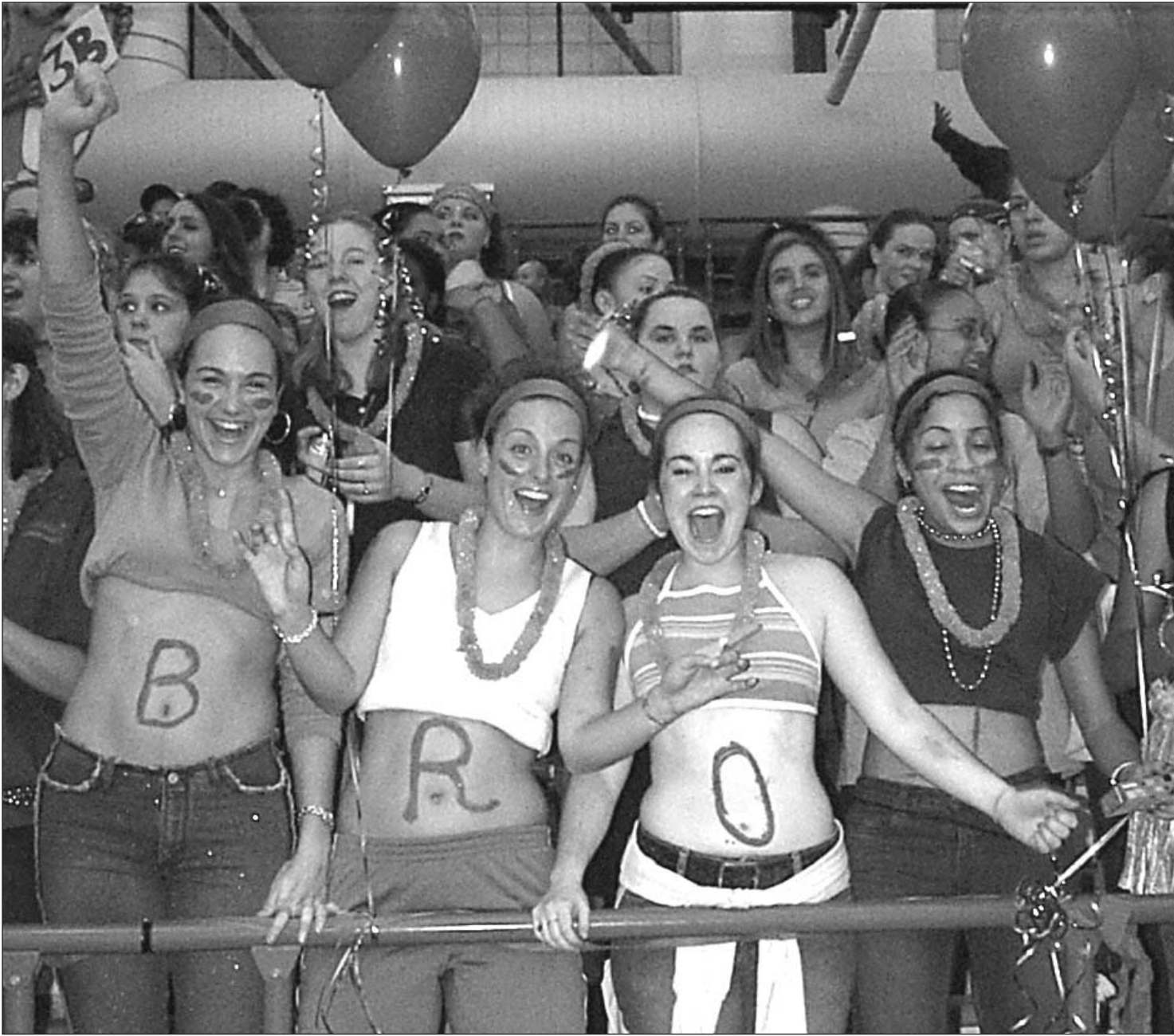
ROBERT LONARDO

CHEMISTRY CAREER DAY: Four alums who majored in chemistry returned to the College on Oct. 25 to talk to chemistry students in Clark Science 125. Top left: Meaghan Richmond '98 of Brown University, top right: Maria E. Lawrence '82, of RIC's Department of Elementary Education; bottom left: Christopher Reddy '92 of Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute; bottom right: Robert Lonardo '90 of Pfizer Pharmaceuticals. (What's News Photo by Gordon E. Rowley)



Inspirational place...The apple tree in front of Roberts Hall. (Illustration by student graphic designer Eleonora Maglysh)

It's an 'Endless Summer' at M



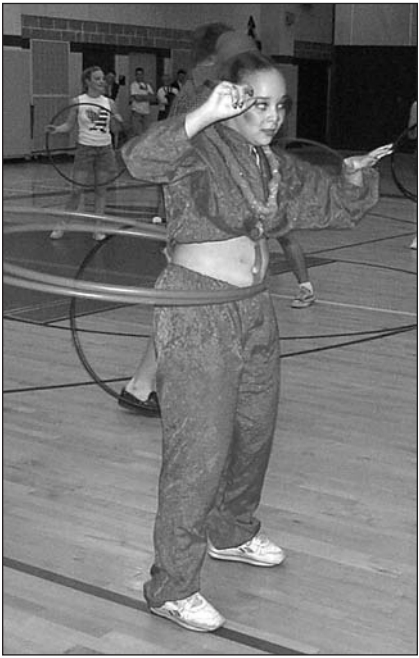
GIVE ME A "B" ... Four women from Browne Hall let their presence be known.

Midnight Madness at Rhode Island College is when the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics, Intramurals and Recreation showcases the College's winter sports teams: men's and women's basketball, wrestling and gymnastics.

It is also a giant pep rally where students of the College's five residence halls compete to show their solidarity. The hall with the greatest number of participants wins a dinner, courtesy of the athletic department.

Free T-shirts are thrown to the crowd; there is free pizza and ice cream, and various contests, including a "LazyBoy Shoot-out," in which the winner gets a leather recliner, courtesy of Cardi's Furniture.

The theme of this, the seventh annual Midnight Madness, was "Endless Summer," which many tendered to equate with Hawaii. So there were lots of grass skirts, leis and surfers. *What's News* brings you a look at the madness.



HULA-HOOP contestant Victoria Rivera of Willard Hall.



VIKING HAWAIIAN? Weber Hall's Jose Mendez sports a Hawaiian shirt and Viking hat.

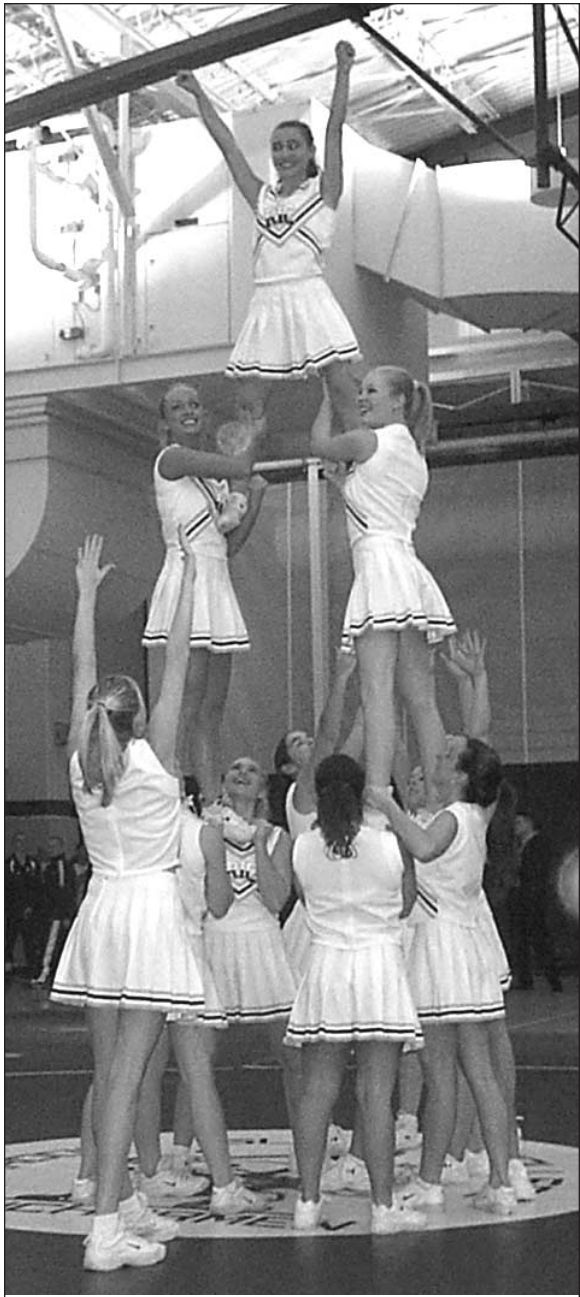


BROWNE HALL MASCOT Sarah Potenza leads the cheering for her residence hall.



TOGETHERNESS: together.

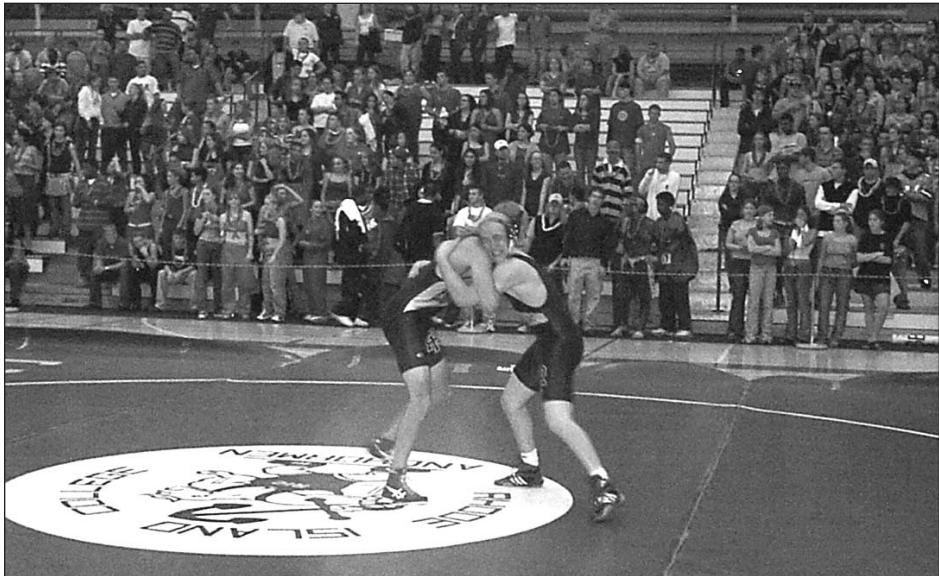
Midnight Madness 2001



THE RIC CHEERLEADERS build a pyramid.



SURF'S UP: At one point, the cheerleaders and the wrestlers got together to lip-sync to Beach Boys' songs. Out front are Amy Medeiros and Mike Riley



RIC WRESTLERS Mike Viera and Matt Kelly put on a demonstration for the crowd.

*Photos and text by
Gordon E. Rowley*



Three women from Thorp Hall “stick”



HIGHLIGHT of the evening is the arrival — on a surfboard— of “The Grand Kahuna,” a.k.a. President John Nazarian.



Nine year old student attends RIC

by Jane Fusco
What's News Editor

She crawled completely across her parents' bed when she was just eight days old. She spoke her first words 19 days later. At 13 months, she was reading books for second and third graders. She could recite every element of the periodic table by the time she was two-and-a-half. At three-years-old, she was considered on the level of a fifth grade student.

Theresa Dina is a gifted child. Now nine years old, Theresa is studying music theory in Robert Elam's class and taking piano lessons under the direction of Philip Martorella on campus. She has also attended Biology 111 classes at RIC.

"She's a very intelligent and charming young lady. It's a pleasure to have her as a student," said Martorella, who is working with Theresa on Beethoven's *Fur Elise*. She also wants to learn to play the violin and harp after she masters the piano.

Theresa's attendance at the College is the first time she's been in a traditional classroom setting. After unsuccessful attempts to enroll their daughter in educational institutions that would challenge Theresa's abilities, Michelle and Adebayo Dina took the advice of a pediatrician to have her schooled at home, following the Davidson Foundation's Young Scholar Program, developed for gifted children, where she was one of 15 in their pilot group. There are 110 Davidson scholars nationally.

Theresa's parents sought RIC as a

way for their daughter to become intellectually challenged in a more open, academic setting. Her father, a native of Nigeria, took information technology classes at the College in 1993 and was impressed with the quality of education and the campus surroundings.

Along with her advanced course of study, she has also toured the beauty pageant circuit. Last August, she won the title of Miss Rhode Island Sweetheart. She is preparing for the national competition of the Miss America Co-ed Pageant, a sister pageant of the Miss America Pageant for younger age categories, in November where she plans to perform the Beethoven piece.

With a passion for learning and an undeniable will to succeed, Theresa wants to be a doctor when she grows up, a goal she's aspired to since she was three. "I want to be the one who finds a cure for cancer," she says proudly.

Her interest in biology and cancer research led her family to contact Dr. Keith L. black, a renowned brain surgeon at Cedars Sinai Medical Center in California, after an in-depth conversation between Theresa and her biochemist uncle on the possible link between treatments for diabetics and cancer patients. Theresa was four-and-a-half years old at the time.

In her spare time, Theresa reads mystery novels and sings gospel music. Like other girls her age, she enjoys gymnastics, tap dancing, ballet and swimming.

In Nigerian, Theresa's name is translated as Oluseyi and means "a blessing of God." President John Nazarian said, "It is an appropriate name for a young lady who is blessed and will undoubtedly develop her many gifts and tal-



TICKLING THE IVORIES: Philip Martorella instructs nine-year-old Theresa Dina in class. (What's News Photo by Gordon E. Rowley)

Where are they — Continued from page 1

opera houses around the world who come to me for such help," he says by way of explanation.

Currently, he also guest conducts the Sarasota Opera along with gigs in NYC and around the country.

"I learned conducting by playing piano rehearsals for many great opera conductors for years.

"I also incessantly studied languages, especially Italian, and opera librettos.

"Eventually, if you persist long enough, you will get to conduct opera.

"Incidentally, playing rehearsal piano is much harder than conducting," he assures.

While working the Sarasota Opera, he has reunited with several RIC colleagues. In his first season "old friends" Lori and Mary Phillips, of the Class of 1986, were performing roles there. Since then, they see each other and work together often.

Last season, former RIC soprano Diana McVey was an apprentice at Sarasota, he says.

Born in Providence, he is the son of Mario and Leonie Di Costanzo of Johnston.

He credits his father for having "a great ear and appreciation" for music.

"He used to take me to Beacon Records on the East Side when I was a kid to buy recordings of many of the great pianists such as Rubenstein, Cliburn and Horowitz," says Di Costanzo.

Di Costanzo graduated from Johnston High School in 1980 and enrolled at RIC.

Although he remembers "cutting class a lot to practice" he was often on the Dean's List, he says.

There were performance classes once a week. Being a piano major, he says, gave him the opportunity to accompany "many of my fine colleagues who were singers and instrumentalists at RIC."

"This experience was perfect for what

I was to do later in my career as an opera coach," says Di Costanzo.

While a student he performed with the RIC Chorus, Chamber Singers and Orchestra.

"To this day, I have many fond memories of those rehearsals and concerts under Ed Markward's dynamic leadership.

"The ensembles at RIC inspired in me the desire not only to conduct, but to strive for the same quality of musical excellence he sought after," he says.

Di Costanzo was a student at RIC when the Chamber Singers went on tour "and got to see NYC for the first time and had the chance to perform at the World's Fair in Knoxville."

He also served as pianist for several productions of the RIC Theatre and the former RIC Cabaret. And "right around the corner" he would often accompany ballet classes for the Festival Ballet of Rhode Island.

His first year at RIC in 1980 corresponded to the first year for RIC's artist-in-residence, Judith Lynn Stillman.

"She was only a few years older than me, but about 100 years older in musical wisdom and maturity! To say the least, I had never heard anyone in the flesh who could play with the artistry she was able to coax out of the piano. She still inspires me to this day," he says.


After his graduation, Di Costanzo attended the University of Michigan where he earned a master's degree in music in accompanying and chamber music.

"I think I took my education at RIC for granted until I went to a big-name school and found out I was not going to receive the same attention that I found at RIC. At RIC we had real professors (not teacher's assistants) who were committed to teaching," says Di Costanzo.

He plans to continue on his chosen career path and continue to return to his home state with his wife, April, twice a year to see family and friends.

By George LaTour

Rhode Island College




ADMISSIONS OPEN HOUSE

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"GLOBALIZATION, ISLAMISM AND MODERNITY" was the topic of discussion led by Sayres S. Rudy (right) as part of the Rhode Island College October Series' study of fundamentalist social movements. Rudy, who teaches social theory and political science at Harvard University, made the presentation in Bannister Gallery on Oct. 17. Richard Weiner (left), dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences and sponsor of the series "Modernism and Soul," which is anchored by an exhibit, points to some of the photos of Mario Giacomelli on display in the gallery during the month.

BLACK GREEN

Athletics

From the athletic director's desk



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

It has been a very exciting time for the intercollegiate athletic program. Here are the recent highlights:

Wednesday, Oct. 24 was Midnight Madness. This continues to be a cornerstone event of the winter sports season and this year's theme was "Endless Summer." Here are just a few things that took place during the MADNESS.

*The night started off with a kick-off dinner for the student-athletes and their coaches, with more than 100 people attending.

*RIC Athletic Alumnus and WPRI Television Anchor Artie Goldstein was the master of ceremonies for the night and did a terrific job.

*The support from the RIC campus community was great! Over 1,100 people attended with an unprecedented amount of spirit displayed by the resident hall students. The top resident hall award went to Browne Hall.

*There were tons of activities and prizes to keep everyone involved in the Madness, everything from hula hoop contests to dancing The Twist for cash prizes. Two airline tickets for Spring Break were raffled off at Midnight and Kate Jasmin was the lucky winner.

*The Cardi's Furniture Shootout has become a huge favorite at Midnight Madness. Thanks to the NI-RO-PE brothers — Nick, Ron, and Pete — a shootout takes place in a recliner with the winner getting to keep the recliner. Student Lupe Rivera won. Thanks, NI-RO-PE!

*Will anyone ever forget John "The Grand Kahuna" Nazarian riding in on his surfboard at the stroke of midnight? I can tell you Mr. President, the students won't, and they appreciate your spirit!

*The exhibition matches and contests by winter sports teams show that an interesting season lies ahead. All the coaches looked great dressed in their Hawaiian shirts. The enthusiastic cheerleaders, under the direction of Coach Palmaccio, did a fantastic job at keeping the spirit loud and noisy for two and half hours.

*Dave Bouthillier and Art Pontarelli kept everyone well fed throughout the night on a diet of pizza, ice cream and Hawaiian punch.

A great night was enjoyed by all and thanks to everyone who made it so memorable.

I would be remiss if I didn't make note of the following — for the second fall season in a row, all of our teams made the playoffs. The men's and women's soccer teams, for the first time, received the home field advantage. Good luck to everyone!

Seniors lead women's soccer to successful season

by Scott Gibbons
Sports Information Director

The Rhode Island College women's soccer team enjoyed one of its most successful seasons in the program's seven-year history this past fall. The Anchorwomen finished the 2001 season with an 8-7-2 overall record and a 3-3-1 mark in the Little East Conference.

RIC qualified for the Little East Conference Tournament for only the second time and hosted a first round game for the first time ever in the program's history. The '01 campaign was also the team's second winning season ever [1999].

Although Head Coach Nikki Barber's



RENA ROSSI

team was hoping to advance further in the Tournament [RIC suffered a 6-1 loss to Plymouth State College on Oct. 22], the women's soccer team nevertheless gained a lot of respect from teams throughout New England this fall and the future looks bright for next season.

However, RIC will head into the off-season knowing that three seniors will not be back for next season: Kerri Ferreira, Caitlin Schimmel and Rena Rossi.

"Kerri is one of the top three players we've ever had at RIC," says Barber. "She came from a Division I program and is extremely gifted offensively." Ferreira, a co-captain, leaves RIC as the women's soccer program's third all-time leading scorer with 52 career points. She is also third with 20 career goals and fourth with 12 career assists.

What's even more remarkable is that Ferreira accomplished all of this in only two seasons as an Anchorwoman. She spent her freshman and sophomore seasons at the University of Hartford where she totaled one goal, eight assists and 10 points. Her career totals at both institutions are 21 goals, 20 assists and 62 points.

Ferreira focuses on the team's successes this season, not the disappointments. "We beat two opponents who we had never beaten before, Worcester State [3-2 on Sept. 13] and Southern Maine [2-0 on Sept. 22], and we tied Eastern Connecticut [2-2 on Sept. 15]," the Bristol native says. "We knew we were on a roll early in the season. Finding out the great news that we were number one in the conference was shocking to me, but at the same time, we were deserving of it at that point in the season."

Ferreira was a Second Team All-Little East Conference selection in 2000 and should figure for a post-season award again this fall. She had a career game in RIC's 10-0 win over LEC opponent UMASS-Boston on Sept. 29. She had three goals and three assists for nine points in the victory.

Schimmel has also been an impor-

tant cog in both the team's offensive and defensive schemes. "Caitlin has been invaluable to us the past two seasons," Barber says. "Whenever we



CAITLIN SCHIMMEL

needed a boost at a certain position, Caitlin went in and did an outstanding job. She played forward, midfield, defense and even goal for us."

Schimmel, who spent 1998 and 1999 at the Community College of Rhode Island, garnering All-Region honors, totaled 30 goals and 27 assists for 87 points in her four-year collegiate career. At RIC, Schimmel had 10 goals, 12 assists and 32 points in two seasons. She ranks fifth in assists and is sixth in both points and goals as an Anchorwoman.

"I've enjoyed playing all four years," the Cumberland native says. "I've progressed as a player, and gained more confidence. I think I achieved a higher level of play."

Schimmel played a vital role in the Anchorwomen's berth into the '00 LEC Tournament. During the final regular season game against Eastern Connecticut Schimmel started in net. With RIC down 1-0 at the half, she

tied the game up in the second half and then scored the "golden goal" with just 13 seconds left in the second overtime period to lift RIC past ECSU. For her efforts, she was named the Little East's Player of the Week.

Rossi rounds out the 2001 senior contingent. She played in nine career games, starting one of them. The forward scored her first collegiate goal earlier this season in the Anchorwomen's win over UMASS-Boston. She has one goal for two career points as an Anchorwoman. "The past four years really flew by," the Cranston resident says. "I am the only player left from my freshman year [in 1998]. I've played with some great players in that time period. I am going to miss playing a lot."



KERRI FERREIRA

"Our players really played hard this season," Barber says as she reflects on the year. "Of course we're disappointed we didn't finish the season the way we wanted to. We've got a great foundation in place for next fall and hopefully we can make it further in the tournament next year."

Sports Roundup

Men's Soccer

Head Coach Len Mercurio's team is 4-11-4 overall and 2-3-2 in the Little East Conference. Goalkeeper Carlos Pinhancos owns a 1.29 goals-against average and a .820 save percentage with three shutouts in 1,602 minutes.

Women's Volleyball

Head Coach Kristen Norberg's team is 11-20 overall and 2-5 in the LEC. Brandee Trainer leads the team in kills, blocks and hitting percentage.

Men's Cross Country

Head Coach Dick Hoppman's team placed eighth overall and fifth in the Little East at the 2001 LEC/MASCAC Alliance Championships. Tim Rudd earned All-Alliance honors, placing 17th overall with a time of 26:46.

Women's Cross Country

Michelle Boudreau placed 27th overall at the 2001 LEC/MASCAC Alliance Championships for head coach Matt Hird's team with a time of 20:35.



ANNUAL FUND PHONATHON: The Annual Fund's student callers man the phones in Alumni House to achieve this year's goal of \$125,000. Above (front to back) are Dana Schmidt, Maegan Ayers, both freshman, and A.J. Sherman, a junior. (What's News Photo by Gordon E. Rowley)

Classic tale of one man's dogged pursuit of corruption —
RIC Theatre presents 'An Enemy of the People' Nov. 14-18

Arthur Miller's adaptation of an Henrik Ibsen classic — *An Enemy of the People* — about one man's dogged pursuit of corruption and his attempt to eradicate the "spiritual poison" of society, will be staged by Rhode Island College Theatre Nov. 14-18 with evening and matinee performances in the Forman Theatre in the Nazarian Center for the Performing Arts.

The drama, to be directed by P. William Hutchinson, is a powerful study of an honest man being persecuted because of his insistence on telling the truth. This is a tale of corruption, greed and the responsibility of the press.

"At one level the subject matter of this 100-year-old play — it was first produced in 1883 — is as topical as tomorrow's headlines," noted Clive Barnes in the New York Post upon a revival of the play in 1985, which starred Fredric March.

It is about toxic waste and a political cover-up. A Dr. Stockmann, who has brought prosperity to his small Norwegian hometown by his discovery of mineral springs, has now found out that the spa water is contaminated.

He expects to be greeted as a hero by this discovery; instead the town, led by his own hypocritical brother, the Mayor, turns against him for attacking their livelihood and brands him as "an enemy of the people."

As all the various factions in the town swoop down on him, and he is left with only his embattled family, he decides to fight on alone.

In a gallant curtain speech he declaims: "The strongest man in the world is the man who stands alone."

Ibsen (1828-1906) has been gener-



A LITTLE UPSET: Aaron Andrade (right), who plays the Mayor in the RIC Theatre production of "An Enemy of the People," berates his brother Dr. Stockmann, played by Matthew Furtado, an honest man who is persecuted because of telling the truth. (What's News Photo by Gordon E. Rowley)

ally acknowledged since the 1880s to be one of the greatest masters of the modern drama, although during his

lifetime some of his plays (especially those with a social message) were banned when they were first written

and he was a figure of violent controversy for some decades.

He was, however, also greatly feted during his lifetime, with honorary degrees, a knighthood from a German duke, the adulation of progressive-minded people (Bernard Shaw was one of his most vehement supporters), and lifelong pensions from the governments of Norway and Sweden.

Ibsen was the hugely influential dramatist who was in the forefront of those changing the theatre of the western world into the kind of theatre we have known for the last 100-plus years.

Of Ibsen's 24 plays, which were all written originally in Norwegian, 10 have been translated into every major European language and are still — over a century after they were written — frequently produced in all major capitals of the western world.

Matthew R. Furtado of Swansea plays Dr. Thomas Stockmann; Aaron Andrade of Cumberland as Peter Stockmann, the Mayor; and Andrea S. Twiss of Providence as Petra Stockmann.

Other cast members include Alanna Sousa-Pullan, Michael A. LoCicero, Michael P. Roderick, Brian M. Reynolds, Joshua M. Allen, Jose A. Doren, SaraJean Olink, Colin J. Nagle and Holly Beaudry.

Performances are at 8 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 14, through Saturday, Nov. 17, and 2 o'clock matinees Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 17-18.

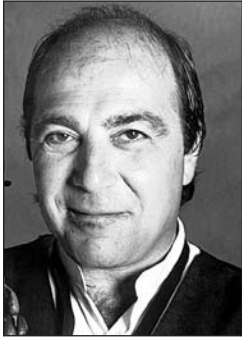
Reserved-seat tickets are \$11 with discounts for senior citizens and students and can be purchased at the main box office in Roberts Hall or in advance via Visa or Mastercard by calling 456-8144.

'Blue Shades' —

RIC Wind Ensemble to present an evening of concert band music Nov. 16

Rhode Island College Wind Ensemble, under the direction of Rob Franzblau, will present "Blue Shades," an evening of concert band music,

which has been inspired and influenced by jazz and rock music, in a performance Friday, Nov. 16, at 8 p.m. in the Lila and John Sapinsley Hall in the Nazarian Center for the Performing Arts.



GREG ABATE

Guest soloists Greg Abate, saxophone, and Greg Wardson, piano, will be featured on Michel Legrand's epic symphonic jazz rhapsody, *Images*, transcribed for wind ensemble by Franzblau.

Leonard Bernstein's Four Dances from *West Side Story* and Frank Zappa's The Dog Breath Variations also will be performed.

Other selections include Steven Bryant's "Chester Leaps In," John Philip Sousa's "Washington Post March" and Frank Ticheli's "Blue Shades."

With one notable exception, the concert explores music of the latter half of the 20th century, where jazz

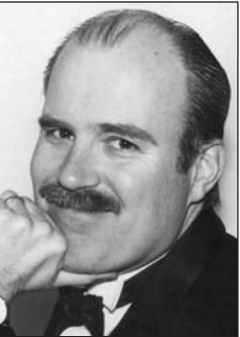
and rock music have become more than exotic curiosities to classical composers, says Franzblau.

"Indeed, all of the composers represented on this program (apart from that one exception) grew up listening to and playing jazz and rock music, and each composer's treatment of it in a 'classical' context shows a beautifully unified and integrated, yet highly individual, musical voice," he says.

Abate is an adjunct instructor of music at RIC. A saxophonist and composer performing for more than 20 years, he has been widely acclaimed by critics locally, regionally, and internationally.

After completing his studies at the Berklee School of Music, he moved to Los Angeles where he auditioned successfully for the Ray Charles lead alto chair and spent two years touring with the Ray Charles Band throughout the United States, Europe and Japan.

Upon his return to New England in 1985, Abate spent two years in



GREG WARDSON

the first tenor chair for the Artie Shaw Orchestra and has led his own quartet.

He has appeared as a featured artist in numerous festivals such as the JVC Jazz Festivals in Newport, Manhattan and Saratoga, and more recently as a headliner in the Jazz Festivals in Montreaux and Vienne, France.

Abate has performed with Tony Bennett, Vic Damone, Mel Torme, and Rosemary Clooney, among others. His output includes over a dozen recordings as leader with artists such as Richie Cole, Red Rodney and Kenny Barron.

Wardson leads the Greg Wardson Trio and is a member of the John Allmark Jazz Orchestra. He has also performed with Herb Pomeroy, Smokey Robinson, Clark Terry and Phil Wilson.

His recordings include Mel Holder's "Now & Forever" and Dan Moretti's "Point of Entry." He was a writer and performer on soundtracks for the films *Philadelphia*, *Walking and Talking*, and *Some of My Best Friends are White*, as well as hundreds of commercials and jingles.

General admission tickets are \$7 and can be purchased in advance at the Roberts Hall box office or on the evening of the performance at Sapinsley Hall box office.

RIC Chamber Orchestra in concert Nov. 18

Rhode Island College Chamber Orchestra, conducted by John Sumerlin, will perform in concert Sunday, Nov. 18, at 7:30 p.m. in the Lila and John Sapinsley Hall in the Nazarian Center for the Performing Arts.

The program consists of Vivaldi's Concerto, Barber's Adagio and Bartók's Dances.

Vivaldi's Concerto features four solo violins and a solo cello and is among the better known of Vivaldi's concerti and is exemplary of their high-energy, non-programmatic style, says Sumerlin.

About Barber's Adagio, Sumerlin says, "Along with most of the orchestras in this country since Sept. 11, we offer this deeply moving and spiritual work to commemorate the tragedy America has braved."

"Originally composed as a movement in a string quartet, the Adagio has become a universal monument to pathos, rising above the funereal in a musical prayer of hope out of despair."

Bartok was an eminent 20th-century modernist and a lifelong collector of the folk music of eastern Europe. He used the character of this music as a springboard to his works: "There is no Bartók without folk music," says Sumerlin.

The dances evoke a culture, an esthetic, and a musical perspective that is at the heart of Bartók's niche in contemporary music.

Admission to the concert is free.

RIC Performing Arts Series special – **Muddy Waters Tribute Band to present ‘All Over Blues’ Nov. 14**

Muddy Waters Tribute Band consisting of five great bluesmen, who all played with the legendary Chicago blues giant before his death in 1983, will open the show — called “All Over Blues” — with the best of Chicago blues Wednesday, Nov. 14, at 8 p.m. in the Auditorium in Rhode Island College’s Roberts Hall.

As Muddy Waters brought amplified blues to the public, contemporary blues artist Chris Thomas King will introduce what he calls “21st Century Blues,” that is equal parts Delta blues and modern rap.

King jolts the audience with an *avante garde*, hard-edged blues that reflects today’s urban and hip-hop influences, in addition to his presentation of traditional blues from the platinum-selling sound track album from *O Brother, Where Art Thou*.

Combined, the Muddy Waters bluesmen and King provide a “vivid display of the past and future” of blues, according to the Orange County Register’s Robert Kinsler.

“Traditional blues fans are likely the most resistant to change, which explains why King — a native of New Orleans — has spent most of the past 10 years in relative obscurity,” notes Kinsler.

“Just as Jimi Hendrix fused blues with electric rock guitar like nobody did before, King has championed an equally original style that mixes up acoustic guitar and blues harmonica with in-your-face rap and electronic sampling,” he says.

The “Tribute to Muddy Waters” band was first assembled in 1993 for the 10th anniversary of Water’s death.

Waters, born in 1915, belongs to the elite of 20th century music muses, his manner of expression is as simple and right as the break of dawn.

The amplified Chicago blues he

championed so honestly and forthrightly created a whirlwind that has swept through countless households, either in its essential form or as blues-rock.

His timeless music speaks to us today via repackaged recordings, television commercials and the efforts of reverential bands, notably the assertive and proud tribute group made up of former Muddy Waters Band players Luther “Guitar Junior” Johnson, Willie “Big Eyes” Smith, Calvin “Fuzz” Jones, Jerry Portnoy and “Steady Rollin” Bob Margolin.

Born to Rolling Ford, Miss., sharecroppers, McKinley Morganfield (who came by the name “Muddy” as a child when his grandmother caught him playing in a sediment-filled Delta stream) was skilled as a harmonica player and guitarist by the time Library of Congress folklorist Alan Lomax caught up to him in 1941 on Stovall’s Plantation in Clarksdale.

Influenced by local performers Son House and Charley Patton and the likes of Lonnie Johnson and Blind Lemon Jefferson on phonograph records, the 26-year-old farmer gave the songs recorded by Lomax an intimacy and warmth that reaches across the years.

It was in Chicago during the mid-1940s that new arrival Waters got his hands on an electric guitar and started tearing up South Side taverns, turning Delta folk music into an amplified driving force that had no precedent or rival.

After launching his recording career with eloquent, droning singles for Aristocrat Records that pointed to his Delta homeland, Waters overcame the foot-dragging of producer Leonard Chess and eventually maneuvered all the members of his working electric band into the studio.

The Muddy Waters band packed sensual excitement into 1950s R&B chart hits like “Hoochie Coochie Man,”



ALL OVER BLUES, featuring the Muddy Waters Tribute Band and Chris Thomas King (above), will perform in the Auditorium in Roberts Hall in a special Performing Arts Series engagement Wednesday, Nov. 14, at 8 p.m.

“I Just Want to Make Love to You” and “I’m Ready.”

The Waters’ treasure trove also included its share of songs distinguished by a less showy drama, including the lesser-known classic “Flood.”

All blues mavens agree that the ’50s were Muddy’s golden years for recording, especially in the last part of the decade when “Rock Me” and “Got My Mojo Working” were issued.

Muddy’s associations with Chess lasted well into the rock ’n roll era.

Album collaboration with progenies like Paul Butterfield, Mike Bloomfield, Rory Gallagher and especially Johnny Winter earned him favor among a generation of white listeners.

From the late 1950s into the 1980s, the Delta native and his band enjoyed

status as a major concert attraction in the United States, Europe and elsewhere.

Before a fatal heart attack, the patriarch of modern music received a great number of awards and appeared as a performer in film director Martin Scorsese’s *The Last Waltz*.

The show is a Performing Arts Series special event with reserved seat tickets going for \$30; RIC faculty and staff and senior citizens, \$27; students, \$15.

Tickets may be purchased in advance via VISA or Mastercard by calling 456-8144 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays, or in-person at the Roberts Hall box office 10 to 4 weekdays and until time of performance on the day of the event.

Learning from the masters



MASTER CLASS: Pianist Leon Fleisher conducts a master class in Sapinsley Hall on Oct. 19 after a performance by Tamara Chang (center) of Brown University and her accompanist, Akemi Fujuta of the New England Conservatory. Fleisher is the first of eight internationally acclaimed musical artists who will visit RIC in the coming year, appearing in conjunction with the Rhode Island Philharmonic Orchestra. Renowned artists Cynthia Munzer, mezzo-soprano, and horn soloist Eric Ruske (as part of the master class series) will conduct two additional independent master classes. (What’s News Photo by Gordon E. Rowley)

Music Happenings

By Edward Markward

Rhode Island College Chorus, under the direction of Teresa Coffman, performed on Sept. 19 at a special session of the General Assembly of Rhode Island in response to the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks on the United States.

The following is an excerpt from a letter to Coffman from Speaker of the House John B. Harwood and Senate Majority Leader William V. Irons:

“...due to the surprise nature of the attacks, we had little time to prepare this session.

“We understand that you had even less time to musically prepare. And, like so many other people, this tragedy has brought out the best in all people and we thank you for delivering such a heart-warming performance during such troubled times.

“The Rhode Island College Chorus provided uplifting, patriotic songs that captivated legislators, judges, police and fire officials. Through song and verse your chorus touched the hearts of everyone that participated in or observed the special session.”

On Saturday, Oct. 20, the RIC

Chamber Winds, conducted by Rob Franzblau, performed at Veterans Memorial Auditorium for the Change of Command ceremony honoring Rhode Island State Police Superintendent Steven M. Pare.

The ensemble performed prelude, processional and recessional music as part of the swearing-in ceremony for Colonel Pare. Dignitaries attending included Gov. Lincoln Almond, U.S. Sen. Jack Reed and U.S. Rep. Patrick Kennedy.

Finally, the following music students have been selected (by audition tape) to participate in the American Choral Directors Association Eastern Division Collegiate Honors Choir: Jim Breley, Jennifer Costa, Lisa Ducharme, Marlena Gervelis, Corey Greenhaigh, Amanda Howard, Patricia Kammerer, Wendy J’Zen, Nicole Laprise, Neil Letendre, Michael Paz, Lucky Rattan, Jason Santo and Kerry Walsh.

This is the largest number of students from any institution in the 11-state division.

The conference will be held in Pittsburgh Feb. 13-16.

RIC CALENDAR

Nov. 5 - 19

Sundays

10 p.m.—*Catholic Mass* in Student Union 306. Mass is celebrated by the Rev. Joe Pescatello with Deacon Mike Napolitano assisting. Everyone is invited to attend.

Mondays

Noon to 1 p.m.—*Bible Study*. Meetings are held in the prayer room in the Chaplains’ Office, Student Union 300. Everyone is invited. Feel free to bring your lunch .

Wednesdays

12:30 to 1:45 p.m.—*Christian Student Organization Meetings* in Student Union 300. Students meet to discuss issues of faith and to get involved in service activities. We pray, sing, share problems and plan volunteer and service projects. Stop in at any meeting. For more information, call the Chaplains’ Office at 401-456-8168.

12:30 to 2 p.m.—*AA Meetings* in CL 231. All are welcome to attend.

5 Monday

4 - 7 p.m.— Film: *Hide and Seek* in Horace Mann 193. The film is sponsored by the Dialogue on Diversity Committee. A discussion will follow.

8 p.m.—*Music*: Muir String Quartet with Maria Lambros, viola.** Part of the President’s Music Series in Sapinsley Hall in the Nazarian Center for the Performing Arts.

7 Wednesday

1 p.m.—*Music*: Chamber Music Series with Carsten Svanberg, trombone* in Sapinsley Hall in the Nazarian Center for the Performing Arts.

7 p.m.—*Robert M. Young Memorial Lecture* in Fogarty Life Sciences 050. The presentation, “Two Journeys with Bob,” will be given by Winston A. Anderson, professor of Zoology at Howard University, Washington DC. Anderson will cover a number of interesting topics related to Africa, where he has been involved in a number of interesting projects in recent years. Reception to follow.

10 Saturday

8:15 a.m. —*Habitat for Humanity Work Date*. Those interested in helping to build a house should call and leave your name and number for Jess Dumas, president of the RIC Chapter of Habitat, 401-456-8168. Participants meet in front the SU at 8:15 a.m. and return around 3:30 p.m.

12:30 - 4 p.m. —*Admission Open House*. Meet at Health, Physical Education and Athletic Complex. (See ad on page 8.)

12-16 Mon. - Fri.

Take a Professor to Lunch Week. Students may invite faculty or staff members to lunch in Donovan Dining Center. Limit \$5 each. This program is a student engagement initiative for the purpose of enhancing student-faculty/staff interaction and help create a more vibrant learning environment.

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.

14 Wednesday

8 p.m.—*Music*: “All Over Blues” ***Muddy Waters Tribute Band with Chris Thomas King. Performing Arts Special in the Auditorium in Roberts Hall. Reserved seating \$30.

14-18 Wed.-Sun.

Theatre: Enemy of the People. Adaptation by Arthur Miller of Henrik Ibsen’s classic. Directed by P. William Hutchinson.** In the Forman Theatre in the Nazarian Center for the Performing Arts. Nov. 14-17 at 8 p.m.—Nov. 17-18 at 2 p.m. reserved seating \$11.

16 Friday

8 p.m.—*Music*: “Blue Shades” RIC Wind Ensemble with Greg Abate, saxophone and Greg Wardson, piano. Rob Franzblau, conductor, in Sapinsley Hall in the Nazarian Center for the Performing Arts.

17 Saturday

Baseball Hall of Fame Trip— The bus leaves the Rec. Center at 6 a.m. and returns at approximately 11:45 p.m. Cost is \$24 for RIC students and \$48 for non-RIC students. Price includes admission, transportation, snacks, movies and baseball trivia. Seating is limited. Register at the Rec Center front desk. For more information, call 401-456-8400.

18 Sunday

7:30 p.m.—*Music*: RIC Chamber Orchestra* in Sapinsley Hall in the Nazarian Center for the Performing Arts.

**Performing Arts
Information: 456-8194
Box Office: 456-8144**

*Admission Free

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

Sports Events

Men’s and Women’s Cross Country			
Sat.	Nov. 10	at New England Division III Championships (at Westfield State)	TBA
Men’s Basketball			
Fri.	Nov. 16	Western New England (at Hartwick)	8 p.m.
Sat.	Nov. 17	at Hartwick Holiday Classic	1 or 3 p.m.
Women’s Basketball			
Sat.	Nov. 17	at Skidmore Tip-off Tournament	2 p.m.
Sun.	Nov. 18	at Skidmore Tip-off Tournament	2/4 p.m.
Wrestling			
Sat.	Nov. 10	at Roger Williams Invitational	10 a.m.
Sat.	Nov. 17	at Doug Parker Invitational (at Springfield)	10 a.m.

Around the campus



ROTARY TOUR: The Woonasquatucket Rotary Club toured the campus on Oct. 18. Above center, Holly Shadoian, director of undergraduate admissions, addresses the group outside the Forman Center. To Shadoian’s left is Lorraine Natale, president of the Rotary. The Woonasquatucket Rotary Club has an annual endowment scholarship fund in the Rhode Island College Foundation. (What’s News Photo by Gordon E. Rowley)