

## NEWS

Rhode  
Island  
College

VOL. 1 NO. 33 MAY 18, 1981

*Arrivederci, Rhode Island*

Parla l'italiano?

Well Caterina Gallo sure does (speak Italian)!

She is the first student to graduate from Rhode Island College with major credit in Italian which she managed to do through the cooperation of Providence College where she took her advanced language courses.

Actually, Caterina has two majors - one in Italian and one in secondary education. She plans on utilizing both by teaching Italian, hopefully, in a Rhode Island junior high school after completing her master's degree requirements.

The striking dark-eyed RIC senior will graduate Saturday, May 23rd, with some 900 other RIC seniors.

Starting in June, she will attend a six-week indoctrination program at Middlebury College in Vermont where she has been accepted for her master's. Then she will leave for Florence, Italy, to study for a year at the University of Florence.

She will then return to Middlebury to receive her master's degree and "will try to teach in Rhode Island first."

Caterina's mother is from the Isle of Ischia off the coast of Naples where Caterina visited when she was nine years old - her only trip abroad thus far.

Italian was and is spoken in the home with her mother being native to Italy and her father knowledgeable in the language.

Caterina has a twin brother, Frank, another younger brother, Vito, and two younger sisters, Libby and Mary Ann. They reside at 226 Eldridge St. in Cranston, with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Gaetano Gallo.

While thoughts of serving in the diplomatic service have crossed her mind, Caterina says she likes and "plans to stay in teaching."

Currently, she is student-teaching at Park View Junior High School in Cranston as part of the requirements of her college secondary education major.

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Stories by George LaTour - Photos by Peter Tobia



CATERINA GALLO



MARIE GUAY

*I'll Be So Happy*

"There's a lot more to living than just eating three meals a day, reading the evening paper and watching t.v.," says the 72-year-old Marie A. Guay, a student at Rhode Island College.

For her and 15 other older students who are completing RIC's Bachelor of General Studies program, life has proven to be a challenge and the challenge rewarding.

For starters, these more mature students whose ages range from 28 to 72, will be awarded their diplomas May 23 along with approximately 900 of the more traditional college graduates.

For Marie, a retired music librarian for both radio Stations WEAN and WPJB-FM, it is both an ending and a beginning - but, certainly, more the latter.

While the diploma signifies the end of her undergraduate studies, it opens the way for advanced graduate studies which she plans to pursue as do eight of her classmates in the BGS program.

"These people are serious students," assures Dr. Patrick J. O'Regan, director of the BGS program. As evidence of this, five of the BGS students have earned honors in their studies and will be inducted into Alpha Sigma Lambda, national honor society for part-time undergraduate students.

"The BGS is really a degree for the ex-

perienced adult," says Professor O'Regan. An individualized liberal arts degree program, it often gives credit for previous experience received in the work lives of these students.

This, combined with liberal policies regarding transfer of credits from other institutions and other factors serves to encourage the more mature students and facilities their quest for a degree.

And getting that degree is no piece of cake, assures O'Regan. He pointed out that some of the regular college-age students experiencing academic difficulties have attempted the BGS program as "an easy way through college."

None has been able to succeed, he said.

Since the BGS students have already developed their "specialization" or life's work, "they do not have the same need for pre-defined, highly structured programs as the more 'traditional' students," said O'Regan.

Consequently, they can concentrate on "upper level division" work (general studies), he added. In some cases, as with Marie, the exposure to this wide variety of general studies - area of concentration they often have never been exposed to before - opens new doors.

"I discovered history, sociology, anthropology. Oh, if I were younger," ex-

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Cabaret '81:

*Emphasis Is Intimacy, Newness*

When the lights go up on Cabaret '81 on June 18, it will be a night of firsts. All the members of the directing staff except the managing director will be getting their baptism in new positions.

David Burr, associate professor of theatre, will serve as managing director, his third year in the position. Howard Fine, a senior, will be artistic director, and Madeline Marshall will choreograph. Mark Colozzi, band director at Bishop Hendricken High School, will be musical director. Stage manager is Bette Regan.

"Cabaret needs to get back to intimacy with the audience," observes Fine.

The cast, all but one newcomers to Cabaret, are all RIC students or alumni. The one returning performer will be Brian Howe whose previous appearance with Cabaret was in 1979.

"We're very happy Brian's back in it," Fine notes.

*Last  
Regular  
Issue*

This is the last regular issue of "What's News" for the current academic year.

A special issue will be printed June 22 for the beginning of the summer session.

The editor and staff of "What's News" would like to take this opportunity to extend to you their best wishes for an enjoyable and productive summer, and look forward to resuming publication of "What's News" next academic year.

To achieve the renewed emphasis on intimacy and to appeal to all age groups, Burr, Fine and company have put together a program which they believe will have something for all segments of the audience.

As in previous years, there will be three "revues" during the course of the summer. Each will consist of three sets done nightly. Each set will spotlight a different artist or musical.

Revue I, for example, will have a set devoted to the musical *Fame*. There will be a set featuring Cole Porter classics with ample opportunities for the cast to get acquainted with the audience, including a number in which they all tap dance. The third set will concentrate on *West Side Story* with special attention being given to the choreography.

In Revue II the opening segment will be *Starting Here, Starting Now*, followed by a salute to The Beatles. The third set in Revue II will be devoted to the big band era and will offer songs of The Andrews Sisters, The Mills Brothers and the like. The audience will be encouraged to sing along.

Revue III is planned to open with music from *Chicago*. The second set is a tribute to Rodgers and Hammerstein, billed by Burr, Fine and the cast as the fathers of the American musical theatre. The last set of Revue III will focus on "Broadway today." Music from productions such as *Barnum*, *Evita* and *They're Playing Our Song* will be the fare.

Also, throughout the entire summer Cabaret '81's cast will weave comedy from Tom Lehrer, Bette Midler, Gilda Radner and the like into the act.

Performing in Cabaret '81 in addition to Brian Howe, who graduated in June, 1980, will be Kathleen N. Bebeau, a senior from 101 St. Louis Avenue, Woonsocket; Diane Capotosto, a

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Michael Nordstrom to Graduate:

*Counselor For Handicapped*

by Laurence J. Sasso, Jr.

For four and one half years Michael Nordstrom has combined his studies at Rhode Island College with an effort to create for handicapped students "as near normal an opportunity for a collegiate experience as possible." Those are the goals of the office of the dean of students where Michael has served as a peer counselor with the handicapped. It also is readily apparent that they are the personal goals of the former Baptist cleric.

In his role of peer counselor, Nordstrom has been both adversary and advocate, challenging the college in areas where he felt progress needed to be made, always lobbying for the handicapped. He has lauded the college when he felt things were moving in a direction from which his peers would benefit, chastised it when he felt things were otherwise.

"Under the leadership of Dr. (David E.) Sweet (RIC President) a very concerned administration and staff as well as faculty have aided in making the campus partially accessible physically and in helping to change the attitude of the campus community toward the handicapped population," he observed on the eve of his graduation.

Nordstrom will receive a bachelor of general studies degree at the college's commencement May 23. He will be one of 18 handicapped students scheduled to graduate this year. RIC has 94 self-identified handicapped students and Nordstrom believes there are more who have not made their conditions known. His experiences before coming to RIC equip him to judge the needs and attitudes of those he counsels.

Himself legally blind and hard of hearing, Nordstrom spent 15 years working with a Baptist minister in a clinical setting. A native of Van Port, Oregon, the 39 year old counselor worked with the aged, the handicapped, and with terminally ill young adults. His work with the minister qualified him to serve as a clergyman, he explained.

During his years at the college, heightened awareness of the handicapped student has led the president to name a committee on the needs and concerns of the handicapped. Michael has been involved with the creation of a handbook for the handicapped student and in addition to his counseling has been one of the initiators of several special programs for the handicapped which brought speakers to the campus.

"Whatever progress that RIC has made regarding handicapped students, Michael has certainly played a major role in accomplishing that," points out Dixon A. McCool, associate dean of students under whom Nordstrom has worked.

"Even though we have had some rough times in programming (for handicapped students), I feel Michael has made a definite difference in the last four years," McCool added.

He said that the net result of Nordstrom's efforts have been positive even though the office sometimes has found itself in conflict with other units or with the administration. "Sometimes that's the role we find ourselves in, here, working with

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## Focus on the Faculty and Staff

**Dr. John A. Bucci**, associate professor of philosophy and foundations of education, recently co-authored an article with Sharon F. Rallis for *The Journal of the Association of Teacher Educators* entitled: "Staff Development as Ritual: An Additional Perspective for In-service Education." The article appeared in the winter-spring edition.

**Ann E. Moskol** and **Helen E. Salzberg**, both assistant professors of mathematics, were recent participants in a symposium on programs for "Re-entry Women" with special focus on computer science and chemistry. The symposium was held at the Polytechnic Institute of New York.

**Dr. Bennett J. Lombardo**, assistant professor of health and physical education, recently participated in the national convention of the American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance in Boston. He presented the Project ACTIVE Curriculum which entails an individualized approach to physical education built upon a diagnostic-prescriptive system of personalized instruction.

**Dr. William H. Lawton**, director of laboratory experiences, represented the Association of Teacher Educators at the recent inauguration of Daniel H. Perlman as president of Suffolk University in Boston.

**Dr. Murray H. Finley**, associate professor of counselor education, had his article, "The Terminated Executive: It's Like Dying," published in the February issue of *Personnel and Guidance Journal*. This was a special issue devoted to the subject of "loss." The article parallels the executive's loss of job with Kubler Ross' stages of dying. An out-placement counseling model is proposed to assist the unemployed executive re-enter the work force.

**Dr. Maureen T. Lapan**, professor of administration and curriculum, presented a paper entitled "George Berkeley: Friends and Experiences in the Narragansett Country in Rhode Island" at the 12th annual meeting of the American Society for 18th Century Studies held in Washington, D.C. in April.

**Prof. Elizabeth B. Carey**, assistant professor of elementary education, and **Dr. Lawton** attended the annual conference of the New England Association of Teacher Educators at the Shawmut Inn in Kennebunkport, Maine, April

### WHAT'S NEW(s) at RIC

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Tel. 456-8132

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## Research, Fellowship and Program Support Deadlines

The Bureau of Grants and Sponsored Projects has announced the following deadlines:

The NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF HEALTH has announced *New Investigator Research Awards* in nutrition. The awards will be available through five different bureaus and institutes at NIH (Aging--Arthritis, Metabolism, and Digestive Diseases--Cancer--Child Health and Human Development--Dental Research). New Investigator Research Awards are designed to provide support for the initial research efforts of investigators and to encourage new investigators to develop their research interests and capabilities. Applications are due JULY 1, NOV. 1, and MARCH 1.

The ALCOHOL, DRUG ABUSE AND MENTAL HEALTH ADMINISTRATION (ADAMHA) is also

interested in funding research in the area of nutrition and behavior. The regular research grants program applications are due JULY 1, and a small grants application is due JUNE 1 or OCT. 1.

The RESEARCH CORPORATION supports basic investigations in the physical sciences at graduate institutions and public undergraduate universities and colleges. Last year 63 *Cottrell Research Grants* were given totalling approximately \$750,000. There is no deadline for proposal submission.

FULBRIGHT-HAYS University Teaching and Research Awards Abroad have a deadline of JUNE 1 for applications in the American Republics, Australia and New Zealand; JULY 1 for Africa, Asia and Europe.

Funds are available for basic biomedical research in the reproductive sciences relevant to the problem of human fertility and infertility; development of new and improved methods for fertility regulation; social and behavioral sciences research on the reproductive motivation of individuals, and causes and consequences of population change; and research on adolescent pregnancy. The Center for Population Research of the NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR CHILD HEALTH AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT has set a JULY 1 deadline for receipt of applications.

For further information on any of the above programs, call the Bureau of Grants and Sponsored Projects at Ext. 8228.

29-May 2. Theme of the conference was "Changing Realities in Teacher Education." Lawton is the out-going president of the organization.

**Robert Waste**, instructor of political science, has been awarded a fellowship by the National Endowment for the Humanities to attend a summer seminar at Harvard University. Waste, who joined the RIC faculty in 1979, will continue research begun earlier this year as a pre-doctoral fellow at Yale University by participating in a seminar in "State and Society in Empirical Democratic Theory" with Prof. Eric Nordlinger at Harvard's Center for International Affairs.

## To Relocate Temporarily

Richard A. and Carolyn F. Fluehr-Lobban, both associate professors of anthropology / geography at RIC, will relocate to the Philadelphia area in September.

Carolyn will take up residence at the University of Pennsylvania as a condition of her recently awarded Mellon Post-Doctoral Fellowship in the Humanities for 1981-82. She will remain within the university community there to participate in one or more of their faculty seminars after which she will be engaged in academic research and writing for a one year period.

Professor Fluehr-Lobban was chosen as a Mellon Fellow for her proposal in African studies entitled "Islamic Law in the African Context."

Richard, who is in the midst of research on urbanism in the Sudan under a National Endowment for the Humanities Post-Doctoral Fellowship, will return to RIC in January at the completion of his fellowship which was awarded last January.

He was recently elected president of the Sudan Studies Association at its founding convention at Fordham University in New York City. Carolyn was elected secretary.

## Wins Painting

Mrs. Marguerite A. (Ricciardi) Mambro, Class of 1975, won the Spencer Crooks' water color painting, "Wickford Cove," at the RIC Foundation Spring Gala on May 9 at the State House. Mrs. Mambro resides in Cranston.

## Next Issue June 22nd



**SIGNED:** Irene Lafaille, president of Local 2879, American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, signs mini-contract with Dr. David E. Sweet, RIC President, while Joseph Peckham (left) of Council 94 and Dr. John Nazarian, vice-president for administrative services at RIC, and other interested parties look on. The mini-contract is the second to be agreed upon between RIC and an AFSCME local and the second to be agreed upon between any state agency and the AFSCME under the current master contract between the state and Council 94. RIC negotiated and signed the first such contract with Local 2878 recently.



**CARRYING HIS SWEETHEART'S BOOKS** to school is Elphege R. Roy of Woonsocket who is a general studies student at RIC these days specializing in politics and labor. His sweetheart is his wife, Mrs. Claire C. Roy, who is also enrolled in the general studies program. (What's News photo by Peter Tobia.)



# Russell Chernick: Lives One Day at A Time

by Linda A. Acciaro

In his dreams, Russell Chernick enters a world of activity where he is able to walk again, play football and baseball. "Just like I did before I became disabled. I ride my bike like I used to do. I might even dream about my own motorcycle or automobile and most of all that my brother is with us again."

Russell is expected to graduate from RIC on May 23. Two years ago he wrote about his dreams following his younger brother's death from Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy, the disease which also afflicts Russell. Stuart was 15 years old when the Chernick family lost him. His Bar Mitzvah picture still sits atop the living room endtable in the Chernick home. Does it bother Russell to see his brother's picture there? It did, but not any more," Russell says.

Memories are meaningful treasures, but Russell's life is one of constant attention to survival. His thoughts are not always positive, but, "I have never seen him depressed," says Mrs. David Chernick, his mother.

Thousands of young men and women are afflicted with muscular dystrophy, a disease characterized by wasting and progressive weakening of the skeletal muscles which control body movement. There is no known cure, and genetics is a factor in contracting the disease. What

makes Russell different from many others is that although he knows he has a serious, life-threatening illness, he is too occupied with the problems of everyday living to worry about it.

In his life, Russell has received much publicity in connection with his being Muscular Dystrophy poster child from 1972 to 1974 and has received a number of awards and recognitions. In addition, he was recently elected to appear in "Who's Who in American Colleges and Universities." Despite the awards, a trip to Las Vegas as a personal guest of Jerry Lewis during the national telethon and the meetings with many government officials and celebrities, Russell has remained very much a private person with private goals.

According to the Muscular Dystrophy Association, he is one of only three known individuals to graduate from college who is afflicted with Duchenne Dystrophy. Duchenne is the most common and severe type of the disease.

Russell's difficulty began at the age of seven when one of his teachers noticed him walking on his toes, a common symptom of the disease along with waddling, difficulty running and a protruding abdomen. The symptoms develop early, usually between the ages of two and six.

A heel cord lengthening operation was performed on Russell in 1969, which

allowed him to walk two more years. He never used a cane or walker when his muscles began to weaken and says, "I fell quite a bit and it was a struggle during that time." A second operation in 1971 on the right heel, which had risen, was unsuccessful, and Russell has been confined to a wheelchair since the age of 12. He is now 22 years old.

He has difficulty lifting his arms and although movement is strained, Russell manages to attend his classes at RIC, including one in which he must be carried about 18 stairs by an escort attendant.

Russell takes life casually and despite the affliction, lives it the best way he possibly can. "I take it one day at a time. How else can you take it?"

One day at a time, he completes his assignments, sometimes straining for hours to type a page and trying to keep up with his classmates during exams. His penmanship is understandably unclear, and occasionally professors have allowed him to take an exam in class, bring the essay answers home to type and return both copies in the morning. Some of them have had Russell in more than one class and can decipher his handwriting.

The report Russell has with fellow students is positive. "Sometimes they'll feel sympathy for me, but they treat me very well," he says.

He has taken courses in French,

Italian, Spanish and Russian, and because of his Austrian-born mother, whose attention toward Russell is constant and loving, he wanted to learn German, but it was not offered. His dependence on his mother is necessary, but their relationship is otherwise typical of any parent and child. "Sometimes I get mad with her and we've had our arguments, just like other sons and mothers."

In addition to his regular classes, Russell has worked as an announcer for the women's basketball team at RIC. "I loved every minute of it," he says. It was a valuable opportunity because he hopes someday to be a sportscaster.

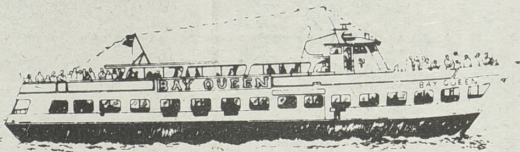
Russell will graduate with a degree in communications and although he thinks about the future, he says, "I'm concerned, but I don't worry about it. Hopefully, I will be able to do the job without the disability interfering."

Only one person stands in the way of Russell's ultimate goal. "I want Howard Cosell's job," he says emphatically.

*(This condensed story from the original that appeared in the Rhode Island Herald is printed with permission.)*



**HONORED:** Recipients of awards from the RIC Alumni Association at the annual awards dinner hosted by that group are (l-r): Albina Hull Lakomski, the Alumni Service Award; Dixon McCool, the Staff Award; John S. Foley, Alumnus of the Year Award; Susan McGuirl, the Charles B. Willard Achievement Award, and Joseph Graham, the Faculty Award. The affair, held May 7 in the Faculty Center, attracted approximately 120 alumni, friends, relatives and well-wishers.



## Going Sailing

The RIC Alumni Association is sponsoring a cruise on the Bay Queen boarding out of Warren, R.I., on Sunday, June 14, for a four-and-a-half hour cruise on Narragansett Bay.

They'll set sail at 6 p.m. Cost is \$15 per person and includes dancing to the music of Al DeAndrade,

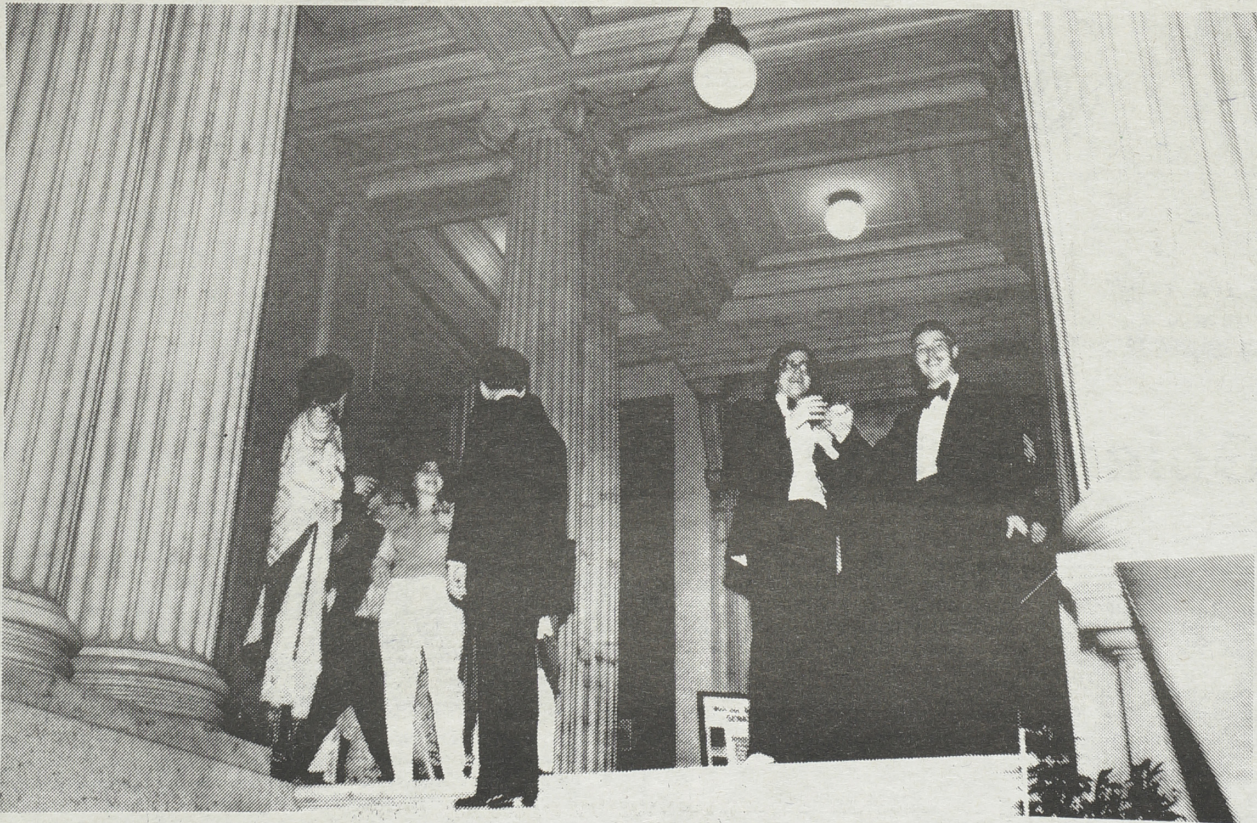
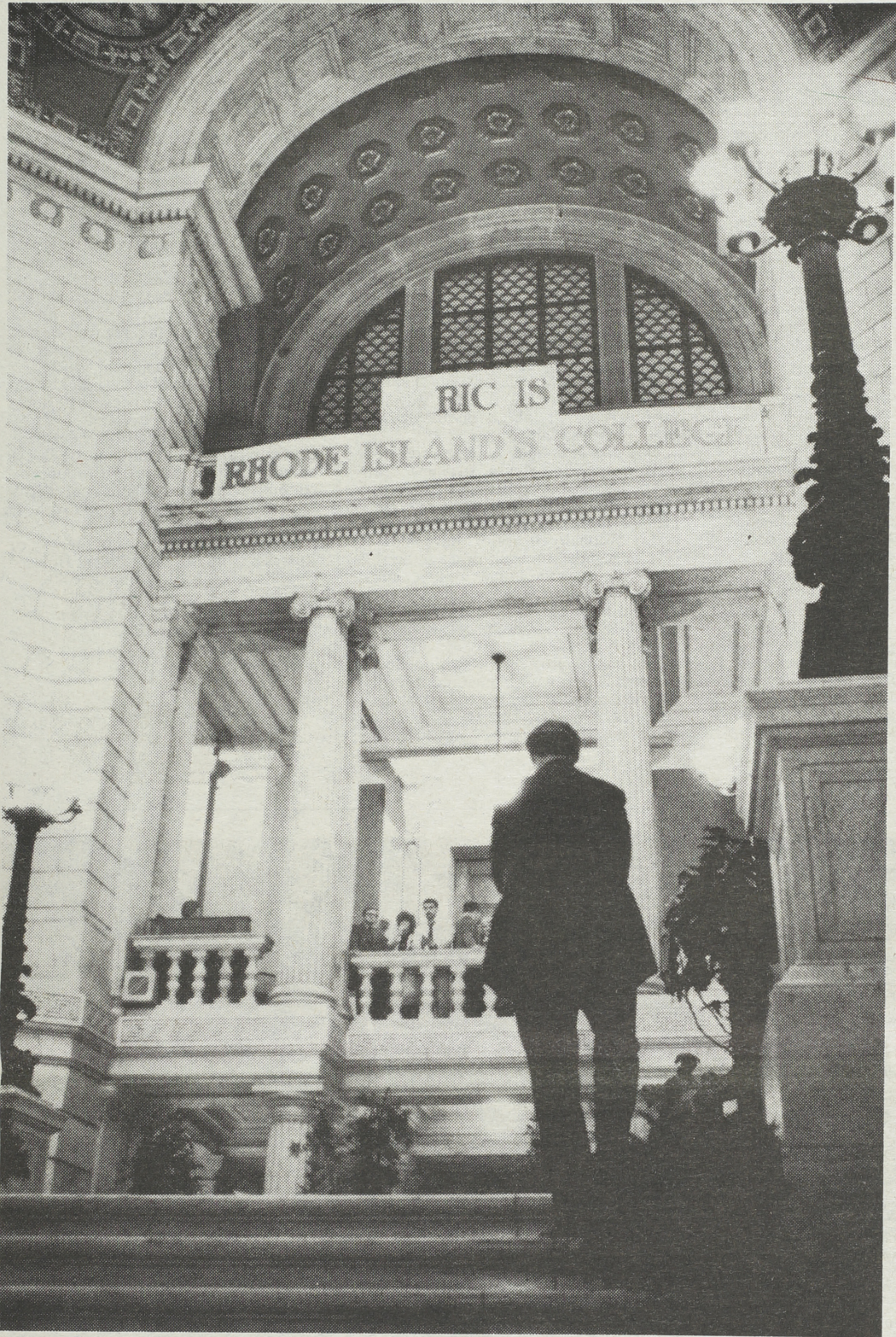
a gourmet supper by Gallimaufry Caterers and prizes. There will be a cash bar. A college chair will be raffled off.

Reservations must be in by June 4 and space is limited. Reservations and checks should be made to the RIC Alumni Association.



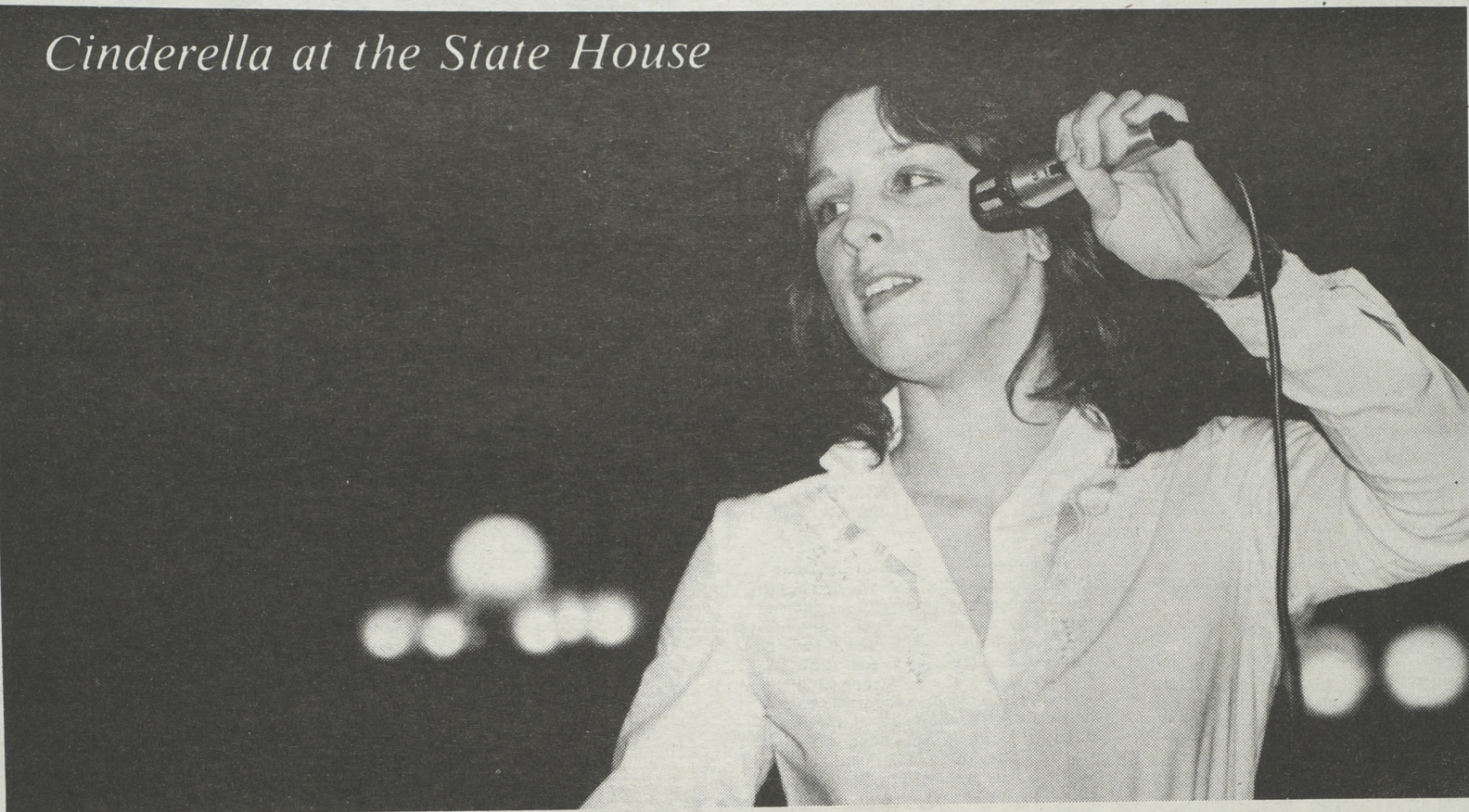
**BEST WISHES:** Newly appointed Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, Dr. David L. Greene, looks on as well wishers greet his wife, Kathleen, at reception given in his honor on May 7. Greene is acting dean and will assume the job permanently on July 1.







## *Cinderella at the State House*



For its annual "gala" event at the Rhode Island State House the Rhode Island College Foundation adopted the theme of Cinderella's Ball. Members of the cast from the recent RIC Theatre Company production of the children's classic of the same name were on hand to entertain the guests. A video-tape of the Alumni Theatre Company's recent cabaret style production, *The Entertainers*, played continuously. RIC's Chamber Singers sang. Champagne flowed and the people who came to take it all in enjoyed snacks and conversation - all under the rotunda of the capitol building.



**Arrivederci**

(Continued from p. 1)

At Park View she is assigned to work under the guidance of Pauline Della Ventura, Park View's cooperating teacher (with RIC) who is herself a RIC graduate, says Rita L. Couture, the college supervisor for student teachers.

"Some people say you're crazy for picking that age group," says Caterina, referring to the junior high level, adding, "but it's a challenge. I like them."

In addition to her student-teaching and college studies, she works at RIC's Curriculum Resources Center, sings in St. Ann's Church Choir in Cranston, and teaches their confirmation program.

About her graduating from RIC with major credit in Italian, she explained that she took basic and intermediate Italian courses at RIC but had to take her advanced studies at P.C.

P.C. transferred her credits and grades to RIC under an agreement which she had worked out prior to taking the courses.

**So Happy**

(Continued from p. 1)

claims Marie, clenching her fists in excitement, "there's so much I'd like to do!"

**There's So Much...**

Then, quickly putting all thoughts and considerations of age aside, she advises: "You've got to plan to live forever, then if the good Lord calls you upstairs - well, that's all right."

While music is her first love - she teaches piano in her home at 6 Birchfield Road in the Edgewood section of Cranston - she plans to continue her education with the assistance of Dr. David S. Thomas, associate professor of history, who, as her academic advisor, will help her put together an individualized master's degree program in history, sociology and anthropology.

Then, in addition to her modest piano teaching business, she hopes to serve as an advisor to the elderly.

**A Damn Fool**

"A lot of people think I'm a damn fool for doing so much. They tell me to relax and enjoy myself. But, I **AM** enjoying myself," she asserts.

Already an experienced European traveler, she plans yet another trip, this time to Greece, the "foundation of learning." Previous excursions to Poland and six other countries helped to foster her love of language, her concern for the elderly and her appreciation of her music, particularly the history of music.

Other BGS graduates this year plan to continue their studies on the graduate level in such areas as counseling, medicine, law and religion.

The BGS program was started at RIC in January of 1977. Twelve students graduated last May. With this year's graduates, a total of 28 have successfully completed the program.

At present there are close to 100 people in the program.

**Offered New Horizons**

With this program RIC has offered new horizons to Rhode Islanders who have been away from formal studies for at least five years and who now wish to continue those studies for any number of reasons: to change careers, to enhance current careers or for the pure enjoyment of learning.

"We have to move with the times. You can't stay in one place all your life," says Marie who's done anything but stand still.

Even now, at an age when many people are willing to sit back and let the

"It's too bad RIC doesn't have a major in Italian of its own," lamented Caterina, "with such a large Italian population in Rhode Island and RIC being the state's college and all."

"We have considered offering minor credit in Italian but the registration never really warranted it," said Calvin Tillotson, associate professor and chair of modern languages at RIC.

Caterina likes RIC and is appreciative the college worked with her to enable her to obtain major credit in her language field while preparing her to teach.

"People here are friendly and the professors really care," she assured.

Come June 29 Caterina will say good-bye to Rhode Island to begin her quest for her master's degree. When that goal has been achieved, she'll return to her native state.

Somehow, it sounds better in Italian: "Arrivederci, Rhode Island. Ci vediamo nel 1982!"

world go by - "We've got to change this image of older folks" - Marie belongs to music and hiking clubs - "I go dancing every Saturday night at Rhodes and hiking every Sunday" - the French Federation, the National Federation of Business Clubs, the Post Cana Club and serves as an advisor to some 20 elderly persons she's "adopted" at the Scandinavian Home in Edgewood - "Age is just a state of mind. You can do anything you want at any age, physical ability permitting."

She's also very interested in the young, having nine grandchildren by her two daughters, Mrs. Andree J. Wells of Plymouth, Mass., and Mrs. Annette Olivier of Cranston. She is the widow of Arthur C. Guay.

**Loves Live - Period**

"Annette has six children - all musicians - and I started them all on piano," says Marie proudly. Then, of course, most of her piano students are young: "I'm with the young ones when teaching piano and that I like."

Mrs. Marie Antoinette Guay just loves life - period!

"Life has been beautiful and I don't regret a thing," she says, adding, "this has been an exciting age to live in. I've got to live another 100 years to see and learn all about these things and places I've heard about."

For one so young-in-heart, she probably wouldn't even suffice it to end there.

But this Saturday (May 23) the BGS program and the undergraduate college experience will end for Marie and her classmates as their diplomas will be awarded in the traditional setting of pomp and circumstance amid the flutter of caps and gowns.

"When you see me graduate," assures Marie with glee, "all you'll see is teeth and a big smile - that's all. I'll be so happy!"

**Other BGS graduates are:** Louis Ciamello of Warwick, Claudia J. Crowley of East Greenwich, Norma A. DiLibero of North Providence, Cynthia A. Dumont of Providence, Michael S. Nordstrom of Johnston, and Rene A. Remillard of Bellingham, Mass.

Also, Ruth L. Rotenberg of Providence, George J. Sheehan III of Smithfield, Geraldine C. Silva of Cumberland, Jean M. Trench of North Grosvenordale, Conn., Betty J. Williams of Providence, Susan G. Wood of Cranston, Joseph Shea of Pawtucket, Robert Dowding of Warwick, and JoAnn Warren of Greenville.

**Winners Noted**

Winners of the "golden opportunity" drawing sponsored by the Henry Barnard School Parents Association have been announced.

Drawn May 4, five participants in the raffle won prizes ranging from more than \$500 in cash to a cassette tape recorder.

First prize - an ounce of pure gold or the equivalent amount in cash - went to Mrs. Carmela Balasco, 13 Penn St., Providence. Mrs. Balasco chose cash rather than the gold and received \$503.26.

Second prize - a 13 inch color TV - went to Hans-Erik Wennberg, 26 Bates

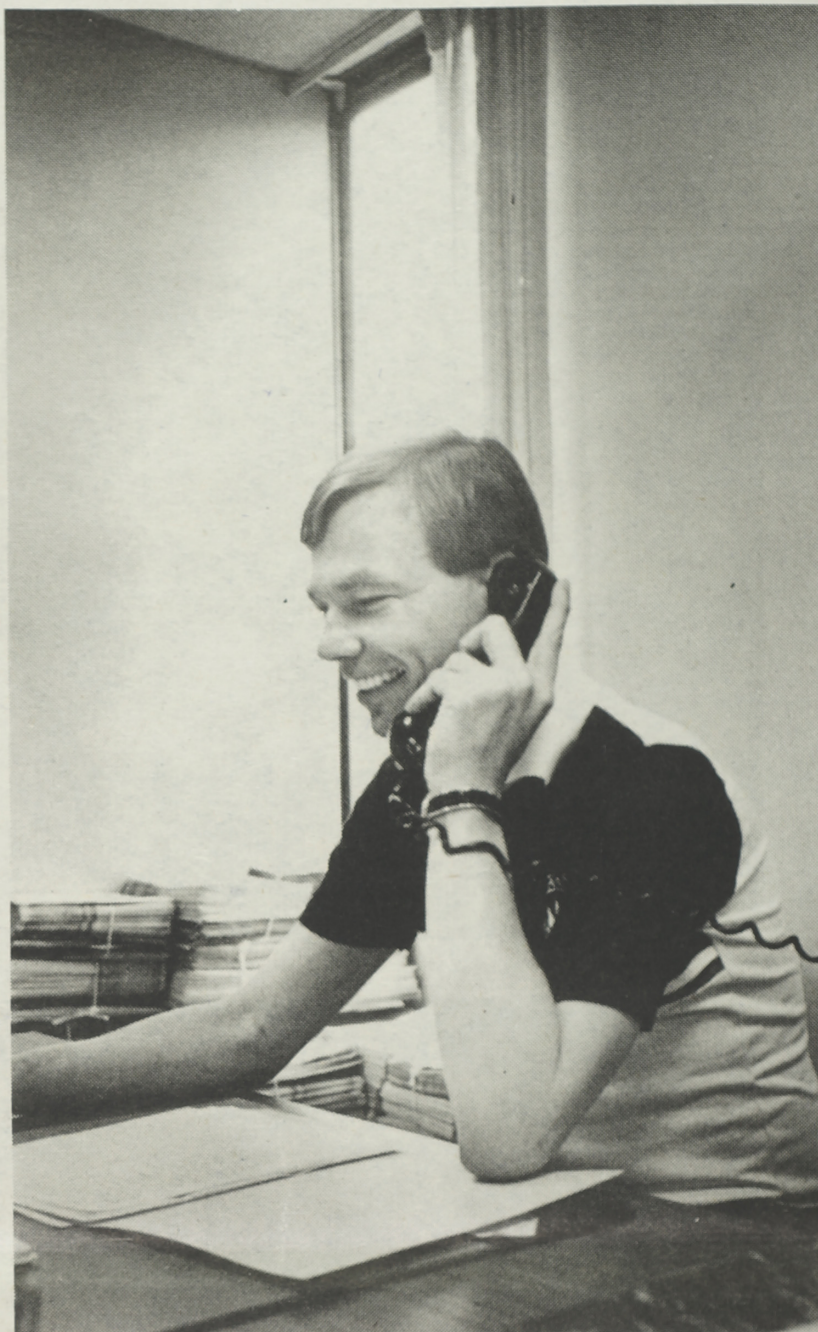
Ave., Warwick.

Third prize - a stereo cassette radio - was won by David Romans of 324 Mt. Pleasant Ave., Providence.

Fourth prize - a digital clock radio - was won by Mrs. Ursula Winter, 60 Belcourt Ave., North Providence.

Fifth prize - the cassette recorder - went to Ronald Zednik of 23 Fairmount Ave., Johnston.

The raffle which benefits the HBSPA cleared \$1,466 above expenses according to Roger Lima, technical supervisor in the RIC Audiovisual Department, chairman of the project. There were 2,711 tickets sold. One half of the money rais-

**MICHAEL NORDSTROM****Counselor**

(Continued from p. 1)

students as we do," McCool said.

Nordstrom emphasizes that, to him, it has been very important that the college is involving the handicapped "in the planning process to achieve change."

He points out that the college is not known as an institution which is accessible to one specific group of handicapped student. "RIC is not known just as a school for the deaf or just for the visually impaired. The college has individuals with differing handicaps interacting with each other." It makes his role at once more complicated and more encompassing.

One area to which he has given special attention is the social development of handicapped students. Often as a result of their impairment these students have not developed the social skills to go along with their intellectual development, he notes. "I'm struck by the sense students have that they must complete their course in a four year period of time. Many of them do not develop socially in that time. I encourage a student to take some time and look at the whole institution." Nordstrom explains that he advocates as much involvement in extra-curricular activity as the student can handle. He emphasizes his belief that a great deal of a college education takes place beyond the confines of the classroom.

However, he has devoted a good amount of his time to the classroom experience of the handicapped at RIC. In addition to being a student, Michael has taken a fling at being a teacher, too.

"The thing that I have enjoyed most has been the willingness of faculty members to allow me to team teach courses from the perspective of the handicapped." He has done such teaching in philosophy and communications and is investigating the possibility of similar involvement in sociology and psychology in the future. It is likely that he will be available to provide his special perspective to classes at RIC next fall. He is planning to remain at the college for graduate work, aiming to create an individualized master's degree program in handicapped studies. He hopes to be able to combine work in psychology and counselor education to come up with his own program in this area in which he has had so much practical experience.

On May 23, when diplomas are handed out, the college, among its honors, will give an honorary doctor of public service degree to Albert T. Pimentel, a deaf man who heads the National Association for the Deaf. It is the International Year of Disabled Persons, and RIC is recognizing the contributions of this national figure in his field. When Michael Nordstrom's name is read and he receives his BGS degree, the RIC community will be acknowledging the achievements of another advocate of the handicapped who had toiled right in its midst.

Please see related story on page 3.

ed will go to the HBSPA treasury to fund on-going projects and events. The other half of the monies, \$733, will be used to establish a fund for home-room teachers at the school to support special projects such as field trips for which budgets do not now exist.

The drawing took place in the Donovan Dining Center. The following

Henry Barnard School students drew the winning slips from the drum: Cheryl Lima, 1st grade; Roger Lima, Jason Martiesian, Africa Costa, and Sienna Mallozzi, all 3rd graders.

Also drawing were Michael Mallozzi, 5th grade and April Dennis, Melinda Brooks and Livia Mallozzi, 6th graders.



## RIC's Barbara Matheson: Designs By 'Eureka Process'

by Evelyn Shatkin

Barbara Matheson thinks, speaks, works at a rapid rate. She maintains the speed with an overwhelming record of accomplishment in the arts. Now, as Rhode Island College's costume designer. At other times, it has been as writer, artist, sculptor and performing artist.

Matheson has a theory about creative achievement. She calls it the "eureka process." The impact of Matheson's eureka process on the world as yet has not challenged that of Einstein's theory of relativity - but those who know the talented lady do not rule out the possibility.

Relaxing after her latest triumph - some 58 Hapsburg-era costumes designed for the RIC recent production of Rodgers and Hammerstein's *Cinderella* - the dynamic Barbara explained the origin of her formula.

Starting out as an art student at Boston University, she soon transferred to the university's theatre arts department. Her aim was to bring her singing, dancing and acting ability to full productivity.

Being practical, "because I had to make money," she concluded after some experience in the theatre that she couldn't accomplish her goal to earn a living as a ballerina, actress or vocal artist. Barbara retains the sparkle of a show-biz personality but feels she has come into her own as costume designer.

Initially, she thought there must be some great perception that creative artists have.

"How we see, and how we imagine our perception has a great deal to do with the way any creative person functions," she says.

### No Single Ingredient

She found instead, as she delved into the subject, that while her original premise was true, that all the psychological testing in the world did not equal the power of the intuitive process in creative effort.

Barbara considers it appropriate to label the intuitive factor the eureka process.

Barbara has found that no single ingredient makes the creative process click. She thinks that life itself is a matter of creativity.

"It's a matter of coping versus expressing oneself. One does in fact create one's own life, since we create what we like," she observes.

Barbara has indeed created what many have liked, with her one-person art shows which include paintings, drawings and sculpture. Her work has been shown in her home community of Newton, Mass., and at Emerson College during her 10 year stint as costume designer there before coming to RIC in 1971. She has also exhibited in a number of shows and private collections.

Her costume designs have been displayed in numerous educational and professional gatherings as in the New England Theatrical Conference at Northeastern University in which musical comedy was accented and her designs for the *genre* highlighted.

"Costume design is an interdisciplinary field. It goes all over education to include history, geography, drama, psychology," she says.

Crediting the RIC theatre arts staff with giving her tremendous support, she does acknowledge that when she began in the early 1970's, she was "handed a sewing box and asked to build a department."

How does RIC professional staff feel about her?

"We have such good rapport. Working with her is marvelous," says Dr. William Hutchinson.

After designing costumes for over 100 shows, Matheson has achieved a mastery of her art and enjoys communicating these talents to her students.

"When students come in from high school, they think that it's like Halloween. That's the lowest level. Just fun you know, like going into your mother's closet," says Matheson.

"Then, there's the top level - creating costumes for Broadway, Hollywood, Las Vegas where it's a heavily unionized business with all manner of rules.

"It's a business, a field, a profession -

it's big money."

"Thousands of yards of materials - thousands of everything! One is dealing with an inventory of costumes. A huge investment. So, wherever a student goes, into repertory, regional theatre, off-Broadway, Broadway, film, television, night club entertainment, the circus, each one is a wholly different ball game."

"There are so many approaches and then a next step and a next step. The RIC costume shop is a mini-structure within an undergraduate program. Here, there is a wide range of possibilities to become a costumer, a draper, a tailor, a cutter," she continued.

Costume design draws from all academic areas, and Barbara finds inspiration everywhere.

"Everywhere," she smiles, "with the possible exception of computers!" She remains intrigued with people and nature.

### a la Hapsburg

It was after viewing a Hapsburg period exhibit at New York's Metropolitan Museum last year that Barbara and Raymond Picozzi, RIC's communications and theatre department chairman, who had also seen the exhibit agreed, "Let's do *Cinderella* a la Hapsburg!"

Picozzi directed the musical.

*Cinderella* required roughly 85 costumes for 42 people in the cast and company. Described by one critic as a "big, flossy joy," the show was costumed in a romantic, Viennese mood. The costumes were all made from "scratch" with a generous assist coming in the form of a gift of "prom" tuxedos presented by a Providence shop. The tuxedos were happily utilized in the ball scene.

Barbara's enthusiasm for a project is infectious. With respect to *Cinderella* - "Many people worked on the costumes. In addition to the basic crew in the costume shop, there were many volunteers. Half the cast came in to do all manner of things to complete production." The cost for this full-scale costuming is a fraction of what it would be in the professional theatre, ranging between \$2,500 to \$3,000.

*Cinderella's* ball gown was lovingly hand beaded, and generally looked like a magic bit from fairyland. Colors for *Cinderella's* clothes were planned to be pale and soft, shimmering white and gold. Other costumes had glittering stones pasted on, but *Cinderella's* gown was hand-beaded to achieve a "lovely, floating look whenever she moved." Such detail is part of Matheson's working approach.

Among those helping with *Cinderella* costumes was Mrs. Beverly Burrows, mother of Jeffrey Scott Burrows, a RIC junior, who had recently won regional recognition for his costume designs.

### Jumped and Shouted

When Barbara heard from Mrs. Burrows that Jeff had also won the American College Theatre Festival national costume competition, she jumped in the air and shouted, overjoyed that Jeffrey had won. Jeff has worked under Barbara's tutelage.

Re-examining her premise of creativity being a matter of intuition, Matheson related her eureka process to the promising Burrows who had been judged the outstanding student costume designer in the country, all the more remarkable since, as an undergraduate, he had competed with the cream of graduate students in the costume field.

Barbara sees herself as on-going. Her active, eclectic view of life keys her direction to new horizons. Late in the summer of 1981, she will design costumes for the play *Bent*, a professional theatre production planned for a Boston run. The play, which has been on Broadway, is the antithesis of *Cinderella*. The plot revolves around Nazi concentration camp mores and is grim and controversial.

Whether derived from the eureka process or the reflect-glory of her students' achievements, Barbara Matheson's accomplishments do stem from quantities of mind and heart, and fortunately for those of us on the sidelines, they ARE on-going! What next?



CREATING BY 'EUREKA PROCESS' Barbara Matheson, RIC's costume designer, examines a costume designed for *Cinderella*, a recent RIC production.

## Council Elects

At its May 13th meeting the newly elected Council of Rhode Island College balloted to choose its leadership. Dr. Peter Moore, associate professor of economics and management, was elected chair on the second ballot. Mrs. Sally Wilson, associate professor in the library, was chosen secretary, also on the second ballot. Drs. Philip Whitman,

professor of mathematics and George Epple, associate professor of anthropology / geography, were elected members at large of the executive board. The council is composed of 31 members - 25 faculty, 4 administrators and 2 students. Nine members of the previous council were re-elected to the present body.

## Letters To The Editor

Dear Mr. Sasso:

As a recipient of a senior award, I am writing to inform you of my disappointment with the photo published in *What's News* at RIC, May 11, 1981, Vol. 1, No. 32.

It is obvious that the selections of the photo layout appearing in the center section of the paper were done out-of-character. Apparently, the "highest achievers" received the lowest priority in the photo essay.

Since *What's News* at RIC is a paper representing Rhode Island College, I feel that the graduating seniors who received awards were not given proper recognition.

Sincerely,  
Doreen A. Bloomer

(Editor's Note: *What's News* sincerely regrets the circumstances which prompted the above letter. In order to run the photo spread on *Cap and Gown Day*, which appeared in last week's issue, it was necessary to hold the paper at the production plant until the last moment. Normal deadline is Wednesday at noon. *Cap and Gown Convocation* began at noon and concluded at 5 p.m. In the haste to make the late deadline, it was necessary to choose photos on the basis of reproduction potential, i.e. quality, size, space available, etc. With additional time, it has been possible to reproduce the photo on page 8).

### Welcomes Letters

*WHAT'S NEWS* AT RIC welcomes the receipt of letters of college-wide interest and will publish them regularly. The editors reserve the right to limit length and to condense submissions with the author's consent in order to meet space requirements. Letters to *WHAT'S NEWS* should be sent to the attention of the editor, The Bureau. All letters must

be signed by the author and dated. We look forward to airing readers' views and concerns and continuing the expansion of internal communication at Rhode Island College.

Laurence J. Sasso, Jr.  
Editor



sophomore of 37 Uxbridge Street, Cranston; Pamela Hoff, a sophomore from 37 Wisteria Drive, Coventry; Fred J. Anzevino Jr., a junior of 101 Preston Avenue, Cranston, and Jim Beauregard, a sophomore from 1720 Dimond Hill Road, Cumberland. Howe lives at 2 Joann Drive, Barrington.

Since graduating from RIC, Howe has acted with the Brown University Summer Theatre and served as a disc jockey at WARA radio in Attleboro, Massachusetts. At RIC, in addition to his work in Cabaret '79, he appeared in many productions including *The Robber Bridegroom* which was judged one of the six best plays in the nation by the American College Theatre Festival in 1977.

Kathleen Bebeau had the lead role in RIC's recent production of *Cinderella*. She has been active in RIC Theatre, appearing in such offerings as *Wonderful Town*, *Macbeth*, *Gilbert and Sullivan Music Hall* and the like. She also appeared with the Bay Voyager Inn's cabaret style show in 1979.

Diane Capotosto also appeared in *Cinderella* as Joy, one of the step sisters. She has performed with the Marriott Inn's cabaret and with the Just As We Are Players in a cabaret version of *Starting Here, Starting Now*. At RIC she has been seen in *Wonderful Town*, *Stop the World I Want to Get Off* and *The Brick and the Rose*.

Pamela Hoff made her debut at the College in *Madness, Mayhem and Mockery*, three one act plays by Moliere. She also was in the cast of *Cinderella*. She has studied music for a number of years and toured Europe with the Greater Hartford Youth Chorale while a high school student in Connecticut.

Frank Anzevino is back at RIC where he is combining an interest in theatre with social welfare after a two and one half year stay in New York City. In New York he studied at the American Academy of Dramatic Arts where he appeared in *The Shadow Box* and *Rimmers of Eldrich*. He also played in *Snow Jobbers* at the 18th Street Playhouse. At RIC Fred has been seen in *Happy Birthday Wanda June*, *The Lady's Not For Burning* and *The Devil's Disciple*. He has previously performed in cabaret style productions at The Stonebridge Inn in Tiverton. He hopes to combine his interests in criminology and theatre and develop skills in drama therapy.

Jim Beauregard has been seen in RIC's Summer Theatre for Children,

and the RIC production of *Cinderella*, *The Brick and the Rose*, *The Bacchae*, and *Stop the World I Want to Get Off*. Beauregard is extremely interested in dance and has been a member of the RIC Dance Company as well as having studied with Madeline Marshall, the Cabaret '81 choreographer.

Marshall, of 9 Fruit Street, Cranston, has choreographed a number of shows for RIC including the recent *Cinderella*, *Stop the World I Want to Get Off*, *The Brick and the Rose* and Summer Theatre for Children. She has a ballet studio in Cranston and has choreographed for the Just As We Are Players Summer Theatre for the past 14 years and has choreographed shows at Cranston East High School. She studied dance herself in New York at the American Ballet Theatre, and at the Boston Conservatory.

David Burr joined the RIC faculty in the fall of 1979. A graduate of Olivet College, he earned his MA and Ph.D. at the University of Michigan. He specializes in the teaching of acting and directing. Among the shows which he has won recognition for directing are *Macbeth*, *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*, *Tartuffe*, and *Long Day's Journey Into Night*.

Howard Fine, of 86 Norman Ave., Cranston, first began directing at Cranston East High School working with the theatre instructor there, Donald Babbitt. At RIC he has concentrated on the study of directing, calling the signals for such shows as *Kennedy's Children*, *The Brick and the Rose* and several others. He intends to go on to study directing in graduate school and hopes to teach and direct at the college level.

Bette Regan, a junior of RFD 1, Box 387, Saunderstown, is stage manager. She has performed similar functions for a number of shows at Prout Memorial High School and at RIC, where her credits include *Cinderella*, *Robin Hood*, *Hang On Claire Marie* and others. She has served as a lighting consultant with the Rhode Island Feminist Theatre and has worked at Trinity Square Repertory Theatre Company as an electrician.

Cabaret '81 tickets will cost \$5 Sunday night through Thursday. On Friday the cost is \$6 and on Saturday it will be \$7. The theatre will be dark on Tuesdays. For reservations before June 2 call 456-8270. After June 2 the number will be 456-8227. Brochures describing Cabaret '81 are due out this week. Performances, as in past years, will be in the Student Union Ballroom.

## Cabaret '81



NEW AT HELM: Cabaret '81's directorial staff will include (l-r): Howard Fine, artistic director, Madeline Marshall, choreographer, and Mark Colozzi, musical director. Season opens with an all-RIC cast on June 18.

## intimacy - newness



A CLOSER LOOK: Winners of Cap and Gown Day Convocation awards who made themselves available for the photographer following the ceremonies in Roberts Hall May 6 are (front, l-r): Carolyn J. Tata, the Theodore Lemeshka Award; Joanne Mouradjian, the Cantor Jacob Hohenemser Award; Jennifer Mahoney, the Elementary Education Faculty Award; Patricia Denoncourt, the Bertha Christina Andrews Emin Award; and Linda Petrosinelli, the Elementary Education Faculty Award. Also (center, l-r): Karen Brown, the Bertha Christina Andrews Emin Award; Kevin L. Doyle, the John H. Chafee Award; Mark O. Hamel, the Nursing Faculty Award; Mary Ellen Threlfall, the James Houston Award; Ellen Kitchell-Riker, the Wall Street Journal Award; Dorene A. Bloomer, the Lauris B. Whitman Award; Julie Romanelli, the Psychology Faculty Senior Award; Stephen P. Alberg, the Philosophy Award and Edna M. deMedeiros, the Ronald J. Boruch Award. In the rear are (l-r): Robert Laquerre, the Epsilon Pi Tau, Sigma Chapter Award; Kevin Raponi, the Christopher Mitchell Award; David F. Ouellette, the Evelyn Walsh Prize; Arthur J. Kelley, the Claiborne D. Pell Award and Howard L. Fine, the Rhode Island College Theatre Award.