



# WHAT'S NEWS

AT RHODE ISLAND COLLEGE

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## Computer novice professor teaches class via internet

by Shelly Murphy  
What's News Editor

Technology has been advancing at full speed this academic year at Rhode Island College as state-of-the-art computer equipment and support funded by the passage of the technology bond issue cropped up all over the campus. The result has been greater access and the opening of doors for students, faculty and staff.

Perhaps no one has been impacted — actually transformed — by the new technology more than Belle Evans, chair of the masters of social work department, who was “completely computer illiterate” as of December 1997. However, in January 1998 she found herself at the keyboard teaching social work administration to eight students via the internet.

She's actually teaching two sections of that course this semester: one via the internet; the other in the traditional classroom setting. The students had the option of choosing either section. Both sections have the same course work including

**“This is the wave of the future. There is no end to the possibilities with the virtual classroom.”**

**—Belle Evans, professor**

readings, assignments and even an “oral” presentation.

The internet students get their assignments and readings off the class' web page, e-mail their assignments in and converse via e-mail as many students and professors have been doing for some time. The difference with this class is that they do not meet in a bricks and mortar classroom. They meet in a net meeting using software that creates a virtual classroom — or chat room — open only to the class members.

Evans teaches the traditional section of the class from 5 to 8 p.m. on Tuesdays and then walks over to the technology center where she enters the virtual classroom to teach the second section. Evans and the students type in their comments which appear on everyone's computer screen next to the “speaker's” name, like a transcript.

While this creates a valuable record of the class for students to refer back to, it can be a bit slow and can become confusing, Evans reports. For instance, one evening her laptop wouldn't connect properly so she signed on using another computer. So all of her remarks that evening appeared as “John.”

Despite some technical difficulties,

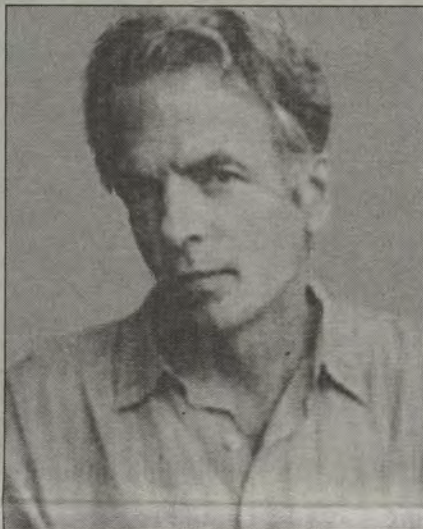
See Internet Class, page 4

Spalding Gray, Paul Binder, B. Jae Clanton and Armand M. LaMontagne to receive honorary degrees

## College to bestow over 1,300 degrees at 1998 commencement exercises

by Shelly Murphy  
What's News Editor

More than 1,300 Rhode Island College undergraduate and graduate students will receive their diplomas



SPALDING GRAY

during the 1998 commencement exercises. This year's undergraduate festivities are expected to draw a gathering of 10,000 or more attendees — undergraduates, their friends and families, and faculty, staff and friends of the College — who will hear the wry and humorous observations of Rhode Island native, Spalding Gray, considered one of the foremost monologists of the 20th Century. The undergraduate commencement exercises are scheduled for Saturday, May 23, beginning at 9:30 a.m. on the esplanade in front of the New Building.



PAUL BINDER

About 360 graduate students and their guests will listen to remarks by Paul Binder, founder and artistic director of the Big Apple Circus, a non-profit traveling performing arts

troupe dedicated to keeping alive the old-time circus tradition as an expression of American folk art. Binder, who will receive an Honorary Doctorate of Fine Arts Degree, will speak at the graduate commencement exercises scheduled for Thursday, May 21, beginning at 5:30 p.m. in the New Building.

Among the graduate students accepting diplomas will be the first graduates of the Master of Fine Arts program, a collaboration with the



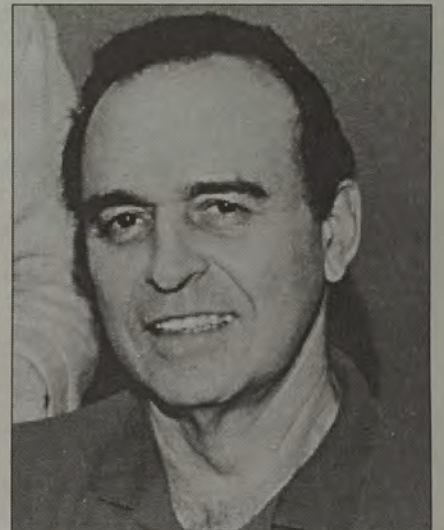
B. JAE CLANTON

nationally recognized Trinity Repertory Company and its Conservatory. Nine students, including two who hold bachelors degrees in theatre from RIC — Eric Tucker and his wife Jennifer Mudge Tucker, have successfully completed the three-year program instituted in the fall of 1995.

The collaboration was built on a long-standing relationship between RIC and Trinity, extending back over 25 years. For 14 years prior to the program's inception, RIC and Trinity had collaborated on an individualized master of arts in theatre program.

The 30 students currently in the program are drawn from throughout the United States.

The graduate speaker Binder, was born and raised in Brooklyn. He is a 1963 graduate of Dartmouth College and earned an MBA at Columbia University. He began his professional career as stage manager for Julia Child's *The French Chef* on WGBH, and later spent several years as a talent scout for Merv Griffin. Venturing to San Francisco, he learned juggling with the San Francisco Mime Troupe. There, he met Michael Christensen, and together they traveled throughout Europe, earning a living by juggling on street corners and eventually joining Annie Fratellini's legendary Nouveau Cirque de Paris. Binder returned to the United States determined to create an American circus with the same dedication to theatrical excellence and artistic intimacy as he had experienced in Europe.



ARMAND M. LAMONTAGNE

This dream became reality in 1977 when the Big Apple Circus made its debut. The one-ring circus performs under a classic five-story tall Big Top tent where every one of its 2,000 seats are within 50 feet of the ring.

Now celebrating its 20th season, this July the Circus will bring its magic to Ninigret State Park in Charlestown, one of the regular stops

See Commencement, page 8

In  
their  
own  
words...



Katherine Ferry

Class of 2001

Recipient of:  
RIC Alumni  
Freshman Award

Education is a most valuable tool in our lives. Its merit is to be found both professionally and personally. In today's society, individuals face growing competition in the job market. Employers seek those persons who have secured a higher education when hiring. Individuals such as these are looked upon as an investment in the future of a company and many find themselves in careers which are very satisfying. Those who have not obtained a college education are often at a disadvantage when searching for employment. Without an education, chances of securing such a satisfying career may be limited.

In addition, a solid education is necessary in this age of science and

See Alumni Scholarship, page 3



## The Way We Were...

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



**HAMMING IT UP:** In this 1960 photo, which appeared in the yearbook, *Ricoled*, we see some very dramatic reactions to a very intense chess match, or as the yearbook had it: "Enthusiastic spectators await outcome of a game in the Men's Lounge." (File photo)

## Focus on Faculty and Staff



**Steve C. Imber**, professor of special education, coordinated a presentation entitled "I Can't Believe That My Student Actually Ate His Home-

work!: Practical Behavioral Interventions at the Elementary and Middle School Level" at the 14th annual Behavioral, Emotional and Social Trends Conference at the Holiday Inn at the Crossings, Warwick, April 3.

Imber shared behavioral interventions through the creation of a multimedia animated slide presentation which incorporated concepts he has shared with his students during the past 25 years in special education. One of Imber's co-presenters was Caroline Mack, a former student of Imber who earned her degree in 1980. For the past several years she has served as a special and elementary education teacher for the Lincoln school department.

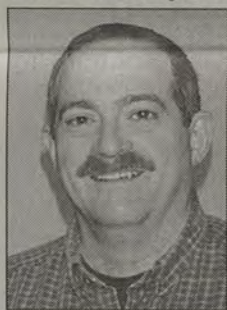
## Alumni scholarships, book awards

Scholarship applications for the 1998-99 academic year are available in the Alumni Office. Last year nearly 70 students received assistance which is made possible through the Annual Fund appeal. There are freshmen awards for children and grandchildren of alumni as well as a full tuition scholarship for the sophomore, junior and senior with the highest GPA who also happens to be a child or grandchild of an alumnus/a.

The Alumni departmental scholarship is available to all RIC students, who have a GPA of 2.75 or higher. This award is based on GPA and essay. To be eligible for this award you must have earned your undergraduate degree at the College and must be accepted as a full-time graduate student in a RIC master's degree program.

The Alumni Office also reviews

**David L. Abrahamson**, associate professor of mathematics, has had two articles accepted for publication in the journal *Mathematics in College*. In the first article, "Revisiting the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus in the Era of Reform," the pedagogical approach to presenting the



theoretical aspects of the calculus sequence as technology and applications change college courses is discussed.

The second article, written jointly with **Helen Salzberg**, professor of mathematics, is entitled "A Mathematical Modeling Perspective on Baseball Statistics." A statistical analysis of which baseball statistics are most relevant in terms of the correlation with team runs scored is presented together with an easy-to-remember grading scale for the contribution of individual players.

applications for the Frank and Agnes Campbell Scholarship which is for a sophomore, junior or senior who is a Rhode Island resident, with a GPA of at least a 3.0 and submits an essay. Applications which outline the criteria for both awards are available in the Alumni Office.

### Book awards

With upcoming local high school graduation ceremonies close at hand, the RIC Alumni Book Award will be presented at many ceremonies across the state. Last year, the award, which is a hard cover dictionary and thesaurus imprinted with the College logo and packaged in a hard bound sleeve, was presented to 44 high school seniors planning to attend RIC. The Alumni Association is eager to expand this program and asks that you call the Alumni Office at 456-8086 for more information.

## Celebrate Saveur Francaise May 3

The French-American School of Rhode Island in Providence invites members of the Rhode Island College community to celebrate Saveur Francaise Sunday, May 3, at a 6:30 p.m. dinner (cash bar 6 p.m.) in the CAV restaurant, Providence.

Mayor of Providence Vincent A. Cianci and the general consul of France in Boston will be the guests of honor.

Tickets are \$45. Proceeds benefit the children of the school. If interested, call the school at 455-3437 or the RIC modern language department at 456-8029.

Ghislaine A. Geloin, associate professor of modern languages at RIC, also announces that summer camps at the French-American School will be run June 29-July 3 and July 6-10 for children ages 4 to 10.

She says this is "a great opportunity" for children to be exposed to another language through the school's partial immersion program.

Anyone interested should call the school or the RIC modern language

department.

On April 16, students of French at RIC went to the French-American School to work with elementary students studying the same foreign language. They read universal stories with which all could identify and prepared the children to relate the stories in the foreign language to their parents later in the day.

In other news of interest to Francophiles, Geloin reports that a francophone channel broadcasting 24-hours-a-day has made it to the U.S.

Available through Direct TV via the EchoStar satellite, persons interested in buying the package can call 1-800-333-3474 and ask for Option 2 twice.

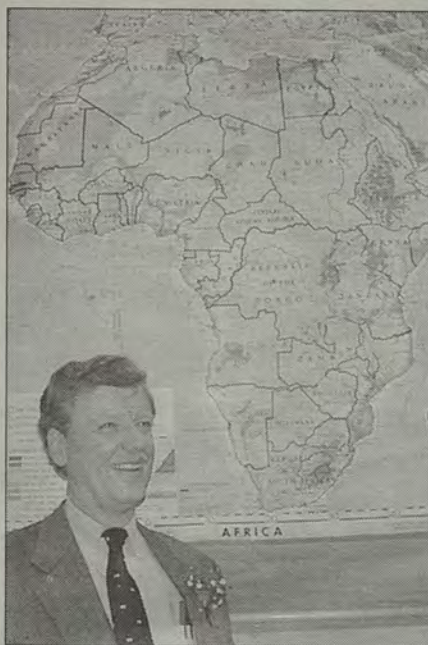
With the package you also can get RFI (radio international) that offers news analysis worldwide.

Dix S. Coons, associate professor of modern languages, says the College is investigating the possibility of hooking up to the satellite. For more information, call the department.



**TEACHER JOB FAIR:** (Standing l & r) RIC seniors Julie Amaral and Michael Browner talk to Pat Murphy of Quincy, Mass. during the 4th annual Job Fair for Teachers sponsored by the Rhode Island Consortium for Educators. The fair, held Thursday, April 16 at the Inn at the Crossings in Warwick, attracted recruiters from as far away as Texas and Nevada. (What's News Photo by Gordon E. Rowley)

## African Turning Points



**THORP LECTURE:** Richard Lobban, professor of anthropology/geography, just before he delivered the FAS Mary Tucker Thorp Creativity and Scholarship Lecture on Thursday, April 16 in Fogarty Life Science 050. The title of his presentation was "African Turning Points." (What's News Photo by Gordon E. Rowley)

## WHAT'S NEWS

AT RHODE ISLAND COLLEGE

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# Russian grandmother makes it all count

by Cynthia L. Sousa  
What's News Writer

**E**lla Yanko arrived in the United States from the former Soviet Union, not speaking a word of English and more than a little apprehensive about what the future would hold. Her possessions included only a few dresses and a few dollars.

In May, only seven years later, this 58-year-old grandmother will receive a baccalaureate degree in accounting *summa cum laude*. She will also be recognized for her outstanding scholastic achievements at the Cap and Gown awards ceremony on May 6 when she will receive the John Silva Memorial Scholastic Award.

For Yanko, the adjustment to life in these United States has been incredibly difficult but worthwhile nonetheless.

Born in Moldova, a small country southwest of the former Soviet Union, Yanko, who earned a high school diploma in the former Soviet Union, worked as an accountant and computer programmer there for 15 years.

She left familiar faces and grounds and came to this country with her immediate family in search of prosperity, freedom, financial success and equality.

Her son Alexander, now a computer programmer in Pennsylvania, and daughter Marina, a physical therapist in Rhode Island, had learned English in school, but Yanko did not know one word of English.

She was frightened and discouraged by the overwhelming feeling that she would never learn to speak and understand the English language. Other cultural differences were also very difficult to get used to — the clothing, the food and the abundance of everything.

She enrolled in an English-as-a-Second-Language course at the Community College of Rhode Island — a brave first step.

Gradually, she began to grasp and comprehend words, then sentences. It made life a little more bearable. The homesickness began to lessen and she was adapting to some of the



ELLA YANKO

customs here.

With these accomplishments under her belt, Yanko had the confidence to take the next step. She enrolled in an associate's degree program at CCRI. She toiled through the courses, finished the accounting program and didn't stop there.

She set her sights on a bachelor's degree and enrolled at Rhode Island College. With the help of her professors whom she says were all "great," and other supportive staff at the College, Yanko was able to "get the most" out of her experience here.

Associate Professor of Accounting Marilyn Sylvestre had Yanko in her classroom. She said, "Ella is one of those rare students who wants to learn — the grade is important to her, but most important is how much she can learn."

It is evident to Sylvestre that this determined student doesn't let her

age interfere with the fact that she's starting a new career in a new country.

"She's always thinking about the future and trying to plan what her next move should be," she said.

Sometimes it is difficult for Yanko to believe all that she has accomplished. She says that all of the hardships of immigrating to America have been worth it.

To Yanko, the United States is still the "land of dreams" and a "melting pot of cultures." "The different cultures and heritages of the people that live here are what makes this a great country," she said. "It's important for descendants of immigrants to hold on to their culture."

America has a much higher standard of living than European countries, Yanko feels. She also believes that people here are friendlier, less judgmental and very open and frank. She is often amazed at the work of charitable and volunteer organizations. There were no such "acts of compassion" where she comes from. And certainly no government agencies to take care of the environment.

Yanko's ability to adapt to the United States, although it took some time, was the saving grace to her survival here.

When she drives down the street to her apartment in Providence she feels good about herself and is very thankful to the American government for giving her the opportunities she has had.

She feels that there are no excuses for Americans not to take advantage of the educational opportunities available in the states. Citing herself as living proof, she says "Anything is possible, if you put your mind to it."

Yanko's next goal is to land a job where she can "give back" some of the knowledge and skills she has been so lucky to have acquired. She hopes to obtain a position where she can use her native language, perhaps in an international business setting.

And she is looking forward to seeing the accomplishments of her children and grandchildren in the "land of endless opportunity."



## What's News

### Chance to play grandmaster

Local chess players will have a chance to match their skills against a two-time U.S. chess champion Saturday, May 30, from 1-6 p.m. in the Warwick Mall. Cost to compete is \$10, or you may just watch for free.

Patrick Wolff, a grandmaster who formerly played for the Harvard University chess team, will be on hand to take on all comers, says James Della Selva, president of the Rhode Island College Chess Club, which is sponsoring the event along with RIC Student Parliament.

All proceeds will go to the RIC Chess Club.

To sign-up in advance, call Della Selva at 351-9558 or send a check payable to the RIC Chess Club to James Della Selva, 3 Salvan St., Providence, RI 02911.

### Mental health counselors to meet

In honor of Mental Health Month, the Rhode Island Mental Health Counselors Association will hold its annual Mental Health Month meeting Tuesday, May 5, at 5 p.m. in the Board of Governors Conference Room in Roberts Hall at Rhode Island College.

Suzanne G. Riggs, MD, director of the division of adolescent medicine at Rhode Island Hospital, and associate professor of pediatrics at Brown University, will speak on "Etiology and Treatment of Eating Disorders."

### Chess team takes second place

Rhode Island College Chess Team took second place with three wins and one loss in the April 18-19 New England Amateur Championship held in the Donovan Dining Center.

RIC lost to The Rooks, a New Bedford team, one of 10 in the tourney.

### Alumni scholarship

Continued from page 1

technology. Computers have become a part of virtually every facet of our lives. With the fast paced technological advances taking place in every career field, one cannot succeed without the proper skills.

Completing a college degree brings with it an immense feeling of pride and personal accomplishment. There is a great sense of comfort knowing that you have the basic tools to set out and venture into the field of your choice. The more extensive background knowledge and experience, the better chance there is for future achievement.

In this day and age we are forced to work harder to obtain a better education. Our future depends upon how hard we push ourselves and strive to succeed in life. Without an education, success becomes that much more difficult to obtain. While many people take their education for granted, its worth is far beyond the cost of tuition. It is a priceless gift that lasts a lifetime.



**MOMENT OF TRUTH:** A team of 4th-and-5th-grade students from Henry Barnard School won second place in the Our Odyssey of the Mind (OM) competition held at Barrington High School on Saturday, April 4. OM is a program that promotes creative thinking and teamwork in problem-solving. The problem was to create a balsa wood structure that could support considerable weight. Requirements also demanded that the structure be presented in a skit. Above, reenacting the skit are (l to r background) Kendra Forsythe, Matthew Swartz, Toni Janik, Drew Verardo, Amy Wasylyk, (l & r foreground) Max Ackerman and Michael Bruno. (What's News Photo by Gordon E. Rowley)



# Technology in action

The cutting edge—

## Prof puts calculus in new dimension

You've probably heard more than once about little kids who are not in the least intimidated by computers.

If only that were true about their older brothers and sisters who are now in college.

Math Prof. Mariano "Rod" Rodrigues of Rhode Island College said many students are still leery about using computers, although as time goes on and today's "little kids" grow to college age that will change drastically.

For now, however, Rodrigues has succeeded in immersing his calculus students in web pages to exchange information with him and with other students.

It has been so successful that the International Conference on Technology in Collegiate Mathematics (ICTCM) recently awarded him \$1,000 for his work on "Integrating Student Web Pages in a Calculus Course."

Rodrigues explained that since the web pages sprung up on us several years ago, teachers could get information to students such as a course syllabus, an attendance policy or lecture notes instead of printing these out as in the past. This was, obviously, a one-way communication.

Rodrigues later added to this the process of animation whereby he could move lines on a page.

To receive communication from his students — apart from setting up — he had to teach them how to get on the web.

Then they could communicate with him through e-mail and forums (e-mail that stays posted).

Next step in Rodrigues' project was getting his students to submit calculus homework on the web page.

"This was involving the students in a new arena," pointed out Rodrigues, and they responded to his instruction successfully.

Photos of the students were introduced to the web pages. By clicking on the face, you can go to their web page; by clicking on the student's name, you can send e-mail.

Rodrigues reported that someone in Germany became inquisitive and clicked onto one of his students' work.

The 10th annual ICTCM conference "was drawn" to the homework aspect of Rodrigues' presentation, resulting in the award "for excellence and innovation with the use of technology in collegiate mathematics."

G.L.

## Academic committee charts course for future

John Salesses, vice president for academic affairs, appointed an Academic Technology Committee in February to conduct strategic planning relating to the use of communications technology in academic affairs and to make recommendations on processes and policies as they relate to the College's academic plan. The committee's goal is to draft the College's academic technology plan by the end of the semester.

James Magyar, professor of physical sciences, serves as the chair. The committee members are: Crist Costa, computer information systems; Allyson Dickie, academic user services; E. Belle Evans, social work; Richard Keogh, research and grants; James McCroskery, arts and sci-

## Faculty, staff gain access to latest technology

A Faculty-Professional Staff Development Area featuring high-end computer equipment will be installed in the Horace Mann Hall Technology Center beginning April 27.

Most of the equipment has been available for faculty and professional staff use since January, but as of April 27 it will be moved from an area along a wall in the new Tech Center to a more private and permanent area at the back of the center.

The area's usage will be limited to faculty and professional staff. Other computer work stations for students only are already set up and functioning there as a result of the November 1996 technology bond issue passage.

Allyson B. Dickie, manager of

User Services in the Computer Center, reports that 10 work stations will be set aside for this section.

They include two Macintosh high-end PCs, one fully equipped with video editing equipment which can in-take a VCR-analog video, edit it on the Mac and be put back on the VCR tape. One has a Syquest drive and both have CD-Rom and floppy disk drives.

There are four Dell Work Stations 400, one attached to a zip drive, and a color Hewlett Packard scan jet which scans text and pictures. One is attached to a CD writable drive so you can create your own CD.

Two are "very high end" graphics work stations. These will be used to explore advanced graphics-intense

applications such as computer assisted design (CAD).

All 10 work stations have Powerpoint which allows faculty to create their own slides and overheads for presentations.

Dickie says all work stations have access to a color, high quality, laser printer. Faculty will be able to create color overhead transparencies and print them out.

All work stations have World Wide Web access and are equipped with web page development software.

Dickie says the center has student staff to assist people to create home pages.

She estimates that the work creating the new area will be complete within two weeks.

G.L.

## Internet class

Continued from page 1

the group persevered. "We've had to have a sense of humor," Evans says, recalling some of the glitches like the time when she couldn't get access to her own virtual classroom and the students were there waiting for her. Evans says she now understands why her more computer literate colleagues were not the first to teach an internet class, leaving it to "those who don't know better."

But Evans, who has two degrees in education and characterizes her learning style as "active experimentation," has enjoyed playing the role of pioneer. "This is the wave of the future. Not only for education, but also for management. The students need to be comfortable with electronic technology to do well in management. There is no end to the possibilities with the virtual classroom. You don't need to worry about park-



**SOFTWARE MAESTRO:** Abraham Herrera, a senior, and Prof. Belle Evans prepare for Evans' internet class. (What's News Photo by Gordon E. Rowley)

"I was surprised. I think I know the internet students better because I have more individual contact with them via e-mail. From what I can tell, the net students are doing as well or better than the traditional classroom students."

While the initial work to get the class on-line was tremendous and the frequent corresponding via e-mail is time-consuming, Evans believes the commitment is worthwhile and that the workload between teaching a traditional and virtual classroom would even out eventually, especially as technology improves.

Would she recom-

mend it to other professors? "You

have to really want the challenge and believe it offers opportunity for students. Our students are maxed out as far as work and family. The students are ecstatic. They say they have learned as well or better by the net. And they aren't forced into a specific time slot. They can do the work when they have the time to devote to it."

Christine Famiglietti, one of the internet class students, concurs. She took the internet section because she thought it would be interesting and liked that it was experimental. She also liked the convenience of not driving to campus and the comfort of being in your own house for class.

The flexibility fits into the students' hectic lives, Evans says. "The net meeting time was a cooperative decision. You'll see more of that as teachers and learners cooperate and collaborate. Our students are adults. This puts learning in the hands of the learner. The teacher becomes a resource," Evans says.

Now that she knows enough to know better, would she do it again? Absolutely. She's already scheduled to teach a different class this summer. Look for Evans on a beach this summer with her laptop computer.

Evans is conducting an informal study comparing the learning that takes place in the two drastically different teaching environments. For Evans, the learning began even before the first day of class and hasn't stopped yet.

After "offering myself up as a guinea pig" to teach the first internet class, Evans dove into a crash course in computers, taking every class offered by the technology center on campus and working closely with a student computer technician, Abraham Herrera.

To prepare herself for the venture ahead, she spent quality time over the semester break in a cabin in Canada — curled up with a laptop computer. When classes began in January, Evans was as ready as she could be and rapidly learned how limited her computer knowledge still was. "God bless, Abraham. If it hadn't been for him, we wouldn't have been able to do this. I'm learning as I'm doing and I give the students a lot of credit. All of us jumped right into it."

To date, the foray into distance learning appears to be a success. "I thought we'd lose some of the emotional connectiveness," Evans says.



# Auxiliary 'beat cop' excels in Justice Studies

by George LaTour  
What's News Associate Editor

"Richard's warm and engaging manner reflect his heartfelt desire to improve the lives of those he touches.

"He has been accepted to Northeastern University's graduate program in Criminal Justice, where his intelligence, motivation and empathy will assure him success in both the classroom and the wider arena of criminal justice service," writes Pamela Irving Jackson, director of Rhode Island College Justice Studies.

She is talking about Richard Mona of Cumberland, a 6'4," 240 lb. auxiliary policeman who, as a senior at RIC this year, has won the eighth annual Mary Ann Hawkes Award in Justice Studies, an honor to be bestowed upon him at the annual Cap and Gown Convocation May 6 as the outstanding Justice Studies graduate this year.

Mona didn't find a totally straight path from high school to college graduation. None-the-less, when he graduates — "hopefully *summa cum laude*" (with highest honors) — he will have demonstrated his dedication, perseverance and intelligence.

His grade point average is nearly 3.9 (out of a possible 4.0).

Not bad for the initially wavering college student who dropped out of the history program at Providence College — "I didn't know what I wanted to do" — worked full time as a department manager for Shaw's supermarket, earned an associate degree at the Community College of Rhode Island and served five years as an auxiliary police officer with the Attleboro Police Department.

He credits his mother, the former Eugenia H. Boggia, RIC Class of 1961, for much of his success.

"Mom's really a great lady. She pushed me real hard to finish school. I look up to her," says Mona. His Dad, Norman R. Mona, of whom he's equally proud, was a paratrooper but has been disabled for the past 20 years.

Mona's sister, Michelle Mackie, died in 1990 at age 26. His other sister, Cheryl LeBlanc, resides in North Attleboro and takes classes at RIC — "she'll finish and get her degree if I have to push her," says Mona with a goodly amount of brotherly love.

Mom, by the way, teaches first grade at Our Lady of Victory Elementary School in Woonsocket.

Mona is proud to have been "a cop on the beat" in Attleboro, pointing out that to do that he had to attend the police academy for nine months first and thereby earn certification by the Massachusetts Criminal Justice Training Council Academy.

He did this while studying law enforcement at CCRI where he yet expects to be certified as an emergency medical technician under a separate program he is studying concurrently with his RIC studies.

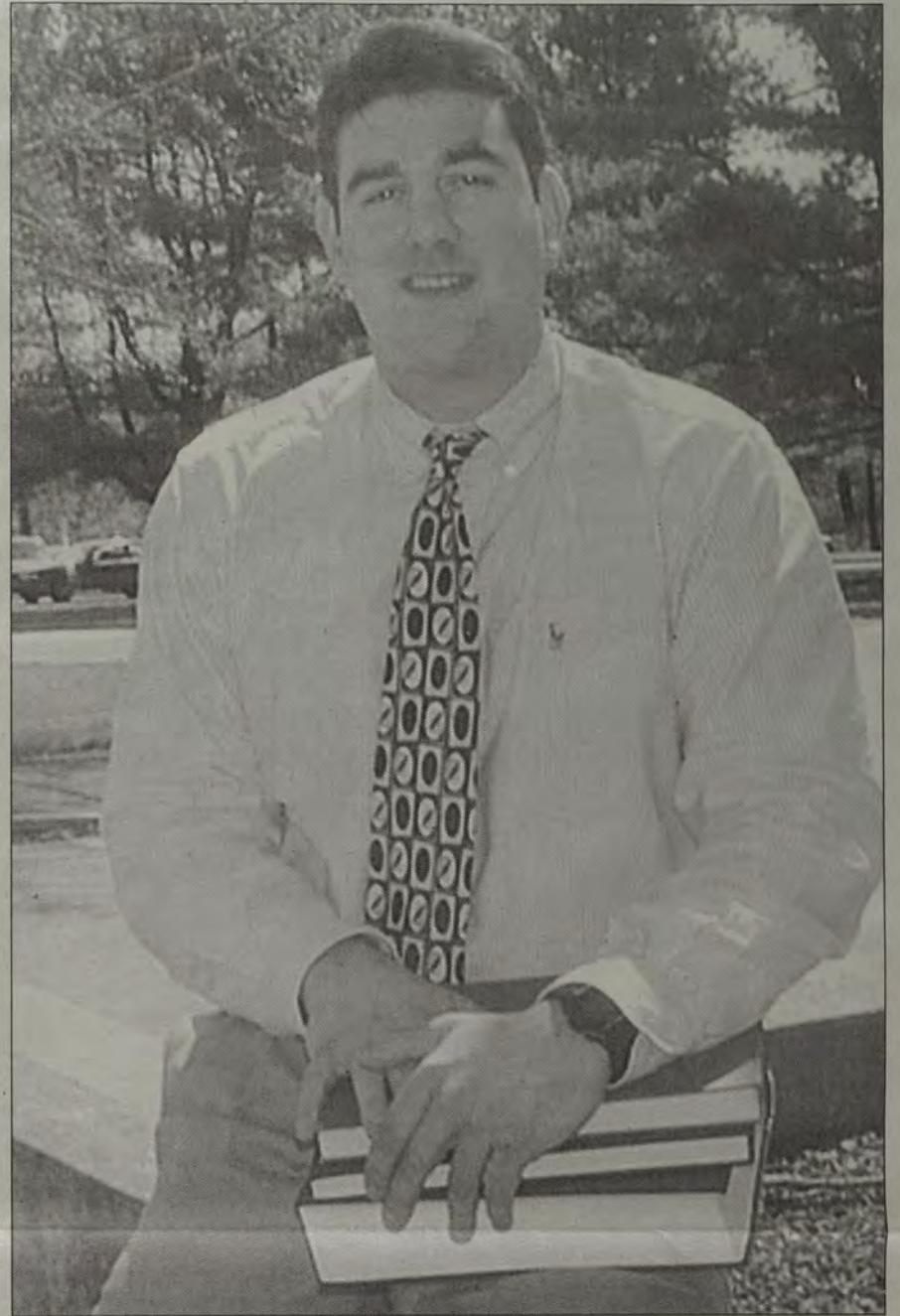
While at CCRI he also served as a referee for the Saturday morning children's basketball program at the Newman YMCA in Seekonk and continues today as a soccer referee there.

Once at RIC, it took Mona only two years to earn his degree, having brought a number of credits with him from CCRI. While at RIC, he worked for the Alumni Office in its phonathon fund-raising efforts.

In September, it'll be off to Northeastern University to study criminal justice — "it's the best graduate program in New England" — and then a job in federal or state law enforcement.

Additionally, he'd like to serve as an adjunct faculty member in criminal justice, perhaps at RIC.

"My Mom's a teacher, so it kind of runs in the family," says Mona.



RICHARD MONA

## Faculty sabbatical profile —

## Prof. Reamer leads way for new social work code of ethics

**Name:** Frederic G. Reamer

**Hometown:** Originally Baltimore, now Pawtucket

**Degrees Earned and from Where:** B. A., University of Maryland; A. M., University of Chicago; Ph.D., University of Chicago

**Academic rank and year joined RIC faculty:** Professor. Joined RIC faculty in 1983 (along with my wife, Deborah Siegel, who also is on the School of Social Work faculty)

**Dates of Sabbatical:** Fall semester 1997

**Site of Sabbatical:** Local

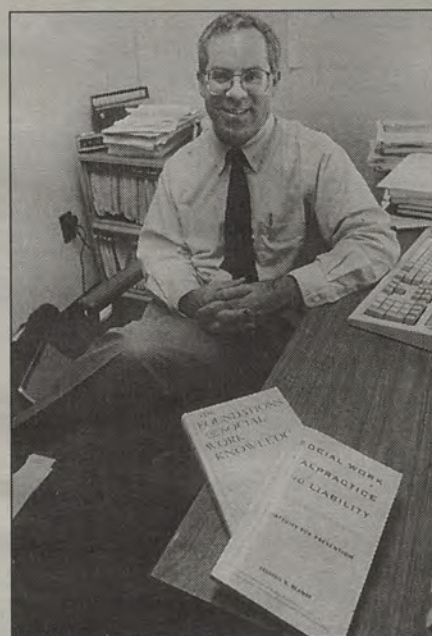
**Title of Study or Project:** "Ethical Standards in Social Work"

**Description of Study or Project:** Between 1994 and 1996 I chaired the national task force, sponsored by the National Association of Social Workers (NASW), that wrote a new code of ethics for the social work profession. The NASW includes approximately 160,000 members and is the principal national organization in the profession (comparable to the American Bar Association,

American Medical Association, etc.). The new Code of Ethics — only the third in NASW's history — provides guidance to social workers who face ethical issues, is the primary document used to adjudicate ethics complaints involving social workers, and is often used in courts of law in litigation involving social workers. The new code was ratified by the national governing body (the 300+ member NASW Delegate Assembly) in August 1996, and went into effect Jan. 1, 1997.

The new code is among the most ambitious of any professional code in the nation. It contains a number of novel features, including an explicit mission statement for the social work profession, a brief guide to ethical decision-making, a summary of broad ethical principles, and 155 specific ethical standards to guide social work practice.

The primary purpose of my sabbatical project was to write a book analyzing the ethical principles and standards contained in the new code. Given the code's widespread implications — for social work education and practice — there has been much interest in having an in-depth analysis of the code's many guidelines (an "exegesis" of sorts). My 300-page book was just published (March 1998). The title is *Ethical Standards in Social Work: A Critical Review of the NASW Code*



FREDERIC G. REAMER

*of Ethics* (NASW Press).

**Purpose of Project:** There are three primary purposes: (1) to educate students entering the social work profession; (2) to educate practitioners in the field, and (3) to provide social workers and others responsible for adjudicating ethics complaints involving social workers with detailed commentary on contemporary ethical standards.

**Intended Audience/Benefactors:** Social work students and practitioners facing ethical issues and dilemmas, and those involved in adjudicating ethics complaints.

**Intended Results:** The book that was just published.

**Has This Long Been an Interest of Yours:** Yes. I have been actively involved in research on this subject since the late 1970s. I chair the NASW committee in Rhode Island that adjudicates ethics complaints involving social workers (since 1988). I have published several other books on the subject: *Ethical Dilemmas in Social Service* (2nd edition), Columbia University Press, 1990 (1st edition, 1982; also published in Swedish); *Social Work Values and Ethics*, Columbia University Press, 1995; *Social Work Malpractice and Liability*, Columbia University Press, 1994; *AIDS and Ethics* (editor of anthology), Columbia University Press, 1991. I recently served on the editorial board of the new *Encyclopedia of Applied Ethics* (Academic Press).

**Do You Plan Further Study/Work on this Subject:** Yes. I have a number of other research projects under way.



# Phys ed majors meet the challenge of Project Adventure



DAWN HERD walks over a "ladder" of dowels held by her teammates.



CAN I MAKE IT? Brian lafrate eyes the tree at the end of his cable walk.

Brian lafrate, a RIC junior, is 35 feet up in the air, inching his way along a cable stretched between two trees. There are ropes he can grasp hanging over his head but they are spaced about 15 feet apart, so he has to let go of one to grab the next. The cable and his legs are trembling, and the two dozen people watching from ground-level hear him say, "I've never been so scared in my life!"

Brian is one of 40 physical education majors who traveled to Hamilton, Mass., half an hour north of Boston, to participate in a Project Adventure workshop.

Project Adventure, or "PA" as insiders call it, is an outgrowth of Outward Bound, the training program that originated in Britain during the 1940s. Like its British forbear, PA is designed to increase confidence and promote a spirit of teamwork among participants. According to Jan Marecsak, assistant professor of health, physical education and recreation, the buzz words for PA are "communication, cooperation and trust." After experiencing the workshop, these phys ed majors will be able to incorporate its goals and principles into their own lesson plans when they are teachers.

Shortly after getting off the bus, the RIC students gather in a circle on a field to play a game called "electric eel." Rachel Janeczek, the facilitator, explains that when she points to anyone and "zaps" him or her, he or she must duck so that people on either side can zap each other. If you are zapped by a student, you are out. It's fun — and that's an important aspect of PA. Or, as Karl Rohnke writes in *Silver Bullets: A Guide to Initiative Problems, Adventure Games and Trust Activities*, one of the goals is "to develop an increased joy in one's physical self and in being with others."

The group breaks into two teams to play "Alaskan baseball," another fun game that involves throwing a rubber chicken.

Later, smaller groups play more games, some designed to get everyone to know each other's names and some designed to develop trust. For instance in one, each group member falls backwards into the arms of the others.

Eventually it's on to ropes and cables. Games now involve group problem-solving. One group of 10 is faced with: How to get hold of a dangling rope that is out of reach. One solution: everyone contributes a shoelace; the laces are tied together; a sneaker is tied on one end; and it's thrown at the rope like a bolo. Now everyone has to swing on the rope to get to a tiny platform. In the end 10 people are crowded on that tiny platform — hugging.

After each challenge, facilitator Pam Richardson asks, "What happened?" And participants analyze

the group dynamics. "Was anyone left out? What did you learn that you can carry on to the next challenge?" After someone makes a joking remark about the performance of others, Pam politely reminds the group that, "We need to eliminate all negative comments."

Just before lunch the group meets the "Mohawk Walk," a walk along low cables strung from tree to tree and requiring a lot of group cooperation.

Finally, after lunch, it's on to the high cables, where we met Brian lafrate and where it's more of a personal challenge. Although everyone is wearing a harness attached to a belay — a rope on a pulley designed to break any accidental fall — there is still plenty of "perceived risk," as the textbooks say. Even here a lot of cooperation and trust is involved. Three people on the ground operate the belay system, and everyone shouts suggestions and encouragement to their colleagues on the cable.

Although there is considerable fear up there in the tree tops, there is also a lot of pride in accomplishment. As sophomore Corey Ricci says, "I have a fear of heights. But being up there gave me a real adrenaline rush. I was up there thinking, 'I'm REALLY doing this! It was awesome!'"

Photos and text by  
Gordon E. Rowley



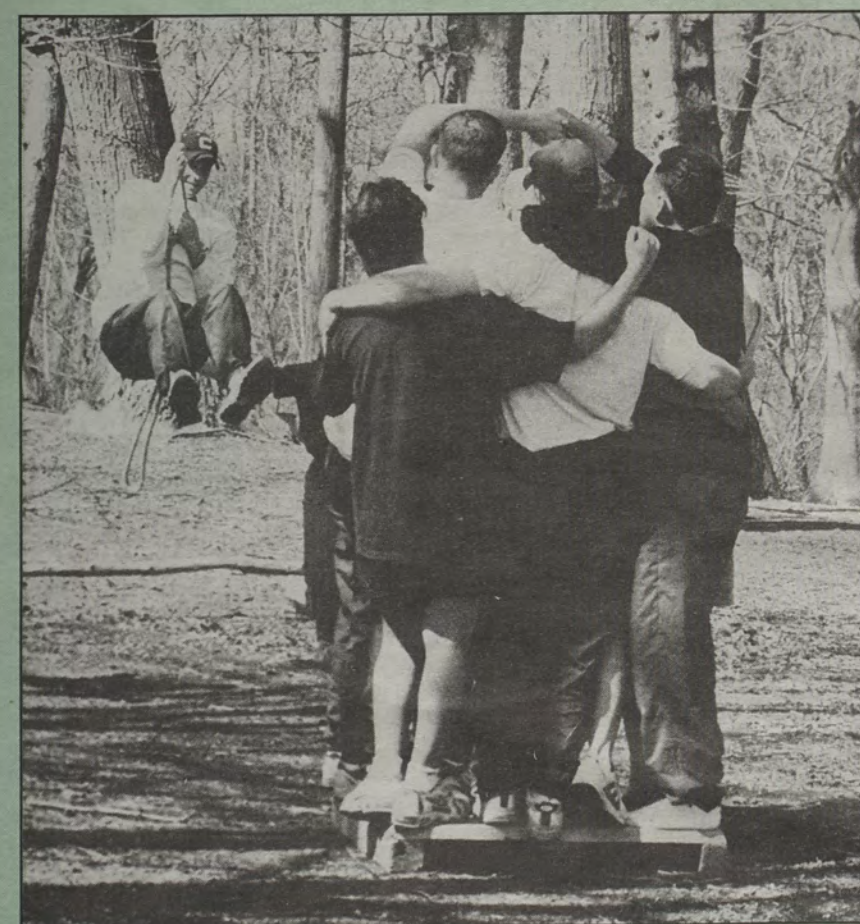
PERSISTENCE AND TEAMWORK pays off for Dan Damiano and Jim Fitzgerald as they approach the fourth level of the 50-foot high "Vertical Playpen."



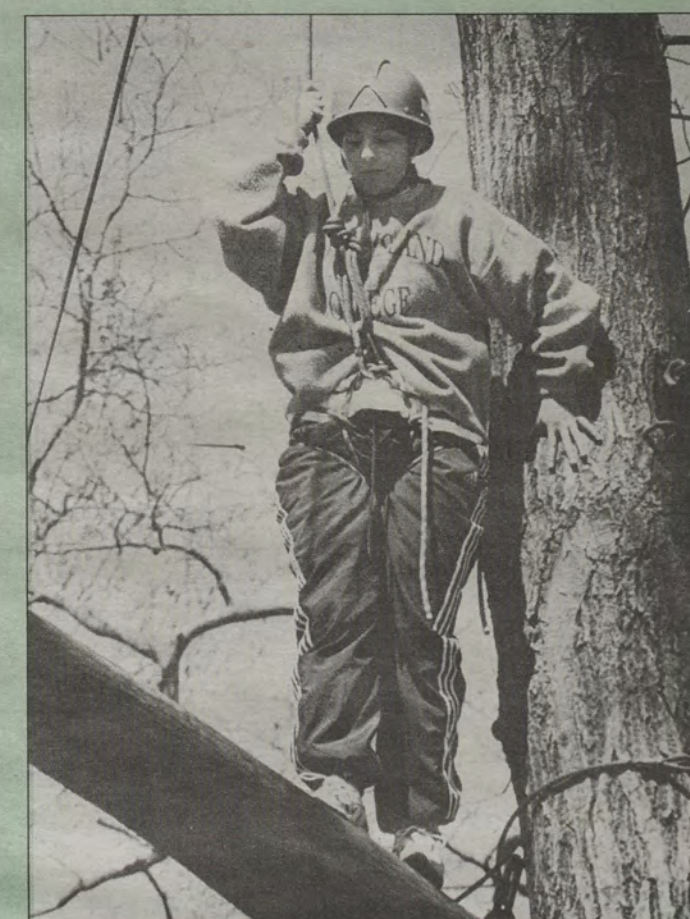
AT LAST! Dan Damiano (left) and Jim Fitzgerald finally make it to the 50-foot top of the "Vertical Playpen."



HOLD TIGHT: (l to r) Dawn Herd, Brian Fineberg, Chris DeFraga and David Lombardi make their way as a team along the Mohawk Walk.



GREG BARKER swings to meet up with his teammates, who are crowded onto an "iceberg."



KRISTEN-FOLLOWS seems a little apprehensive just before she begins a walk across a log suspended between two trees 35 feet above the ground.



# 1998 commencement exercises

Continued from page 1

on its annual tour schedule. In addition to reaching audiences of over a half million children and adults each year, the Big Apple Circus has established several ongoing programs to benefit youngsters. These include the Circus Arts in Education program, which provides inner-city youth with arts education through the study of classical circus arts, and its Clown Care Unit which sends clown-doctors to the bedsides of over 115,000 hospitalized children each year, spreading cheer and laughter.

The Circus has been featured in two major motion pictures; and has itself been awarded the prestigious Obie Award for Artistic Excellence. Clearly, Binder's work ties together the performing arts with education, a relationship that thrives at RIC.

Native Rhode Islander Spalding Gray, who will receive an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters and deliver the address at the undergraduate commencement, also embodies the tradition of combining the performing arts and education, as he finds wisdom and lessons to be learned through the experiences of everyday life. Gray's theatrical monologues, in which he shares his frequently anguished, often humorous, and always profound musings, combine elements of storytelling, autobiography, stand-up comedy, therapy, and a trained actor's improvisations. In his own words, "I do not write any of my monologues in the formal sense. I begin all of them with a simple outline of events collected from my life. Then, guided by my outline, I tell you my story. It's as though I am describing the images of an internal film. My monologues are never rehearsed or spoken before I tell them to you. The process is a kind of oral composition or quite simply, storytelling."

Gray has composed and performed 14 monologues. His most recent is entitled *It's a Slippery Slope*, which is ostensibly the autobiographical tale of a man who learns to ski late in life, but that in reality is a metaphor for a man in the grip of a mid-life crisis. Three of his best known works have been filmed: *Gray's Anatomy*, an account of his trials and tribulations in dealing with a rare vision problem; *Monster in a Box*, a tale of Gray's attempts to come to terms with his mother's suicide, his attempts to pull his overdue novel together (finally published in 1992 as *Impossible Vacation*), and a visit to war-torn Nicaragua; and the Obie Award-winning *Swimming to Cambodia*, inspired by Gray's experience acting in the Academy award-winning film, *The Killing Fields*.

As an actor, Gray has performed in 29 theatrical films and another four made for television. His numerous stage credits, performed both on and off-Broadway, include the revival of Thornton Wilder's *Our Town* and the New York premiere of Sam Shepard's *Tooth of Crime*. Gray also wrote and performed the autobiographical trilogy, *Three Places in Rhode Island*.

Described as a "self-effacing wit and such a master story-teller that even the simplest tales take on a humor and importance that might otherwise go undetected," Gray revels in the absurdities of life which he finds all around him. His wry, mournful, anguished adventures have been described as "neurotic picaresque ... unique in their rueful blend of curiosity, self-mockery and panic." Gray received a BA from Emerson College in 1965.

Honorary degrees will also be bestowed upon two other well-known Rhode Islanders: B. Jae Clanton and Armand M. LaMontagne.

At the graduate commencement a

Honorary Doctorate of Public Service Degree will be presented posthumously to Bessie Jae Smith Clanton. Known to all as B. Jae, she dedicated her life to empowering and giving voice to minorities, the poor, and the disenfranchised.

Clanton, a native of Harrisburg, Pa., arrived in Rhode Island in 1957 to accept a position at the John Hope Settlement House as a professional social worker. She earned a BS from West Virginia State College, a MSW from the University of Connecticut, and post-graduate work in supervision and administration at the Boston University School of Social Work. With intellect, compassion, and courage, she

boundless energy, and clear vision, building the Urban League into what many regard as the state's strongest and most effective advocate for social and economic justice. During her tenure she increased the agency's annual budget from \$500,000 to over \$3 million and its staff from 10 to over 110. Among her long list of successful causes are the establishment of a pediatric oncology unit at Rhode Island Hospital, her advocacy for improved children's counseling services as a member of the Governor's Juvenile Justice Subcommittee for Delinquent Children, the establishment of an adolescent parenting program and workshops designed to discourage teen pregnancy among

Fine Arts Degree. Working from his studio in North Scituate, LaMontagne is one of the state's most celebrated living artists. He has received international acclaim as a virtuoso in the medium of wood sculpture. His talent is so great and his eye for detail so exact that once, as a young sculptor, he constructed a fake Great Brewster Chair that passed muster with leading antique experts — just to prove a point. LaMontagne is best known for his portrait sculptures of sports and historical figures. Some of his more notable subjects have included General George Patton, Eleanor Roosevelt, President Gerald Ford, and sports legends Larry Bird, Carl

## '97 honorary degree recipient returns to campus



**HOLOCAUST SURVIVOR** Lea Eliash talks to students in the Honors 162 sections in Bannister Gallery on Wednesday, April 8. She was the recipient of the honorary degree of Doctor of Public Service at last May's commencement ceremonies. Honors 162 is the second semester of the Western Cultures course. (What's News Photo by Gordon E. Rowley)

touched the lives of thousands — as a psychiatric social worker and clinical supervisor with the Providence School System; as the first African-American and first woman to serve as executive director of Family Services, Inc., a 100-year old social service agency; and as assistant director of the Department for Children and Their Families upon its establishment in 1980.

As challenging as these roles were, in 1985, she was called upon to accept an even greater challenge: executive director of the Urban League of Rhode Island. Clanton infused the then-struggling organization with her indomitable spirit,

minorities, and the development of the League's Advocacy and Public Policy Unit. Clanton retired from the Urban League in 1997 after 12 years as its executive director.

Clanton passed away on March 31, 1998. In a *Providence Journal* editorial published on April 9, she was lauded as having "... benefited all Rhode Islanders by making the state a fairer and more humane place to live." Clanton is survived by her husband, Melvin Clanton, daughter Ann-Allison Clanton, and six sisters and brothers.

At the undergraduate commencement exercises, LaMontagne will receive an Honorary Doctorate of

Yastrzemski, and Bobby Orr. His sculptures of Ted Williams and Babe Ruth, which stand inside the entrance to the Baseball Hall of Fame, are the most photographed items in Cooperstown. Saul Wisnia, in an article written for the Jan. 22, 1996 edition of *Sports Illustrated*, wrote: "With hair, clothes, and shoes all carved from single 1,800 to 2,500-pound blocks of basswood, LaMontagne's works often leave viewers staring in disbelief at what appears to be real skin, wool, and leather. Sometimes amazement gives way to emotion; upon seeing his statue in 1985, the notoriously rough-edged Ted Williams broke down and cried. 'Armand captures a spark of personality in his work, which nobody else seems able to do in wood sculpture,' says Roger Schroeder, who has written nine books on the subject. 'Others attempt it and come up with something impressionistic or caricature-like, but he makes subjects come alive. He's pushing wood to its limits.'"

The grandson of an architect and son of a construction-site superintendent, LaMontagne, 59, puts six months of 80-hour weeks into each work. LaMontagne is lesser known but equally adept as a painter; his style in this medium incorporates the same keen eye for detail and realism that is found in his sculptures.

His works include the official portraits of a number of Rhode Island leaders, including a strikingly lifelike rendering of Gov. J. Joseph Garrahy (1977-1985) that is on permanent display in the State House. One of his latest projects is a wooden statue of Roger Williams destined for Roger Williams University. LaMontagne has been named as a 1998 inductee of the Rhode Island Heritage Hall of Fame.

## Commencement dates

### Cap and Gown Day

Wednesday, May 6  
12:30 p.m.  
Roberts Hall auditorium

### Graduate Commencement

Thursday, May 21  
5:30 p.m.  
New Building

### Commencement Gala

Friday, May 22  
6:30 p.m.  
Donovan reception and dinner at 7:30 p.m.  
Music by Avenue A  
The cost is \$17.50 or 2 for \$30.  
For reservations, call 401-456-8022.

### Undergraduate Commencement

Saturday, May 23  
9:30 a.m.  
Esplanade in front of New Building





# RIC Athletics



**DONALD E. TENCHER**

*director of intercollegiate athletics,  
intramurals and recreation* **456-8007**

## Sports Memorabilia Auction, May 6

The second annual RIC Aports Memorabilia Auction will be held. Wednesday, May 6 at the Marriott in downtown Providence. The proceeds from the auction go directly toward supporting programs for student-athletes, particularly those involving academics and life skills.

Last year's auction was a huge success and everyone in attendance had a fantastic time. The 1997 auction included more than 200 items. This year's list has already surpassed that number. The items include memorabilia of star athletes, political figures and stars of the big screen. There are golf days and trips to some great

sporting events. There is a Mickey Mantle jersey and an autograph from the Golden Bear himself, Jack Nicklaus.

The RIC pep band will be providing entertainment and there will be great refreshments. A special celebrity auctioneer will be in attendance.

The doors will open at 6:45 p.m. and a silent auction will precede the live auction. Tickets are \$10 and everyone in attendance will receive a free gift.

Remember, Wednesday, May 6 at the Providence Marriott! For additional information or to purchase tickets in advance, call 401-456-8007. Tickets will also be sold at the door.

## Sports Roundup

### Baseball

The baseball team is 6-13 overall and 1-5 in the Little East Conference. The Anchormen notched perhaps their biggest win in recent years with an 8-7 victory over the reigning Division III National Champions, Southern Maine, on April 10.

Steve Clarke singled in the winning run in the bottom of ninth and Jon Leddy hit two home runs in the win over the Huskies.

Ed Silverio leads RIC in hitting, batting .361 in 19 games. In addition to playing third base/shortstop, Silverio is also 2-0 in two starts as a pitcher. Infielder Brian Fineberg has a team-leading 16 runs scored and first baseman James Fitzgerald leads the squad with 17 runs batted in.

### Softball

The Anchorwomen are currently 10-15-1 overall and 2-8 in the Little East. Leftfielder Jennifer Cook is leading the team in hitting with a .324 batting average. Cook is tied for the team lead with 16 runs scored. Pitcher/outfielder Shana Willis is batting .280 with a team-high 16 runs batted in.

First Baseman Stephanie Marshall is batting .305 with 13 RBI and nine runs scored. Pitcher Erika Roderiques is 5-4 with a 2.30 earned run average and a team-high 24 strikeouts.

### Men's and Women's Track and Field

The men's and women's track and field teams recently took part in the Connecticut College Invitational on April 11.

Todd Hession placed ninth for the men in the long jump at 5.64 feet.

Keely Subin continued to perform well, finishing first in the 400 meters with a time of 60.82. Subin also placed third in the 200 meters with a 27.79 time.

Beth Rupert placed third in the 400 meter hurdles with a time of 79.74. Rupert was eighth in the 100 meter hurdles with a time of 19.61.

Sarah Diggle was fifth in the shot put with a throw of 32'3."

### Men's Tennis

The Anchormen will travel to Plymouth State College on Saturday, April 18 and Sunday, April 19 to take part in the Little East Championships. The team recently evened its record at 3-3 with an 8-1 victory over Suffolk University.

Eric Provencal is 3-1 in singles action. Pat Prendergast is 3-2 and Eric Pinho is 3-3 in singles action. Pinho and captain Joe Ramos are both 2-2 in doubles matches this spring.

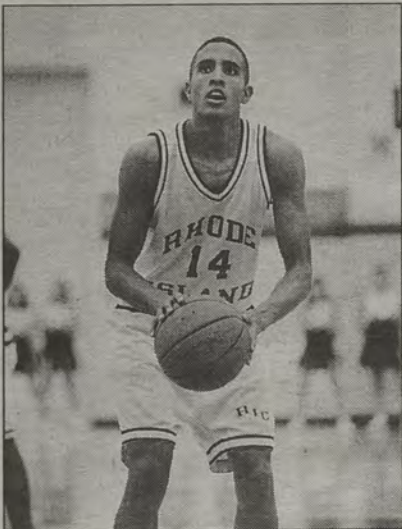
## Butler and Lange's achievements on and off court recognized

by Scott Gibbons  
Sports Information Director

Senior student-athletes Alex Butler and Kelly Lange were recently chosen to receive the John E. Hetherman and Helen M. Murphy Awards respectively. The awards are based not only on athletic prowess, but also community and campus involvement.

The Hetherman Award was established in 1958 and sponsored by the RIC Class of 1940 to honor its classmate, Jay Hetherman. Mr. Hetherman, while a student, played varsity basketball and baseball for two years. He was also active in the Drama Club and took part in all "stunt night" activities and major productions. During World War II, Hetherman became a naval aviator, receiving his wings in Jacksonville, Fla. in 1942. Approximately one year later, while returning from flying a rescue mission in the South Pacific, Lt. John E. Hetherman crashed and lost his life, leaving an enviable college and service career behind him.

The student who receives the Hetherman Award must be a male student-athlete who participates in intercollegiate athletics, be a good student and have demonstrated



ALEX BUTLER

interest and participation in campus activities.

Alex Butler needs no introduction to RIC athletic community. He was a two-time All-American as a guard on the men's basketball team. He was named the Little East Conference's Player of the Year three times in 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97. Butler was a First Team All-Little East All-Star in each of those seasons as well. He was the LEC's Rookie of the Year as a freshman in 1993-94 and is RIC's second all-time leading scorer with 2,398 career points. He also ranks in the top 10 in many all-time records at RIC.

Head Men's Basketball Coach James Adams says, "Alex accomplished more than any other player I've ever coached here. What makes Alex special is his personality. He is very receptive and always came to practice to work hard to make himself a better basketball player."

Butler has also excelled in the classroom, maintaining a grade-point average of 3.49, and has made the Dean's List every semester. He was RIC's 1997 male representative to the NCAA Student-Athlete Leadership Conference held in Orlando, Fla. He has put in many hours in his hometown of East

Providence speaking to youngsters and performing community service. Butler is a 1993 graduate of East Providence High School. He is a physical education/health major and is on track to graduate this May.

The Murphy Award was established in 1979 and sponsored by the faculty of the Henry Barnard School to honor an outstanding Rhode Island College senior woman athlete. The award is named for Helen M. Murphy, a graduate of Rhode Island College of Education in 1939, who was a member of the faculty for 38 years and taught at the Henry Barnard School, beginning in 1941, until her retirement in 1979.

Murphy received her masters in education from Boston University in 1948 and pursued further graduate study at Providence College, Boston University and RIC. During her undergraduate years at RIC, Murphy was an active participant in a variety of activities including golf, musical and social activities.

The student who receives the Murphy Award must be a female student-athlete, contribute to RIC athletics and other campus/community activities, demonstrate good leadership skills and show academic success.

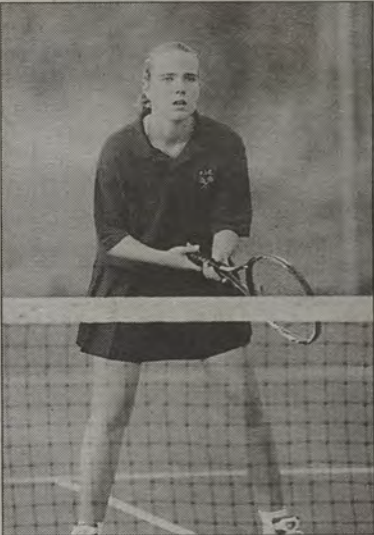
Kelly Lange is a four-year letter-

winner on RIC's women's tennis and softball teams. As the team's number one singles player, Lange was a member of two Little East Championship teams in 1994 and 1995. As a junior in 1996, Lange made it to the finals in number one singles at the Little East Conference Tournament.

Head Women's Tennis Coach Dick Ernst says, "Kelly has been the biggest impact player I've coached in my nine years at RIC. She continuously gave 100 percent and is an excellent example of how to conduct yourself on and off the court."

In addition to participating in intercollegiate athletics, Lange is also a member of RIC's orchestra, flute ensemble, wind ensemble and sings in the chorus. Earlier in the year, Lange student-taught at Riverside Junior High School in Providence. She is currently student-teaching at the Henry Barnard School and owns a 3.17 grade-point average. She was RIC's female representative to the NCAA Student-Athlete Leadership Conference in 1997.

Lange is a native of Rehoboth, Mass. and a 1994 graduate of Dighton-Rehoboth High School. She is a music education major and is on track to graduate this May.



KELLEY LANGE



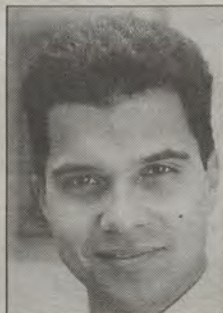
# Shinn Fund winners to study in Dominican Republic, Morocco, Hungary

by George LaTour  
What's News Associate Editor

**T**he Ridgway F. Shinn Study Abroad Fund has made awards for overseas study to three Rhode Island College students for the 1998-99 academic year.

Anthony Francisco of Providence, a sophomore studying Spanish and secondary education, will go to the Dominican Republic from September to June; Edicta Milagros Grullon of Providence and formerly of the Dominican Republic, a junior studying anthropology and international studies, will go to Morocco in February and perhaps to Spain for the summer semester; Christine Noel of Johnston and formerly of Woonsocket, a junior majoring in music education, will travel to Hungary in September for the fall and spring semesters.

Announcement of their selection came at the April 25 reception held after the performance of *The Boy Friend* in Roberts Hall. The winners were guests of the fund for that ben-



**A. FRANCISCO**

After college, he would like to teach high school and pursue a doctorate in theology, thereafter to minister to the Spanish community, he says.

He sings and plays piano as well as acts in the Spanish Theatre of RIC (STRIC). In addition, he is active as a translator, musician and co-host of "The Prophetic Voice of Southern New England" show on radio Station WELH (88.1 on the dial) which airs Saturdays and Sundays from 6-8 a.m.

Grullon, the daughter of Edicta Diaz and Diosdado Grullon, has four older brothers, but she is the first in her family to go to college.

Busy tutoring her friends both on

and off campus in any number of subjects — "I like to be helpful" — she says she's been too busy to get involved with more formal extra-curricular activities.

Her interests are wide ranging: "I'm a very curious person," she admits. "I like to learn and learning can never stop."

In her studies in Morocco and Spain she will compile research for her Honors Project in Latin American Studies and anthropology.



**E. MILAGROS GRULLON**

Noel will study at the Kodaly Pedagogical Institute of Music near Budapest, Hungary.

At RIC she is the president of the

local chapter of the Music Educators National Conference; acts in RIC Theatre productions and sings soprano in the RIC Chorus.



**C. NOEL**

studied in high school.

Noel lives on campus and is a member of the College Honors Program.

The Shinn Fund, held within the RIC Foundation, provides income to support undergraduate students in planned study outside the United States.

With the current announced winners for 1998-99, some 20 undergraduates will have received financial support totaling approximately \$50,000 for study in 13 countries, reports Shinn.

## Spanish Theatre to present 18th annual drama 'Un trono para Cristy'



**PLAYING THE ROLE:** Cast members (l to r) Anthony Francisco, Luis Escobar and Roberto Toboada rehearse for the STRIC production of *Un trono para Cristy* (A Throne for Cristy). (STRIC Photo)

Spanish Theatre of Rhode Island College (STRIC) will present its 18th annual spring Spanish drama, *Un trono para Cristy* (A Throne for Cristy), Saturday, May 2, at 8 p.m. and Sunday, May 3, at 3 p.m. in Gaije Hall auditorium.

A special performance for Rhode Island high school students will be given Thursday, April 30, at 9 a.m.

Spanish master playwright Jose Lopez Rubio wrote *Un trono para Cristy* in 1956 upon reading the newspaper account of the wedding of American actress Grace Kelly and Prince Rainier of Monaco.

The three-act comedy finds Pamela, Cristy's mother, moving to Mallorca, the largest of the Balearic islands in the

Mediterranean Sea, where she thinks royalty comes to spend its vacation. She is looking for a prince on a white horse to carry away her daughter to a European throne.

Cast members and their hometowns are: Frances Cruz, Carla Cuella, Sara Ferraras, Anthony Francisco, Maria Lancellotta, Lyndell Polanco, Jazmine Mena, Yovanny Pena, Peggy Sandoval, Carino Pinto, Roberto Taboada, all from Providence; Llosmina Interiano and Luis Escobar, both of Pawtucket.

M. Frances Taylor, associate professor of modern languages, is director.

Tickets are \$4 if purchased in advance and \$5 at the door. RIC students, \$4. For advance tickets or further information call 456-8029.

## 20th annual Bicho Memorial Concert will offer 'Great Moments of the Opera'

by George LaTour  
What's News Associate Editor

"Great Moments of the Opera" will be celebrated in the 20th annual Rita V. Bicho Memorial Scholarship Concert Monday, May 4, at 8:15 p.m. in Rhode Island College's Roberts Hall auditorium.

The RIC Symphony Orchestra and Chorus under the direction of Edward Markward, the Bel Canto Opera Chorus with Marybeth Simonelli as director, and performing artists soprano Cecelia Rodi, mezzo-soprano Tracey Fulgan, tenor Ray Bauwens and baritone Robert Honeysucker will be featured.

In the opening segment of the program selections will be performed from *Hansel and Gretel*, *Tannhauser*, *I Pagliacci*, *Norma*, *Cavalleria Rusticana*, *La Traviata*, *Nabucco* and *Rigoletto*.

The second part of the program will feature selections from *Madama Butterfly*, *La Boheme*, *Il Trovatore* and *Carmen*.

After a brief intermission, the Bicho Scholarship(s) will be presented.

Bicho served on the music faculty for 30 years until her retirement in 1979 when she was named professor emerita. The scholarship was established in her name in honor of her lifelong dedication to teaching and music.

The fund is held in the RIC Foundation, the interest from which supports from one to four scholarships annually. Bicho died in 1981.

### The artists

Cecelia Rodi has appeared as a soloist in recital, opera and oratorio throughout New England. She recently performed Verdi's *Manzoni Requiem* with the Nashua Symphony and was soloist for a concert tour of Italy which included a performance at the Vatican for Pope John Paul II. She holds a bachelors degree in music education, from RIC, Class of 1980, and is director of music at Holy Apostles Church in Cranston and founder of the

Operartisti ensemble.

Tracey Fulgan received her master of music in opera performance degree from the Boston Conservatory and since has performed with opera companies and in festivals throughout the United States and abroad.

Most recently, she performed the role of Popova in William Walton's *The Bear* with the Boston Opera Theatre, and is presently performing the role of Hansel in Opera New England's touring production of *Hansel and Gretel*.

Ray Bauwens has been characterized by Richard Dwyer of the *Boston Globe* as "the closest thing to an Italian tenor New England has produced in over 50 years."

A frequent collaborator with conductor Markward, he has performed a wide range of roles which have included those of Leicester in Donizetti's *Maria Stuarda* with the Boston Academy of Music and Pollione in the Boston Bel Canto Opera's concert performance of *Norma*; a performance of Verdi's *Manzoni Requiem* with the Rhode Island Civic Chorale and Orchestra; Ferrando in Mozart's *Così fan tutte* with the Bel Canto Opera Company of Rhode Island, and a program as part of the 1997 Concerts by the Bay Series at Blithewold Mansion and Gardens in Bristol.

Robert Honeysucker has performed in recital, concert and opera, the latter with the Opera Company of Boston, the Boston Lyric Opera, the Connecticut Opera, Pennsylvania Opera Theatre, Opera Ebony, Tulsa Opera, Opera South, Kansas City, Utah, Fort Worth, Delaware, Lake George and Sacramento opera companies.

A \$10 donation is requested for admission; \$5 for senior citizens and non-RIC students. RIC students free. All box office proceeds go to the Rita V. Bicho Scholarship Fund.

The concert — presented by the RIC Department of Performing Arts — is made possible in part by a grant from the RIC Performing and Fine Arts Commission and donations from the Durand Agency, Walco Electric, John Moran and three anonymous donors.



## Wind Ensemble features 'Green Eggs and Ham' May 1

Crossing borders takes one into unfamiliar territory, but it also opens new frontiers of discovery and insight.

As Americans celebrate the bicentennial of Lewis and Clark's geographical "border crossings," the Rhode Island College Wind Ensemble's Friday, May 1, concert will be a celebration of crossing the boundaries which, unfortunately, have often separated the performing arts of music, dance and theatre, according to Rob Franzblau, conductor of the RIC Wind Ensemble.

Entitled "Border Crossings," the concert will incorporate music, dance and narration through a collaboration of RIC music, dance and theatre areas in the Department of Performing Arts.

The program — at 8:15 p.m. in Roberts Hall auditorium — will open with Wallingford Riegger's "Dance Rhythms" featuring members of the RIC Dance Company Morayo

Akinlawon, Carla Fazio, Melissa Francesco and Stacey Grasso with choreography by Susan Thomasson.

Rob Kapilow's "Green Eggs and Ham" follows with soprano Joanne Mouradjian and the RIC Chamber Winds.

Liana Stillman, 11-year-old daughter of RIC's artist in residence,

pianist Judith Lynn Stillman, will provide the narration. Liana has performed with a number of theatre companies, including Trinity Rep and its production of *A Christmas Carol*.

P. William Hutchinson is the stage director for "Green Eggs and Ham."

On one level, the "children's story" by Dr. Seuss is a delightful tale of unrelenting Sam-I-Am hawking his green cuisine with silly rhymes.

On a completely different level, it is a parable about a child teaching an adult to overcome prejudice, and the adult thanking the child.

It is this level which makes "Green Eggs and Ham" a perfect subject for an evening of parent-child connection, says Franzblau.

Antonio Vivaldi's Concerto for Two Trumpets with Michael Coggeshall and Eric Ventura, music education majors at RIC, follows.

Johan de Meij's Symphony No. 1, *The Lord of the Rings* with narration by Frank Totti, a theatre performance major, concludes the concert.

Presentation of endowed scholarships in music will take place during intermission.

General admission, \$7; students/senior citizens, \$5; RIC students free.



JOANNE MOURADJIAN

## Alumna featured RI Philharmonic soloist May 9

Operatic soprano Diane Alexander, who graduated with a degree in music from Rhode Island College in 1985, is back in her home state for two up-coming performances before leaving again for a series of operatic performances nationwide.

On Saturday, May 9, she will be the featured soloist in the Rhode Island Philharmonic Orchestra's season finale of "Knoxville: Summer of 1915" at 8 p.m. in Veteran's Memorial Auditorium, Providence. "Knoxville" features the prose and poetry of James Agee set to music by Samuel Barber.

For tickets, call 831-3123.

On Sept. 24 and 26, she will sing

the role of Gilda in Verdi's *Rigoletto* at the Ocean State Lyric Opera, also at the Vet's Auditorium. Call 331-6060 for tickets.

Alexander, who recently spent a year in San Francisco with the *Phantom of the Opera* in the role of Carlotta, just returned to Providence's East Side from Chattanooga, Tenn., where she performed in *Susannah*, and will travel to Colorado this summer to sing the role of Abigail in *The Crucible* at Central City Opera.

Then its on to debut performances for San Diego, Nashville and New Orleans Opera companies and Opera Grand Rapids.

Alexander is formerly of G.L. Barrington.



DIANE ALEXANDER

## Senior Show at Bannister Gallery May 14-23

The annual juried Senior Show, highlighting the best works by graduating seniors receiving the bachelor of fine arts or bachelor of arts degree, will be held in Rhode Island College's Bannister Gallery May 14-23.

The exhibit opening is May 14 from 7-9 p.m. It is free and open to the public.

The show features art work from all department concentrations, including ceramics, graphic design, fibers, painting, photography, print-making and sculpture.

Gallery hours are Tuesday through Saturday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6-9.



JUBILEE TRIO

## The Great American Song Book II —

### Jubilee Trio to perform works by African-American composers and classical song

The Jubilee Trio will perform selections from its Great American Song Book, Volume II, featuring the works of African-American composers and classical song in the Wednesday, April 29, Rhode Island College Chamber Music Series starting at 1 p.m. in Roberts Hall 138.

The performance is free and open to the public.

The Great American Songbook is a blend of art songs by the more traditional American composers in this genre, such as Samuel Barber, Aaron Copland, Charles Ives and Stephen Foster, with songs and spirituals by less familiar but equally distinguished African-American composers, including William Grant Still, Harry Burleigh, Florence Price, J. Rosamond Johnson, George Walker and Frederick Hall.

Selections include Stephen Foster's "Hard Times Come Again

No More;" works by Paul Bowles and Howard Swanson such as "Sugar in the Cane" and "Heavenly Grass;" William Grant Still's "Grief;" Betty Jackson King's "A Lullaby for You;" Charles Ives' Concord Sonata, and spirituals, including "Didn't My Lord Deliver Daniel" and "I Gotta Home in Dat Rock."

The trio is composed of contralto Marion Dry, baritone Robert Honeysucker and pianist Leslie Amper.

Each has a busy solo performing career both nationally and internationally. However, they felt it was vital in this era of violence and continuing racial and ethnic tension to come together to create harmony out of diversity, and, through their performances, to demonstrate the richness of our own national musical heritage.



GIGI BOLT, director of the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) theatre and musical theatre program, gives the keynote address on the theme of "Funding the Arts and Artists in New England" at the annual Spring Celebration of the Arts at RIC April 13. Site is the Faculty Center.



# RIC CALENDAR

APRIL 27 — MAY 11

## Tuesdays

**Noon to 1 p.m.—Bible Study.** Chaplain Larry Nichols is conducting Bible Study. Everyone is invited to join him in the SU 300 for an informal discussion of the Bible. Bring your own lunch.

## Wednesdays

**12:30 to 1:45 p.m.—Catholic Student Association** meets in SU 300. Any Catholic student who would like to be a part of this group is asked to drop in on any meeting. You can join at any time. Pizza and refreshments are provided on a bi-weekly basis.

## 27 Monday

**7 p.m.—Fashion Show** in Student Union Ballroom. Sponsored by Harambee.

## 29 Wednesday

**1 p.m.—Music: The Jubilee Trio.** Part of the Chamber Music Series in Roberts 138.

## 1 Friday

**8:15 p.m.—RIC Wind Ensemble with RIC Dance Company.** "Border Crossings" featuring Joanne Mouradjian, soprano. Rob Franzblau, conductor. Dante Del Guidice, director, RIC Dance Co. Roberts Auditorium. General admission \$7, senior citizens and non-RIC students, \$5, RIC students, free.

## Commencement Gala



**AVENUE A will entertain at the "Lilacs and Lavender" 1998 Commencement Gala Friday, May 22 in Donovan Dining Center, beginning at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$17. 50 or \$30 for two. For more information, call 401-456-8022.**

## 2, 3

## Sat. & Sun.

**8 p.m. Sat., 3 p.m. Sun.** —Spanish Theatre of Rhode Island College (STRIC) presents its 18th annual spring Spanish drama, *Un trono para Cristy* (A Throne for Cristy), Saturday, May 2, at 8 p.m. and Sunday, May 3, at 3 p.m. in Gaije Hall auditorium. Tickets are \$4 if purchased in advance and \$5 at the door. RIC students, \$4. For advance tickets or further information call 456-8029.

## 4 Monday

**8:15 p.m.—Music: RIC Chorus and Symphony Orchestra.** 20th Annual Rita V. Bicho Memorial Scholarship Concert in Roberts Auditorium. Donations: \$5 and \$10, RIC students free.

## 5 Tuesday

**5 p.m.—RI Mental Health Counsel Monthly Meeting** in the Board of Governors Room in Roberts Hall. The meeting is held in recognition of professional counselors and the service they render to the community. Dr. Suzanne G. Riggs will speak on eating disorders.

## 6 Wednesday

**6:45 p.m.—RIC Sports Memorabilia Auction** to benefit student-athlete programs. Providence Marriott. Tickets are \$10 and will be available at the door. For more information, call 401-456-8007.

## Sports Events

Softball			
April 25	UMASS-Boston (DH)	1:00	PM
April 27	at Johnson and Wales (DH)	3:30	PM
April 29-May 2	Little East Tournament	TBA	
May 4	at Salve Regina (DH)	3:30	PM

Baseball			
April 25	at Keene State (DH)	1:00	PM
April 26	at UMASS-Boston (DH)	1:00	PM
April 28	Daniel Webster	3:30	PM
April 30	at Fitchburg State	3:30	PM
May 1	Salem State	3:30	PM

Men's Tennis			
April 21	at Wheaton	3:30	PM
April 25	Plymouth State	1:00	PM
April 29	at Roger Williams	4:00	PM
April 30	Salve Regina	3:00	PM
May 6	UMASS-Boston	3:30	PM

Track & Field			
April 25	Little East Championships +	10:00	AM
May 2	NE Div. III. Championships *	10:00	AM

+ Denotes held at Bridgewater State College  
\* Denotes held at Middlebury College

## Rhode Island College Sports Memorabilia Auction



**Wednesday,  
May 6, 1998**

**Providence  
Marriott**

**6:30 p.m. Preview  
7 p.m. Reception**

**Silent & Live Auction**

**Food • Door Prizes • Cash Bar**

**Donation \$10  
Tickets available at the door  
or by calling 401-456-8007.**



**All proceeds to benefit  
Student-Athlete Support Programs**

### 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.