

March 5, 2007 Vol. 27 Issue 6

WHAT'S NEWS @ Rhode Island College

Established in 1980 Circulation over 52,000

Little East Champions!

RIC men's basketball wins Little East Conference

Anchormen in NCAA Tournament for first time in 28 years

***By Scott Gibbons
Sports Information
Director***

The Murray Center at Rhode Island College was the place to be on Saturday, Feb. 24. For the first time in school history, the men's basketball team was playing the championship game of the Little East Conference Tournament, facing longtime nemesis Keene State College. It was the matchup everyone was anticipating all season: the top-seeded Anchormen against the second-seeded Owls. Keene State got the better of RIC during the regular season, winning

Continued on page 6

Kinsey Durgin drives for a layup in the Anchormen's LEC finals victory over Keene State on Feb. 24. The final score was 87-75.

WN Quotes...

"No one in science works alone anymore."

– Edythe Anthony, RIC biology department chair and liaison for two research grant programs that allow RIC to collaborate with other colleges and universities in the state. [P 10]

"Because of his life-long commitment to community and positive social change, we are delighted to name the Center after President Sweet."

– Mark Motte, assistant vice president for academic affairs and director of the newly named David E. Sweet Center for Public Policy at Rhode Island College. [P 3]

"RIC provides the perfect opportunity to continue an education. Affordable and convenient, whether matriculating or not, we will always come back to RIC."

– Harriet Kankash '84, who belongs to a family that has had a member attend RIC for five generations, a sequence that began in 1883. [P 8]

This regular feature of What's News looks at the links between the world and Rhode Island College. The story below was written by Sara Mouchon, a RIC senior majoring in international management and Spanish.

A broken streetlight signals you in the right direction. A poorly lit cobblestone road climbs a steep hill – evenness and perfection were apparently not factors in its construction. Houses are stacked one on top of another. Roads twist and turn every which way, and curses are made to your treadmill with every step as to why you are not prepared for this unforeseen hike. However, within seconds the illuminated vision of the Alhambra castle rises before you, complemented by the splendor of the sparkling city of Granada. The seemingly fictional place, seen from the Mirador de San Nicolás (Saint Nicholas Viewpoint), takes your breath away, makes you wonder if it is real.

I spent many of my free nights there during my semester stay in Granada, Spain. The city goes back thousands of years, to the reign of the Moors and still has a strong Muslim influence. It is very much a mixture of old and new, and has the ability to captivate people of all ages. What helps make this city famous is that it was the last Muslim stronghold to fall to Ferdinand and Isabella, the Catholic king and queen, making Spain an entirely Catholic country. By living in Granada, I was transferred back to a time of cobblestone streets and cave houses, a place where Wal-Mart doesn't exist.

During my stay there last fall as a Shinn Study Abroad student, I studied at the University of Granada, in the Center of Modern Languages. I went to Spain with a thorough knowledge of the Spanish language, but there were many learning obstacles in the way. One of the biggest challenges was being unable to freely express thoughts and words fluently. I now had to think about everything that I wanted to say beforehand.

As the days passed, these language barriers became easier as I was forced to speak Spanish every day. I was lucky enough to live with a woman who was patient and, fortunately for me, spoke no English. The friends I met there realized that we were not going to improve our speaking and comprehension unless we refrained from speaking English altogether. Acquisition of the Spanish language then became very familiar and comfortable.

There were some daily cultural things that took some getting used to. First was the siesta. Everything, with the exception of restaurants, was closed every day from 2 to 5 p.m. This was my free time, so it was frustrating when I could not get things done during this time period. It was, however, a time for family. Every day I ate a big lunch with my roommate, host mother, and her family. This was when I was able to have a conversation as well as a small nap. For me, one of the hardest things to get used to was wearing shoes inside the house. I am a sock and barefoot person all the way, yet we never did either when inside her home. Even in the summer, we wore flip-flops to walk around.

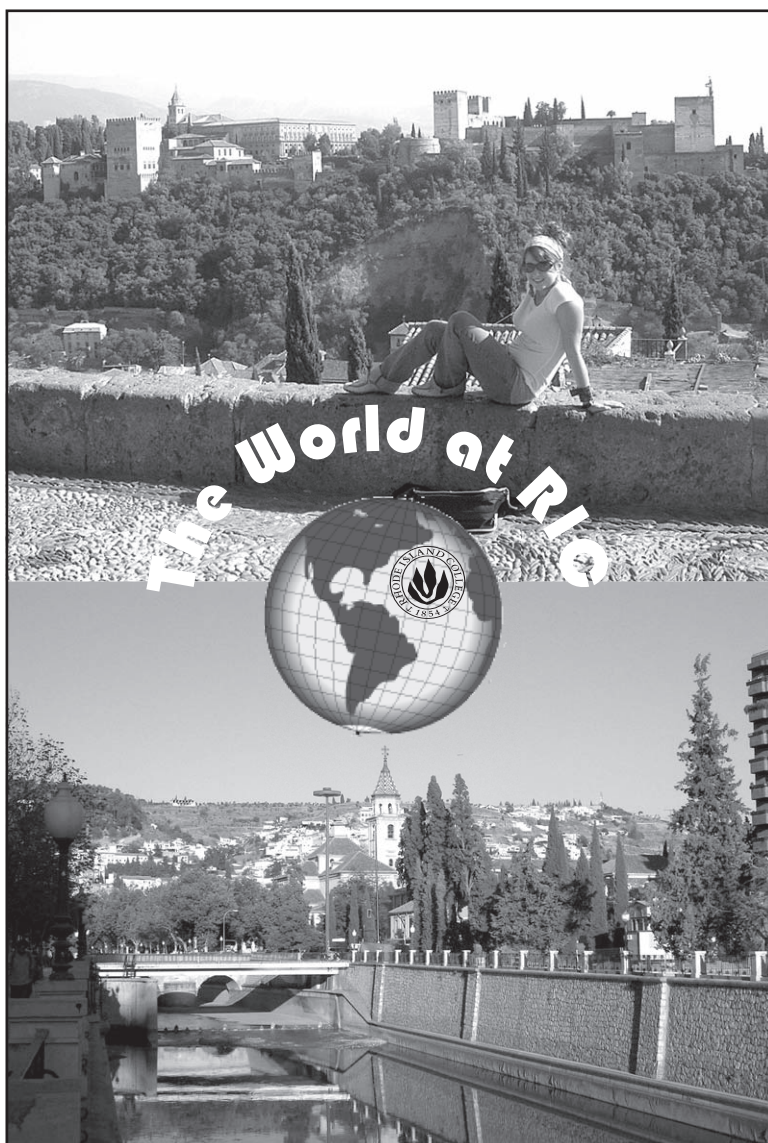
Also, we were never allowed to have friends over, nor did our 'mother' and her children ever entertain friends in the home. Meetings always took place at a local bar, club or outdoors. It wasn't a bad custom; it was just strange, coming from a place where house gatherings are common.

The culture of Granada was so rich and full of life – you were never bored. Though it was a little difficult to get used to eating dinner at nine at night, we never hesitated at a chance to go out and enjoy ourselves or appreciate the cultural activities around us. We thoroughly enjoyed the idea of tapas, the small appetizers that come free with any beverage ordered. Order three drinks and you have a full course meal!

In addition to our other explorations around the city, my roommate and I were able to take flamenco lessons during the semester. Flamenco is a foot-stomping dance with large dresses, clapping, and an incredible amount of passion. We were also fortunate enough to learn the Sevillanas, a group/partner dance performed throughout Andalucía, known especially for its popularity in Sevilla. It was a great opportunity to be able to study these sacred dances in such a historical city.

The feelings and memories that this trip rendered are ones that I will keep for life. I am now open minded about other cultures in the world. Since my grandparents on both sides came from other countries, I knew it was not easy to move to the United States and start anew. I now realize how much effort and persistence it takes to go somewhere where you stand out, and to learn a new language.

My life completely changed in those four short months, but only for the better, and I can now apply what I have learned and use it to enrich my future.



Above (top), Sara Mouchon enjoys the view of Alhambra Castle in Spain. Above is the city of Granada, Spain.

WHAT'S NEWS @ Rhode Island College

Editor: Jane E. Fusco

Managing Editor: Rob Martin

Design Manager: Jennifer Twining '92

Information Aide: Pauline McCartney

Photographer: Gene St. Pierre '77

Graphic Designers:

Charles Allsworth '82, M '86

Lance Gorton '09

Paul J. Silva '03

Copy Editor: Ray Ragosta

Staff Writers:

Ericka Atwell '08

Gita Brown

Robert P. Masse '08

Kerry McCartney

Anthony Rebello '07

Katharine Ricci '07

Alison Strandberg

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**The next issue of
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will be April 9, 2007**

**Story ideas are welcome.
Call 401-456-8090
or email rmartin@ric.edu.**

Center for Public Policy renamed for late RIC President David Sweet



DAVID SWEET

The Center for Public Policy, RIC's central resource for outreach and service, has been renamed the David E. Sweet Center for Public Policy at Rhode Island College in honor of RIC's sixth president, who died in office in 1984.

In addition, the existing Sweet endowment has been appropriated to match funds made available to endow the College's certificate program in nonprofit leadership and philanthropy studies.

"Because of his life-long commitment to community and positive social change, we are delighted to name the Center after President Sweet," said Mark Motte, director of the Center.

"His contributions to the College and to the state set a high standard for today's talented cadre of researchers and practitioners who work for the David E. Sweet Center's rich array of affiliated institutes, bureaus and programs," Motte said. "We are proud of our new name and will work diligently to honor David Sweet's memory."

In 2004, the Center for Public Policy was founded to serve an organizing and marketing function for the many centers and institutes housed at Rhode Island College. The Center, which currently includes 12 affiliated institutes, provides leadership in research and direct services to the students of the College and the citizens of the state. The newest member of the Center is the Rhode Island Writing Project, which became an affiliate last month.

Henry Barnard School to add sixth grade

The Henry Barnard School has announced that a sixth grade will be reinstated for the 2007-08 school year. Families interested in enrolling a child in the sixth grade are encouraged to contact the school to obtain an application and arrange a visit. In addition, please note that limited vacancies are expected in grades four and five. Call 401-456-8801 or visit www.ric.edu/hbs for more information.

RIC AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL TO HOLD BENEFIT MARCH 30

The student group RIC Amnesty International is sponsoring an art show to raise awareness about acts of violence against women around the world on Friday, March 30, from 6 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Dead Cat Gallery at 669 Elmwood Ave in Providence.

The event, held in conjunction with Women's History Month, will feature many RIC student artists and female music performers including James Austin, Adam Ferbert, Povilas Mecys, Jacqueline Sylvia and John Tashjian, and the bands Can't Face the Falling, Sweetthieves and The Set of Red Things. Also, the traveling photo exhibition "Femicide in Ciudad Juárez and Chihuahua, Mexico" will be on display.

Admission is \$10 (free before 8 p.m.). All proceeds go to Amnesty International.

In Memoriam – RIC educator, business executive Joel Fuerst

Joel M. Fuerst, of Monroe Township, N.J., a former RIC associate professor of economics and management, died Jan. 15 at the age of 80.

He began at the College in 1982, retiring in 1997. In the 1980s, he served as chair of the Dept. of Economics and Management.

Prior to RIC, he taught at Rockhurst College in Kansas City, Mo., and Illinois State University. He was also a marketing executive at Exxon Enterprises, Celanese Corp. and Caltex Oil.

Born in Philadelphia, Pa., Fuerst lived in Warwick before moving to New Jersey 10 years ago.

Fuerst received a PhD in educational

administration from Illinois State University, an MBA from Columbia University School of Business, and a bachelor's degree in chemical engineering from Yale University.

He was a World War II Navy veteran.

Among his professional affiliations were the American Marketing Association and the Academy for Management.

Fuerst is survived by his wife of 55 years, Paulette Miller Fuerst, two sons and four grandchildren.

Contributions in his memory can be made to the American Heart Association, 2550 Route 1, North Brunswick, NJ 08902-4301.

FOCUS ON Faculty & Staff



JAMIE TAYLOR

Jamie Taylor, associate professor of theatre, recently directed the gospel musical, *Praise Is What I Do* in his home state of North Carolina. The drama was presented at Poplar Springs Christian Church. The original play, written by Tracy Bell, deals with a mother and her struggles to have her four children reconnect to their spiritual roots after they have become victims of gambling, prostitution and drug addiction.

Jamie also appears in the play as the Rev. Dr. Brooks. The videotaped production received raved reviews. This is Taylor's second directorial stint at the Poplar Springs Christian Church's New Year's Celebration.



DIANNE HULING

Dianne Huling, M '87, greenhouse manager, presented a lecture titled "The Crevice Garden: An Alternative Way to Rock Garden" to the New England Chapter of the North American Rock Garden Society last fall. She also moderated a panel discussion on crevice gardening and sand beds.

Huling has had an article published in the February *Journal of the Ontario Rock Garden Society* titled "Suiseki on a Grand Scale: Creating the Boulder Rock Garden."

Huling was elected president of the New England Chapter of the North American Rock Garden Society at its annual meeting in October. She was also presented the service award for the year 2006.

Huling won first prize in the 2006 international photography contest this fall, sponsored by the North American Rock Garden Society in class 3, Portrait of a Plant in Cultivation. She received third prize in class 4, Rock Garden Scene, and garnered 12 honorable mentions across all 4 classes. Her first prize photograph of *Erythronium americanum* has been published in the winter edition of the *Rock Garden Quarterly*, an international publication of the North American Rock Garden Society.

Three of Huling's photographs were featured in the fall edition of the *Rock Garden Quarterly*. The photographs of alpine flowers were taken in Newfoundland and Kwa Zulu Natal, South Africa. Her photograph of *Helichrysum confertum*, taken in Lesotho, was featured on the back cover of the *Rock Garden Quarterly* summer edition. Two of her other photographs were also included in the summer edition and were taken in Lesotho and in Pennsylvania.

Tracie Laliberte-Bailey, adjunct faculty member in the communications dept., recently received the Arthur F. Jones award for excellence in writing for her column "Dog Pawse," which appears in the *Attleboro Sun Chronicle* in Massachusetts. The award was sponsored by the Purebred Alliance of Writers (PAW) in conjunction with Westminster week in New York. PAW is dedicated to excellence in writing about purebred dogs and issues of interest to owners, breeders and others.

The Arthur Frederick Jones Award is named in honor of the late editor of the *American Kennel Gazette*, now the *AKC Gazette*. Laliberte-Bailey has nearly 30 years of experience in the professional field of dogs. A former breeder, trainer, exhibitor of show dogs, winner of Best Junior Handler at Westminster Kennel Club and Crufts Dog Show, she is currently working on a doctorate of philosophy at Salve Regina University "examining the human side of our relationship with the domesticated dog."

Faculty and staff are encouraged to submit items about their professional endeavors to What's News, Office of News and Public Relations, Kauffman Center, or email them to rmartin@ric.edu.

NEWS FROM THE Foundation & Alumni Offices

RIC ON THE ROAD ~ FLORIDA!



RIC President John Nazarian is joined by his fellow 1954 classmates (l-r), Helen Tidgwell, Nancy Goulet and Corinne Murphy, in Naples.



Wileen Taber Coyne '55, our Boca Raton hostess.



Professor Emeritus Lawrence Lindquist at Charlotte Harbor Yacht Club.



At the Charlotte Harbor Yacht Club are (seated, l-r) Director of Alumni Affairs Ellie O'Neill, Carolyn Payne '70, Brenda Pendleton '84, Esther Gaisford-Wyatt '79; (standing, l-r) John DeGiulio, Lillian DeGiulio '54, Marigrace Parker '70, Gladys Geib and Mary McKenney '47.



BY ELLIE O'NEILL

*Director,
Alumni Affairs*



For the past few years, one of the highlights we look forward to at the end of January is our annual pilgrimage to sunny Florida. This year we traveled from Boca Raton to Punta Gorda to Naples – three events in three cities in three days! We were delighted to visit with 140 alumni and friends of the College. In Boca we were once again hosted by Wileen Taber Coyne '55 at the Broken Sound Club. At this luncheon, our “most senior” and “most junior” alumni from our Florida events attended: Stella Glassman '37 and Michele Fanelli '04. We extend a special thank you to Wileen for her hospitality and generosity.

Ennis (Buz) Bisbano hosted us at the Charlotte Harbor Yacht Club. We were especially delighted to have Professor Emeritus Lawrence (Larrie) Lindquist and his wife Kathie join us. Larrie was the first chair of the anthropology dept. and has a wealth of information on the early years of the Mt. Pleasant campus.

Our Naples event attracted 60 people, our largest crowd. A special thanks goes out to Pat Kells Pitocchi '68 and Bob Berlam '58 for their help in organizing the occasion. There were plenty of suggestions for the next event and where it should be held.

At all three locations, alumni stepped forward to volunteer with the Florida chapter events. Please visit the alumni scrapbook on our website to view all the photos.

If you would like to learn more about the Alumni Association's board of directors and committees, please join us for an informational session on Wednesday, March 28 at 5:30 p.m. in the Alumni Office. Call us at 401-456-8086 or email alumni@ric.edu.



In Naples are from left, Pat Kells Pitocchi '68, Cheryl Dromgoole '76, Linda Murphy '70, Elaine Recchia '65, Barbara Calabro '68, Sandra Pitocchi '68 and Louise Dailey '76.



Also in Naples are from left, Joe Tracy, Judy Barry '61, Joe Almagno HD '97, RIC Vice President Peg Brown and Mary O'Brien M '64.

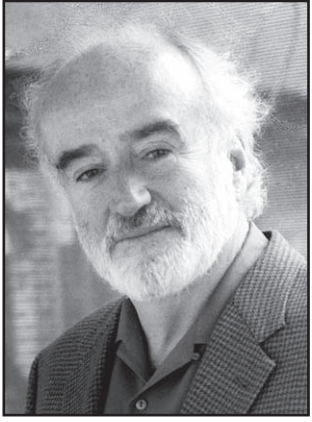


In Boca Raton are from left, Marsha McVicar '58, Sheila Stanley '63, Nancy Stanley and Doris Fontaine Rooney '59.



At the Charlotte Harbor Yacht Club are from left, Buz Bisbano '55, Terry Bisbano, RIC President John Nazarian, Richard Mot Mottola '54, Vin Cullen '55, Lillian Mottola '55 and Eileen Monopoli '55.

Ron McLarty '69 authors new book with local setting



RON MCLARTY

RIC grad Ron McLarty, author of *The Memory of Running*, which was selected for the 2007 Reading Across Rhode Island program, had a new book, released in January.

Traveler introduces Jono Riley, an actor and bartender in Manhattan who returns to his old neighborhood in East Providence after learning that his first love, Marie, has died. The book intercuts between scenes past and present, highlighting Riley's coming of age in the 1960s in the place where 40 years later he uncovers the cause of Marie's death.

McLarty is also an award-winning character actor and playwright who was born in Providence and raised in East Providence. He earned a bachelor's degree in English from RIC in 1969.

In 2005, he told *What's News* that in preparing for his acting and writing career, "My whole foundation was at Rhode Island College."

According to McLarty, an author of over 40 plays, it was at the College that he first became interested in playwriting. He recalled being active in the RIC Theatre program and reading poetry at the RIC coffeehouse.

McLarty received RIC's 2005 Charles B. Willard Achievement Award for bringing honor to the College through his distinguished accomplishments. His mother, the late Kathleen Hughes McLarty, was a 1941 graduate of the College.

McLarty left Rhode Island for New York 30 years ago, and while pursuing a career as a writer, he managed to become a fixture in films and on television, where he was featured on the popular series *Spenser: For Hire* and has appeared on *The Practice*, *Law & Order*, and *Sex and the City*, among others. He lives in New York City with his actress wife, Kate Skinner.

Here's how to have your gift to the Annual Fund doubled!

Tim Sullivan '78 is leading the way for the first Alumni Matching Challenge. He has a successful career at PepsiCo, and has been blessed with a wonderful family and friends. But it wasn't always that way. After he suffered a serious accident followed by years of reconstructive surgery on his right leg, a financial scholarship enabled Tim to return to Rhode Island College. He earned a degree in managerial economics.

Now Tim wants to give back. He has recruited 17 other RIC alumni* to donate \$25,000 to sponsor the Alumni Matching Challenge. Their goal is to encourage giving from young alumni so they have created an incentive. First-time contributors will have their donation matched.

For example, John Jones' first-time gift of \$50 to the Annual Fund will be matched by the Alumni Matching Challenge fund. He will be recognized for \$100 in total – his own donation of \$50 as well as the matching gift of \$50.

What difference will your contribution make? It will help provide nearly 150 new student scholarships, ranging from \$500 to \$3,300, as well as support alumni-related programs.

In Tim's words, "I encourage those of you who have never given before to take this opportunity to make your contribution really count. More and more students need our help."

For information, please call 401-456-8827.

* Alumni Matching Challenge Sponsors:

Steve Bastien '75	John Nazarian '54
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Christopher Harrison '97	Mimi Struck '69
Stephanie Harrison '97	Richard Sullivan '64
Patricia Marchetti '62	A. Tim Sullivan '78
Gary Mohamed '85	Anne Walsh Cain '64



Carrying Out Your Wishes

Wills, Probate, and Trusts

Wednesday, April 11, 2007

Alger Hall 110

Light Supper at 5:30 pm

Workshop 6:15 to 8 pm

WORKSHOP PRESENTERS



Renée A.R. Evangelista, Esq.* is co-managing partner of the R.I. office of Edwards Angell Palmer & Dodge located in Providence. Areas of practice are private client and probate.



Bridget L. Mullaney, Esq.* joined Edwards Angell Palmer & Dodge as an associate in the fall of 2006. Area of practice is private client.



Ronda L. Warren, '89, CFP™ is a financial advisor at UBS Financial Services Inc. in Providence, with more than 16 years of financial planning experience.

PLEASE RSVP BY FRIDAY, APRIL 6

Email – alumni@ric.edu or
call 401.456.8827 to reserve.

Sponsored by Rhode Island College
Alumni Association and The Foundation

RIC ON THE ROAD!

Two March events for our alumni & friends



FRIDAY, MARCH 9

Red Sox vs. Phillies at 1:00

Bright House Networks Field,
Clearwater, FL

SUNDAY, MARCH 11

Following the women's softball game in Kissimmee, join us at:

Friday's Front Row Sports Grill
8126 International Drive,
Orlando, FL 32819
3:30-6 p.m.

Please RSVP to the Alumni Office for receptions by Monday, March 5. Call 401-456-9625; email alumni@ric.edu. Pay for Red Sox tickets by check, MasterCard or Visa.

CORRECTIONS TO 2005-2006 REPORT OF GIFTS

In our report published in December 2006, several people were either omitted or listed incorrectly.

The correct listings are:

William Hurry – *The 2004 Society*

Julie Matthews – *Employee Giving*

Julie Wollman – *The RIC Circle, Employee Giving*

RIC Athletic News



2007 LITTLE EAST TOURNAMENT CHAMPIONS: From left are assistant coach Matt O'Brien, assistant coach Kareem Hayletts, Matt St. Ours, Raleek Byfield, Jake Dent, Cameron Stewart, Kamari Williams, Kaseem Johnson, Tirrell Hill, Cory Bouchard (front), Tony Pierlioni (rear), Brian Stanko, John Weir, Kinsey Durgin, Bobby Bailey, Amde Tegbaru, head coach Bob Walsh, manager Eric Bates.

Continued from page 1

both meetings, but with the league title and a chance to go to the NCAA Div. III Men's Basketball Tournament on the line, Rhode Island College approached the game with quiet focus and intensity.

From the opening tip, the Anchormen were on a mission. Depth and versatility were the key as Head Coach Bob Walsh used 10 different players, nine of whom scored at least two points, to build a 41-31 halftime advantage. Sophomore guard Bobby Bailey was all over the floor, leading the team with nine points and five boards in the first stanza.

With 20 minutes standing between RIC and the Little East crown, the Anchormen stepped on the gas, building a 15-point lead with 17:26 left to go on a sophomore guard Tirrell Hill layup. Keene State threatened with 5:29 left to go, cutting the lead down to seven points. Bailey and senior guard Kinsey Durgin scored for RIC on the ensuing two possessions to build the lead back up, while senior forward Brian Stanko, the team's best free throw shooter, went a perfect 6-for-6 from the charity stripe to seal an 87-75 win.

In front of a capacity crowd at The Murray Center, the Anchormen celebrated with their fans, cutting down the nets for their first-ever Little East Tournament title. Hill finished with a game-high 19 points, while Bailey posted a double-double with 17 points and a game-high 10 rebounds. Durgin added 16 points, eight boards and two assists.

"I couldn't be any prouder right now of our guys," said Coach Walsh after the win. "The sacrifice that those guys have made for each other is immense. We're just fortunate to have guys who have completely bought into our system and done whatever we've asked. It's great for the school and the administration. We're going to savor this tonight and tomorrow, then get back to work on Monday to get ready for the NCAA Tournament."

Durgin was named the tourney's Most Outstanding Player. He averaged 17.7 points, 6.0 rebounds and 3.0 assists as RIC went 3-0 in tournament action. "All 15 of us do the little things to win," Durgin said after the victory. "I just happened to get the points the last couple days. Everyone works hard every day. We still have more games to play.

We've been talked about nationally all year long. Hopefully, we can go out and prove that we belong."

In addition to Durgin, Hill was named to the LEC Men's Basketball All-Tournament Team.

Prior to the win over the Owls in the tournament championship game, no Rhode Island College team had made it past the semifinal round. The victory gave the Anchormen a 24-3 overall mark, matching the school record established by the 1968-69 team for the most wins in a season.

Rhode Island College started its championship run against eighth-seeded Southern Maine in the first round on Feb. 20 and narrowly got by the Huskies, 72-69, on a Stanko three-pointer with 1.6 seconds left in overtime.

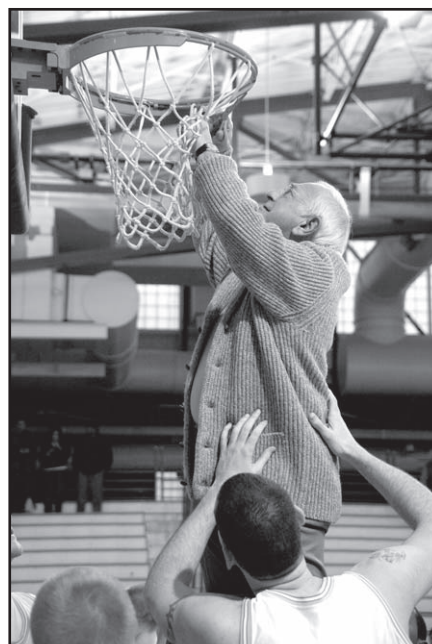
That allowed RIC to host the tournament's semifinal and championship games for the first time in school history on Feb. 23-24. The Anchormen defeated fourth-seeded UMass Dartmouth, 76-68, on Feb. 23 to advance to the title contest, led by Durgin's 24 points and sophomore forward Kaseem Johnson's double-double, 10-point, 13-rebound effort.

Next up for the Anchormen is a date in the NCAA Div. III Men's Basketball Tournament for the first time since 1979. Rhode Island College was seeded third in the Northeast Region and will host first- and second-round competition on Friday and Saturday, March 2-3 at The Murray Center.

The 2006-07 season has been one of milestones for the program, which included capturing the Little East Conference Regular Season Championship for the second time over the past three seasons and the Anchormen's first outright title. RIC shared the 2004-05 LEC Regular Season Championship with Western Connecticut.



RIC ROOTERS: A overflow contingent of fans exhort the men's basketball team toward triumph in the LEC tournament finals.



NETMINDER: RIC President John Nazarian cuts down a net following the Anchormen's 87-75 victory over Keene State College.

2007 WINTERFEST



FUN IN FEBRUARY: The first-ever Athletics Winterfest event, on Feb. 3 and 4, featured alumni games, a hot dog roast, ice skating and, pictured above, a campus hay ride and visit from the Anchorman (with Paul Bourget '69 and Denise Bourget).

2007 Winter/Spring Athletics Schedule Mar. 5 – Apr. 9

Baseball

Sat.	Mar. 10	vs. Mt. St Joseph (DH) #	Noon
Sun.	Mar. 11	vs. Drew #	3 p.m.
Mon.	Mar. 12	vs. Rowan #	5 p.m.
Wed.	Mar. 14	vs. Ripon (DH) #	Noon
Thurs.	Mar. 15	vs. Utica College (DH) #	9:30 a.m.
Sun.	Mar. 18	Thomas (DH)	1 p.m.
Tues.	Mar. 20	at Roger Williams	3:30 p.m.
Thurs.	Mar. 22	at Salve Regina	3:30 p.m.
Sun.	Mar. 25	at Mass. College of Liberal Arts (DH)	Noon
Tues.	Mar. 27	at Coast Guard	3 p.m.
Thurs.	Mar. 29	Salem State	3:30 p.m.
Sat.	Mar. 31	Keene State * (DH)	Noon
Mon.	Apr. 2	at Bridgewater State	3:30 p.m.
Wed.	Apr. 4	Roger Williams	3:30 p.m.
Thurs.	Apr. 5	at UMass Dartmouth *	3:30 p.m.
Sat.	Apr. 7	UMass Boston * (DH)	Noon

Softball

Sun.	Mar. 11	vs. Marietta +	9 a.m.
Sun.	Mar. 11	vs. Ramapo +	1 p.m.
Mon.	Mar. 12	vs. Fitchburg State +	9 a.m.
Mon.	Mar. 12	vs. Coast Guard +	11 a.m.
Tues.	Mar. 13	vs. Rowan +	3 p.m.
Tues.	Mar. 13	vs. Franklin & Marshall +	5 p.m.
Wed.	Mar. 14	vs. Wisconsin-Stout +	9 a.m.
Wed.	Mar. 14	vs. Kean +	1 p.m.
Thurs.	Mar. 22	Roger Williams (DH)	3 p.m.
Sat.	Mar. 24	at Salem State (DH)	Noon
Tues.	Mar. 27	Wheaton (DH)	3 p.m.
Sat.	Mar. 31	Southern Maine * (DH)	1 p.m.
Tues.	Apr. 3	at Bridgewater State (DH)	3:30 p.m.
Thurs.	Apr. 5	at Curry (DH)	3 p.m.
Sat.	Apr. 7	at Keene State * (DH)	1 p.m.

Men's Tennis

Thurs.	Mar. 22	Roger Williams	3:30 p.m.
Sat.	Mar. 24	at Clark	1 p.m.
Tues.	Mar. 27	at Coast Guard	3:30 p.m.
Thurs.	Mar. 29	at Nichols	3:30 p.m.
Sat.	Mar. 31	Salem State *	1 p.m.
Tues.	Apr. 3	Johnson & Wales	3:30 p.m.
Thurs.	Apr. 5	Curry	3:30 p.m.

Women's Tennis

Sat.	Apr. 7	Gordon	Noon
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Women's Lacrosse

Tues.	Mar. 20	at Westfield State	4 p.m.
Thurs.	Mar. 22	at Elms	4 p.m.
Tues.	Mar. 27	Curry	6 p.m.
Thurs.	Mar. 29	at Roger Williams	3:30 p.m.
Mon.	Apr. 2	Salve Regina	4 p.m.
Wed.	Apr. 4	UMass Dartmouth *	4 p.m.
Sat.	Apr. 7	at Keene State *	1 p.m.

Men's & Women's Outdoor Track & Field

Sat.	Mar. 24	at Northeastern Invitational	10 a.m.
Sat.	Mar. 31	Rhode Island College Invitational	11 a.m.
Sat.	Apr. 7	at Bryant Invitational	10 a.m.

Women's Gymnastics

Sat.	Mar. 10	at ECAC Championships	TBA
Fri.-Sat.	Mar. 23-24	at NCGA Championships	TBA

Home contests in bold

- # Tampa Bay Invitational game
- + Rebel Spring Games contest (Kissimmee, FL)
- * Little East Conference contest

Log on to www.ric.edu/athletics for updated schedules and results.



ASTAL SUMMER INSTITUTE WRITING FOR YOUNG PEOPLE June 21, 22, 23, 25, 26

This summer, the Alliance for the Study and Teaching of Adolescent Literature (ASTAL) at Rhode Island College is offering a five-day institute for people who are interested in learning to write for young people. A follow-up session will be held in December. Participants will choose between a strand for fiction writing or nonfiction writing. A third strand will be available for students in grades 7-12 who are interested in learning to write for their peers.

Participants will attend presentations about book publishing featuring editors and publishers including Kara LaReau, editor for Scholastic Books and Jennifer Taber, publicist at Houghton Mifflin. They will meet and hear from guest authors including Patricia Reilly Giff, Janet Taylor Lisle, Patricia McCormick, Sarah Lamstein, and Melissa Stewart. Each participant will also work with an instructor/mentor in one of three strands: Writing Fiction for Young People; Writing Nonfiction for Young People; or Young People Writing for Their Peers (enrollment limited to students in grades 7-12). Instructor/mentors include Tonya Bolden, Kelly Easton, Beatrice Gormley, Joyce Hansen, Mark Peter Hughes, Donna Jackson, Peter Johnson, and Liza Ketchum. In each strand, the instructor/mentor to student ratio will not exceed 1:7, providing maximum opportunities for individualized instruction and feedback during work sessions. Enrollment will be limited and students will be accepted in the order that we receive the applications by the strand indicated.

Enrollees may elect to earn three graduate or undergraduate credits for their participation.

REGISTRATION FORM

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Select the Strand (Strands 1 and 2 have an option for participants to receive 3 credits):

Strand 1 Writing Fiction Credit yes (Eng. 550 Eng. 350) no

Strand 2 Writing NonFiction Credit yes (Eng. 550 Eng. 350) no

Strand 3 Young People Writing for their Peers (limited to students in grades 7-12 and applications must include a recommendation from an English teacher)

Audit (Auditors may attend the morning keynotes and guest author presentations on 6/21, 6/22, and 6/25; the authors' panel and Saturday outing on 6/23)

Registration (make checks payable to ASTAL @ the RIC Foundation and mailed to Jean E. Brown, ASTAL, 352 Craig-Lee Hall, Rhode Island College, 600 Mt. Pleasant Avenue Providence, RI 02908-1991).

Cost is \$800 each for Strands 1, 2, and 3. Includes tuition, continental breakfast, lunch, books, materials, and a Saturday outing. All participants will receive a detailed critique of the work they do during the Institute. There will also be a follow-up session for all participants in December. Participants earning academic credit will pay an additional \$100 processing fee.

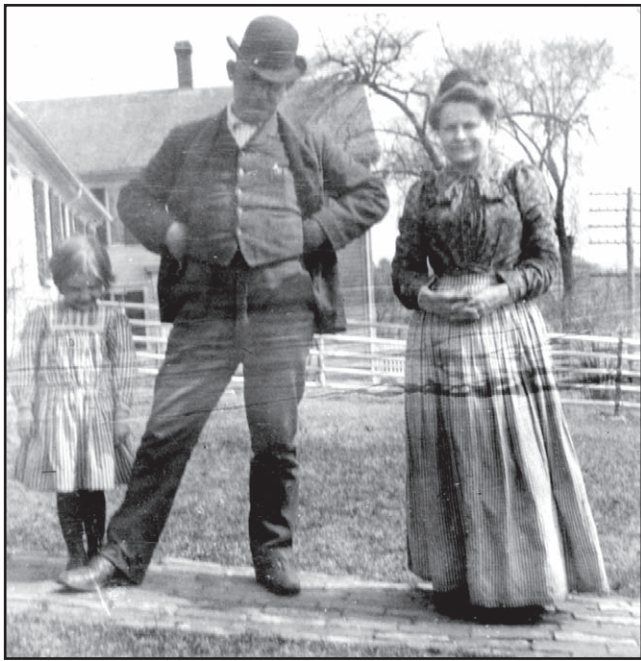
Auditors will pay \$450.

Early registration must be postmarked by April 2.

After April 1, registration will be \$900. Participants earning academic credit will pay an additional \$100 processing fee.

All registrations must be postmarked by May 1.

Check the ASTAL website at www.ric.edu/astal for information about the presenters and the instructor/mentors. For additional information contact Jean E. Brown at 401-441-3441 or email astal@ric.edu.



From left Mary F. (Donnelly) Atamian and her parents, Henry W. Donnelly and Josephine (Holmes) Donnelly (c. 1910).



Mary F. (Donnelly) Atamian in front of the family homestead that housed five generations of RIC students. (c. 1921)



(Seated) Harriet (Atamian) Breton; (standing from left) Serena Kankash and Harriet (Breton) Kankash.

Since 1883, five generations live the Rhode Island College experience

BY ALISON STRANDBERG

Staff Writer



1883 through today, five generations of women from a Millville, Mass., family have attended RIC to pursue higher education. Spanning from a time when women rarely attended college to present day, this family has been a constant part of RIC's ever-changing learning community.

The first to attend was Josephine (Holmes) Donnelly. Josephine (1865-1928) attended the College (then named the Rhode Island Normal School) at its first permanent home on Benefit St. in Providence.

According to RIC archives, Josephine studied chemistry, physiology and language in September of 1883. Her relatives were recently informed by the Millville Historical Society that Josephine was one of the first school teachers in Millville when the town broke away from nearby Blackstone in 1916.

Josephine was an active teacher throughout her life; she was also a piano teacher and local church choir director at St. Augustine's Church in Millville. Her music pupils, who were children, presented her a square grand piano with ivory keys in 1896 in appreciation for her mentoring.

The College relocated to Smith Hill in Providence in 1898 and in 1920 it was renamed the Rhode Island College of Education. Josephine's daughter, Mary (Donnelly) Atamian (1904-1959) continued the family tradition and completed a junior course in teaching in January 1923.

Mary's daughter, Harriet (Atamian) Breton recalls her mother telling her about the RIC basketball team during her school years. "The team had so few men, if one player was injured or ill, the coach would have to play to field a team."

Harriet also recalls a less fond memory of her mother. Even though Mary was an educated teacher (beyond what was necessary to teach), she was asked to leave her teaching post in Massachusetts during the Great Depression. During those times, married women were often terminated from such posts.

The Rhode Island College experience is a tie that binds for five generations of one family.

Beginning in

However, Mary did return to teaching in 1946. According to her family, she taught elementary grades in the towns of North Kingstown and North Smithfield in Rhode Island.

Many years later, Harriet herself kept the tradition of Rhode Island College alive. She had earned a bachelor's degree in biology and chemistry from Salve Regina College as a member of the school's first graduating class in 1951.

Harriet taught throughout the years and while substituting in Woonsocket in the early 1980s, she was told she needed state certification to continue.

She took the courses she needed at RIC and gained her teaching certification in 1983. Things had changed since her mother's time at the College, which had been renamed Rhode Island College in 1960, and had relocated to its current Mt. Pleasant campus in 1958.

As fate would have it, Harriet's daughter, Harriet (Breton) Kankash was also attending RIC at the same time. The two carpooled to classes.

Harriet Kankash began her higher education at Roger Williams College in Bristol, with a major in sociology. During her third semester the program was discontinued. She had to find another school and decided to come to RIC at her mother's suggestion. She graduated in 1984 with a bachelor's in anthropology and archaeology.

The fifth link in this chain is Harriet Kankash's daughter, Serena Kankash. Serena currently attends the College and is pursuing a bachelor's degree in biology with an expected graduation date of 2009. She is the first member of her family to live on campus. According to Serena, RIC's size was a major appeal. "I like being at a small school and close to home," she said. "Professors know your name here."

Although times have changed and opportunities for women have expanded, this family has always seen RIC as a great place to pursue higher education.

"RIC provides the perfect opportunity to continue an education," said Harriet Kankash.

"Affordable and convenient, whether matriculating or not, we will always come back to RIC."

Henry Barnard School students win awards at Lego contests

BY KATHARINE RICCI '07

Staff Writer



The fifth graders at Henry Barnard School (HBS) don't just play with Legos. They compete and win contests with them.

John D. Arango, a teacher at Henry Barnard and former art director and engineer, taught nine fifth graders after school in preparation to ultimately compete in Legos technology contests. It paid off in

ways neither Arango nor the children expected.

At the first competition, Junior FIRST Lego League Expo at Riverside Middle School, held on Jan. 6, the HBS students competed with other R.I. elementary schools and won first place in the maze competition and best research. Six days later, they went to Roger Williams University for the another championship tournament where they won first place in the teamwork and spirit categories.



LEGO MASTER: Victoria Souza, a fifth-grade Henry Barnard student, examines her lego robot before a competition at Roger Williams University.

Continued next page

New alcohol-prevention program at RIC proved to be a success

AlcoholEdu – in its first year at the College – provided facts about alcohol to incoming freshmen to help them make informed decisions about drinking.

BY ANTHONY REBELLO '07

Staff Writer



Despite national binge drinking statistics among college students across the country, the implementation of AlcoholEdu, a web-based alcohol prevention program that uses science-based research to inform students on alcohol and its effects, proved to be a success in raising awareness for better

decision-making among students at RIC.

AlcoholEdu was developed in 2000 by Boston-based Outside the Classroom (OTC) using a team of prevention professionals and leading scientists. It is a response to sobering statistics gathered by the federal government, which estimate that 500,000 injuries, 70,000 sexual assaults, and 159,000 first-year students drop out of school every year as a result of alcohol and other drugs.

The decision to utilize AlcoholEdu, among existing alcohol education/prevention tools on campus, was a year-long process to familiarize the administration on the project, which was led by Mary Olenn, consultant for the Office of Health Promotion. The office developed a detailed timeline for the program and task responsibilities for implementation team members. Once it was decided that the web-based program would be the best strategy, RIC President John Nazarian authorized a three-year funding commitment from the College.

“This action speaks boldly in our campus culture where there is palpable competition by worthwhile programs for precious dollars,” Olenn said.

A presentation of the course to parents and incoming freshmen at summer orientation by Scott Kane, dean of students, individual reminder letters sent by Gary Penfield, vice president for student affairs, as well as statewide print and television media stories about the College’s new course of action, helped create awareness of the project.

All freshmen were expected to complete the first part of the course by Sept. 4, 2006, beginning with a survey and pre-test to help establish the students’ knowledge, attitudes and behaviors on alcohol. The course continued with three chapters that covered a range of topics, including everything from blood alcohol concentration to alcohol’s impact on the brain. At the end of the three chapters was an exam and survey for students to complete. Students were expected to complete the survey between Sept. 15 and Oct. 15.

Initial expectations set by Olenn and the rest of the AlcoholEdu implementation team were for 50-75 percent of incoming freshman to complete Part I of the course, and for a 30-40 percent completion rate of Part II. Of the 1,011 students that completed the program, from the 1,176 in the freshman class, 73 percent of freshman over 18 completed the course between August and October (260 freshmen under 18).

“Our initial expectations were exceeded,” Olenn stated.

The Outside the Classroom organization recently awarded RIC’s AlcoholEdu Team with an Honorable Mention in the 2006-07 Prevention Excellence Awards.

Other data gathered from the project:

- 72 percent of students expressed they learned a good deal from AlcoholEdu, and the information makes them feel more comfortable and capable of successfully handling college life
- 62 percent of participating freshmen 18 and over abstain from alcohol consumption (taken from a confidential, self-reporting survey)
- Percentage of students who became more aware and took into consideration their BAC (blood alcohol concentration) while drinking increased from 32 percent to 54 percent
- Percentage of drinkers who developed an awareness of the need to modify their drinking behaviors increased from 15 percent to 22 percent
- Students reported an increase in their care-taking behaviors
- Half of students reported they know more about the ways alcohol affects someone’s ability to give consent for sex

As for freshmen that engage in particular lethal drinking behaviors:

- Shots and chugging were most commonly reported
- Hangovers (40 percent)
- Forgetting actions or where they were (33 percent)
- Doing something they later regretted (27 percent)

The Outside the Classroom organization recently awarded RIC’s AlcoholEdu Team with an Honorable Mention in the 2006-07 Prevention Excellence Awards. This award program was sponsored by OTC “to honor institutions of higher education and Greek organizations that have most significantly influenced the quality of student life through their alcohol prevention efforts.”

“Of the 450 schools participating across the nation, only 13 were honored with awards,” Olenn said.

Along with AlcoholEdu, Olenn is talking to professors and the administration about other tools that can be used to keep this information exchange ongoing. She has a DVD in her office that was created in conjunction with MADD R.I. (Mothers Against Drunk Driving) and the Rhode Island State Police, which is available to all students who wish to view it. *Over the Limit, Under Arrest* includes real people and their experiences on the physical effects of alcohol on good judgment, and how it impairs the ability to drive. She also has students going across campus targeting groups of students on campus in a holiday-based initiative called “Teasers and Treats,” which has students select from uniquely shaped foam objects that have questions and answers on them related to alcohol. As more input comes in, more initiatives will be created to promote a safe and healthy campus culture.

AlcoholEdu was the front-burner project during 2006, and “it holds promise to keep this status as we look at data and tailor new initiatives in 2007,” Olenn said. “I believe the success of the first year’s implementation will be the catalyst necessary to further maximize the potential for population level prevention/harm reduction initiatives at Rhode Island College.”

Lego contest cont.

According to Arango, placing was never a priority for the students.

“They never saw themselves as winners. They just wanted to do well,” said Arango.

“Some schools put in three teams and we put in one and won two huge awards,” said John Rizzo, a mechanical engineer and HBS parent who lent his expertise.

Leading up to the competitions, the students trained for two hours after school, three times a week, for more than two months.

“That’s why they did as well as they did. That’s a big accomplishment for kids who had never played with Legos before at this level,” said Arango. “They pretty much started with nothing.”

Using Robo Lab 2.4 software produced by Legos and coordinating manuals, the children each built a tank-like robot complete with a “brain,” motors and sensors.

The process taught the students valuable lessons in geometry, teamwork, engineering, and most importantly patience, said Arango.

For one of the exercises, the children built an arm for one a robot. The robot used this arm to pick up what they called medicine, and carried it from point A to point B on an obstacle course. Prior to releasing the

robot on the course, the students used the software to program detailed sequences of choreographed movements dictated down to the second.

If a malfunction occurred, like the robot arm stopped working, the children had to troubleshoot and figure out why. At times it could get frustrating, said Rizzo.

He added that “it’s a piece of plastic, and although you program it, it doesn’t respond the same way every time. The students had to get over the frustration of continually redesigning the robot and running the program to have it not turn out the same way every time.”

The amount of work they put into practicing and the patience they developed really helped when it came to the competitions, said Arango.

“It was overwhelming for the kids. They had to go in front of judges and explain their research, talk about how they came together as a team, and how much work they put into it,” said Arango.

Arango said the Parent’s Association donated funds for 30 Lego kits at \$175 each.

According to their website, FIRST was found in 1989 to inspire young people’s interest and participation in science and technology. Its designs are accessible, innovative programs that build not only science and technology skills and interests, but also self-confidence, leadership and life skills.

Two science initiatives helpin



INBRE EXPERIMENTS: In a lab in Clarke Science Building, sophomore Nicole DeRoy loads electrophoresis gel; senior Luis Muñoz weighs agarose compound to produce a gel for electrophoresis analysis.

BY ROB MARTIN

Managing Editor



This is the first of a two-part story about a pair of science research grants benefiting RIC and other higher ed institutions in Rhode Island. Part one looks at INBRE, established in the state in 2001 to promote biomedical research. In the next issue, we'll focus on EPSCoR, a more recent funding initiative targeted to different areas of science.

One of the keys of scientific research is collaboration. Academically, that means professor/scientists working with students. Increasingly, it also means colleges and universities forming alliances to share the latest technologies and knowledge.

In recent years, RIC has elevated the depth of its science research through, among other programs, two grant initiatives – INBRE and EPSCoR – that involve several other local colleges and universities.

“No one in science works alone anymore,” said Edythe Anthony, RIC biology dept. chair and College liaison for both programs.

INBRE is funded by the National Institutes of Health, while EPSCoR is supported by the National Science Foundation. Both are helping to build statewide infrastructure for life science research. This, in turn, will enable those involved in the programs to be more competitive for grants in the future, according to Anthony.

INBRE – IDEa Networks of Biomedical Research Excellence – was begun in Rhode Island in 2001. (IDEa is an acronym for the National Institutes of Health’s Institutional Development Awards. These are targeted to states at the low end of award receipts from the NIH.)

Eric Hall ’81, associate professor of biology, is heading an INBRE-funded project examining the possible adverse affects of the gasoline additive MTBE on male reproductive development in rats and mice. MTBE, which has recently been phased out in Rhode Island, was a major drinking water contaminant following the leakage of underwater

gasoline storage tanks, said Hall.

“At a college like RIC with a publicized emphasis on teaching rather than research, the funds and infrastructure needed to do biological research are difficult to come by,” said Hall. “INBRE not only provides the money to support day-to-day activities in the laboratory, it has also supplied funds to fully equip my lab with very expensive tools.”

Hall noted that INBRE money which has been used to upgrade general use equipment in the biology dept., including a brand new tissue culture facility in Fogarty Life Science Building.



Karen Almeida '94, assistant professor of chemistry (left), and freshman Krystal Bergeron perform part of a DNA cloning procedure. The students are working on a research project led by Almeida.

The INBRE coordinator locally is the University of Rhode Island. By 2009, URI will have subcontracted a total of just over \$2.3 million to RIC. Program affiliates have access to sophisticated, big-ticket science equipment that is mostly housed in the core facility at URI.

To date, INBRE funds have allowed Rhode Island College to hire three new members of the science faculty, create a new lab and purchase equipment costing over \$300,000.

The program has been a bonus for RIC undergraduates, too. “INBRE has changed the culture of student research

in the sciences at RIC,” said Anthony, noting that previously, student research opportunities were often limited to honor students.

INBRE investigator Rebeka Merson, an assistant professor of biology, studies how certain toxic chemical compounds found in the environment cause harm to wildlife and humans. She integrates students into every aspect of her scientific pursuits, including project conception, literature search, experimental design, laboratory work, writing up the results in scientific papers and reports to funding agencies.

In the RIC Research and Grant Administration publication *Research Works*, Merson wrote, “This mission provides a dynamic learning experience, creates enthusiasm for research and an appreciation for current and emerging issues in environmental toxicology, and endows students with hands-on laboratory training.”

g RIC reap research rewards



Eileen Murphy, a post-baccalaureate student, rinses a western blot; Rebeka Merson, assistant professor of biology, explains a generalized approach to extracting and purifying nucleic acids (DNA or RNA) from tissues or cells to student Chris Quiray.

Sarah Spinette, an assistant professor of biology and INBRE investigator, is looking for student collaborators who are enthusiastic about science work. She said the lab time afforded by INBRE is of great value to students, and encourages them to be more independent in such a setting.

Currently, there are about 20 RIC students involved in INBRE-backed projects, including summer work. Some receive stipends and research credits for their efforts. Camaraderie and fun are other benefits for participating students, said Anthony. "It's definitely a success," she said of the program.

Karen Almeida '94 is an assistant professor of chemistry and INBRE investigator studying the interactions of DNA repair proteins. She has seven students working under her, and her only requirement is that they have "a real interest in science."

She believes that continued practice in the lab is important and wants her students to spend a minimum of three hours a week there to learn in a hands-on way the techniques required for their experiments.

"Undergraduate research in my lab is critical for success," said Almeida. "Students are required to master a variety of new laboratory techniques ranging from simple buffer preparation to more complex techniques such as western blotting of protein."

On any given day students might subclone DNA, screen potential bacterial candidates, express recombinant protein, and purify recombinant protein.

The collaborative nature of INBRE has resulted in greater cooperation and communication among participants. Almeida is in touch with all the colleges and universities involved with INBRE, and said that being able to contact them for any need is "immensely helpful."

To foster the team approach, INBRE has provided videoconferencing equipment, allowing member colleges to show findings to each other, and interact more closely.

Spinette, who is studying protein in the process of cell function, uses zebra fish for her project. She was able to compare notes with another principal investigator at Roger Williams University who also works with zebra fish.

Indeed, the INBRE program is all about "network, network, network," Almeida said. And among the points of contact are the twice-yearly retreats for those involved with the program. They're a time to showcase research, published papers, posters and presentations. RIC will host the January 2008 retreat.

Said Hall: "The statewide network of scientists which INBRE has established is a wonderful resource for us as well as a great source of guidance and help when we encounter difficulties."

Grant programs such as INBRE have allowed the College to diversify its science inquiries into many different areas.

The project of John Williams, professor of chemistry, involves pharmaceutical research. He and his students are engaged in the synthesis and analysis of arylphosphonium salts, and the screening of the compounds for in vitro activity against bacteria, proteins, DNA and normal and malignant cells. In addition to lab work and computational chemistry, Williams' students read the latest literature on APS biological activity. Since the ultimate goal of any research project is



Undergraduate Chris Quiray prepares to centrifuge (13,000 x gravity) samples in Merson's laboratory.

to communicate the results to the larger scientific community, students are assigned a target journal to use in preparing a manuscript for submission.

INBRE and the new EPSCoR program have already provided tangible results for the RIC science program. Anthony pointed out that because the school has a diverse teaching base in science, with expertise in a variety of areas, there aren't large numbers of educators focused in any specific area.

Now, with many higher ed institutions involved in the same programs, the extra resources – intellectual and technological alike – are a phone call or videoconference away.

No one works in solitude any longer.

Next What's News issue: EPSCoR funding adds expertise and equipment to RIC science portfolio.

RIC Arts & Entertainment

The Muir String Quartet, whose performances have become a popular and enduring tradition at RIC, will present a President's Music Series concert on Monday, March 26 at 8 p.m. in Sapinsley Hall in the Nazarian Center.

In its final appearance of RIC's 2006-07 season, Muir will perform Haydn's *String Quartet Op. 33, No. 3*; Berg's *String Quartet Op. 3*; and Schumann's *String Quartet No. 1 in A Minor, Op. 41, No. 1*.

The quartet features Peter Zazofsky and Lucia Lin on violin, Steven Ansell on viola and Michael Reynolds on cello. Muir first performed in 1980, winning the Evian International String Quartet competition and is now celebrating its 28th year as an ensemble. This year also marks Muir's 23rd as Quartet in Residence at Boston University School of Music.

Muir, long been considered one of the world's greatest string ensembles, has premiered works by American composers Lucas Foss (*String Quartet No.4*), Joan Tower (*Night Fields*), and Ezra Laderman (*String Quartet No. 9*).

The *Washington Post* has described a Muir performance as "incisive playing, with polished cascades of sound, balance, and clarity, a true meeting of minds with immense respect among the members ..."

Muir String Quartet in season finale appearance at RIC March 26



Tickets for Muir String Quartet are \$30, with discounts for seniors, RIC faculty/staff/students and children. For your convenience, tickets can be purchased as follows: in advance via VISA or MasterCard by calling 401-456-8144 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays; online at www.ric.edu/pfa; or in person at the Roberts Hall box office until the time of the performance on the day of the event.

Wed. Chamber Music Series offers full calendar of concerts

In March and April, the Wednesday Chamber Music Series will present four "Classics to Cutting Edge" concerts.

Each 50-minute recital is free of charge, and will be held on Wednesday at 1 p.m. in Sapinsley Hall in the Nazarian Center. A question-and-answer session with the artists follows the performances.

On March 7, the talented young Triton Brass Quintet will take a musical journey in *Time Travel*. Next, Generations Trio will perform *Rameau to Ragtime* on March 21. The trio features cellist John Sant' Ambrogio, pianist Stillman and violinist Dmitri Pogorelov.

In *Swallows and Sparrows* on April 4, the Flutter Effect Trio – Vessela Stoyanova (midi marimba), Valerie Thompson (cello), and Kara Trott (lead vocals) – will offer its haunting, classical sounds and rock-inspired melodies.

The series finale on April 18 is the RIC Faculty Recital *Musical Potpourri*. Featured will be Joseph Foley's trumpet virtuosity and *Jazz Sonata* by Philip Martorella, performed by the composer and by renowned saxophonist Greg Abate.

Wind Ensemble's March 9 concert an homage to innovative composers



ROBERT FRANZBLAU

The RIC Wind Ensemble, conducted by Robert Franzblau and special guest Frank L. Battisti, will showcase two groundbreaking American composers – Barbara Kolb and Charles Ives – in a concert titled *American Originals* on Friday, March 9 at 8 p.m. in Sapinsley Hall in the Nazarian Center for the Performing Arts.

Battisti, conductor emeritus of the New England Conservatory Wind Ensemble, is himself an American original. He founded and conducted the ensemble for 30 years, and under his leadership it became one of the premiere ensembles of its kind in the United States and throughout the world.

Battisti has been responsible for commissioning and premiering over 50 works for wind ensemble by distinguished American and foreign composers including John Harbison, Vincent Persichetti, Michael Colgrass, Daniel Pinkham, Gunther Schuller, Sir Michael Tippett and Alec Wilder.

Critics, composers and colleagues have praised Battisti for his commitment to contemporary music and his outstanding performances. One of Battisti's special research interests is the music of Charles Ives, and he will spend three days in residence with the RIC Wind Ensemble, rehearsing and teaching about Ives's music, which will be performed in concert.

Ives, a native of New England and a highly successful insurance executive in the early years of the 20th century, was almost unknown as a composer during his lifetime, but his musical innovations have steadily gained notice, and today he is considered one of the true pioneers of American classical music.

He studied musical composition in the Germanic tradition with Horatio Parker at Yale University, but perhaps his strongest musical influence was his

father, George Ives, a music teacher and bandmaster in Danbury, Conn. The elder Ives encouraged his son to take an open-minded approach to music. Eventually, Charles took such liberties with some of his compositions that musicians thought he had no talent. It can be said that Charles Ives was decades ahead of his time.

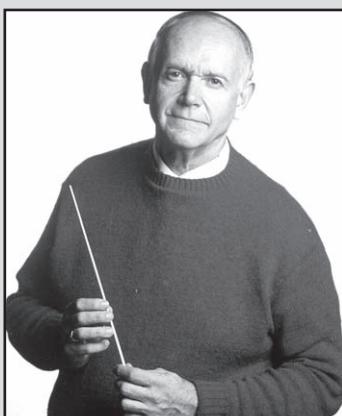
The concert will also feature the world premiere of *All in Good Time* for wind ensemble by world-renowned composer and RIC adjunct faculty member Barbara Kolb, whose works often draw on ideas and images from literature or the visual arts.

The piece is a re-scoring of her *All in Good Time*, originally commissioned by the New York Philharmonic Orchestra in celebration of its 150th anniversary.

A New Residencies grant enabled her to come to Providence, where, as composer-in-residence, she worked with the Rhode Island Philharmonic, Festival Ballet Providence, WaterFire Providence and Capital City Community Centers. Kolb was the first woman to receive the American Prix de Rome (1969-71) in music composition.

Franzblau describes Battisti and Kolb as "musicians of the very highest caliber, intensely opinionated and demanding – in short, exactly the kind of professional role models that we are so fortunate to be able to give to our students at Rhode Island College. It should be an exhilarating concert."

General admission is \$7; seniors and non-RIC students, \$5; RIC students, faculty and staff, free. Call 401-456-8144 for more information.



FRANK L. BATTISTI



BARBARA KOLB

RIC Symphony Orchestra

Annual Chester concert to feature guest pianist Rosalind Chua

Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 1 in C Major and Bartók's Concerto for Orchestra are among the pieces to be performed.

The Rhode Island College Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Edward Markward, welcomes guest pianist and noted recitalist Rosalind Chua to the 12th annual Chester Performance Award Concert on Monday, March 19 at 8 p.m. in Sapinsley Hall, the Nazarian Center.

Chua will perform as a soloist in the Symphony Orchestra's rendition of Beethoven's *Piano Concerto No. 1 in C Major*.

A professor of music at Providence College, Chua directed the PC Chorus from 1977-79, and was chair of the music program from 1982-991 and chair of the Dept. of Music from 1991-96.

Chua, who was born to Chinese parents in Manila, Philippines, won the National Piano Competition at 15 and received the Outstanding Musician Award from the Ambassador of the Republic of China. She has performed as recitalist, chamber musician and soloist with orchestras in North America, Europe and Asia.

Chua has served on the Commissioner of Education's Committee on the Arts for

R.I. and on several local advisory boards for the arts. She is also a member of the Alumni Board of Directors of the New England Conservatory of Music.

Also on the program is Béla Bartók's challenging *Concerto for Orchestra*. Commissioned for the Boston Symphony in 1943, the *Concerto* immediately won the hearts of its audiences and overnight became a classic.

"The *Concerto* is the composer's most frequently performed work, and one of the musical monuments of the last century," said Markward. "Very few college orchestras tackle this work."

The program opens with Claude Debussy's seminal *Prelude to the Afternoon of a Faun*.

As they have for the past 11 years, Samuel and Esther Chester have helped to underwrite the soloist's fee and partial orchestral cost for this concert. Each year, either the winner of the Harvard Musical Association Award or an internationally recognized soloist is chosen to appear with the Symphony Orchestra.

.....
Admission to the concert is free, thanks to the generosity of the Chesters. Call 401-456-8144 for more information.



ROSALIND CHUA



Photo: John Deane

Martha Graham Dance Company to perform seminal classics March 8

The timeless dance works of the Martha Graham collection will be on display – in a fresh and exciting way – in a performance by her namesake dance company on March 8 at 8 p.m. in the Auditorium in Roberts Hall.

The Martha Graham Dance Company, is currently celebrating 80 years as what Anna Kisselgoff in *The New York Times* called "one of the great companies of the world."

Established in 1926 by Graham, a dancer and choreographer, the company has performed in over 50 countries and at eminent venues such as the Metropolitan Opera, Carnegie Hall, the Paris Opera House, Covent Garden and the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

Graham, who danced with the company until the late 1960s, choreographed over 180 works in her lifetime, including *Heretic* (1929), *Frontier* (1935), *Appalachian Spring* (1944), *Clytemnestra* (1958), *Phaedra* (1962), *Frescoes* (1978), *Acts of Light* (1981) and *Maple Leaf Rag* (1990).

Former members of the company make up an all-star dance card of performers and choreographers. Merce Cunningham, Elisa Monte, Paul Taylor and Donlin Foreman, are just a few who were Graham members; one alum, Betty Bloomer, who danced with the company in 1938, became First Lady Betty Ford.

The list of celebrities who have appeared with the company over the years is equally stellar, led by Mikhail Baryshnikov, Claire Bloom, Liza Minnelli, Rudolf Nureyev and Kathleen Turner.

Tickets for the Martha Graham Dance Company are \$32 with discounts for seniors, RIC faculty/staff/ students and children. For your convenience, tickets can be purchased as follows: in advance via VISA or MasterCard by calling 401-456-8144 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays; online at www.ric.edu/pfa; or at the box office in the lobby of the appropriate performance venue, which will be open for sales two hours prior to performance start time.

R.I. Civic Chorale & Orchestra celebrates 50 years with commissioned work from Aleksandra Vrebalov

RIC's Ed Markward also marks 20th season as Chorale music director

The Rhode Island Civic Chorale and Orchestra will celebrate its 50th anniversary and Edward Markward's 20th season as music director with a commissioned work from internationally recognized composer Aleksandra Vrebalov. The composition, *Stations*, will receive its world premiere on Saturday, March 31 at the Church of the Blessed Sacrament in Providence.

Vrebalov is a Serbian composer based in New York City. Her music for the ballet *The Widow's Broom* (2004) is performed each Halloween by the Festival Ballet Providence. It was during the world premiere performances of this ballet that conductor Markward, who also serves as music director for the ballet company, first met Vrebalov, and subsequently asked the

Chorale to commission *Stations*. She obtained her doctor of musical arts degree from the University of Michigan where she studied with Evan Chambers and Michael Daugherty. Her early string quartet *Pannonia Boundless*, evoking eastern European sonorities, has been recorded by the Kronos Quartet on their album *Kronos Caravan* (1999).

In June, Markward will conduct the Civic Chorale and the RIC Chorus (Teresa Coffman, conductor) in a performance of Brahms' *Ein deutsches Requiem*. Markward, director of the RIC Symphony Orchestra, has served on the College faculty since 1973.

For further information, call 401-521-5670 or visit the Chorale's website at www.ricco.org.

WOMEN WAR
 DESERT
APRIL 5

This performance essay by Slobodan Snajder and Naum Panovski will be held Thursday, April 5, 8 p.m. in Forman Theatre, the Nazarian Center. Guest artists are Mira Furlan and Nehassaiu deGannes. Admission is \$5; RIC alumni, students free. Call 401-456-8144 for information.



Lloyd Martin. *Finstrae* (series). Oil on canvas. 48" x 48."

Urban architectural abstracts featured at Bannister Gallery March 8-April 5

Recent paintings by Lloyd Martin will be on display at Bannister Gallery from March 8 to April 5, with an opening reception on March 8, beginning at 5 p.m.

True to the best of modernist tenets, Martin's reductive abstractions speak to an investigation of the essential nature of painting and form.

Derived from observations of urban architectural elements, such as patterns of doors, windows or ventilation units, Martin's subject matter is transformed into sophisticated, geometric abstractions. Martin's paintings are both elegant in their refined formality and sensuous in their subtle color harmonies and paint manipulations. Contemplative in nature, these eloquent paintings act as meditations, eliciting both visceral and cerebral responses.

For the past five years Martin has shown annually at the Stephen Haller Gallery in New York City. Reviewing an October 2006 show of Martin's at the gallery in the *New York Sun*, Maureen Mullarkey noted, "His patterns and arrangements are full of surprises and changes of mood. They evade conventional attempts to make meaning of them. Instead, they appeal exclusively to our sense of scale and balance. In that sense, they approach the character of music."

Martin is the winner of several fellowships from the Rhode Island State Council on the Arts and is a graduate of the Rhode Island School of Design. He lives in Rhode Island.

Concurrent with Martin's show, there will be an exhibition in the hall space gallery of works by David Baggarly, another Rhode Island-based artist. Baggarly will be showing his small paintings based on Christian religious thought.

Baggarly graduated from the Maryland Institute College of Art. He has received grants and fellowships from the Rhode Island State Council on the Arts, The LEF Foundation in St. Helena, Calif., and the Mayor's Committee on Art and Culture in Baltimore.

Gallery hours during exhibits are Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Thursdays, noon to 9 p.m. Closed weekends and holidays. Exhibits and events are free and open to the public. Accessible to persons with disabilities. For information on event dates and exhibit opening receptions, check the website at www.ric.edu/Bannister/ or call 401-456-9765.

A-MIRROR-CA: Reflections from a critical eye

BY RAY RAGOSTA

Staff Writer

Stay tuned past the network news some evening, and you just might encounter a curious new world. You may be let in on the controversy surrounding former supermodel Tyra Banks' shocking weight gain (though temporary). Or you might get the inside story on what Christina Aguilera or Beyoncé wore to the Grammys. You may even share the heartbreak of the latest "American Idols" who didn't make the cut.

You have entered the world of celebrity gossip shows — a world that represents an intensified slice of what Angelica Vessella '97 and Jimmy Calitri '01 go after in *A-MIRROR-CA: A Reflection on America's Media-Driven Culture*. It is the territory of those whom Vessella calls "the sexy, the popular and successful."

A-MIRROR-CA premieres on March 29 and 30 in Sapinsley Hall in the Nazarian Center as part of the College's spring dance programming. The work combines elements of dance, theatre, and performance art, as well as film.

Both its creators are adjunct faculty members in the College's Dept. of Music, Theatre, and Dance and are candidates for the College's MFA in theatre. *A-MIRROR-CA* is their joint thesis project. Vessella also directs her own dance company, the Vessella Dance Project, which is participating in this show.

For Vessella, a primary concern is how media shapes who we are, whether that involves the shows we watch, the products we consume, or the way media affects our thoughts and perceptions. She noted, for instance, "I get frustrated with TV when I see women appropriated into objects." And this particular observation becomes a big part of *A-MIRROR-CA*.

Both Calitri and Vessella are quick to point out that a major focus of the show is a 13-year-old performer, Maria Corsini, who was a student of Vessella's in her private studio since the age of three. In addition, Calitri and Vessella worked with Maria during the 2005 and 2006 Summer Theatre Camps at Rhode Island College.

"Maria plays a huge part," said Calitri, "and she is the one to carry it off. She is a girl you want to watch."

Corsini is cast as a character with a strikingly symbolic name, "America." Throughout *A-MIRROR-CA*, she both witnesses and is pulled by the bewildering forces of idealized body images, junk food cravings, instant gratification, celebrity and technological gadgetry. America is young, she is malleable, and she is manipulated.

In one of the scenes America witnesses, there are five dressing rooms on stage, each of which holds a dancer, who talks about a part of her body that causes her distress. For instance, one of the performers doesn't like her calves and complains that she has trouble finding boots that fit.

To solve the dancers' problems, "the world's

quickest plastic surgeon," as Vessella calls him, enters and during a burlesque-style number starts marking up their bodies in a send-up of cosmetic surgery.

Vessella admits that much of *A-MIRROR-CA* is directed towards women's issues, but that is because eight of the 10 performers are women. "That was necessary," she noted. "Perhaps men are another show."

A film segment, one of Calitri's main responsibilities, targets eating in American society. Set to the group Earth, Wind, and Fire's *Got to Get You into My Life*, the piece depicts the character America indulging at various fast food establishments and leads into a number with the eerie refrain, "Fast food, what a great way to die."

A lot of attention to detail went into the film. According to Calitri, "It took about 30 hours of editing to come up with four minutes of video." Much credit is due, he added, to Mia Shaffer, a student at RIC, who worked as director of photography and editor.

The creators of *A-MIRROR-CA* have some interesting routines planned for the audience as well. While most theatrical productions prohibit photography and require that cell phones be silenced, this one is an exception.

Disposable cameras will be available to

audience members so that they can be a kind of paparazzi for the evening. They will also be asked for their cell phone numbers and may be called during the performance. "Maybe just to show how irritating that is," said Vessella.

Calitri and Vessella began working on the project in the spring of 2006. They started with the idea of parodying burlesque shows, which were once a mainstay of American entertainment, especially during the 1920s and 30s. At the suggestion of Bill Wilson, who directs musical theatre productions for Rhode Island College Theatre, they traveled to

Lincoln Center in New York City in search of a "catalyst for making it a burlesque," as Calitri described it.

A 1979 Broadway tribute to the old burlesque era, *Sugar Babies* with Mickey Rooney, looked like a good candidate, but the pair eventually abandoned the idea of mimicking burlesque as they needed another vehicle to confront the contemporary issues portrayed in *A-MIRROR-CA*.

Calitri noted that one trace of burlesque left from the initial plan is the quick, non-sequitur-style transition, where an incidental reference in a song may segue into an entirely new dance number. Along these lines, Vessella added the piece is "choppy," but "reflects the way media shapes our minds."

Just how do these cultural phenomena shape us?

The director's note, by Nehassaiu deGannes, for the recent RIC Theatre production of *Twelve Angry Women* states, "in 2007 more people vote for *American Idol* than register to vote in the presidential elections."

OK, to be fair, you could just call that in on your cell phone.

General admission to *A-MIRROR-CA* is \$14. For more information, call 401-456-9791.

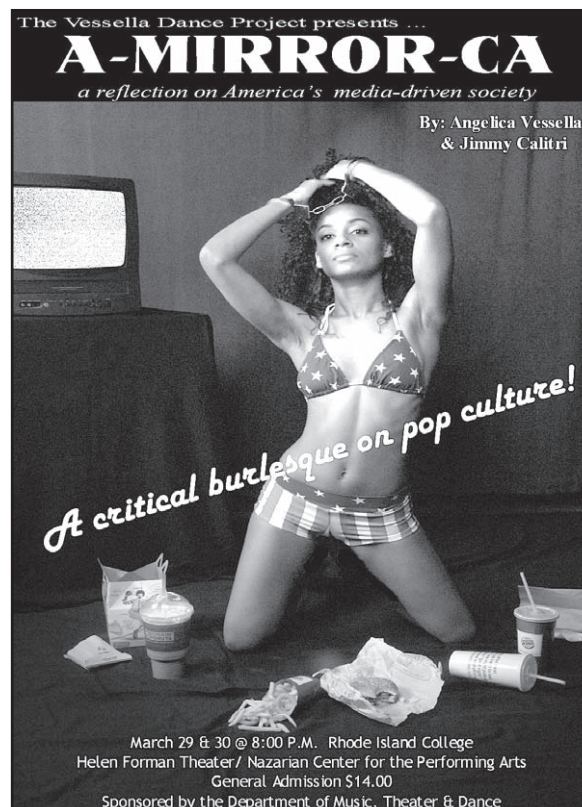


Photo: Jamie Hawkins

From understudy to headliner – Paula Ewin in *Tea at Five* at RIC

BY KATHARINE RICCI '07

Staff Writer



“Professionals steal, amateurs borrow,” said actress Paula Ewin '78. In any other profession, this kind of motto could get you fired, but in acting it's the only way to go, she said.

Ewin portrays the legendary Katharine Hepburn in Matthew Lombardo's two-act, one-woman show *Tea at Five*. Ewin will

perform four times from April 10-13 at 8 p.m. in Sapinsley Hall in the Nazarian Center.

The play gives the audience a personal experience with the indomitable star as they observe and reflect on her triumphs, failures, career and personal life. Both acts are set in her estate in Connecticut, the first

beginning in 1938 just after Hepburn won her first Oscar and was called “box office poison.” In the second act, 45 years later, Hepburn has just experienced a car crash, which allows the star to rest and speak intimately about her career and love affair with Spencer Tracy. Originally written for Kate Mulgrew with Ewin as her understudy, Ewin promises to dazzle audiences with her poignant performance as the one-and-only Hepburn.

Ewin transferred to RIC after two years of what she calls “distractions” at a smaller college in another state.

“It was very good to go away from Rhode Island for a few years,” she said. “It made me realize my terrible Rhode Island accent.”

She developed an impressive resume during her years at RIC, participating in The Rhode Island College Summer Children's Program, The Rhode Island College Cabaret, and an eclectic variety of roles in shows, the first being Gollum in *The Hobbit*.

Ewin said at *The Hobbit* audition, everyone wanted the role of Gollum, but Ewin had a special trick up her sleeve. A few years before, she had seen a woman in a show perform as a snake, and instead of simply making a hissing sound, the woman's snake noises were elongated, sounding like “hiss-isss-isss.” Ewin said she “put that away” for future reference, hence her comment, “professionals steal, amateurs borrow.” She successfully used the special lisp at the Gollum audition.

“It was a real feather in my cap,” said Ewin.

After graduation, Ewin auditioned for Trinity Repertory Theatre, but wasn't selected. She said other than Trinity in the late 70s, there weren't many acting jobs in Rhode Island. So Ewin sang in clubs and did a few radio and television voiceovers until she moved to New York City in 1980.

“Like every actor who moves to New York when they're young, I did coat checking,” she said.

But unlike most aspiring actors who move to New York when they're young, she nailed her first audition. After touring the Midwest for three weeks performing *Chapter Two* by Neil Simon, the show's producer invited Ewin to work as the lead in *Kiss Me Kate* at the Ivoryton Playhouse in Connecticut, a theatre where Katharine Hepburn had performed.

After Ivoryton, Ewin worked on and off in theatre, and did what she called “the usual thing actors do,” like some soap opera work and commercials. But she never veered far from the stage.

“I've been involved mostly in the theatre,” said Ewin. “It's a labor of love.”

At 27, Ewin decided she needed more training to take her career to the next level.

“At the turn of the century, acting was very different,” explained Ewin. “The style of acting was very broad and big.”

She went in search of a place that taught more natural acting, and chose the William Espera Studio on the recommendation of her colleagues. The studio demanded its students commit for two years, twice weekly and take no acting jobs. To cover her expenses she worked as a restaurant hostess.

She starting working again right after she completed her training, and a few months later word leaked that some of her peers were planning to start a theatre.

“I thought, ‘Oh great ... just what New York needs, another off-off-off Broadway theatre!’ And then I thought about it, and I decided that is just what New York needs.”

She signed, and 29th Street Rep was born.

“My experience has made me a better actor because I've had the chance to do plays written for me, brand new plays, and roles I wouldn't normally be cast in. When you have your own theatre you have that freedom,” she said.

Ewin continues to perform at and operate the theatre, where she has done over 25 lead roles.

In 2003 Ewin received the call that is leading her back to RIC for her upcoming show. She was offered the chance to understudy for Kate Mulgrew in *Tea at Five*. Mulgrew, most noted for her role as Captain Janeway in *Star Trek Voyager*, was facing some personal family matters and knew she may need an understudy.

“I thought to myself, ‘Oh my god, this is incredible!’ I always did Katharine Hepburn fooling around, never seriously. There's a million actresses out there who do Katharine Hepburn.”

She landed the job instantly without ever having seen the play.

“It was one of those things like with Gollum,” she said. “You just have to take chances – not make a fool of yourself, but go get it.”

For two months Ewin traveled with the show in Florida, watched every performance and practiced and rehearsed constantly. The practice paid off. In January 2004 Mulgrew had to leave the show temporarily and Ewin was able to perform in her place.

When the show ended, Ewin went back to New York for a year until she received a call from the playwright Matthew Lombardo. He said Mulgrew had a grueling six-week schedule in California and they'd like Ewin to help out. Ewin went to California and performed five times at the Pasadena Play House.

John Custer, the former director of RIC's Performing Arts Series asked Ewin to perform the play at RIC, and Ewin was able to seal permission from Mulgrew, the producer and the playwright for a special RIC performance.

“It's a way for me to give something back to the college,” said Ewin. Ewin's performance is guaranteed to be genuine – not stolen or borrowed.

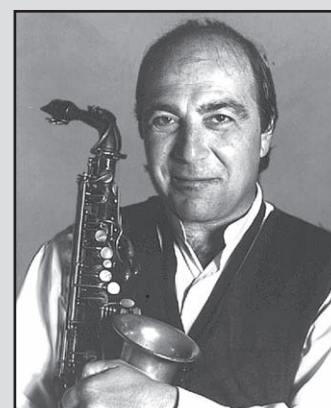


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Tickets for Tea at Five are \$30 with discounts for seniors, RIC faculty/staff/students and children. For your convenience, tickets can be purchased as follows: in advance via VISA or MasterCard by calling 401-456-8144 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays; online at www.ric.edu/pfa; or at the box office in the lobby of the appropriate performance venue, which will be open for sales two hours prior to performance start time.

April 2

Jazz by RIC's own on display

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The RIC Faculty Jazz Recital will highlight the creative output of the College's jazz faculty on Monday, April 2 at 8 p.m. in Sapinsley Hall, the Nazarian Center. Vocalist Shawnn Monteiro and saxophonist Greg Abate lead an all-star cast of musicians, all of whom teach in RIC's jazz program.



GREG ABATE

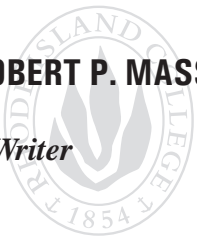


SHAWN MONTEIRO

Batter Up: African-American baseball in Rhode Island

BY ROBERT P. MASSE '08

Staff Writer



With the official start of spring at our door step, our attention is once again focused on the baseball diamond. Throughout Rhode Island, fans will flock to McCoy Stadium in Pawtucket to see the Triple-A PawSox compete in the International League. Well before the construction of McCoy in 1942,

the game of baseball was deeply entrenched in the state's culture. The Ocean State was the home of African-American teams and leagues for over 60 years.

Historians believe that 1877 is the earliest year that a black baseball team played in Rhode Island. On August 17, the Mutuals travel team of The Mutual Club of Washington, D.C., challenged the state's own Rhode Islands team to a game at Adelaide Park in Providence. The Mutuals were comprised mostly of office workers from the Freedmen's Bureau. From that point, organized competition headed into the state. Black athletic clubs, fraternal and civic organizations, and local neighborhood-sponsored semi-pro and amateur teams competed against each other and local white teams. The game created a strong racial identity for the players and was the vehicle for the African-American community to show a distinctive form of cultural expression.

Rhode Island's first black team was believed to be the Providence Colored Grays, who were reported by the *Providence Journal* to be playing the semi-professional Pascoags on Sept. 9, 1886.

The game grew in popularity with the "unofficial" championship of Rhode Island black baseball, and sometimes for all of New England, usually played on August 1 as part of the annual Emancipation Day celebration. Thousands of fans gathered at Rocky Point or Crescent Park to cheer their team to victory.

Black ball produced some of the best unrecognized players in the sports history. One such player is William E. White who, researchers recently discovered, was the first African-American to play major league baseball. White played for Brown University and donned the Grays' uniform for one inning in a game against the Cleveland Colored Giants on the Messer Street Grounds in 1879.

Another player, William Whyte, earned national recognition. A native of Providence, the 25-year-old pitcher landed a roster spot on the coun-

try's first professional black team, the Cuban Giants. He played with the Giants from their inaugural season in 1885 through 1890. Whyte reappeared for one year in 1894.

In the 20th century, black ball in Rhode Island became concentrated in three cities. In the 1910s, Newport played host to great black traveling teams including the Lincoln Giants of New York City. The Giants traveled from New York City on weekends to compete against Newport's top white teams in Wellington Park. In the immediate post World War II era, at the now legendary Cardines Field, the local white Sunset League All-Stars played against the top teams in the Negro National League on Wednesday and Saturday evenings under the "floodlights."

Providence hosted the Colored Giants from 1902-1933. Under the guidance of their first manager and promoter Daniel Whitehead, the Giants were the longest continuous running black team in the state. Whitehead is considered the father of Rhode Island black baseball and helped the game grow in popularity through his work with the Colored Giants. The city also hosted the only black league, the John Hope League, from 1942 to 1945.

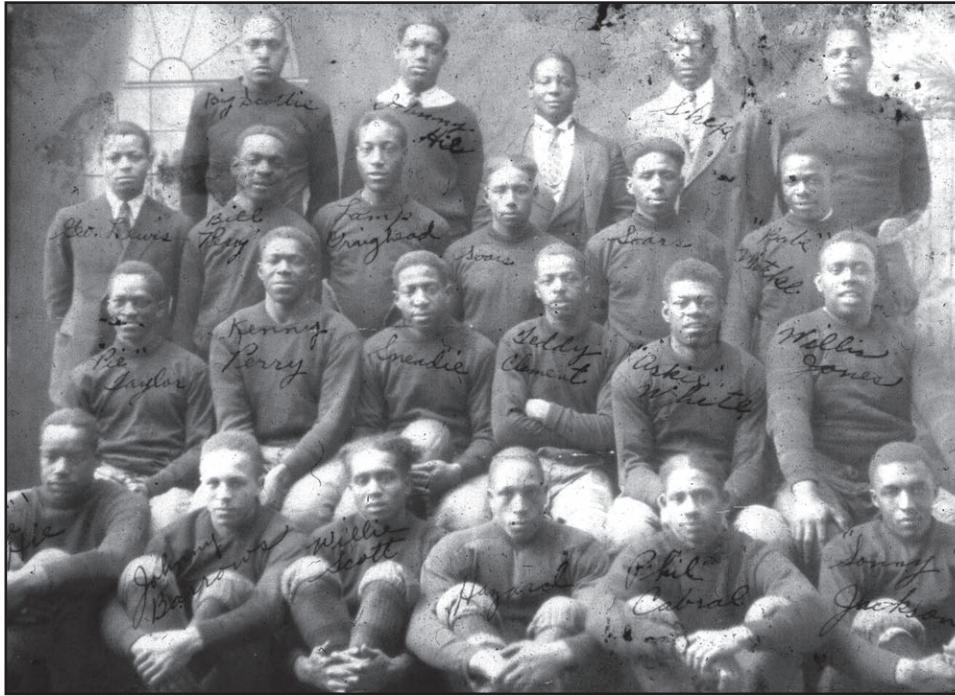
Woonsocket became a hub for black baseball during the Great Depression. This was surprising considering that the city did not have a significant black population. Teams like the Pullman Porters from Boston would face off regularly at St. Ann's Park against local talent

or against white barnstorming teams like the Pittsburgh Hoboes.

In 1949, just two years after Jackie Robinson signed with the Brooklyn Dodgers and broke the color barrier in baseball, the Circle Athletic Club desegregated the Providence Amateur League and won the league championship with a black manager and mostly black team.

Rhode Island College commemorated local African-American athletes and their contributions to the sport of baseball, prior to and during the organized professional Negro Leagues from 1920-1960, in an exhibit at Adams Library that ran throughout February. *Black Grays and Colored Giants: Black Baseball in Rhode Island 1886-1949* examined the important social and cultural place of baseball in Rhode Island's African-American community. The exhibit included photographs of the state's renowned black ball clubs, players and promoters, and newspaper clippings about the history of black ball in Rhode Island.

Bob Cvornyek, associate professor of history and secondary education, contributed to this story. If you have any information about the history of black baseball in Rhode Island, please contact Cvornyek at 401-456-9773.



BASEBALL HISTORY: Many of the athletes shown above in a 1933 Douglas Athletic Club photo, played baseball in the Negro Leagues. (Photo courtesy of Stanley Crum)

Preschool cooperative at RIC a community affair

The RIC Cooperative Preschool is looking within the RIC community to enrich the learning experiences of its preschoolers. The Co-op is a student organization that provides childcare for children of RIC students, faculty and staff. It is guided by its parents through an advisory board, and employs a full-time teacher who provides a preschool curriculum.

Two Co-op parents sharing their talents with the children on a weekly basis are Yolande Muoio, a nursing major who has been teaching Spanish to the children, and Jessica Kalooski, an elementary education major, who teaches yoga.

The Co-op is also looking outside its walls for learning resources and is fortunate to have Denise Guilbault, assistant professor of music education, who teaches "learning-through-music" to the kids at the Co-op. "This semester I am having my non-music majors, who are interested in early childhood development, work with the preschoolers at the Co-op."

Joel Watson, a history major, teaches the children American Sign Language. He considers it one of the most rewarding experiences he has had on the RIC campus.

This spring Co-op children will have the opportunity to attend campus theater presentations of *The Wizard of Oz* and *Beauty and the Beast*. The children have also enjoyed dance recitals by students majoring in dance during this school year.

One of the ongoing experiences that the Co-op has enjoyed is the campus greenhouse. The children toured the greenhouse with manager Dianne Huling, an event that culminated in a hands-on plant-cutting experience. They also went home with potted seeds and will return to the greenhouse during the spring to check on the progress of their cutting.

Marta Laupa, assistant professor of psychology and Co-op advisor, is currently working on details to begin a new study using the Co-op children as its observation pool.

The RIC Co-op has in fact long been a resource for education majors, allowing them to use the preschool setting for observations and projects. The Co-op has hosted the "Once-Upon-a-Time" program where college students earn volunteer hours, which are applied to their academic programs, by reading to the children.

"Whether its' learning about the campus recycling program, watching the progress of the new wall by the tennis court or learning about all the kinds of trees on campus, the resources of the College community are an important part of the Co-op curriculum," said Martha Dwyer, head teacher of the Co-op said. "I'd like to think that we give back to the College by being a resource for the RIC community."

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To learn about the programs of the RIC Cooperative Preschool, or to offer services to the Co-op, call 401-456-8154.
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CAPLE: RIC chosen as national site for Portuguese testing

The Institute for Portuguese and Lusophone World Studies at Rhode Island College has been chosen as the only site in the United States to test for Portuguese language proficiency and certification for people who use or plan to use the language in their jobs. Until now, the closest testing sites were in Mexico and Canada.

The Institute is authorized and accredited to administer Portuguese language exams throughout the United States under the CAPLE (Center for the Evaluation of Portuguese as a Foreign Language) program, in partnership with the Universidade de Lisboa/University of Lisbon, Portugal.

An official agreement signing between RIC and the University of Lisbon took place on Feb. 9 on campus.

Portuguese language and linguistic proficiency tests will be administered at five levels, based on models of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) established by the Council of Europe.

Anyone in the United States over the age of 15 may be tested from beginner to university level, and become officially recognized as having passed an international Portuguese proficiency examination.

"This is an advantage to students and professionals who are seeking positions that require evidence of competence in Portuguese language skills," said Marie Fraley, president of the Friends of Portuguese Studies at RIC.

CAPLE is a member of the Association of Language Testers in Europe (ALTE), Cambridge, UK, representing the Universidade de Lisboa/University of Lisbon.

The Institute for Portuguese and Lusophone World Studies at RIC opened on Oct. 21, 2006, to help students and the Portuguese-speaking community learn about the language and culture, so they are better able to apply their speaking and writing skills to career goals and community service. Rhode Island has the largest population in the United States of people of Portuguese-speaking ancestry – about 10 percent. Most are from the Azores and Cape Verde.

"Our mission is to serve the Portuguese and Lusophone communities living in the area as well as anyone interested in using the Portuguese language and the cultures associated with the language as a means of improving their profession," said Joseph Levi, assistant professor of Portuguese and Institute director at RIC. Levi said that a certificate of proficiency in Portuguese would benefit educators, interpreters, translators, medical and legal professionals, as well as people working in the public sector.

The Institute for Portuguese and Lusophone World Studies is an affiliate of the Center for Public Policy at RIC. The Center provides research and consultation to external constituents and members of the community at large through the work of several campus-based affiliates.



RIC President John Nazarian signs an agreement making the Institute for Portuguese and Lusophone World Studies at RIC the site for the Center for the Evaluation of Portuguese as a Foreign Language program, known as CAPLE.



Among the attendees of the Feb. 9 CAPLE ceremony were (from left) Consul Ricardo Cortes of the Portuguese Consul in Providence; Joseph Levi, director of the Portuguese Institute; Rosemary Weston-Gil, chair of the modern languages dept., and Nazarian.

The Poverty Institute

at Rhode Island College School of Social Work

Poverty Institute study shows cost to raise a family in R.I. is \$50,000 a year

Biennial Standard of Needs report finds that child and health care subsidies help defray costs for lower-wage families.

BY JANE FUSCO

Editor

The cost to live and raise a family in Rhode Island is approximately \$50,000 a year, according to the latest Rhode Island Standard of Need

report for 2006 released Jan. 26 by The Poverty Institute at Rhode Island College.

The report found that in 2006, a two-parent family with a toddler and a school-age child had basic expenses of \$52,000 a year. A single parent with the same age children had expenses of nearly \$48,000 a year.

"The amount a family needs to earn to meet these expenses depends largely on whether the family is eligible to receive work supports including tax credits and subsidies for child care and health care," said Kate Brewster MSW '98, executive director of the Poverty Institute at RIC. "Families earning close to poverty level wages can't make ends meet even with these supports."

The report indicated that without subsidies, both two-parent and single-parent families need gross earnings of close to \$60,000

a year to meet the cost of housing, food, transportation, child care, health insurance and daily expenses. This is three times the Federal Poverty Level for a family of four.

Families with lower earnings, however, can take advantage of the Earned Income Tax Credit, RIte Care/RIte Share Health Insurance and the Child Care Assistance Program. Both single-parent and two-parent families earning slightly less than twice the Federal Poverty Level – \$30,710 for a family of three and \$37,000 for a family of four – are just able to meet their basic monthly expenses because of these work support programs, according to the report.

In terms of hourly wages, a single parent receiving child care assistance and health insurance through RIte Care needs to earn \$14.76 an hour to pay monthly expenses. Without these government subsidies, the wage earner in this family needs to earn almost \$28 an hour to meet expenses. The median wage in the state is \$14.39 an hour.

Social service providers, like Debbie Nigrelli, director of St. Mary's-St. James Community Food Pantry located in Charlestown, sees first-hand the effects of inadequate family income and rising expenses.

"This year, we have been inundated with families who cannot afford to keep food on the table even though the parents are working," Nigrelli said.

The Poverty Institute claims that families are sometimes forced to find creative solutions to unaffordable situations.

"We know that more than ever before, families are doubling and tripling up in housing situations, or turning to homeless shelters. Parents may have to decline insurance at work or default on their monthly premiums for RIte Care/RIte Share and we've seen a resulting rise in uninsured Rhode Islanders this past year," said Brewster.

Business owner Nancy Kaufman of Tru-Kay

Manufacturing Co. in Lincoln praises RIte Care/RIte Share for the help it provides to workers. "As business owners, we understand the importance of RIte Share in our employees' budgets. The cost of healthcare keeps getting higher each year and is difficult for many families to pay. This is a wonderful program that partners the state with businesses to help cover the whole family. Our employees take comfort in knowing that everyone in their family is covered," said Kaufman.

The study also showed the value of the Child Care Assistance Program, which provides subsidies to working families. When families with higher earnings become ineligible for this assistance, they fall short of meeting monthly expenses by \$600. According to the Poverty Institute, child care costs can consume close to one-third of a family's budget. Care for an infant costs more than tuition at a public college or university.

The study also finds that those earning poverty level wages or below, which includes minimum wage earners, suffer severe economic hardship. A single adult earning minimum wage has a gap between income and expenses of almost \$500 a month, demonstrating that despite recent increases, the minimum wage has not kept pace with the rising cost of living.

Families receiving cash assistance through the Family Independence Program (FIP) because the parent is unable to work or is preparing to work, are in severe financial jeopardy, falling short of meeting bare-bone expenses by almost \$900 a month. FIP cash benefits have not been increased in almost 20 years.

The Poverty Institute is a non-partisan research and policy organization based in the School of Social Work at Rhode Island College, and is an affiliate of the College's Center for Public Policy. The Institute releases the Standard of Need report every two years.



Stephanie Rezendes (left) and Josephine Nash.

RIC STUDENT WINS LEVI'S MODEL SEARCH

BY KATHARINE RICCI '07
Staff Writer

Stephanie Rezendes, a junior majoring in psychology, just wanted a pair of jeans when she walked into the Levi's

store on Thayer Street in Providence last October. Instead, she got an advertising contract.

Rezendes, along with Josephine Nash, a student at Brown University, and eight other students from across the country won the national "Levi's Style Search" contest. Rezendes will be featured in college print ads running in the spring, and Nash, one of two national winners, will be featured in an April *Us Weekly* ad. In January, Rezendes and Nash flew to New York City for a photo shoot, where they also received a \$250 Levis shopping spree.

Rezendes said that Levi's had rented the empty Thayer Street storefront from Oct. 3-5 just to conduct the style search, though she didn't know that when she entered it. Inside the store, a Levi's employee approached Rezendes and the friend with whom she was shopping to pose for the contest.

Levi's called her while she was at work at the Cafe Paragon in Providence to let her know she won.

"I got really excited and started jumping up and down and my manager got really angry with me," she said.

Rezendes said the experience in New York City was surreal.

"I was waiting for someone to say who are you? What are you doing here?" she said.

Does she plan to pursue a career in modeling? Probably not.

"I'm just going to let it go," said Rezendes. "It was a good time, they fed us, we got free clothes, and a lovely hotel to stay in." That was good enough for her, she said.

Gerontology Center conference April 25

The RIC Gerontology Center will sponsor the conference "Weathering Old Age" on Wednesday, April 25, from 9 a.m. to noon in the Faculty Center's South Dining Room. The conference will examine how to optimize the potential for an active old age. Topics include senior volunteering, remaining physically active, staying mentally active, and the special considerations of emergency preparedness for older adults. The program, supported by the College Lectures Committee, is open to the public free of charge and offers continuing education credit.

Mark Motte named asst. VP for academic affairs



MARK MOTTE

Mark T. Motte was appointed assistant vice president for academic affairs effective Feb. 5. He had served in the position in an acting capacity since June of 2006, following the retirement of James McCroskery.

In his new role, Motte is responsible for oversight of the Admissions Office, Office of Financial Aid, Records Office, and Office of Academic Support and Information Services. He also will oversee the administration of graduate programs, the Office of Continuing Education and Summer Sessions and Outreach Programs.

"In addition to his outstanding skills as a teacher and a researcher, Dr. Motte has served the College in an exemplary manner in a number of key administrative assignments," said RIC President John Nazarian.

Motte, a professor of geography in the Dept. of Political Science, directs RIC's Center for Public Policy, and is director of the Feinstein Institute for Philanthropic Leadership and coordinator of the Certificate Program in Nonprofit Studies.

Since joining the College faculty in 1995, he has served administratively as director of the Study Abroad Program, acting director of the College Honors Program, vice chair of the College's Capital Campaign, and co-chair of the Sesquicentennial Committee.

"Dr. Motte has excelled in each of these roles and I anticipate that his experience, together with his diligence and commitment to Rhode Island College, will serve him – and the College – well in this new position," said Nazarian.

Motte holds a PhD in urban planning and policy development from Rutgers University, a master's in community planning and area development from the University of Rhode Island, and a BA in geography from Queen Mary College of the University of London.

RIC Writing Center's Margaret Carroll co-authors book

"If the writing center is to function as an apparatus of educational transformation, that order must develop out of chaos, not through the elimination of it."

BY KERRY MCCARTNEY
Staff Writer



MARGARET CARROLL

Typewritten on small piece of paper, these words hang on the door of Margaret Carroll '63, director of Rhode Island

College's Writing Center. While most students assume the Writing Center is the place to go to find help writing those pesky college papers, Carroll offers a different approach to writing than just where to place your commas and periods. Indeed, as the credo hangs on her door, educational transformation seems to be her number one goal.

Recently, Carroll, who also serves on the steering committee of the Northeast Writing Centers Association and the board of the International Writing Centers Association, expanded on her theory of applying community learning to college writing centers. She co-authored a book entitled, *The Everyday Writing Center: A Community in Practice*. The book was written by Carroll and four others, Anne Ellen Geller, Michele Eodice, Frankie Condon and Elizabeth Boquet, all administrators of writing centers and academic programs in universities and colleges through the United States.

The authors of *The Everyday Writing Center* constantly push "themselves and their field toward deeper, more significant research, and more reflective, dynamic teaching," according to the Utah State University Press website, which published the book. The website elaborates that the book "challenges some of the most comfortable traditions in its field, and it does so with a commitment and persuasiveness that one seldom sees in scholarly discussion."

Carroll and her co-authors attended

writing conferences together for years. These conferences offered them rare opportunities to share ideas and exchange teaching methods and approaches. After receiving a grant from the International Writing Center Association, the authors decided to take their ideas and do what they do best – put them into writing. For two years, the authors met in Carroll's Rhode Island home and hashed out ideas for creating this published work. Together, they meshed their philosophies into a comprehensive body of work.

"This book is an expansion of the atmosphere I have tried to create at the Writing Center," says Carroll. "I have always tried to create an atmosphere that challenges the learning culture."

The Writing Center strives to be a comfortable space where writers can talk about their writing concerns with tutors not necessarily to perfect a paper but to help students learn about the process writing.

Currently, Rhode Island College's Writing Center has about 10 students on staff, serving as tutors for other students seeking assistance. The tutors are chosen from a range of academic disciplines such as English, history, education or political science. Professors refer or Carroll asks them to join the program.

Typically, tutors are required to work a minimum of 12 hours a week, for which they receive monetary compensation. For preparation, tutors attend workshops that usually continue throughout a their tenure at the Writing Center.

Carroll estimates that approximately 650 students will seek out assistance from the Center this spring after seeing about 900 students in the fall semester.

While the book makes its way through academic circles, Carroll continues her writing and teaching at the Center.

"Through the book and the Center, I hope I challenge the learning culture and offer new approaches to learning," said Carroll.



ANNE CARTY



ERIC BATES



SHERRY EYRAM KUMA

The Dialogue on Diversity Committee of Rhode Island College

presents

The Twelfth Annual Diversity Spring Lecture

Dr. Ingrid Mattson

Islam and Muslims in the USA: Challenges and Opportunities



Dr. Ingrid Mattson is one of the emerging leaders and a prominent spokeswoman of the Muslim community in North America. She is Professor of Islamic Studies and Director of Islamic Chaplaincy at the Macdonald Center for Islamic Studies and Christian-Muslim Relations at Hartford Seminary in Hartford, Connecticut, and recently elected President of the Islamic Society of North America. Dr. Mattson was born in Canada, where she studied philosophy at the University of Waterloo, Ontario and earned her Ph.D. in Islamic Studies from the University of Chicago in 1999. Her research is focused on Islamic law and society.

From 1987-1988 she worked in Pakistan with Afghan refugee women. She has served as advisor for the Afghan delegation to the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women. Dr. Mattson gives frequent public lectures on Islam at religious and educational institutions, and is often consulted as an expert in the field by print, radio, and television media.

Wednesday April 11, 2007

12:30 - 2:00

Gaige Auditorium
Rhode Island College

Following the lecture Dr. Mattson will participate in a dialogue on diversity with local Muslim and non-Muslim religious leaders in Rhode Island. Audience participation is invited and welcomed.

The lecture is free and open to the public. The program has been generously supported by the President's Office and College Lectures Committee.



RHODE ISLAND
COLLEGE

RIC undergrads and nurse leaders inducted into nursing honor society

Thirty-nine Rhode Island College nursing students and four nurse leaders were inducted into the Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing last December. The new members were inducted through Delta Upsilon Chapter at-Large in a ceremony held at the Quonset "O" Club in North Kingstown.

Also at the event, RIC student Sherry Eyrum Kuma received a Delta Upsilon Chapter Scholarship and Anne E.S. Carty, RIC professor of nursing, received a research award for her study titled, "Integrating Simulation into the Nursing Curriculum at a College in New England: The Faculty Perspective."

Patricia Quigley, RIC associate professor of nursing and faculty counselor for Delta Upsilon, selected Eric Bates to represent the new inductees on the chapter's website. Eric's biography will be posted there along with a photograph taken at the induction.

Sigma Theta Tau International is an organization of nurse leaders, scholars and researchers. The honor society, founded in Indiana University in 1922, currently has over 400 chapters on more than 500 college and university campuses worldwide. It is committed to improving the health of the public by advancing nursing science.

Membership in the society is awarded to bachelor's, master's and doctoral degree candidates who achieve high scholastic averages, and to graduates of nursing programs who have made outstanding leadership contributions to nursing.

For further information on induction as a student or nurse leader, visit www.rinursingsociety.org or contact Patricia Quigley at mquigley@ric.edu.

RIC students inducted into Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing:

Mojisola Oluyemisi Afolabi

Caasi Baima

Eric Michael Bates

Jessica Lynn Benevides

Barbara J. Bird, RN

Susan A. Brawner, RN

Regina Ann Brule

Kelly Lynn Castle

Jenna Catherine Coelho

Susan Lynne Cooney

Julie Dick

Kathleen M. Emond, RN

Stacey Vivian Fasteson

Kristen Ann Gemma

Melissa Gulmain

Nicole Gum

Anne M. Hagan, RN

Kimberly Iannotti

James Jeff

Anne E. Kelley

Sherry Eyrum Kuma

Crystal E. Martin

Anita Perron

Natalie L. Pierce

Amie J. Richard, RN

Claire Hileanne Rodrigue-Annoni

Jessica Roy

Diane L. Salvias, RN

Nicole Sampson

Carrie Sawyer

Lois Lori Scacco, RN

Emma St. Germain

Jennifer St. Germain

Meridith G. Sunday

Carla Marie Tammelleo

Janet C. Testoni

Edean Villa

Amy Jean Williams

Holly L. Wright

Nurse Leaders Inducted:

Patricia Jean Ferencz '97, BS, RN, CPN

Jennifer Lyn Florczyk, RN, MSN

Sylvia P. Ross, RN, MSN

Anne E. Tierney '81, CRNA, MSN

Beth Cunha's final project: worth more than a good grade

BY ROBERT P. MASSE '08

Staff Writer

A final project to a college student is exactly that, a project. It is a presentation of work that will, hopefully, warrant a good grade. However, in the case of Elizabeth "Beth" Cunha, '04, her final project in her master of fine arts program became a mix of charity, kindness and

teamwork that began three years ago.

Her show, *An Artists' Jubilee*, which opens March 7 at the Warwick Museum of Art, 3259 Post Road, is also a charitable event. It blends fine art and graphic arts, culinary art and cake design, in a gallery exhibit and daily performance. All proceeds from the show will go to the arts program of the San Miguel School in Providence, where Cunha also instructs students.

Jubilee performances include singer/songwriter Jason Wilder Evans and Corrine Wahlberg appearing Thursday, March 8. On Friday, March 9, pianist Esther Zabinski, '02, opens for the Warwick Improvisational Comedy Troupe Unexpected Company. And on Saturday, March 10, the students from San Miguel School, under the direction of Cunha, will perform *From Birmingham Jail* with vocals by Angela Williams '73.

Cunha said that entertainment and creativity help the learning process on all levels. It is that belief that helped her establish the Traveling Theatre in Cranston in 2004, a community of teaching artists who visit K-12 schools across Rhode Island to provide arts enrichment workshops. So far, the company is established in seven schools across

in the state.

She works with a school's art teachers to involve the students in the productions, not only to perform in them but also to build sets and design costumes. "Traveling Theatre creates a safe space and gives kids the ability to strengthen their imagination," she said. "[The students know] it's okay to ask questions and not worry about being laughed at."

Cunha became involved with the San Miguel School through Traveling Theatre and wanted to continue to help their arts program. Located on the south side of Providence, San Miguel School is a private, independent, non-sectarian middle school for boys that follows the Lasallian tradition of education to those most in need. Its students come from inner-city neighborhoods and face significant risk for educational failure because of where they live. The majority of the funding for the school comes from donations. Some departments receive limited or no money. Cunha decided to plan her exhibit project to help improve the arts program.

She said she sent out emails to artists across New England asking for their help and was surprised at the amount of people who responded favorably. "Where there is a void, we move mountains to fill the void," she said.

For more information on An Artists' Jubilee, contact Traveling Theatre at 401-749-9810; or travelingtheatre@aol.com. The gallery exhibit will be free of charge. Tickets for daily performances are \$25, \$65 for Saturday benefit reception. Flex tickets at \$85 can be used for admission to all events. For tickets, call 401-467-9777 or 401-749-9810.

WHAT'S HAPPENING Around the Campus



WHO'S BEHIND THAT MASK? Modern Languages Dept. professors Rosemary Weston-Gil and Olga Juzyn enjoy the festivities of the Carnival of Cultures, held on campus last month.



THEY FLIPPED OVER CARNAVAL: Members of Capoeira martial arts group demonstrate an ancient ritual of fighting combined with music and dance at the Carnival of Cultures.



THE SKYLINE IS CHANGING: Cement trucks continue to pour into the construction site as the new residence hall towers over the RIC campus.



RIC DECLARED RAPE-FREE ZONE: Lt. Governor Elizabeth Roberts addresses a group attending the ceremony as she officially declares Rhode Island College a Rape-Free Zone.



WILL YOU BE MY VALENTINE? Karel Wiggins '09 prepares a Valentine bouquet for someone special. Many students took advantage of the opportunity at the Student Union to make a bouquet that day.



DANCE! DANCE! DANCE! If you like to dance, Carnival was the place to be. Marleny Luna '07 a theatre and communications major, performs with a dance group that energized the crowd and set the tone for the rest of the evening's activities.