



WHAT'S NEWS

AT RHODE ISLAND COLLEGE

Vol. 9, No. 13 March 20, 1989

Foundation helps College to complete its Tech Center

by George LaTour

Rhode Island College has entered into a lease-purchase agreement with its foundation in order to secure funds necessary to complete the second floor of the new Center for Industrial Technology in Whipple Hall.

Richard E. Payne, executive director of the Rhode Island College Foundation, said the foundation is making \$550,000 available to the College so work can proceed using the present contractors, who have been engaged converting the former Whipple Gymnasium into an industrial-technology center.

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An agreement was worked out by which the foundation will supply the needed sum of money to the College by liquidating assets in its investment portfolio and reinvesting them in College property and leasing it back to the College.

Repayment by the College will be at a fixed rate over a 20-year period, says Payne.

The College had initiated the bond issue in 1984 for conversion of the gym to an industrial tech center, which included construction of a second floor, giving several thousand additional square feet of space.

It was anticipated that work finishing the second floor would come at a later date.

Realizing that costs for the work will "only increase by waiting"—the longer the wait the higher the costs will be—the College had investigated the possibilities of securing a federal loan to do the work now, says Payne, but learned the building "isn't old enough" for such help.

Then it sought approval by the state and the Board of Governors for Higher Education to borrow funds from the RIC Foundation.

"The Foundation did not have the cash to make an outright loan to the College," explains Payne.

"We had to make an investment that will produce earnings the same as we do when we invest in stocks, bonds and securities.

Such earnings are used to supply the needs of the various scholarships the foundation administers.

"We have an interest rate that insures we won't lose money, and we may even earn more than we would have in our current portfolio," assures Payne, who is also special assistant to the president in charge of development.

At its Dec. 16 meeting, the foundation president, Clinton H. Wynne, proposed that the foundation assist the College. At its annual meeting Feb. 22, the proposal was ratified, reports Payne, who explains that the foundation "is organized to assist the College."



CLINTON H. WYNNE

The contractors are expected to begin second-floor work in the coming weeks, installing 10 faculty offices which will include the department chair's office, a conference room, secretarial office space, a

(continued on page 6)



PROUD AS PUNCH: First graders (l to r) Ricca Gaus, Bethany Rallis and Lauren Andreozzi wait to receive their "gold" medals for reading in Henry Barnard School's "Books and Beyond" Program. (What's News Photo by Gordon E. Rowley)

Kids at Henry Barnard forsake TV for books

Upwards of 1-million pages read since 'Books and Beyond' program start in November

by George LaTour

It is generally conceded that most children tend to watch too much TV.

Not the Henry Barnard School kids—at least not since the advent of its "Books and Beyond" program.

School librarian at the Rhode Island College-based elementary school Madeline F. Nixon reports, that since the nationally validated program was put into effect last November at Barnard, 310 kindergarteners through sixth graders have been reading,

reading, reading. In fact, Nixon says the total number of pages read by the children could top one million by the program's end.

On the homefront some parents, according to one report, were wondering at first where little Johnnie or Jane had disappeared to, since they weren't in their accustomed position: three feet in front of the television set!

Much to their relief (and surprise, one suspects), the kids often were found in areas seldom before frequented in the house, and there they sat or sprawled out, their noses buried in books having something to do with oceanographic life.

Barnard teachers themselves have noticed a difference in the reading habits of their students.

Barnard teachers themselves have noticed a difference, reports another. Kids can now be seen sitting on corridor floors or leaning against walls reading where not long before they could be seen fidgeting or jostling one another before classes.

"Mysteries of the Deep" is the theme of this first read-a-thon. And, it's been an unqualified success.

(continued on page 6)

Number of students entering last fall 'substantial' in both quantity, quality, reports admissions

A total of 1,613 new degree candidates enrolled last fall at Rhode Island College, according to official figures released from the office of undergraduate admissions through the provost's office.

These students were selected from 3,182 applicants, a total "slightly ahead" of the 1987 figure, according to the the newsletter, *News from Academic Affairs*.

Freshman applications and those for readmission increased, and transfer candidates declined slightly (830 applicants compared to 842 in 1987). Applications from in-state students declined slightly this

year, but the loss was compensated for by "a significant increase" in the number of out-of-state applicants.

the transfer applicants were accepted, and 90 percent of those seeking readmission met the minimum criteria, the report noted.

The College continues to draw most of its student from Rhode Island. Other areas of origin include: Massachusetts, Connecticut and the Middle Atlantic states.

Spring 1989 freshman figures "surpassed those of recent years," although the number of transfer applications was down substantially, said Sullivan.

Despite this, "the yield has been quite respectable, and enrollments are fairly close to those of 1987 when the applicant group was considerably larger."

The full report on January admissions will be available at a later date.

Data reports for Feb. 1, however, indicate 148 enrolled freshmen and 250 transfer students.

"The students who entered in September were substantial both in number and in quality," said Dr. Patricia A. Sullivan, acting dean of admissions.

"The students who entered in September were substantial both in number and in quality," said Dr. Patricia A. Sullivan, acting dean of admissions.

This increase occurred primarily in the freshman category.

The College offered admission to 76 percent of the freshman pool; 83 percent of



Alain Briottet, Consul General of France, Boston making "Bicentennial Remarks" at a reception in the Faculty Center March 9th. Mr. Briottet's appearance was the last of several events in the International Scene Program commemorating the Bicentennial of the French Revolution. (What's News Photo by Gordon E. Rowley)

Focus on the Faculty and Staff

Please send items of interest relating to faculty activities and achievements to Editor, What's News, 300 Roberts Hall.

Doug Cureton, assistant director of the Campus Center and **Mark Paolucci**, assistant director of the Cappus Center—Operations, recently presented a workshop on "CPR—Creative Programming Resuscitation" at the National Association for Campus Activities Conference held in Nashville, Tenn. Students Renee Perreault and Jennifer Cole assisted with the presentation. Cureton also presented two interest sessions on "Dealing with Difference"—aimed at diversity education and the model of Rhode Island College's Student Organizational Effectiveness Conference. The conference is attended by administrators, staff and students involved in student activities programs from across the nation.

Charles W. Bohnsack, associate professor of biology, has written a paper, "A Demonstration of Cytokinin-Induced Cell Division and Differentiation Using Intact Plants," published in the February issue of the *American Biology Teacher*.

Assistant professor of political science and director of the public administration program at the College, **Francis J. Leazes, Jr.**, recently accepted an invitation to become the state field associate of the National Small Government Research Network (NSGRN) for Rhode Island. NSGRN was formed by a group of researchers interested in the processes and problems of rural and other small governments in the United States. Penn State Harrisburg serves as the Network's Secretariat, in cooperation with Miami University (Ohio) and the University of Nebraska at Omaha. Leazes will conduct surveys for the Network in Rhode Island. The data is published in a biennial volume on small cities.

James D. Turley, director of the Center for Educational Management, has been invited to chair the program accreditation visit for the School of Education at the University of Massachusetts in Amherst. The University of Massachusetts school has the largest educational program in New England and includes 56 programs from baccalaureate to the doctorate. The visiting team will have more than 40 persons.

Victoria S. Lederberg, professor of psychology, was honored with the Library Advocate of the Year Award of the Coalition of Library Advocates (COLA) at their fifth annual meeting at the State House. The award was made to Lederberg, who is a State Senator in the Rhode Island General Assembly, in recognition of her support of libraries, including her leadership as the Chair of the Governor's Conference on Libraries and Information Services, and as Chair of the Special Legislative Commission on Funding Libraries. **Roland B. Mergener**, director of audiovisual services, was elected to the board of COLA at the meeting.

Carol A. DiMarco Cummings, assistant professor of health/physical education, developed the Rhode Island Department of Education's Sex and Family Life Objectives document for grades K-12.

James Magyar, Charles Marzzacco, Benjamin Peterson and John Williams of the Physical Science Department participated in an all-day conference on "Perceptions of Chemistry" at Worcester Polytechnic Institute on March 4. Marzzacco, southern regional chairperson of the New England Association of Chemistry Teachers, a sponsor of the event, gave the formal introduction for Professor Henry Bent of the University of Pittsburgh.

Assistant to the Provost, **Patricia Soellner Younce**, gave a presentation at John Gardner's Freshmen Year Experience, on Monday, Feb. 20. The presentation included the Personal Learning Plan project and the Student Potential Program.

For purposes of this conference, Soellner Younce, with help from the College's television studio, produced a 12-minute video that illustrates a Student Potential Program interview. Anyone in the College community who would like to know more about the assessment interview process, may call Soellner Younce at 456-8071 and schedule a viewing of the tape.

R.I. College prof to discuss recent trip to Cuba

A discussion and slide show based on her recent trip to Cuba will be presented by Joan L. Arches, assistant professor in the Rhode Island College School of Social Work, on Wednesday, March 22, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Student Union 307.

Title of her talk will be "Reflections on Cuba: Why Not in My Backyard?"

It is free and open to the public. You may bring a lunch. Free coffee and tea will be available.

For more information call 456-8171.

Research and Grants Administration:

Request for proposals

The Office of Research and Grants Administration will be providing information about requests for proposals (RFPs) on a regular basis in this column. Anyone interested in obtaining further information or applications and guidelines need only circle the number of the RFP on the coupon below and send it to the office in Roberts 312.

1. U.S. Department of Education: FIRST: Schools and Teachers Program. Supports projects that involve teachers, students, and other educational personnel in improving educational opportunities for and performance of students and teachers. Priority is given to projects that benefit students or schools with below average academic performance, that increase the access of all students to a quality education, and that develop systems that provide teachers and students with incentives to work toward specific educational improvement goals. There is a 25% set-aside for School-Level projects. Appropriation for FY 89 is \$3.9 million. DEADLINE: April 1989.

2. Small Business Administration: Small Business Economic Research Program. Supports economic research directly related to the concerns of small businesses. Annual solicitations are announced in the Commerce Business Daily. The FY 89 solicitation, which is scheduled to be released on Mar. 23, will announce topics for the year. DEADLINE: May 22.

3. National Endowment for the Humanities: Fellowships for College Teachers and Independent Scholars. Fellowships provide up to \$27,500 for college teachers to pursue six to 12 months of full-time independent study and research that will enhance their capacities as teachers and scholars. Program is designed for both beginning and experienced teachers whose chief responsibilities lie in teaching undergraduate students at institutions which do not have Ph.D. programs in the humanities. DEADLINE: June 1.

4. National Endowment for the Humanities: Fellowships on the Foundations of American Society. Supports independent study and research related to the events and achievements of the founding period, including the ratification of the Constitution, establishment of the federal government, and the birth of the Bill of Rights. Applications are submitted through the Fellowships for College Teachers programs. DEADLINE: June 1.

5. U.S. Department of Education: FIPSE Drug Program: Specific Approaches to Prevention Projects. Supports projects that offer specific approaches to the prevention of drug use or alcohol abuse at the postsecondary level. In FY 89, applications are sought that develop, implement, operate or improve higher education consortia for drug prevention. The consortia should assist local prevention officials representing institutions of higher education in developing and improving their own institution-wide drug education and prevention programs. For FY 89, \$1.8 million is available for up to 60 awards. DEADLINE: June 1.

6. Alcohol, Drug Abuse and Mental Health Administration: First Independent Research Support and Transition (FIRST) Awards. Supports research by newly independent behavioral, psychosocial and biomedical investigators in alcohol abuse and alcoholism, drug abuse, and mental health. Investigators must commit at least 50% of their time and not have received any prior PHS grants (Small Grant (RO3) not included). Nonrenewable awards provide up to 5 years of support at a maximum total direct cost of \$350,000. DEADLINE: June 1.

7. National Center for Nursing Research: Nursing Research Program. Supports nursing research related to patient care, the promotion of health, the prevention of disease and the mitigation of the effects of acute and chronic illnesses and disabilities. NCMR programs, which support studies of nursing interventions, procedures, delivery methods and ethics of patient care, are expected to complement other biomedical research programs primarily concerned with the causes and therapy of disease. DEADLINE: June 1.

8. National Institute of Mental Health: Basic Sciences Research. Supports research on neurobiology and psychopharmacology through the Neurosciences Research Branch; cognition, learning, personality and emotions, interpersonal processes and family processes through the Behavioral Sciences Research Branch; and interdisciplinary research on behavioral medicine and psychoimmunology through the Health and Behavior Research Branch. DEADLINE: June 1.

9. National Institute on Aging: Behavior Sciences Research. Funds research on the psychological, cultural, social and economic factors that affect both the process of aging and the place of older people in society. Major categories of research are social psychological aging and older people and society. Major emphasis is on health and effective functioning in middle and later years. Research areas include: stress and coping; psychosocial factors in nutrition, exercise, and senile dementia; menopause; and hypertension. DEADLINE: June 1.

10. U.S. Department of Education: FIE: Computer-Based Instruction. Grants are made for the purchase or leasing of computer hardware and software and for the training of teachers in order to expand the use of computers in the classroom. There is a 25% restriction on the amount of funds from a grant that can be used for the purchase of hardware. Grants are expected to go to LEAs and SEAs, but legislation also allows the Education Department to enter into cooperative agreements with the NSF and other non-profit institutions to carry out the purposes of the program. In FY 89, \$5 million is available. DEADLINE: June 1989.

11. U.S. Department of Education: FIE: Innovation in Education Program. Supports a broad range of projects that identify and disseminate innovative educational approaches at the elementary and secondary school level. The program is perceived by the Education Department as the elementary and secondary school counterpart to FIPSE. It is intended to be flexible and risk taking. Preschool children may be included in projects. In FY 89, \$5.8 million is available for awards. DEADLINE: June 1989.

Office of Research and Grants Administration

Please send me information on the following programs: (Circle programs of interest to you.)

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3/20/89

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A 'Sweet' concept continues to thrive

by Johanna Bennett

Did former Rhode Island College President David E. Sweet have any idea what he was starting 21 years ago?

In 1968, Sweet was president of Metropolitan State College in Minnesota. That same year, along with other college administrators from Illinois State University, University of Montana, and the University of Alabama, Sweet entered into an informal agreement to exchange students at in-state tuition prices.

As word of the program spread and other universities and colleges became interested, the original "gentleman's agreement" developed nationally into the National Student Exchange Program. Rhode Island College entered the program in 1981, four years after Sweet's arrival in 1977 as the new College president.

Although a few minor changes have taken place over the last 21 years, the fundamental purpose of the program remains constant—a membership organization linking colleges and universities in the United States in order to provide exchange opportunities for students to institutions of higher learning in other parts of the country.

Over 22,000 students have taken part in the program, which has spread to include 81 colleges in 36 states and two U.S. territories.

According to the program's annual report, the 1988-89 academic year saw approximately 2,010 students placed at the annual national conference. Included in this figure were 22 Rhode Island College students placed at colleges like the University of New Hampshire and the University of South Carolina. In return, Rhode Island College accepted the placement of 20 students.

Placement decisions for the 1989-90 academic year took place at the annual conference held at the Biltmore Hotel in Providence (March 13-17). The event was co-hosted for the first time by Rhode Island College and the University of Rhode Island. An estimated 125 administrators from participating colleges and universities around the nation were in attendance. Approximately 19 Rhode Island College students were seeking placement.

Reasons for applying to the program vary from student to student.

For sophomore student applicant Greg McLaughlin it was to meet people and do something different. "I've always wanted to do something along these lines," McLaughlin said. "Meeting a whole new community of people..." was a major factor.

Of course, the added incentive of a whole new recruiting ground for 'high-low-jack' partners added a certain enticement for the self professed "high-low-jack fiend."

Anthropology./ Geography Dept. Noontime Colloquium Series

George Epple, associate professor of Anthropology/Geography, will present a lecture titled "Food and Foodways in Caribbean Literature and Society" in the Anthropology/Geography Department's noontime colloquium series.

Tuesday, March 21
12 noon
Gaige Hall 207E.

Coffee and tea will be provided, bring your lunch and join us.

Talk to me...please!!!

by Johanna Bennett

"Computer...this is Captain James T. Kirk of the USS Enterprise..."

For millions of television addicts, this was the closest contact they ever had with a talking computer.

At one time, the very mention of a computer with speech capabilities would cause a roomful of people to burst out with the eventual series of bad Star Trek puns.

However, in 1989, the idea of a talking computer is no longer quite so remote. As a matter of fact, computer hardware designed to allow a computer the ability to speak in a human voice is already on the market.

For Rhode Island College, this type of "user friendly" hardware provides a solution to the ever present problem of accessibility for the disabled to the College's facilities.

Presently, the Office of Student Life is in possession of a DEctalk system—a computer hardware system that hooks up to a PC word processor and a synthesizer and utilizes a special software which allows the computer to literally read out loud what has been typed onto the screen—spelling, punctuation, and grammar. In doing so, the computer actually allows a visually impaired user to proof his or her typed copy.

The system, priced at approximately \$4,000, was purchased for \$1,600 with a \$2,400 grant from the Digital Equipment Corporation. The system was made operational for the first of the semester, and is presently being utilized in introductory instructional sessions with visually impaired students.

According to Dave Bourgery, student instructor for the DEctalk system, the system proves invaluable to the students it is meant to service.

"It does a lot of things that wouldn't be that important to you, but to a blind person it makes all the difference," said Bourgery.

For the students who hope to utilize the computer, a certain amount of introductory instruction is necessary. Users must be made aware of how to utilize the computers function keys in order to utilize the additional features offered by the hardware program as well as the word processors normal functions.



Dave Bourgery instructs Carol Duda on the DEctalk system, while Carol's guide dog, Willow, waits contently. (What's News Photo by Gordon E. Rowley)

Though several visually impaired students have expressed an interest in the program, only one, Carol Duda, is close to completing her instructional sessions with Bourgery. An estimated 30 hours of instruction is necessary in order to become "competent" on the program. No knowledge of computers is necessary, though

Bourgery admits that typing experience does help.

Ultimately, according to Bourgery, the end all of the project is for the program to be permanently located in Adams Library Computer Lab.

"Beam me down Scotty..."

College's Praise Ensemble wins trophy



The recently established gospel choir Praise Ensemble, comprised mostly of Rhode Island College students, faculty and staff, has taken a second-place trophy in statewide competition among other gospel choirs, reports Jay Grier, assistant director of minority affairs here. The competition, entitled "Festival of Song," took place March 6 in the Holy Temple, Church of God in Christ, in Providence. Six choirs participated.

Formed only last October, one of the ensemble's goals is to serve as a role model for the multi-cultural campus community. The idea for a gospel choir was conceived by Grier and the Rev. Herman O. Kelly Jr., former Protestant chaplain.

Choir members pictured above (l to r) at the Joy to the World international Christmas celebration performance Dec. 15 are: Aaron Williams, Gerrienne Marra, Nilza Olivera, Connie Rodrigues, Ramona Fair, Jasmine Connor, the Rev. Herman Kelly, Pam Cooke, William Green, Jay Grier, Yvonne Smith and Missy Carpenter. Not pictured is Ray Garry. Rufus Jackson directs.

Expect 'pure, unadulterated entertainment'— at The Pajama Game

by Clare Flynn Joy

Why is it that the great New York City Opera at Lincoln Center keeps taking its cue from the Rhode Island College theatre department when it comes time to revive a musical for the Big Apple's spring production?

Or is it just coincidence that for the past two years after the College announced its intention to stage *Anything Goes* last spring and *Pajama Game* this spring, so did the City Opera?

Raymond Picozzi, director of the April 20-23 production of *Pajama Game* here, has only one thing to say, "We're always a step ahead of them every year."

Perhaps only coincidence, but in any case, those attending the College's rendition of this musical comedy will be in for some good, old-fashioned fun, says Picozzi, communications and theatre department chair.

"There's a variety of roles," he said. "The score is beautiful. It's a fun show—pure unadulterated entertainment."

Based on playwright, Richard Bissell's novel, *7½ cents*, the stage is set in a pajama factory during the 1950s, when labor was cheap, unions were organizing, and romance was romance.

The musical begins to unfold when the love affair between the plant superintendent and a union-minded factory girl turns the factory upside down, and inside out.

Robert Coleman, of the *New York Daily Mirror* described it best. "From the overture to the finale it is a riot of fun. It's about the romance between the determined superintendent of a pajama factory and the head of the union's grievance committee. It's a deliriously daffy delight. A royal flush and grand slam rolled into one."

Bissell wrote the book based on his own experience as a part owner of his family operated pajama factory in Dubuque, Iowa. The novel was turned into the amusing comedy, with music by Richard Adler and Jerry Ross, and became the most popular hit of the New York stage in the mid-1950s.



Charles Smith of Greenville, and Brenda Stravato of Providence, both juniors, rehearse a scene from *The Pajama Game*. (What's News Photo by Gordon E. Rowley)

Picozzi said there will be close to 40 students in the cast, with eight major roles. "It's breezy and delightful" with songs like "Steam Heat," "Hey, There" and "Hernando's Hideaway."

Robert Soule, set designer for Trinity Repertory, will be in charge of stage designs and Daniel Walker will act as technical director. Elaine Colanieri will choreograph the production.

Picozzi said next spring's College production will be The Boys of Syracuse. He wondered out loud recently, "I think I read something that said New York...." Coincidence? Your guess is as good as mine.

College costume designer, Barbara B. Matheson will create the clothing for every cast member. She said her challenge for this play's costumes comes in trying to "allow the actors to move and dance in the clothes and still make them look store-bought."

Picozzi said next spring's College production will be *The Boys of Syracuse*. He wondered out loud recently, "I think I read something that said New York...." Coincidence? Your guess is as good as mine.

The schedule for *The Pajama Game*, staged in Roberts Theater follows: Thursday, April 20, 8 p.m.; Friday, April 21, 8 p.m.; Saturday, April 22, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m., and Sunday, April 23, 2 p.m. For ticket information, call 456-8060.

R.I. College Marketing Assoc. to host expert advertising chief March 29

An expert in the field of advertising will be the guest speaker at the Rhode Island College Chapter of the American Marketing Association's daylong seminar scheduled for Wednesday, March 29.

Robert Schultz, vice president of campaign administration for The Advertising Council, will present a detailed presentation on the role advertising plays in today's society and how it applies to particular disciplines of study.

Schultz will lecture during morning and afternoon classes, and will present a public discussion in Gaige Auditorium from 12:30 to 2 p.m.

According to John Feather, senior marketing student and vice president of the College chapter, "Schultz will show his audiences how marketing and advertising are not just business related, but how they are a part of everyday life."

Schultz's visit to the College is part of the Ambassador Program of the Advertising Educational Foundation, a nonprofit organization supported by agencies, media and advertisers dedicated to "building a better understanding and greater appreciation of the socioeconomic role of advertising in our lives."

In his role as vice president for the campaign administration of the council, the Manhattan, NY resident oversees the activities of volunteer advertising agencies and their work with nonprofit client organizations. Presently, he is the campaign manager for the American Red Cross and the Census Bureau.

As part of his visit to the College, Schultz will field questions from a panel of faculty members during the noontime presentation.

College gets Nat'l Science Foundation grant for a Young Scholars Program

For high school students selected from Gov's Summer Program

by George LaTour

National Science Foundation has awarded Rhode Island College \$52,057, approximately half for this year and half for next, in support of a newly initiated Young Scholars Program here.

The purpose of the program is to strengthen and expand program activities in the annual four-week Governor's Summer Program in Science and Mathematics, which traditionally explores a limited number of topics in science and math in more depth than is usually possible in high schools.

The program, separate from the Governor's program for academically talented high school students, is linked to it and follows it, with 24 participants being selected from the 60 participating in the Governor's program, says Robert E. Viens, director of both programs here.

The competitive grant was awarded to RIC alone, although neighboring Providence College is its partner in the Governor's Summer Program which is sponsored by the state Office of Higher Education. This will be the sixth consecutive year for the Governor's program at RIC and PC.

RIC has received \$14,200 for this summer's Governor's program, reports Dr. R.N. Keogh, director of research and grants administration here.

Former participants in the Governor's program completing an evaluation at the end of each year's program "have been quite enthusiastic in their remarks, most often citing as the best part of the program" the hands-on laboratory work.

"Most lamented has been the shortness of the summer program," says Viens.

The Scholars program participants will live on campus for the two-week program (July 23 - August 4). Students participating in the Governor's program, which runs from June 26 to July 20, commute to RIC and PC each day of that program.

The Young Scholars Program is entitled "Environmentally Based Research Participation for Pre-College Students" and will use science and math to examine environmental issues in Rhode Island, says Viens.

The Young Scholars Program is entitled "Environmentally Based Research Participation for Pre-College Students" and will use science and math to examine environmental issues in Rhode Island, says Viens.

The grant provides for an academic-year follow-up "to sustain the intensity of the summer experiences for these 24 participants and to involve their classmates and teachers in similar research projects in their communities."

Funds also will provide partial support for an assessment of the program by an independent organization, in this case, the Center for Evaluation and Research at Rhode Island College (CERRIC). Partial funding also will be provided by the Office of Higher Education.

Partial funding also will be provided by the Office of Higher Education.

Information such as the students' choice of college or university and the students' major will allow CERRIC to evaluate the effectiveness of both the Governor's program and the Young Scholars Program, says Viens.

The assessment will be completed by the end of the two-year program.

Thus far, more than 300 10th and 11th graders from Rhode Island's public and private high schools have participated in the Governor's program.

'There's a brilliant genius under that blond mop'

Barbara B. Matheson, RIC costume designer



by Clare Flynn Joy

For the past 18 years she has spent more than 12,000 hours traveling to and from Rhode Island College, in sun, snow, sleet, rain...because the show must go on.

For that same number of years, she has costumed more than 90 College theater productions, in good times and in bad...because the show must go on.

And she has been a mentor, mother, teacher, and motivator to hundreds and hundreds of students, good ones and not-so-good ones....because the show must go on.

She is—if you have not already guessed—Barbara B. Matheson, veteran costume designer for Rhode Island College theatre department. But more than her title suggests, Matheson is a professional with a delightful air of authenticity in her approach to people, a sense of humor unmatched, and as a former student described her—"There's a brilliant genius under that blond mop."

...Matheson is a professional with a delightful air of authenticity in her approach to people, a sense of humor unmatched...

A visit to Matheson's makeshift office-trailer-studio, located behind Roberts Hall, for an afternoon chat about "everything you ever wanted to know about costume design" is like trying to talk to the wind. The conversation moves in all directions, while you move in all directions trying to keep up with this fastpaced female. But, like the wind's touch, it feels good and is always crisp.

When Matheson arrived at Rhode Island College in 1972, "all they had was a sewing basket," she laughed with disbelief. Her "office" at that time was in Whipple Gymnasium, now Whipple Hall. She was set up in what she calls the "gang shower room." Before renovations began last year to convert the gymnasium into the Center for

Industrial Technology, Matheson described her surroundings with a theatrical twist, "It was rather like being on a construction site that was on tour."

But it wouldn't matter much to this gutsy woman where she was when it comes to creating, designing, and finalizing her costumes. Matheson is a pro.

"Barbara is a flamboyant artist, creative personality, sometimes like a child that refuses to grow up—thank God—a marvelous teacher, and a brilliant professional," says Linda A. Wilson, who has worked for the past eight years as a cutter and draper of costume designs for Trinity Repertory and was a student of Matheson here at Rhode Island College in the late '70s.

"She can tell you the entire history of costume designing in five hours," she said. "But even with all her talent, she always gives her students room to learn on their own."

"I enjoy people," Matheson answered when asked what her secret to success is. "They're all pretty honest and real."

Matheson has a hard time describing herself to an audience. It almost seems like a shyness. The key is to catch her—if you can—in action.

As she sits at her cluttered desk, drinking coffee, smoking cigarettes, and talking about her work, showing "bibles" of her designs, research, swatches of cloth used for each costume, color selections and final outcome of the costume, an immediate friendliness and openness flows from her eyes. And she is endless motion. Up and down from desk to design, describing the costumes that drape the walls of her trailer-office-studio. Students freely roam in and

out, asking for advice on new hairdos and what to expect in costumes for the College's latest production, *Pajama Game*. Matheson welcomes each interruption like she was inviting someone into her home. And when the conversation ends, a big wave of good-bye and a smile sends her visitor off happy and satisfied.

Raymond Picozzi, who will direct the spring play, calls her "a lady with high standards. You know...she's like an Auntie Mame. She has this exuberance for life."

When asked to compare the changes in her profession throughout the years, she quickly says, "Hair. No one does anything with their hair today. And you must ask the actresses if they can walk and dance in heels."

She said, "during the fifties, every female could walk in heels, today it's different—take nothing for granted."

And what about her own choice of attire. "I wear mostly what someone else makes." Her favorite color is maroon. But

Barbara's designs add a fantastic visual dimension, says Picozzi, adding that Matheson understands that costumes "must never outshine the actors, but must add" to their performance.

"Barbara's designs add a fantastic visual dimension," he said, adding that Matheson understands that costumes "must never outshine the actors, but must add" to their performance.

Picozzi's favorite costume created by Matheson was for the College's 1981 production of *Cinderella*. "Cinderella's ballgown. It was gorgeous. It was a handsewn, beaded work of art."

Matheson's philosophy about costume designing and acting, is that "the actor must become one with the costume to make it work." She said her all-time favorite production, "where all ends of the play worked together marvelously was *Anything Goes*," last spring's production.

Recently, the Newton, Mass. resident was the recipient of the Region One Excellence in Costume Design during the American College Theater Festival for the plays *Anything Goes* and *The Miser*, staged in the fall of 1988. The display, which included conceptual drawings of the costumes right through the final outcome shown in photographs, was mounted at the Biltmore Hotel in downtown Providence during the Festival.

says she's been wearing "a lot of black these days."

Matheson is a multi-dimensional artist. She wrote the musical comedy, *Anybody's Game* in 1965 and staged it in 1974 here at the College. She said that writing another script is "an ongoing interest for me for many years. I always seem to be working on it."

Her philosophy of life isn't all that easy for her to put into words. "Once," she said, "I had some pens made up that said, Good judgment comes from experience. Experience comes from bad judgment."





The electronics lab in Whipple Hall. (What's News Photo by Gordon E. Rowley)

Pres. Guardo recognized as a "first" in her profession at State House ceremonies

President Carol J. Guardo was among more than 80 Rhode Island women to be recognized as "first" in their profession during International Women's Day ceremonies held March 8 at the State House.

Designated as the first woman president of a Rhode Island state college, Guardo was recognized by the 300 people attending the event, cited as Rhode Island Women First.

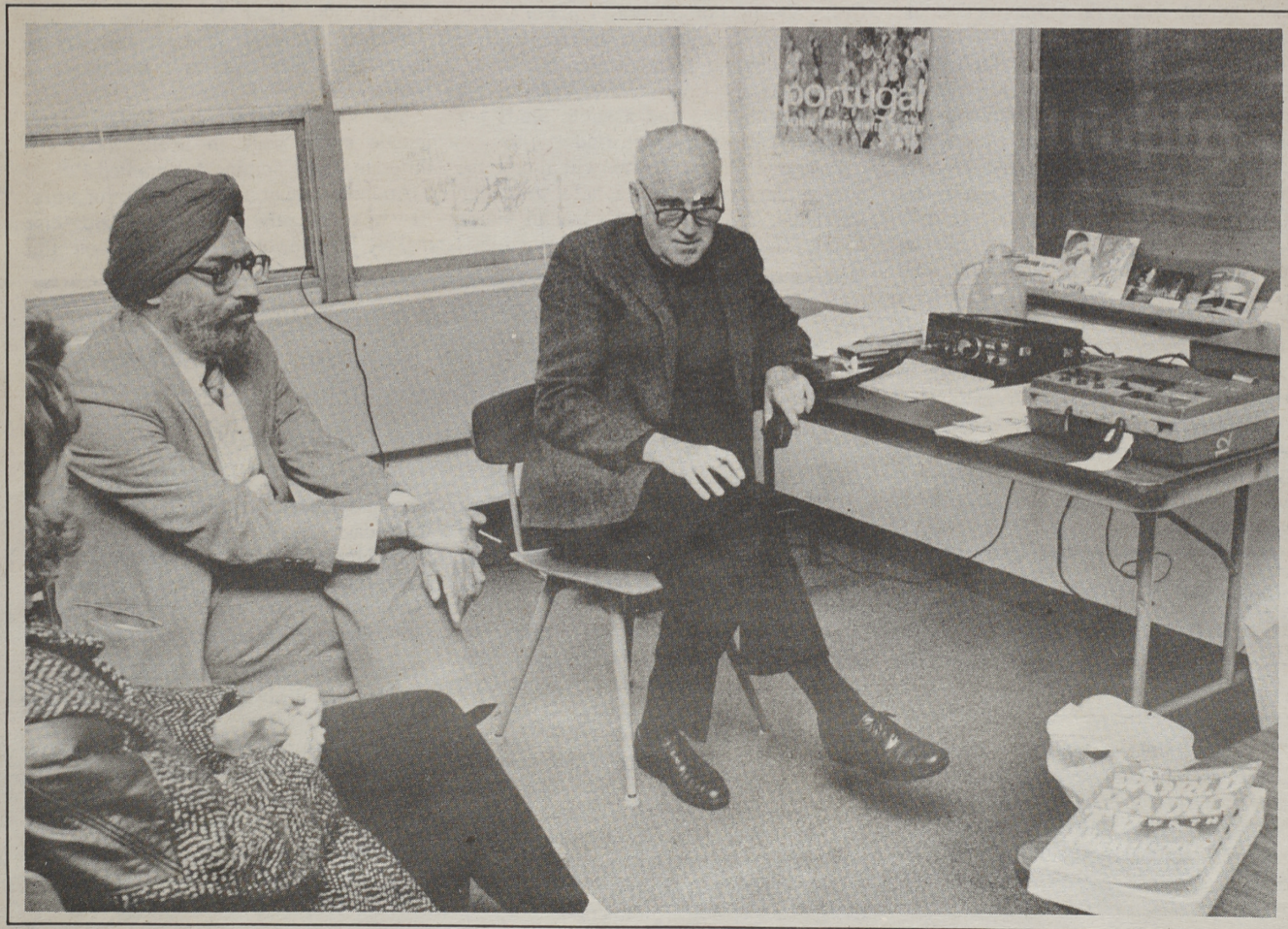
Sponsored by Secretary of State Kathleen Connell and the Rhode Island Permanent Advisory Commission on Women, the evening event was organized to pay tribute to those women in Rhode Island "who have opened doors to other women."

Calling "the parade of living history an impressive event to witness," Guardo said "it was an honor to be among such distinguished and accomplished persons."

According to an advisory commission spokesperson, 24 inch by 36 inch posters naming the designees will be displayed throughout the state's public high schools "as an inspiration to young women around the state."

A window on to the world

National Foreign Language Week here a success



BONJOUR: James E. White, professor emeritus of the English department, demonstrated the uses of shortwave radio for modern language study and practice in the Language Lab in Craig-Lee 132 on March 8. The demonstration was one of the events celebrating National Modern Language Week on campus. Using taped and live broadcasts he showed how easy it is to listen to shortwave programs in both English and foreign languages. Throughout the week foreign and documentary films were presented, international foods were served in the dining center and pens and bumper stickers were distributed. In April, Sen. Claiborne Pell will be awarded the first Foreign Language Advocate Award for his outstanding support of foreign languages and international studies. Pell has shown continued interest in international education and has made many contributions to global understanding and goodwill.

★ TECH CENTER—

(continued from page 1)

Computer-Aided Design and Drafting (CADD) room, a drafting technology room, the Center director's office, and four classrooms, says Nathan L. Church, recently appointed to direct the \$3 million Center.

Church estimates it will take about three months from the date the work begins to finish the second floor.

The Center will link the state's manufacturers with the state-of-the-art facilities, equipment and faculty provided by the College in accordance with President Carol J. Guardo's directive to the College to move ahead on "developing and improving our offerings in science and technology."

The center opened for classes in January.

★ BOOKS—

(continued from page 1)

Thousands of pages in hundreds of books have been read in the four-month program, reports Nixon, who credits "the most cooperative parents and children this side of the Pacific" for its whopping success.

"I have never before witnessed such enthusiasm for reading!" exclaims Nixon.

That the students now watch considerably less TV is a good indication that the overall goal of the program is succeeding: to produce long-lasting behavioral changes in the students with regard to their individual recreational reading habits.

Because some books are larger than others, it was decided to rate the amount of reading the students are doing on a page basis, notes Nixon, who reports that an appropriate awards ceremony will honor the most prodigious readers.

"Prodigious" reading in the case of Barnard students means anyone who has read at least 2,400 pages. Some reportedly have read upwards of 10,000 pages. One first grader supposedly has read 200 books!

Last Wednesday, in RIC's Roberts Hall auditorium, some 200 students received "gold" medals for their reading achievements. All who participated received certificates.

Next issue of
What's News
is Monday,
April 3.

DEADLINE

for copy, photos, etc.
is noon, Tuesday,
March 28.

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'Walk, run, hijack a taxi, but do go see the Feld Ballet'

At Providence Performing Arts Center March 30

"Walk, run, hire a boat or hijack a taxi, but do go see the Feld Ballet," urges the Gannett Newspapers' critic.

The highly acclaimed Feld Ballet and its founder and choreographer, Eliot Feld, will be on stage at the Providence Performing Arts Center in downtown Providence on Thursday, March 30, for one performance only and an audience dialogue with Feld.

A part of the Rhode Island College Performing Arts Series, the reservations-only performance, which is being presented in cooperation with the Providence Performing Arts Center, begins at 8 p.m.

"A Conversation with Eliot Feld" is scheduled at 7 p.m. at no extra charge.

General admission is \$13.50; senior citizens, \$10.50 and students with I.D., \$3.50. Call 421-ARTS for tickets. Tickets may also be purchased at all Ticketron and Telethon locations. Call 1-800-382-8080.

"Whether or not you know a tutu from a pas de deux, Feld's inventive choreography, set to music ranging from Bach to Irish folk-rock, has a spectacular, energetic display of the human body's grace and technical precision," says critic Kenneth Warnack.

The New York Times, which carried a review of the Feld Ballet performance in New York City two weeks ago, said, "The Feld dancers soar and plunge with daring across the stage...Freshness and exuberance are all over the place."

Chicago critic Molly McQuade wrote of Feld: "At a time when many ballet choreographers considered contemporary spend their time either choreographing timely gimmicks or mimicking their mentors in their dances, Eliot Feld is a rarity."

His work "...is assured, vividly plastic, musical, restrained, funny, and above all intelligent."

Feld has created ballets for the American Ballet Theatre, the Royal Danish Ballet, and the Joffrey Ballet among others.

Born in Brooklyn, N.Y., Feld studied at the School of American Ballet.

The performance is being funded in part by the New England Foundation for the Arts with support from the National Endowment for the Arts and the Rhode Island State Council on the Arts.



THE FELD BALLETT will be at the Providence Performing Arts Center March 30 as part of the Rhode Island College Performing Arts Series.

Art Prof S. Ames to exhibit work at Bannister

The recent works of artist Sam Ames, an associate professor of art at Rhode Island College, will be on exhibit in the College's Bannister Gallery March 30-April 14.

"Ames adopts the pictorial vocabulary of 16th Century religious painters to create compositions that can be interpreted as scenes from a secular drama," according to Dennis O'Malley of Bannister Gallery.

"Figures are arrested in the midst of stylized activities, or sit passively performing the role of the artist's model."

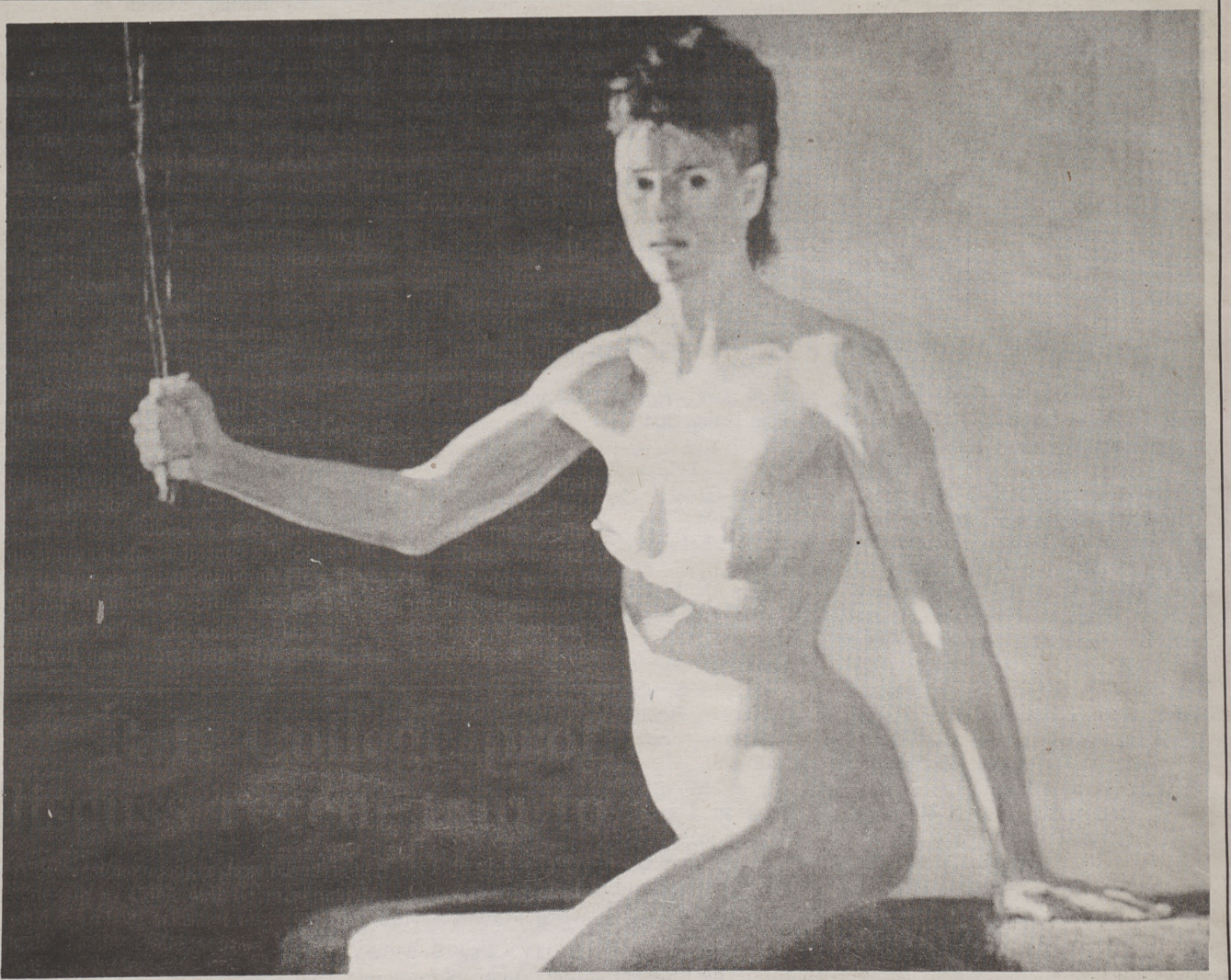
"Figures are arrested in the midst of stylized activities, or sit passively performing the role of the artist's model."

"Through the use of dark, warm palette, Ames attempts to convey not only the visual qualities of the setting, but a sensual quality of the tangible, physical warmth of his models," says O'Malley.

Figure drawings and paintings make up the core of this exhibit, along with some still lifes and small landscapes.

Exhibit opening is March 30 from 7 to 9 p.m. The exhibit is free and open to the public.

Gallery hours are Monday through Friday 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6 to 9. For more information call O'Malley at 456-9765.



DETAIL, Verite Fortant 'Du'n Puit, Oil on linen, Sam Ames



Connecticut Brass here for recital

Connecticut Brass, a professional ensemble of five brass-instrument players, will perform in recital in the Rhode Island College Chamber Music Series on Wednesday, March 29, at 1 p.m. in Roberts Hall 138 (recital chamber).

Free and open to the public, it will offer works by seven composers: John Cheetham, Samuel Scheidt, Isaac Albeniz, Wolfgang Mozart, Morley Calvert, Joseph Horowitz and Victor Ewald.

For more information call John Pellegrino at 456-8244.

Middle East International Scene Lecture Series Spring 1989

You and your friends are invited to a public series of lunchtime programs on Middle Eastern topics. Bring your lunch. Light refreshments will be provided.

Wednesday, March 29
12:30-2 p.m.
Language Dept. Lounge
Craig-Lee 102

"The Palestinian-Israeli Conflict"
Dr. Elaine Hagopian
Simmons College, Boston

Monday, April 3
12:30-2 p.m.
Language Dept. Lounge
Craig-Lee 102

"Has Islamic Fundamentalism Peaked?"
Dr. John Voll
University of New Hampshire

Thursday, April 13
12:30-2 p.m.
Language Dept. Lounge
Craig-Lee 102

"The Sudanese Civil War: Issues and Answers"
Dr. Richard Lobban and
Dr. Carolyn Fluehr-Lobban
Rhode Island College

Wednesday, April 19
12-1:30 p.m.
Language Dept. Lounge
Craig-Lee 102

"Export-Led Development in Turkey: A Promise or a Threat"
Dr. I. Atilla Dicle, Dr. Ulku Dicle and
Dr. Halil Copur
Rhode Island College

Thursday, April 27
12:30-2 p.m.
Language Dept. Lounge
Craig-Lee 102

"The Study of Islamic Women"
Dr. Val Moghaddam
Brown University

Sponsored by the Office of the Provost, the International Student Office, the Program of International Education, the Program of African and Afro-American Studies, and the Departments of Modern Languages, Anthropology and Geography, and History. For more information call John Browning (456-9723) or Richard Lobban (456-8784).

Calendar of Events

March 20-April 3

Monday, March 20

Noon to 1 p.m.—*Alcoholics Anonymous* to meet. Student Union 305.

7:15 p.m.—*Meet-the-Composer* session. American composer Elie Siegmeister will speak about his life and work. The discussion will precede the Chamber Singers concert. Roberts Hall auditorium. Free and open to all.

8 p.m.—*Comedy Cafe*. Three Boston comedians will be featured. Hosted by Ed Delgrande. Coffee Ground, Student Union. Free.

8:15 p.m.—*Rhode Island College Chamber Singers* to celebrate the 80th birthday of American composer Elie Siegmeister with a performance of his works that will include the premiere of "Scenes From The Big Town." Roberts Hall auditorium. Free and open to all.

Monday-Wednesday, March 20-22
Noon—*Mass*. Student Union 304.

Monday-Thursday, March 20-23
Kathryn Myers/Paintings and Drawings. Bannister Gallery, Art Center. Gallery hours: Monday-Thursday 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Thursday, 6 to 9 p.m.

Tuesday, March 21

Noon—*Anthropology/Geography Department Colloquium*. Dr. George Epple, associate professor of anthropology/geography at the College, will speak on "Food and Foodways in Caribbean Literature and Society." Gaige Hall 207E.

8 p.m.—*The Bangles* to perform in Walsh Gymnasium. Admission: \$11 Rhode Island College students, \$16 general public. Tickets may be purchased at the Student Union Information Desk.

Wednesday, March 22

11 a.m. to 1 p.m.—*Reflections on Cuba* to be the topic of a discussion and slide show to be presented by Prof. Joan L. Arches of the Rhode Island College School of Social Work. Student Union 307.

11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.—*Noontime Series*.

Folk guitarist Aubrey Atwater will perform. Donovan Dining Center.

12:30 to 1:30 p.m.—*Adult Children of Alcoholics* to meet. Craig-Lee 127.

1 p.m.—*Amici Trio* to perform in the Rhode Island College Chamber Music Series. Trio members Hilary Nicholson, lyric mezzo-soprano, Daniel Harp, cellist, and Lynn Raley, pianist, will present a program of music that will feature works by Ravel, deMontclair and Loefler. Roberts Hall 138.

1 to 2 p.m.—*Rhode Island College Chapter of Amnesty International* to meet. Student Union 305.

3 p.m.—*Men's Baseball* Rhode Island College vs. Providence College. Away.

Thursday, March 23

11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.—*Overeaters Anonymous* to meet. Student Union 307.

3 p.m.—*Men's Baseball*. Rhode Island College vs. Framingham State College. Away.

5:30 p.m.—*Holy Thursday Mass*. Student Union 304.

Friday, March 24

Noon—*Good Friday Services*. Student Union 304.

Saturday, March 25

Noon—*Men's and Women's Track & Field*. Rhode Island College Relays. Men's track events will be held at 2 p.m.

Noon—*Women's Softball*. Rhode Island College vs. Southeastern Massachusetts University. Home.

7:30 p.m.—*Easter Vigil*. Student Union Ballroom.

Monday, March 27

Noon to 1 p.m.—*Alcoholics Anonymous* to meet. Student Union 305.

8 p.m.—*Comedy Cafe*. Three Boston comedians will be featured. Hosted by Ed Delgrande. Coffee Ground, Student Union. Free.

Monday-Thursday, March 27-30
Noon—*Mass*. Student Union 304.

Tuesday, March 28

3 p.m.—*Men's Baseball*. Rhode Island College vs. U.S. Coast Guard Academy. Away.

9 p.m.—*New Music Night*. Good old rock and roll to be performed by the band Stone Groove. Coffee Ground, Student Union. Admission is free.

Wednesday, March 29

11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.—*Noontime Series*. Pianist Alex Tomasso will perform. Donovan Dining Center.

12:30 to 1:30 p.m.—*Adult Children of Alcoholics* to meet. Craig-Lee 127.

12:30 to 2 p.m.—*International Scene Series* on the Middle East to open with a lecture on "The Palestinian-Israeli Conflict." Speaker will be Dr. Elaine Hagopian of Simmons College, Boston. Craig-Lee 102.

12:30 to 2 p.m.—*Robert Schultz*, vice president of campaign administration for The Advertising Council, to present a public discussion on the role of advertising in our society. Gaige Auditorium.

1 p.m.—*Chamber Music Series*. The Connecticut Brass Quintet will perform in recital in Roberts Hall 138.

3 p.m.—*Women's Track & Field*. Rhode Island College vs. Bryant College. Home.

3:30 p.m.—*Women's Softball*. Rhode Island College vs. Salve Regina College. Home.

7 p.m.—*Travel in Europe* to be the topic of a talk by Gil White, author of "Europe on 84¢ a Day." Information will be provided on ways of getting free transportation, free accommodations and free food. Student Union Ballroom.

Thursday, March 30

11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.—*Overeaters Anonymous* to meet. Student Union 307.

3 p.m.—*Men's Baseball*. Rhode Island College vs. Stonehill College. Away.

3 p.m.—*Men's Tennis*. Rhode Island College vs. Southeastern Massachusetts University. Home.

4 p.m.—*Women's Softball*. Rhode Island College vs. Stonehill College. Away.

7 to 9 p.m.—*Recent Works of Sam Ames* to open at Bannister Gallery, Art Center. The exhibit will be on display through April 14.

8 p.m.—*Feld Ballet* to appear in the Rhode Island College Performing Art Series. Providence Performing Arts Center. Admission: \$13.50; senior citizens \$10.50; students with ID \$3.50.

Saturday, April 1

Bus Trip to New York City to be offered by the Rhode Island College International Society. The bus will leave Roberts Hall at 7 a.m. and will leave New York at 11:30 p.m. Cost is \$20 per person. For further information call 456-8029. Deadline for payment is Wednesday, March 22.

11 a.m.—*Men's Track & Field*. Rhode Island College at the Fitchburg State College Invitational.

Noon—*Men's Baseball*. Rhode Island College vs. Nichols College. Away.

Noon—*Women's Softball*. Rhode Island College vs. St. Joseph's College (Maine). Home.

Sunday, April 2

10 a.m.—*Sunday Mass*. Student Union 304.

7 p.m.—*Sunday Evening Mass*. Browne Hall, upper lounge.

Monday, April 3

Noon—*Mass*. Student Union 304.

Noon to 1 p.m.—*Alcoholics Anonymous* to meet. Student Union 305.

12:30 to 2 p.m.—*Middle East International Scene Series*. Dr. John Voll of the University of New Hampshire will present a lecture entitled "Has Islamic Fundamentalism Peaked?" Craig-Lee 102.

3:30 p.m.—*Women's Softball*. Rhode Island College vs. Clark University. Home.

8 p.m.—*Comedy Cafe*. Three Boston comedians will be featured. Hosted by Ed Delgrade. Coffee Ground, Student Union. Free.