



# WHAT'S NEWS

## AT RHODE ISLAND COLLEGE

Vol. 12 No. 10 February 10, 1992



**PURSUIT OF HISTORY:** Jay Latimer (left), acting associate dean of student life, Rhodes Pierre, a junior, and Jennifer Chancellor, a senior, both members of Harambee, the Afro-American student organization, map out strategy for a 'History Pursuit' contest to be conducted Feb. 24 as part of the College's month-long observance of African-American history. Fashioned after the popular Trivial Pursuit game, it will focus on African-American historical facts. Three prizes will be awarded to winners, including \$150 for first. Any student interested in playing should call Ext. 8061 the week before. (What's News Photo by Gordon E. Rowley)

## School of Education, Human Development has new dean

by Clare Eckert

David E. Nelson was recently appointed the Dean of the School of Education and Human Development by Rhode Island College President John Nazarian. The selection was made after a national search to revitalize the department and demonstrate the College's continuing commitment to education in the state.

Nelson was born and raised in a Chicago suburb and attended Wheaton, Ill. public schools. The 49-year-old educator is a committed advocate for the advancement of teacher preparation, having started his career as a classroom teacher, principal, and superintendent.

Among his beliefs are that teachers have been "under-recognized" for too long. Nelson looks at this appointment as an opportunity "to make an impact on the state" as to how teachers will be educated. Through his work at RIC, he hopes "to provide a model for other states to follow."

He will arrive at RIC the beginning of next month with his feet on the ground and ready to run, he said during a telephone interview. "The place will be humming!"

(continued on page 8)

## Holiday Inn to sponsor fundraiser for College athletics

The downtown Providence Holiday Inn, the regional site for member colleges of the East Coast Athletic Conference, will sponsor a silent auction and dinner Monday, Feb. 24, beginning at 6 p.m. to benefit Rhode Island College athletics.

After reading about the Jan. 5 fire that destroyed Walsh Health and Physical Education Center, which housed the Department of Physical Education, Health, Recreation and Dance and all of the College's athletic programs, hotel Assistant General Manager, Joan Murphy, brought the idea to Theresa Cilella, director of sales and marketing, who contacted the school with the offer of the fundraiser.

According to Thomas R. Pezzullo, vice president for development and college relations, "the offer took us by surprise. But we appreciate the concern and we are delighted to have their support and the chance this evening will give us to thank them and the many others who have given us their support."

The silent auction will include donated items from the Boston Celtics and the Pawtucket Red Sox and will begin at 6 p.m. along with a cocktail reception. Frank Carpano, WJAR-Channel 10 sportscaster will act as master of ceremonies during the dinner which follows at 7.

Tickets are \$50 per person and can be purchased at the Holiday Inn at I-95 at Atwells Avenue, or by calling 831-3900.

## RIC develops 'Total Quality Management' model for Hasbro

*Project already underway, matching funds sought*

by George LaTour

Who better to know what happens on an assembly line than the assembly workers and line supervisors?

If there's a problem on the line, company officials concerned with productivity and cost might do well to consult with these people.

However, many companies in America haven't thought of that possibility, it seems. Company communication in America traditionally comes down from management. It seldom comes up from the bottom — line workers.

Not so at Hasbro, Inc., the largest toy manufacturer in the world, which is centered in Rhode Island. Hasbro, in fact, has gone a step or two further than consulting with its workers: it has and is currently involving them in the principles and practices of Total Quality Management, also referred to as "Japanese Management."

In conjunction with Rhode Island College's Center for Industrial Technology, they have introduced a "collaborative model of employee training and development" with the aim of improving the work process through a "team concept."

Hasbro's Steve Jessop, the senior vice president, says they are asking people who have been in the same work environment at Hasbro for 20 or 30 years to change.

"We're putting that (old system) aside and going a different way through employee empowerment," he says, adding that there is a need to learn two things, basically: to work together as a team on a project and develop the ability to solve problems in industry.

Sessions were held to sensitize Hasbro personnel to the importance of change and the need to work through all levels of employees from entry-level through management.

### The major goals

The major goals include creating a working climate that allows contribution, comfort and control of work processes collaboratively by all employees; increasing productivity by training a high-performance workforce, and the establishing of opportunities for employees to upgrade skills and even pursue other career possibilities within the company.

Corporate management at Hasbro, a Fortune 500 company and the second largest private employer in Rhode Island after General Dynamics' Electric Boat Division at Quonset, has a "deep commitment" to its origins in the state and has "expressed a desire to retain operations here," according to Jessop.

It has, therefore, indicated its commitment and support to develop and implement a model that would result in a high-performance work organization.

During the fall of 1990, William F. Kavanaugh, director of RIC's Center for Industrial Technology, and Jessop, already having discussed "things we could do for one another" over a lengthy period, agreed to pursue a comprehensive training and educational program for Hasbro's employees.

The feeling was and is that there is a "need for a close alliance between education and manufacturing."

"We need an educated work force," says Jessop.

Consequently, 60 Hasbro employees volunteered for 10 sessions between April and June.

"Topical issues and management principles included working in groups, group dynamics and an introduction to team building. Personnel began to recognize that education and learning can be enjoyable, participatory and rewarding," noted the funding proposal submitted by RIC and Hasbro in January of this year, seeking additional funding for the project they see as a model for other manufacturing firms.

To date, 109 line managers at three of Hasbro's facilities have participated in the project under the guidance of RIC's Frank Farinella, an associate professor of industrial technology and the one responsible "for the direction of the whole project," according to Kavanaugh.

### Model consists of 5 phases

The project and its proposed training model consists of five phases to provide an increased productivity through employee contribution.

The phases are: 1) an orientation to Total Quality Management; 2) management principles; 3) management practices; 4) problem solving and team building; 5) repeat of phases one and four.

As of the last week in January, three teams of Hasbro employees, meeting at RIC's Center for Industrial Technology, have made written and oral presentations of their findings to representatives of top management; e.g. in quality assurance on the mixed-parts assembly line.

Kavanaugh reports that they are about to enter Phase 4 now, which, he says, is implementation of what employees have learned.

Hasbro has put up over \$30,000 thus far and, thereby, covered the first three phases. RIC and Hasbro are now looking to the Rhode Island Department of Economic Development and Workforce 2000 to come up with matching funds to allow completion of the project model.

Dennis Bouchard of Workforce 2000 says that while he cannot at this point guarantee that funding will be confirmed, he "expects it will."

"We like this kind of training. It could be a good model (for other firms)," he says.

Hasbro's Jessop agrees. "We're more than willing to share our information with others," he assures.



## Focus on the Faculty and Staff



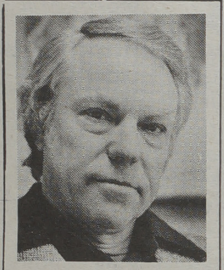
**Rene H. Perreault** of North Providence has been appointed to the position of acting director of purchasing effective Feb. 3. He was manager of inventory control for Physical Plant.



Assistant professor **Jules Cohen** and adjunct professor **Richard Perreault** of the Department of Economics and Management had an article published in the November-December 1991 edition of *Nonprofit World*. The title of the article was "Nonprofits' Most Common Computer Pitfalls And How to Avoid Them."

**Haven Starr** has agreed to serve as the acting principal of Henry Barnard School for the remainder of this academic year.

**William E. Kaufman**, part-time adjunct professor of philosophy and rabbi of Temple Beth El, Fall River, Ma., has written a book titled *The Case for God*. Harold Kushner, author of *When Bad Things Happen to Good People*, calls Kaufman's book "a winning blend of the personal and the philosophical." *The Case for God* is published by the Chalice Press, St. Louis, Mo., and can be obtained at the Rhode Island College bookstore. It is Kaufman's third book. He is also the author of *Contemporary Jewish Philosophies* and *Journeys: An Introductory Guide to Jewish Mysticism*.



**Raymond W. Houghton**, professor emeritus of philosophy and foundations of education and a research associate in the School of Education at Trinity College, Dublin, has been

awarded a master-in-arts degree from that Irish institution. A citation read at the awarding of the degree noted Houghton's founding of the International Berkeley Society honoring the Irish bishop, who was an early educator, and termed Houghton "a forceful and vigorous standard-bearer of education from New England who has long been a most welcome guest in our hall."

### WHAT'S NEWS AT RHODE ISLAND COLLEGE

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## RIC is PBC free



John "Jack" Vickers, RIC plant engineer, places the final sticker on a transformer indicating that Rhode Island College is now PCB free. Vickers said the College began reducing its PCB hazards in early 1987, ahead of the majority of college campuses.

## Book Look

*Facts about recently published books by Rhode Island College faculty and staff*

**Editor:** Frederic G. Reamer

**Title:** AIDS and Ethics

**Publisher:** Columbia University Press, 384 pp.

**Publishing Date:** November 1991

**Cost:** \$35.00

**In Brief/Synopsis:** AIDS and Ethics is the first major collection of essays on the complex ethical issues created by the AIDS crisis. The nation's leading bioethics experts from the fields of law, medicine, philosophy, political science, religion, and social work present original and accessible essays. They address current controversial issues related to the ten-

sion between civil rights and public health, mandatory HIV testing, human subjects research, health care insurance, AIDS education, militant AIDS activism, the physician-patient relationship, issues of privacy, and legal issues. The book will provide philosophical and practical guidance to health care and human service professionals, policy makers, scholars, and others affected by the AIDS crisis.

"The ethical issues raised by AIDS are not new, but never has any single disease been so challenging—both medically and socially. This outstanding book brings into clear focus the complexities surrounding the AIDS epidemic and appropriately

explores the issues rather than giving simplistic answers. If you are working in the field, have a personal interest, or just want to experience a provocative look at the 'plague' of the century, this is definitely for you" says Mervyn F. Silverman, president of the American Foundation for AIDS Research, about the book.

**About the Author:** Frederic G. Reamer is professor in the School of Social Work at Rhode Island College. He is the author of *Ethical Dilemmas in Social Service* and coauthor of *Rehabilitating Juvenile Justice*, both published by Columbia University Press.

## Mary Olenn recognized as '1991 Life Saver'

Mary Olenn, R.N., M.Ed., and health education consultant at Rhode Island College, was recently chosen by the American Cancer Society as the recipient of the 1991 Public Education Life Saver Award.

Olenn received the ruby-jeweled Award pin at a divisional annual meeting in recognition of her long-time volunteerism and achievements.

Her commendation read: Olenn "has devoted 15 years of outstanding service to the American Cancer Society. Her unwavering enthusiasm is evidence by the leadership and creativity she has shown in developing well-planned, timely, focused programs in many areas of public education."

Cited were Olenn's many achievements including the development and implementation of the division's first workplace cancer education program, participation in annual Great American Smokeouts since 1977, organizing a corporate breakfast to promote and support a new proactive role for management to provide smoke-free work environment, and her implementation of programs to provide colorectal screenings, BSE, TSE, prostate, and cervical cancer, to name a few.

Also recently, Olenn and Dorothy Woods, formerly of the College office of health promotions, received an award from Dr. Yankee of the Rhode Island Blood Center for outstanding blood drive participation in 1990-91.



Mary Olenn, R.N., M.Ed., and health education consultant at R.I. College, was recently recognized by the American Cancer Society for her work.



## College Shorts

### 'Columbus and the African Diaspora'

As part of the African-American History Month, on Wednesday, Feb. 12, at 2 p.m. in the Faculty Center, the history and anthropology departments will sponsor a special panel on "Columbus and the African Diaspora." RIC professor Richard Lobban will examine the issue of Islamic-African seafaring before Columbus and Columbus' early African contacts; Professor Rhett Jones of Brown University will look at the slave trade and early American-African sources; and University of Rhode Island professor Robert Weisbord will look at the trans-Atlantic slave trade in terms of its devastating effects in Africa and the rise of world-wide racism. The College community is invited to attend.

### Science grads, prof get published

A paper involving the research of Maria Lawrence, Craig Morton and Cathy Schwab, three Rhode Island College graduates, and Charles J. Marzzacco, RIC professor of chemistry, has recently been published in the *Journal of Physical Chemistry*. The paper is titled "Excited-State Deprotonation of 2-Naphthol by Anions."

According to Marzzacco, the work is especially significant because it shows that some acid-base reactions are faster than others because of entropy rather than energy considerations.

Lawrence is currently a science teacher at the Nathan Bishop Middle School; Morton is doing graduate work in materials science at Vanderbilt University, and Schwab is currently doing postdoctoral research at the University of Florida.

Arthur M. Halpern of the Department of Chemistry at Indiana State University also contributed to the paper.

### PEP Honors Program students recognized

Preparatory Enrollment Program students will be recognized at this year's Honors Tea Tuesday, Feb. 11, at the President's House.

They are: Shai Chase of East Providence; Joao DaCruz of Pawtucket, Elizabeth Dias, Amy Fernandez, Joao Goncalves, Denise Goris, Greta Gregson, Monica Lee, Pheng Lee, Donna Marotto, Karen Marotto, Timothy Pelletier, Edward Silvestre and Wei Yi Teng of Providence; Chau Trinh Do of Central Falls; Claudia Erazo of Cranston; Fatima Martins and Evelyn Veloz of Warwick; and Daniel McKenna of West Greenwich.

### RIC Baseball Card Show fundraiser

The 1967 Cy Young Award winner, Jim Lonberg, former Boston Red Sox pitcher, will highlight the fourth Annual Rhode Island College Baseball Show Sunday, Feb. 9, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Henry Barnard School gymnasium.

Lonberg will be on hand from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. to sign autographs for free and to chat with baseball card enthusiasts.

Admission is \$2 and rentals are \$50 for an 8-foot table. The public is invited. All proceeds from the annual event go to the College's baseball team.

Frank Anzeveno, coordinator of intermural and community based programs for the College and event organizer, encourages everyone to come out and enjoy themselves and "at the same time, support the College's baseball team."

## User-friendly science classes —

# The 'whole kit and kaboodle'

by Cynthia DeMaio  
Student Writer

As part of an icebreaker in his 'Scientific Methods' class, MacGregor Kniseley, Rhode Island College assistant professor of elementary education, asks his students to draw a picture of a scientist. More specifically, a scientist at work.

"Guess what percentage draws a white male, in a lab coat, working indoors, wearing a pocket protector?" he asks rhetorically. While this stereotype of the scientific community exists, American society is far from homogeneous, Kniseley notes.

"Our demographics are changing. For example, there are sections of California where 'minority' groups are now in the majority."

To increase minority participation in math and science, the federal government is funding innovative programs on the state level. One such program is Kniseley's "The Whole Kit and Kaboodle".

Financed by Eisenhower Math and Science Education Funds through the Rhode Island Office of Higher Education, this 10-week course integrates science, math, and social studies topics at the elementary school level.

The program is based on the natural materials Native Americans used in daily life. Strand (unit) titles include: "Uses of Plants, Animals, and Rocks," "How Corny Can You Get?," "Arrow-Dynamics," and "Living Things in the Forest Community."

Three elementary school teachers, Susan Dorr and Suzanne Williams of Wheeler School, and Carol Entin of Moses Brown School, worked with Kniseley for six months developing the text, gathering natural materials, and creating a film strip.

The team researched the lifestyles of Native Americans at the time of initial contact with Europeans (roughly 1650).

"As teachers, we find it easy to over-romanticize Native Americans as far as their cleverness, and ability to use natural resources. They simply did what they did because they had to. However, from what I've heard and read, Native Americans had a culture that regarded the natural environment differently than we do today. In this kit, we try to show students how native people used the natural environment and have them look at their own relationship with the plants, animals, and rocks around them," Kniseley said.

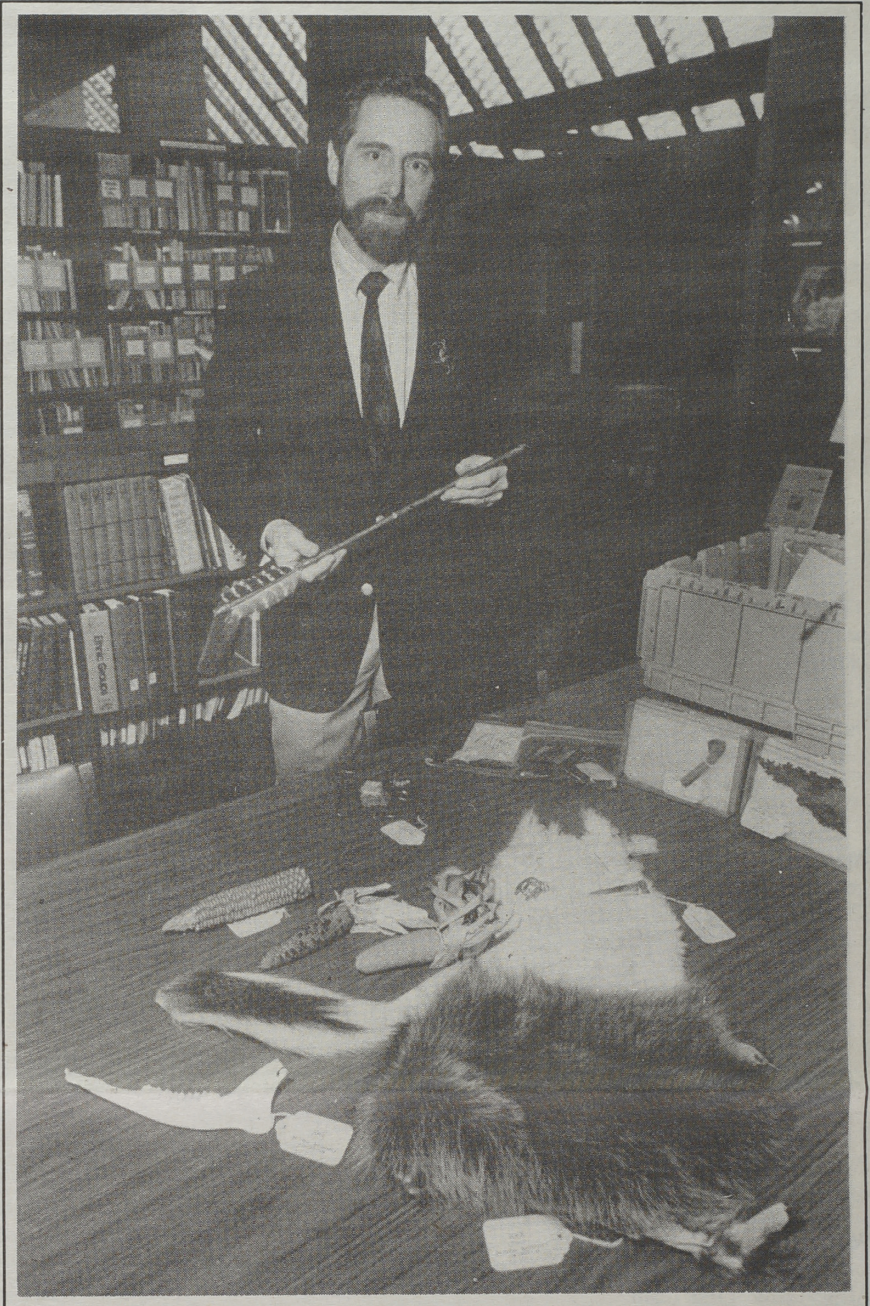
To verify the accuracy of historical records, the team asked representative of the Narragansett and Wampanoag tribes to review kit material. Ella Sekatau, an ethno-historian and expert on the history of the Narragansett tribe, and Nanepashemet, a historian and the manager of the Wampanoag Program at Plymouth Plantations, checked the content of kit material. They also participated in teacher training sessions, Kniseley said.

The Whole Kit and Kaboodle' received great interest when it was introduced. Eighty teachers applied for training in this pilot program. Six are currently using the kits and 18 more will be trained in May.

Teachers receive two storage totes of material for 18-20 lessons. The totes contain most of the materials required for conducting the lessons.

"We did the shopping and planning for the teachers so they can concentrate on teaching," Kniseley said. The kit includes a natural materials collection (44 natural objects which are labelled and carefully packaged), a filmstrip/text entitled "Native People's Uses of Plants, Animals, and Rocks," a food chain card game, a mineral collection with six minerals from Rhode Island, and a "lotto" game.

The program is designed to encourage the lower-ability student through a hands-on approach.



R.I. College assistant professor of elementary education, MacGregor Kniseley, displays the "tools" of his "The Whole Kit and Kaboodle."

For example, in the strand about seeds, students are asked which part of the plant grows first: the stem or the root? To determine this, they plant a seed in a "seed bag" (a plastic bag with soil), and measure the root as it grows. They also draw pictures of the plant on Day 1, Day 3, Day 5, etc.

*'In a traditional science class, we learn the names of the parts of the plants, which is pretty basic, but don't ask any further questions. With this kit we actually see the seed growing,' Kniseley said.*

"In a traditional science class, we learn the names of the parts of the plants, which is pretty basic, but don't ask any further questions. With this kit we actually see the seed growing," Kniseley said.

In another exercise, the class is divided into teams of 4-6 students and each student is given natural objects to identify. Items include a skunk hide or the jaw bone of a deer. The child is asked to predict the use of the item and discuss his ideas with teammates. "This encourages the low ability or non-reading student to participate," Kniseley said.

Educational kits on seeds, butterflies, and dinosaurs from the Boston Museum of Science were the inspiration for the 'Whole Kit and Kaboodle,' Kniseley said. "But the Museum's kits are strictly

science-based and not integrated. With the 'Whole Kit and Kaboodle' we are making an honest attempt to integrate science into other subjects."

Kniseley has extensive experience in both elementary education and natural science. He taught at the elementary level in Nevada for 10 years and also did teacher training in environmental education.

He holds a doctorate in education from the University of Nevada at Reno. His workload at RIC includes teaching courses in science methods, cooperative learning, and integrating math and science.

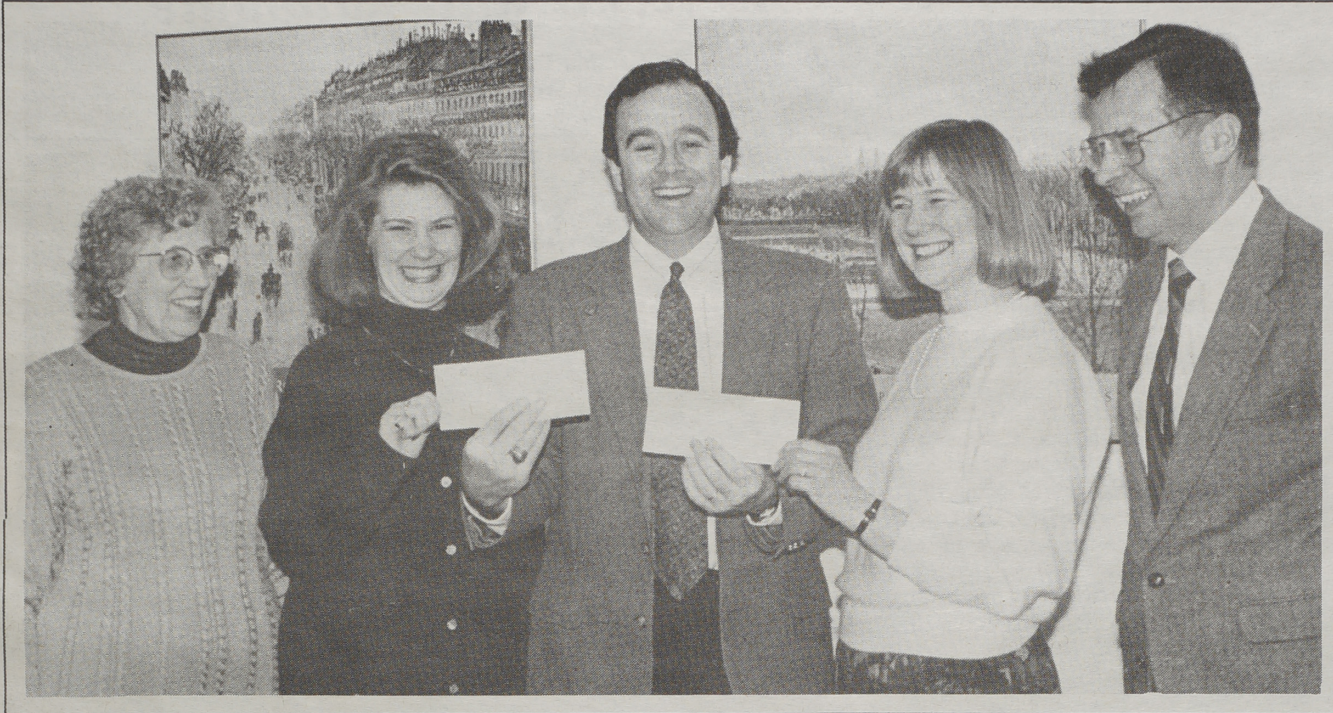
"Response to the kit during teacher training was really positive," Kniseley said. "These experienced teachers know what works in the classroom."

"Most of them have an existing social studies unit on the native people of America and see this as a wonderful extension of that subject. They are also excited that this is a self-contained unit and expect that it will be highly motivating to the students. Three-quarters of the projects in the kit are hands-on activities. I predict that when kids see objects like skunk pelts their imaginations will go wild. The activities are very sensory-oriented," he added.

"We are trying to attract teachers of minority children, but we have trained teachers from each of the five educational regions in the state," Kniseley said. "If the kit receives a favorable recommendation from school departments, the State could adopt it as a standard program for third grade science."



## 1991 Teacher Scholarship Award winners



TEACHER SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS from the Class of 1959 are held by Vice President Thomas Pezzullo (center) as winners on his left and right, Tracy Kraus and Martha Johnston, take hold. Alice Grellner, advisor, and William Oehlkers, chair of the elementary education department look on.

Rhode Island College seniors Martha Johnston of Barrington and Tracy Kraus of Providence are the recipients of the Class of 1959 Teacher Scholarship Awards for 1991.

The women were honored by their faculty and families at a reception held recently at the College. Vice President Thomas R. Pezzullo presented \$250 checks to the students "as encouragement

for having chosen the teaching profession," according to mathematics professor Henry P. Guillotte, Class of 1959 president. Johnston is studying elementary education and Kraus is a secondary education major.

This is the third year the scholarship award has been presented by the Class of 1959, which was the first class to begin offering the College a Silver Anniversary

Gift. Guillotte explained that his class was "one of the last classes that was purely teacher ed" and hence, felt it appropriate to offer the scholarships to those students intending on becoming teachers.

The students were selected for their academic excellence, faculty recommendations, out-of-class experience, and upperclass standing, according to Guillotte.

## Barnard students to perform 'Escape to Freedom' Feb. 12, 13

Students in Sharon Fennessey's fifth grade class at Rhode Island College's laboratory school, Henry Barnard, will present a play by Ossie Davis called *Escape to Freedom* Feb. 12 and 13 at 9:30 a.m. in the College's Student Union ballroom as part of the month-long series of events observing African-American History Month.

The play chronicles the life of Douglass, an abolitionist, from the plantation to his escape north to freedom. Its theme highlights Douglass' belief, says Fennessey, that true freedom is gained only by being educated.

The story is told through dramatic scenes, narration, song and dance.

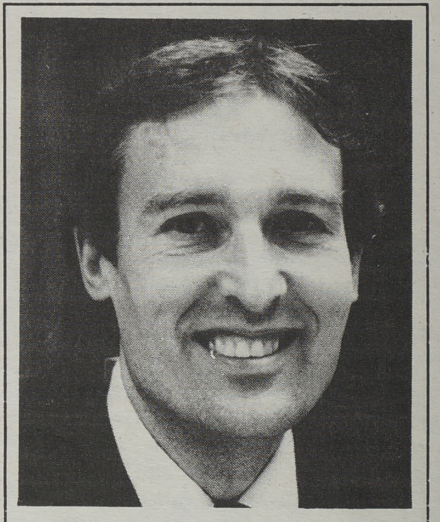
The role of Douglass is played by John Manni of North Providence; Mistress Sophia Auld, who first taught the young Douglass how to read while he was working as her servant, by Lydia Whitcomb of Providence, and Covey, the slavebreaker, by Yann Weiner of Cranston.

To tell the story, each of the students plays more than one character and changes costumes from time to time. The play is being produced by Fennessey, an assistant professor at the school. Alice Pellegrino, also of the Henry Barnard faculty, will be musical director.

The public is invited to attend free of charge. For more information, call Sharon Fennessey at 456-8801 or 8128.

## Director appointed

John T. Skarr of Attleboro, formerly the director of financial aid at Wheaton College, has been appointed director of student financial aid at Rhode Island College.



JOHN SKARR

His appointment took effect Jan. 21.

He will be responsible for the administration of the College's multi-faceted student financial aid program which includes grants, loans and student employment opportunities for both undergraduate and graduate students.

As such, Skarr will oversee the operations of the Financial Aid Center in Craig-Lee Hall.

With some 15 years of experience in student financial aid, Skarr administered a \$10-million program at Wheaton. He is considered "an excellent problem-solver, communicator, negotiator and manager."

Skarr graduated in 1972 from the University of Wisconsin at Madison with studies in zoology and English. He received another degree there in finance and obtained a master's degree in business and organizational communication at Emerson College in 1988 where he had also served as director of financial aid.

He holds a number of professional affiliations, including that with the Massachusetts Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators which he served as president in 1989-90.

## Boyer recognized once again by 'USA Today' as one of the country's 'best and brightest'

"Surprised and excited" described how Peter Boyer felt when Pat Ordovensky from USA Today called and asked him to present closing remarks at last month's Washington, D.C. luncheon honoring members of the newspaper's 1992 AllAcademic First Team.

"I told him I'd be honored," said Boyer, former Rhode Island College honors student, Class of 1990, from his home in Connecticut. He is currently enrolled in the Master of Music in Composition program at the Hartt School of Music of the University of Hartford.

Boyer was selected to address the group because, "I remembered Peter as being

articulate and outspoken and thought he'd do a good job," according to Ordovensky, who is responsible for promoting the newspaper's national program which selects college students from across America as the "best and brightest" in the United States.

Two years ago, Boyer, who made a mark on the Rhode Island music scene in 1990 for his composition and conducting of *Requiem* and was named to the newspaper's first-ever All Academic Team that year, sat on the other side of the podium

with his mother and listened to other's remarks.

This year, on Jan. 31, he took center stage, and delivered to this prestigious group of young men and women these "words of wisdom" he was selected to give: "...Use your minds — and your talents — well. Share your achievements with the world, and use them to enrich the culture which surrounds you. And always continue to learn; and as you learn, continue to share. You are the best and brightest, and you are the future of the country. You are USA Today; you are also USA Tomorrow..."



NEW FOUNDATION CORPORATION MEMBERS installed recently are (from left) David Heimberger, Paul Hansen, Sydney Cohen, College President John Nazarian, Doris Abels, Michael Integlia and Claire Giannamore. The installation took place at the annual meeting of the foundation held in the Faculty Center.



# A Brazilian Dilemma

by Cynthia DeMaio  
Student Writer

A country known for hyperinflation, string bikinis, and a high crime rate, Brazil is a land of great potential and severe social problems. Eighty percent of its people are dirt poor, yet the country is years ahead of the U.S. in terms of racial opportunity and attitudes. This is the dichotomy that Jonathan Corey, an education major at RIC, experienced during a five-week visit last spring.

Corey was one of six delegates selected by the Rhode Island and Southeastern Massachusetts Rotary Club to represent the U.S. in the group's Study Exchange Program. During his visit, Corey stayed in the towns of Salvador, Aracaju, Juazeiro, and Petrolina, all in Northeast Brazil.

"The purpose of the program is to send people from one culture into another to promote international understanding. It is a first-hand learning experience," Corey said.

The history of Brazil is one of exploitation, Corey states. In the 1500s the Portuguese came to the country. Since then Europeans have reaped its natural resources, and sent the wealth back to Europe. This has created a wide income gap, and with it, corruption.

"A businessman told me that trillions of Brazilian dollars disappear out of the budget annually. The money can't be accounted for, so the government just writes it off. The effect is the same as the U.S. experiencing a Savings and Loan disaster every year," Corey said. "This corruption hurts the country's ability to help itself out."

"One upper-class woman told me the government knows there is a problem but feels it is just too big to do anything about it." Instead, she says, the establishment 'distracts' the poor by allowing drugs, sex, and rock and roll."

Officials look the other way on drug use, drinking and prostitution, especially during Carnival, the Brazilian equivalent of Mardi Gras.

For example, in Salvador, a "rolling boom box" called the "trioelectrico" drives through the streets blasting party music during Carnival. This moving van has an open back with a giant P.A. system. People follow the van as it moves through the city.

"There are different Carnivals for the rich and the poor," Corey notes.

"When the forces that drive society are greed and capitalism and they get up to full speed, you get (an economic) dichotomy. It's like water going down the toilet, the closer it gets to the bottom, the faster it goes. I think that's where we're going in this country. It's dangerous when society makes profits and the profits go into a few hands. But in the U.S. we have the redeeming value of equal opportunity. This force can slow down the process. We have to make power available to people. And power often means money."

On racial issues, Brazil is years ahead of the U.S., Corey said. This, too, has historical roots. "When the Portuguese explored Brazil in the 1500s, only the males came. So there was a lot of interbreeding. In North America, on the other hand, the Europeans brought their fami-



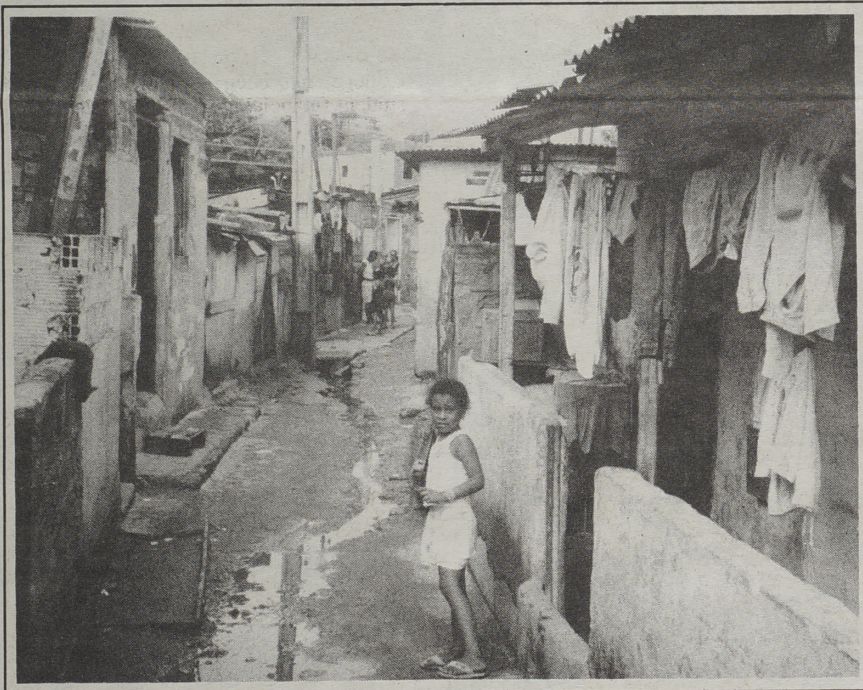
BEING INTERVIEWED on a local Brazilian TV station is Jonathan Corey (right). 'Good Morning' in Portuguese is written behind the Rotary delegation.

say it's not going to take another 400 years for America to get to the point Brazil is at today?" Corey asks.

Another strong quality of Brazilians is their warmth, Corey noted. When male and female friends greet each other, they give a kiss on both cheeks. In social situations, Corey found girls laying their hand on his leg or putting their arm around his shoulder. "At first I was startled, but once I got used to it, I understood that these actions help build friendship."

Corey says being in another country gives him a new perspective on being American. "We have the view that America is Number One. People feel there is something wrong with the Japanese to challenge our status. But when you go to another country and see there are other ways of life, you wonder why Americans have this self-perception."

"For example, the rock group Guns and Roses is hot in the U.S. right now.



A FAVELA OR GHETTO in Salvador.

"Anyone who has anything has to live in a walled-in house. My hosts in Salvador, the Ivo Santiago Family, have iron gates surrounding their home and their garage is under the house below street level," Corey said. He says people who can afford cars buy 'generic' styles such as simple sedans because flashy cars are immediately stolen. "People don't even use bumper stickers because children steal them."

'Favelas' or ghettos, spring up overnight in cities when work is available. "The police used to chase people away to prevent shanty towns, but people would come back at night and rebuild them. The poor build in undesirable areas, such as on steep hills or in gullies with water." "Once the people start to build a favela it's like algae, you can't stop it," Corey said.

Many Brazilians have an inferiority complex and apologize for the way things are, Corey says. However, the government does little to resolve the situation.

lies and did not mix with the native Americans or the slaves," Corey said.

"Today, 80 percent of the Brazilian people are of mixed heritage. They have 50 or 60 names for categories of races, including preto (black), branco (white), mulatto, and mestizo (a mixture of black, white, and Indian). There is less overt racism, although the preference is to be white," Corey said.

However, race is more of a matter of social status than color in Brazil. "A person's race is not determined by his physical appearance, his skin tone, eye or hair color. It's how he dresses, his education, his job, and the way he conducts himself. If you have dark skin but are a professional, you consider yourself white, and society considers you white as well," Corey said. "After 500 years, the Brazilians do not think about color too much."

Looking at U.S. history on this issue, Corey says, "It took 70 years for the Emancipation Proclamation (from the writing of the Constitution) and 100 more years for the Civil Rights Act. What's to

*Anyone who has anything has to live in a walled-in house. My hosts in Salvador...have iron gates surrounding their home, and their garage is under the house below street level.*

Brazilians extend themselves to virtual strangers as well. "One night we were 40 minutes from home at a nightclub in Petrolina and our ride didn't show up. We told a Brazilian in our group about our predicament. He had a friend at the bar who had a truck and asked if he would give us a ride home. The friend drove 40 minutes to bring us home and 40 minutes back. He didn't even know us," Corey said.

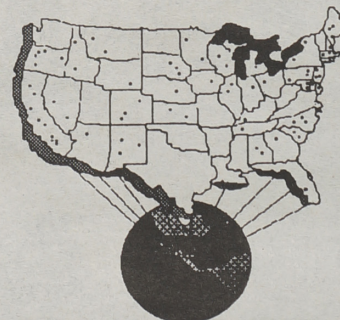
It's a big deal to a lot of people. But when you travel, you realize there are places in the world where Guns and Roses means nothing," Corey said.

How do Brazilians feel about their future? Corey pauses for a moment to think. "They're always hopeful for improvement. But this hope is tempered with realism."

## NATIONAL STUDENT EXCHANGE

### WIDENING EDUCATIONAL HORIZONS

A program offering undergraduate students an opportunity to study for up to one year at one of 107 colleges and universities in the United States and its territories.



For more information or to receive an application contact the Office of New Student Programs at 456-8083 or stop by Craig Lee 060.

Application deadline is March 1, 1992



# On the job with...

What are "Ways to get from here to there?"

That's just one of the hundreds of questions asked in the youth boardgame of "Scattagories."

What the players do is throw a large die that eventually lands on one letter of the alphabet. Each player must then listen to a tick-tock sound for one minute while answering 12 generic questions using the letter that turned up on the die as the first letter of their answerword or phrase.

Sounds like a rational game, you'd agree. One that could be relatively easy to play if you have your "thinking cap" on and don't mind a little tick-tocking pressure.

Now, imagine if you were a student or potential student at Rhode Island College and every time you rolled your own individual die to move you from freshmen status to graduation, the only letter that appeared to get you "from here to there" was the "R" letter and it stood only for Records Office.

Better yet, imagine if you were a working member of that "R" group at the College and your main concern was to make sure that all those 10,000 students rolling die eventually got "from (their personal) here to there."

There would be a lot of ways for each of them to get from here to there because each student has resources provided by the College that allows them to travel down many, many paths.

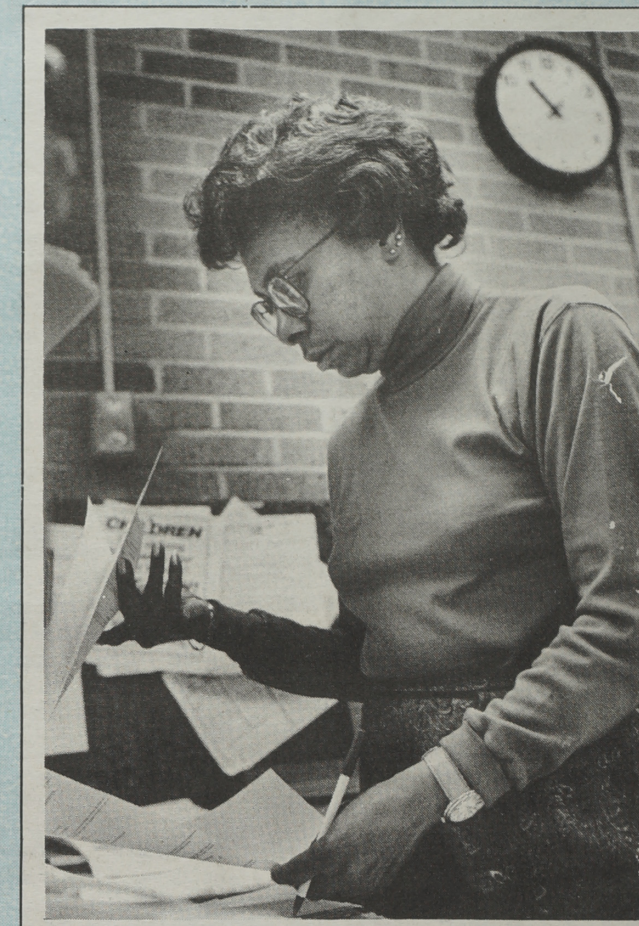
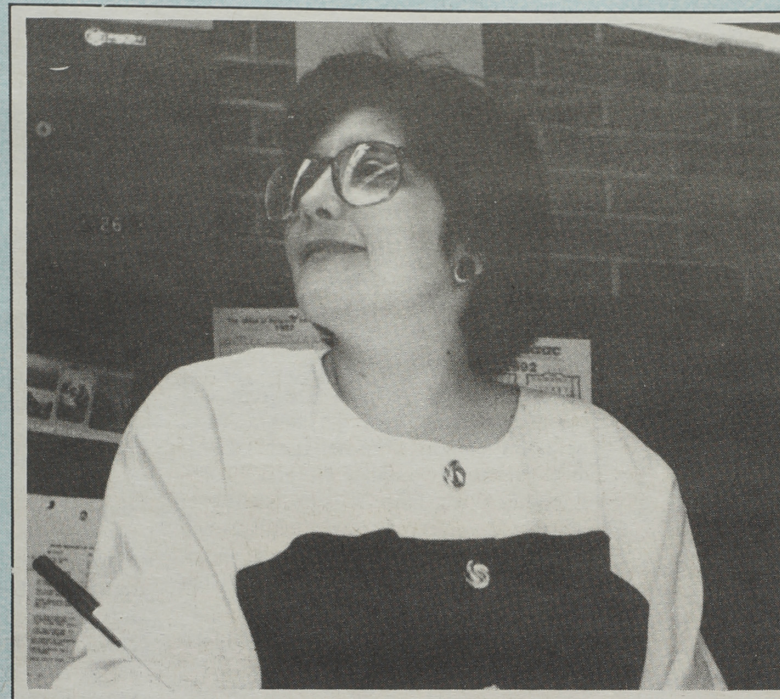
The "R" group tries to keep them all on the right path within the boundary the student has chosen to get from "here to there."

Regularly their workday begins at 7 a.m. and ends after the rest of the College has retired for the day. And the staff of the Records Office has other responsibilities like making sure students are enrolled in classes they believe they're enrolled in or searching through endless reams of computer transcripts to confirm dates of graduation, answering hundreds of questions by phone and in person, and trying to ask the right question of a person who wants to understand the process, but is so unfamiliar with the set-up, that "Patience" must become your first, middle and last name.

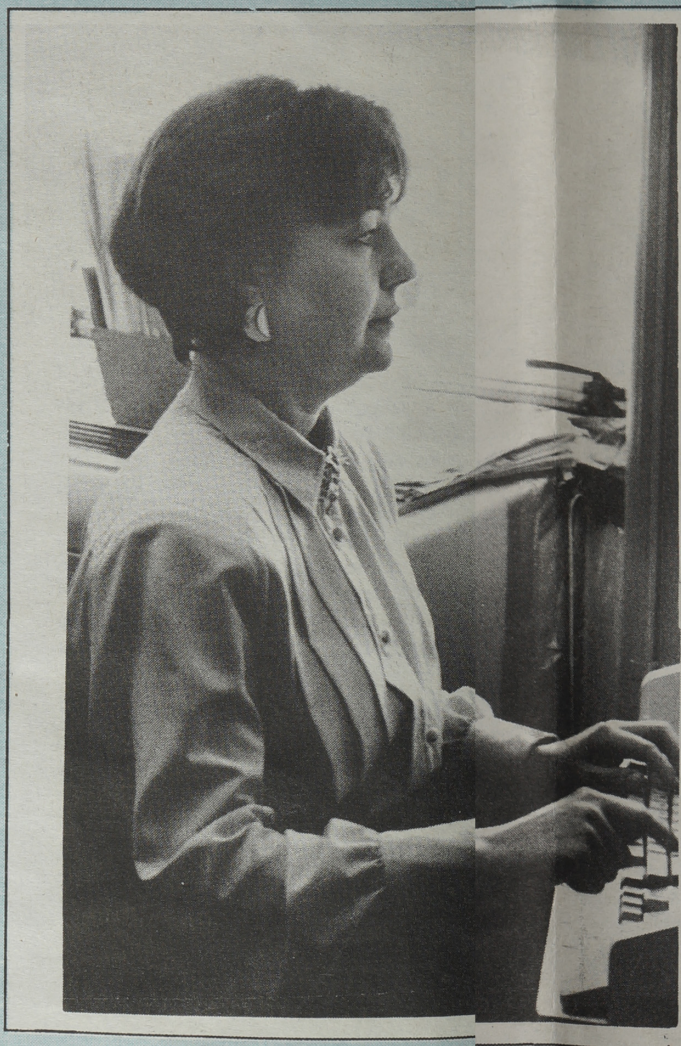
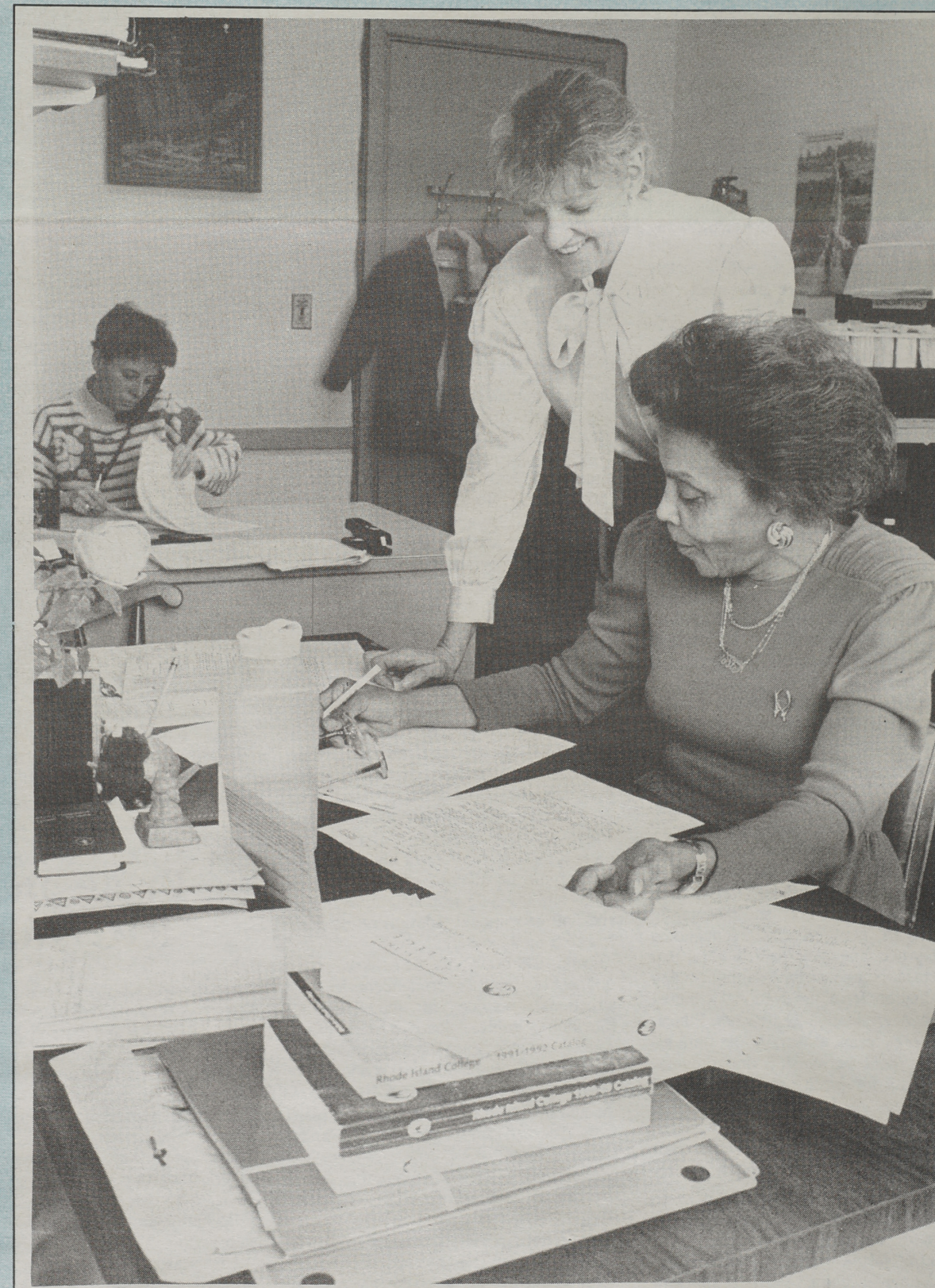
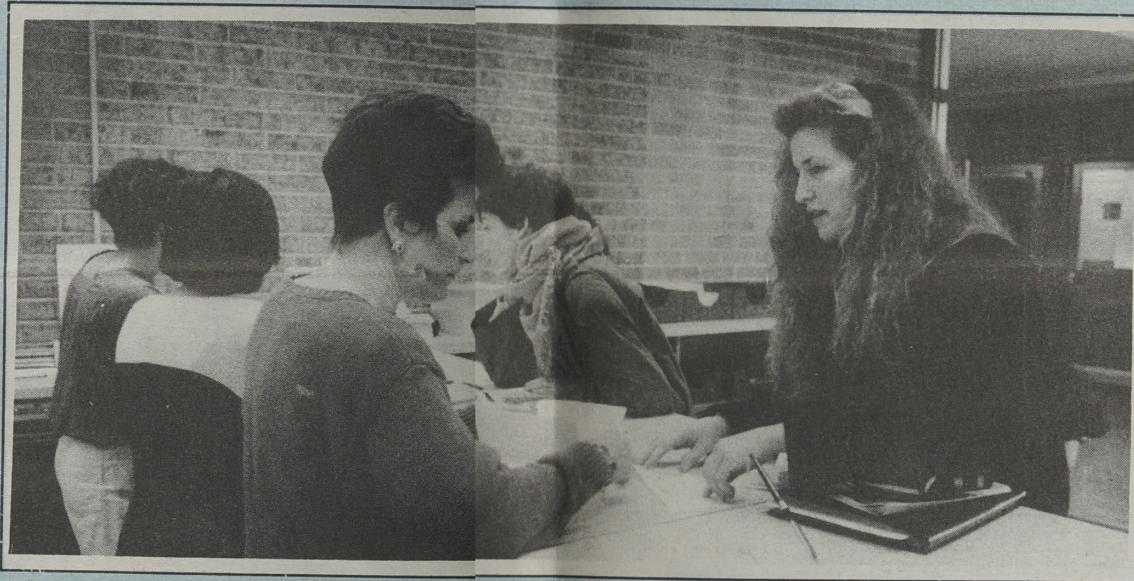
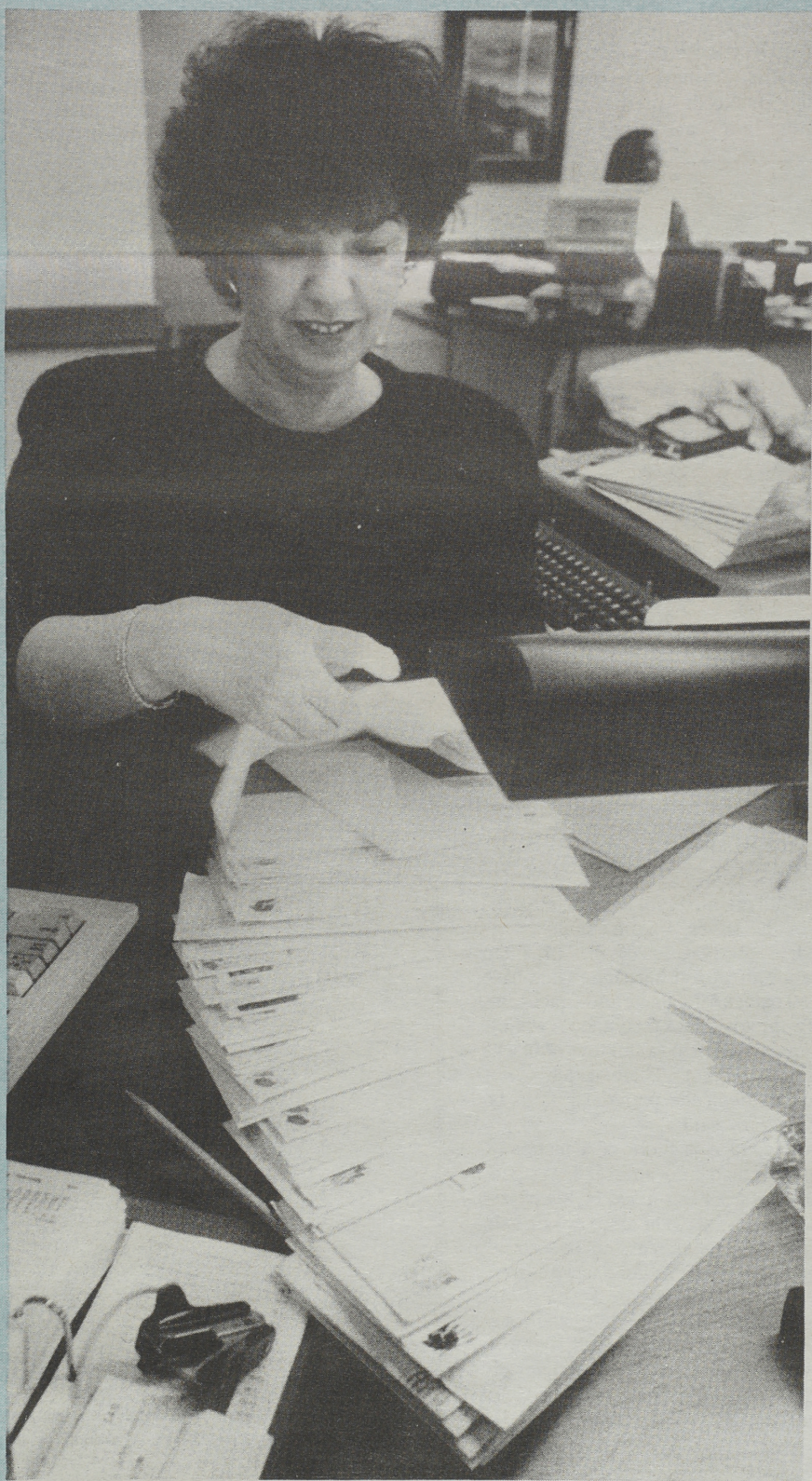
There is certainly more to this "R" game than the ticking of a clock's pressure or a simple roll of the die for the ladies and gentlemen of the Records Office to get a person from "here to there." It's a very serious and important job. And that "R" group of men and women always have their "thinking caps" on.

*Photos by  
Gordon E. Rowley*

*Text by  
Clare Eckert*



Clockwise from right: Anne Quinn; Ava Gist; Terry Riley-Wilcox, Jan Kleeman (standing) and Vy Little; Cecelia Iannazzi; Cynthia Boudreau (at the counter); and Cecilia Pinto, opening the mail.





## Lectures and symposium extend dimension of curriculum at RIC

by Clare Eckert

What is education, if not an interdisciplinary intellectual exchange and sharing of ideas that discuss human relationships to self and others; to natural and physical law; to power and desire; to chaos or organization?

And if it is all those things, then shouldn't education be on-going, endless, and available to all who seek knowledge and enlightenment?

The Rhode Island College Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, Richard R. Weiner, and Spencer Hall, director of the Honors Program, believe this to be so and have begun organizing events to offer an extended dimension of curriculum to the College community and the public.

The two combined resources and talents have designed a spring colloquium for the campus and public entitled "The Eclipse of the Enlightenment?" The focus will be on the relationship between human beings and nature, and a look at the conflict between power and reason, from both historical and contemporary standpoint.

This is the second event in a continuing series of symposia that is aimed at educational reflection and speculation and is "intended to stimulate discussion and intellectual debate for faculty and students," according to Weiner. The first event, held last fall, was "The Worth of the Human Being."

Hall said the topic of the Enlightenment was chosen "because one of the major topics discussed by students enrolled in the Honors Program core courses of English 102 and History 111 is (the historical significance of) the Enlightenment. The issue being of the possibility of the strength of human reason and a society that believes that nature and society can be governed by laws."

### DEAN — (continued from page 1)

The challenge of stepping into the new deanship, he calls, "an opportunity to plan and develop a teacher preparation program that is going to look toward the 21st Century."

"We need to prepare teachers who are going to be teaching in a very different environment," he said, citing the three areas of "renewal" at RIC he will target: "Cultural diversity; utilizing new technologies, and fundamental organizational changes" in the structure of the American school system.

"Economic competitiveness is sending us" into rethinking how young people are taught and how teachers are being prepared to teach, he said.

Nelson, who is currently Dean of the College of Education at Saginaw Valley State University, is "deeply committed" and will be "very involved" in the "linkage between K-12" public schools in Rhode Island and the faculty of RIC.

"There must be a deep and meaningful relationship between K-12 educational systems planning," he said, adding that aside from being instrumental in bringing accreditation from the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education to his present university, he "put together a K-12 partnership that provides opportunity for faculty and students and offers professional development."

Indeed aware of the budget problems in Rhode Island, Nelson said he will present the RIC faculty with a "climate for renewal" and seek "outside resources to support the faculty in research, scholarship and teaching."

In 1976 Nelson was the recipient of the Presidential Teaching Award from Ohio Northern University. Three years later,

Opening the series of lectures and panel discussion, scheduled for Wednesday, Feb. 26 at 12:30 p.m. in the Honors Lounge in Graig Lee will be James Miller, rock critic for *Newsweek* magazine, a member of the Harvard Center for European Studies and author of numerous books on intellectual history and political theory.

Miller's topic will be "Michel Foucault: Power and Reason." His talk derives from his controversial new biography of the provocative post-modernist philosopher of desire who died of AIDS in the middle 1980s. A panel of commentators will join him after the presentation.

On Friday, Feb. 28 from 2 to 3:30 p.m. in the History Lounge, a discussion on "19th Century Responses to the Enlightenment" will take place. Hall, along with several RIC professors will participate.

Andrew Budwaller of Yale will speak on "The Hegelian Reaction to the Enlightenment," Friday, March 6. Mary Bellhouse of Providence College will visit the campus in late March to speak on "Jean Jacques Rousseau and Women's Issues" with particular regard to Rousseau's transitional role on reflecting on intended and unintended consequences of the commitment to the idea of progress. Other topics scheduled for March and April are "Pop Cultures Response to the Enlightenment" and "Romanticist Responses to the Enlightenment."

Hall said enrollment has steadily increased in the Honors Program, which currently has about 260 students.

"The Program is becoming well-known throughout the state," he said, adding that high school guidance counselors, parents, and graduates are encouraging potential RIC students to enroll.

he was awarded the Distinguished Teaching Award from Lamar University in Beaumont, Texas.

A distinguished author, scholar, and grantsman, Nelson received his Ph.D. in 1974 from Northwestern University, Evanston, Ill. in curriculum and instruction - reading and language. His master's degree in history and English was awarded to him in 1970 from DePaul University in Chicago. He received his M.Ed. in secondary education in 1967 from Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, Ill. and his bachelor's in secondary education from the same.

Prior to his current position, which he has held for the past five years, Nelson worked for the Kansas Board of Regents and was responsible for directing and supervising the cooperative doctoral program in education among Pittsburgh State University, the University of Kansas, and other Kansas institutions of higher education. There he attained graduate faculty status and teaching responsibilities in the area of educational administration and research methodology.

From 1979 until 1982, he held the position as assistant superintendent for instructional service in the Houston (Sheldon) Public Schools in Texas. Among his accomplishments included the coordination of the magnet school program with the Houston school district and the administration of a desegregation plan with 15 urban school districts in Harris County, Texas.

According to Nelson, who is very positive about moving to New England, "Rhode Island is poised in one of the most envious positions because you can actually get all the major educational decision-makers in the same place in a day's time."

## Family Matters

by Cynthia DeMaio  
Student Writer

"I told my husband he is on his own this weekend, I'll be locked up in the library," says one "Slightly Older Student" the week of final exams.

What is college life like for the returning adult who must balance academic demands with those of family life?

Twenty-seven percent of the Rhode Island College population is age 25 or older, notes Richard W. Prull, acting director of Institutional Research and Planning at RIC. This compares to 19% of the student population in the Fall of 1981.

Prull suspects that this increase is due to two special factors: women returning to the work force and people looking for a second career. He says that the percentages are probably typical of those found at other comprehensive, urban four year colleges such as RIC.

One of these students, Lee Tomas of North Attleboro, says she gets a lot of help and support from her husband, Al, and daughters, Sheila, 21, and Sherry Lee, 18. "We have a very egalitarian household. Everyone does his/her own laundry and when someone needs something at the grocery store, they ask what everyone else needs before they go."

Housework is only part of the support Lee gets from her family.

"When you're 17 you have no fear (of school work). But when you get to be 35, it's a different story," Lee says. Her biggest academic challenge has been writing papers.

She felt terrified when faced with her first term paper until her daughter, Sheila, sat down with her and helped her organize her thoughts on paper.

"I had a difficult time writing because I felt my thoughts didn't count for much.

But as I do more papers, I'm encouraged when I see little words of praise from the teachers," Lee says.

In addition to her full-time school schedule, Lee coaches varsity and junior varsity girl's volleyball in North Attleboro. She is a sociology major and is considering a master's degree in social work.

Bob Silvestri of Providence concurs that both emotional and financial support from his family was important when he decided to return to school. After graduating from Mount Pleasant High School in 1965, Bob worked as a machinist at Quonset Point for seven years. When the base closed, he was a tool maker for twelve years.

"At that point, I decided to do something different. My wife had a good job and benefits so I could go back to school," Bob says. He is majoring in secondary education with a specialty in machine shop.

Emotional support for schooling has worked both ways in the Silvestri family. "I found the hardest part of returning to school is you have to do a lot of reading. In the old days I had a good mind, I could

remember things. However, the first couple of semesters back to school were devastating," says Bob.

"At first I was doubtful of what I could do. But what perked me up was that my daughter, Julie, was proud of me starting school again. Her grades perked up, and that perked me back up. It got me rolling. We both felt, 'if you can do it, I can do it.'" Bob adds that Julie is now on the honor roll at Classical High School.

Financial support from the family has also been important to Bob. "No wife, no school," he says. His wife, Pat, is a supervisor at the telephone company. Her job provides the family with health benefits, Bob notes.

As far as his new profession, as a teacher, Bob says "my goal is to help a kid be able to put money in his pocket. I want to put him in the real world to earn a living. I will teach him the 'Great Basics,' the rest will fall in place. If the student is more advanced, he can get an apprenticeship. If he isn't as smart, he can still be an operator and make a good living."

John Dudley of Jamestown is also interested in being a teacher, and is majoring in general science with a concentration in secondary education. A stock and commodities broker for 20 years, John says "I was totally washed out of the business. My wife knew I was burning out. One day I asked her: What are my talents? What else could I do with my life?"

"A couple of days later she called me into the living room. There was a special on the Today Show about the shortage of science and math teachers. She suggested I get into teaching," John says.

John biggest frustration as a full-time student is not making money (his wife is supporting the family). "I have worked since I was 10, and I feel tremendous pressure because I am not working and not making money. We are living way below our normal standard of living. I'm as poor as any of the kids going to school here," John says.

John says his family supported his decision to return to school. His son's only concern was to be able to continue his own education in Texas (he is) and John says his teenage daughter supports her father's decision to return to school, although she doesn't always understand the family's money pressures.

John anticipates that the job satisfaction he'll get from teaching will "far outweigh the 1½ years of frustration it takes to get a teaching certificate."

His goal in teaching is to help kids gain respect for learning and science.

"I think that people today take the easy way out. I see kids and school systems floundering. I hope to help kids learn to control themselves enough, no matter what the subject is, so they will become successful persons."

## Brule and Fisher to captain RIC Women's Gymnastics

Head women's gymnastics coach Gail Davis has announced that seniors Melissa Brule of Warren and Lois Fisher of Harrisville have been selected to captain the women's gymnastic team for the 1991-92 season.

In high school, Brule competed on the Warren High gymnastics and volleyball teams and was on the football cheerleading squad. She earned All-Division honors in gymnastics while her volleyball team won the state championship.

Last season Brule's talents were used primarily on the vault where she averaged a 7.66 score in six performances.

She is a double major candidate, studying communications and political science.

Before joining the Anchorwomen program for the 1989-90 campaign, Fisher had been out of gymnastics nearly six years. Davis says Fisher's hard work and dedication have helped her achieve the skills needed to compete on the collegiate level. She will see most of her action this season as a vaulting and uneven bars specialist but can compete in every event if needed.

Fisher is seeking an elementary education degree in psychology.



# RIC alums have theatre in their blood!

by George LaTour

One is a supervisor in the state Department for Children, Youth and Families; one is employed at the Providence Center for Counseling and Psychiatric Services; another teaches in the Cranston Enrichment Program; a fourth is about to re-enter the teaching profession after having been a New York City annuities broker, and the fifth is a college vice president.

They have at least two things in common these days.

They are all graduates of Rhode Island College and they all have theatre in their blood.

On Feb. 14-16 they and the Academy Players of East Greenwich, of which they are members, will perform A. R. Gurney's *The Dining Room* in the Swift Civic Center in East Greenwich. By then, they already will have performed the play — a series of vignettes centered around a dining room table over the years — Feb. 7-9.

While they are members of a group of actors, stage hands, producers and directors who are unpaid, *The Dining Room* is no amateur production!

The six performers play multiple roles in this fast-paced theatre-in-the-round picnic which is at times comic, at times poignant and always entertaining.



RIC ALUMS IN 'THE DINING ROOM' (from left) are Ralph Mastrangelo, Sandy Boyer and John Cicero. This is one scene in a series of vignettes centering around a dining room through the years as portrayed by The Academy Players. (What's News Photo by Gordon E. Rowley)

**Alumni in  
The Academy Players'  
production of  
'The Dining Room'—  
John Cicero, '68  
Colleen Barry, '87  
Sandy Boyer, '72  
Ralph Mastrangelo, '73  
Tom Pezzullo, '64**

## And the alums are...

The RIC alumni are John Cicero of Warwick, Class of '68, who was a history major and president of the College Debating Society (now with the DCYF); Colleen A. Barry of Providence (formerly of West Warwick), Class of '87, who was a major in psychology (now with the Providence Center for Counseling and Psychiatric Services).

Also, Sandy Boyer of Greenville, Class of '72 with a master's in '77, who studied elementary education and theatre (now teaching in the Cranston Enrichment Program); Ralph Mastrangelo of Cranston, Class of '73, who concentrated his studies in math and secondary education (now getting back into teaching after selling annuities in New York City).

And, lastly (the cast director always is last to take a bow), Thomas R. Pezzullo, Class of '64, who studied math and science (now vice president for development and college relations at RIC).

## The Academy Players

The Academy Players itself has been in existence for some 36 years as a community-based, non-profit organization. It regularly produces three shows a year, usually two musicals and one play.

Rehearsals run eight-to-ten weeks, depending on the production, with cast members meeting three nights a week for three hours each night.

That seems rather like a demanding schedule for people who have full-time family and job responsibilities. How, you might ask, do they get away with it?

"My wife encourages it," assures Cicero. "It's either that or I pay \$150 for a psychiatrist," he says beaming from ear to ear at the joke. In other words, its therapeutic.

"Every now and then when I haven't been rehearsing or performing for awhile my wife'll say, 'I think its time for you to do a show'." That being said, Cicero chortles a bit while the reporter, who has gone to the post twice in marriage without success, laughed in appreciation...and then made a mental note: Next time, take up acting!

A newcomer to the Academy Players, Mastrangelo held the murder weapon in the Top Hat production of *All Hands on Death* and performed in *Butterflies are Free* with the Barrington Players. He also performed at RIC in *Cabaret*, *Invitation to a March*, *The White House Murder Case* and *The Trial*.

Boyer "did a little theatre at RIC" — a reader's version of *The Crucible* in 1969 — and has been acting in one production or another ever since. "The (acting) bug is pretty much there," she admits.

Other cast members in The Academy Players' *The Dining Room* are Ninette Mordaunt of West Warwick, who has performed on stages from London to New Mexico; Marius Pundys, who has performed with the Providence College Blackfriars Theatre and for several years with other college and professional theatre groups throughout the state, and Terry Vigeant of Middletown, who has performed in several productions and is currently working with Heritage Cable on a movie to be aired next summer. Roberta Houston Anderson, who has been with the Players since 1977, is producer.

Rehearsing the other night amidst a hum of both on-stage and off-stage activity, the Players were obviously engrossed in the undertaking.

With a minimum of directing seemingly needed (director Pezzullo sat with notebook in lap in the first row and watched attentively), the actors progressed from one scene to another, many overlapping, so one was ending at one end of the dining room table while another began at the other.

In one particularly amusing and extremely well done scene, Cicero, playing a boy of about 6 or 8 years of age, sat at the dining room table with several other actors and actresses portraying children at a party.

Wearing a cardboard party hat, as were the others, and holding one of those curled-up paper noise-makers that you blow to straighten out and make a noise at the same time, he presented an image that was a cross between an ever-mischievous Benny Hill and Red Skelton's "Mean Widdle Kid."

While an "adult" was addressing the children whose attention he generally had, Cicero turned stealthily and blew the party device into the "little girl's" ear beside him, causing surprise and agitation on her part.

Just delighted at what he had done and the response it got, Cicero hugged himself and fairly shook with glee. It was perfect!

If you're interested in seeing these RIC alums in action, you may call 885-6910 for tickets, which are \$10 each. The Friday and Saturday evening performances begin at 8; that on Sunday evening, at 5.

**While they are members of a group of actors, stage hands, producers and directors who are unpaid, 'The Dining Room' is no amateur production!**

Does your family come to see you perform? Cicero was asked.

"Are you kidding? I've got a crew of about 40 coming to see this one!"

That should pose no problem for The Academy Players and the Swift Civic Center. They can accommodate about 200 theatre-goers a performance, and often do.

Others in the cast (with RIC affiliations) seem to affirm that this hobby of theirs IS therapeutic.

Colleen Barry, who serves as stage manager for this production, probably says it for all: "I love it. It's a tension release for me." And, she adds, "I have more energy when performing."

## Each a theatre background

While each has come to the Academy players at different times, all have rather extensive experience in amateur theatricals.

Barry had performed in four of the RIC Cabarets while an undergraduate. Since, she has performed with the Warwick Players in *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Gypsy* and *The Sound of Music*. For the Academy Players, she was Rosamund in *The Robber Bridegroom*.



## RIC Theatre presents 'The Skin of Our Teeth' — Wilder's whacky look at humankind's long struggle for survival

by George LaTour

The Pulitzer Prize-winning play that turns handsprings through history and celebrates man's persistence in holding on "by the skin of his teeth" against every crisis and catastrophe will be staged by Rhode Island College Theatre Feb. 20-23 in Roberts Hall auditorium.

Written by Thornton Wilder and directed locally by Theatre Prof. P. William Hutchinson of Esmond, the show will run Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings at 8 o'clock and a Sunday matinee at 2. General admission tickets are \$7 with discounts for senior citizens and students.

*The Skin of Our Teeth*, first presented in New York in 1942, is a satiric survey of the history of mankind, starting with the Ice Age and coming down to the last temporarily completed war.

George and Margaret Antrobus of Excelsior, N.J., represent the heads of an average American family who find themselves "at grips with a destiny sometimes sour, sometimes sweet."

Through a thousand reincarnations they suffer the slow progress, and glory on the few triumphs the race has been able to consummate.

Through the Ice Age, the Flood, world wars and the celebration of their 4,000th wedding anniversary, "They are always a little comic in their ignorance, and a little pathetic in their determination to survive, even as you and I," says *New York Daily News* theatre critic Burns Mantle.

### History's eternal scoffer

Lisa L. Coppinger (Sabina), a senior from Saunterstown, will be seen in the combined role of the housemaid, bathing beauty (a perpetually tempting troublemaker) and kidding commentator who represents history's eternal scoffer, the part originated by Tullulah Bankhead. Eric C. Tucker, a freshman from Virginia, and Tracy A. Gearing, a senior from Cranston, will have the roles ori-



PERPETUALLY TEMPTING as Sabina in Thornton Wilder's *The Skin of Our Teeth* being staged by RIC Theatre Feb. 20-23 in Roberts Hall auditorium is Lisa Coppinger. With her (at left) is Terry Shea as The Announcer and Eric Tucker as George Antrobus. (What's News Photo by Gordon E. Rowley)

ginated by Frederic March and Florence Eldridge, portraying the man and wife who withstand all the catastrophes of the ages.

John T. Collins of Westerly will be seen as the wayward son (Henry) and Michelle Morelli of Narragansett as their flighty daughter (Gladys).

Jennifer N. Rhoads of Portsmouth will play the fortune teller; Joseph L. Dulude II of Pawtucket will play Fitzpatrick, and Terrence B. Shea of Providence, the announcer.

A look at the first act — to give the reader a sampling of the daffy scrambling of time and places — shows George Antrobus coming back one evening to his home from his office where he has had a busy day. He has invented the wheel and devised the alphabet.

This progress, however, is threatened by the approach of glaciers that have already reached as far south as Hartford.

Faced with milleniums of the Ice Age, Antrobus and his family doggedly gather fuel and stoke the fires. They put out their household pets, a dinosaur and a mammoth, to become extinct in the great freeze, but they are determined that they themselves will survive — despite the scathing disparagements of their housemaid of little faith.

### Won three Pulitzers

Wilder's *The Bridge of San Luis Rey* in 1927, his second novel, won him recognition as a major figure in American literature. It became a huge best-seller and won him his first Pulitzer Prize.

He later won two more Pulitzers for his plays *Our Town* in 1938 and *The Skin of Our Teeth*, which was awarded in 1943. His *The Matchmaker* in 1955 (a re-write of his earlier *The Merchant of Yonkers*) was to become *Hello Dolly* in 1964. It ran on Broadway for nearly seven years, surpassing the previous record-holder *My Fair Lady*.

For further information, call 456-8060.

## Right out of the '40s —

### 'Be-Bop' by the Greg Abate Jazz Quartet here Feb. 12



GREG ABATE

Be-Bop jazz saxophonist Greg Abate and his jazz quartet will open the Rhode Island College Chamber Music Series for the second semester on Wednesday, Feb. 12, at 1 p.m. in Roberts Hall 138 (recital chamber) with his own "Sax O'Blues."

The Rhode Island native, who has performed as a member of both the Ray Charles and Artie Shaw orchestras (the latter under the direction of Dick Johnson), will lead quartet members Tim Ray on piano, Charlie LaChapelle on bass, and Artie Cabral on drums.

Other selections will include Cole Porter's "What Is This Thing Called Love," Harry Link's "These Foolish Things," and more of Abate's own works such as "The Young 'uns" and "Bop City."

The recital is free and open to the public.

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

Upon his return to New England in 1985, he spent two years in the first tenor chair for the Artie Shaw Orchestra. Since then, Abate has led his own quartet performing in clubs and concerts all over the Northeast and Canada, appearing as a featured artist in numerous festivals such as the Canadian Jazz Festival, George Wein's Saratoga Jazz Festival and the JVC Jazz Festival in Newport.

Abate has performed with Tony Bennett, Vic Damone, Mel Torme and Rosemary Clooney, among many other vocal artists.

He records for Candid records. His most recent compact disc is "Bop City Live at Birdland" recorded at the Birdland Jazz Club in New York.

For more information, call John Pellegrino at 456-8244.

## Rec Center

The Rhode Island College Recreation Center provides a number of structured programs in addition to self-directed, drop-in opportunities for recreational sport and leisure activity.

Facilities include a 5-lane, 25-yard, "L" shaped, indoor heated swimming pool; a 4-lane, one-tenth mile indoor track; three multiple playing courts for basketball, volleyball and tennis; a 15-station Eagle-cyber Fitness System for exercise and weight training; 4 Airdyne Exercycles; 2 Concept II Rowing Machines; and separate men's and women's locker rooms.

Spring 1992 programs and activities include aerobic exercise (land and water), weight management, yoga instruction, jogging and walking programs, tennis and swim instruction and more. A number of special events, including a one-day ski trip, are also planned.

Intramural sports include Quik Pitch Whiffleball, Co-Ed Volleyball and Clincherball, 3-on-3 Power Volleyball and 5-on-5 Basketball.

RIC students, faculty and staff, alumni, senior citizens and members of the community may use the facilities. Fees vary according to category of membership.

Building hours are Monday through Thursday from 8 a.m. to 9:30 p.m., Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:40 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday from noon to 5 p.m. The field house closes one-half hour before the building is scheduled to close.

Contact the Recreation Center at 456-8400 for information and membership fees.



*RIC Performing Arts Series presents —*

## San Francisco Mime Troupe's 'I Ain't Yo' Uncle'

"Mime" is most often interpreted as meaning "without words." The definition is actually "the art of characterization." Above all, the San Francisco Mime Troupe is vocal!

The 12 very vocal actors, almost all playing multiple roles under the direction of Dan Chumley, will bring their highly touted "I Ain't Yo' Uncle" to Rhode Island College's Roberts Hall auditorium Wednesday, Feb. 26, for an 8 p.m. performance.

This Performing Arts Series' contribution to the College's observance of African-American History Month offers an African-American perspective to Harriet Beecher Stowe's dramatic but controversial 19th-century anti-slavery novel, *Uncle Tom's Cabin*.

Abraham Lincoln said that *Uncle Tom's Cabin* helped create the Civil War. "I Ain't Yo' Uncle," the provocative deconstruction of Stowe's novel, is based on the belief that the war goes on, says Don Shirley of the *Los Angeles Times*.

Stowe's story is initially acted in a broad style that spoofs the melodramatic genre, interspersed with the characters' direct commentary on what's going on from a modern perspective.

Likewise, the offstage band interrupts its more antique sounds with African drums and raucous rap.

### Chilling moment

The most chilling moment in "I Ain't Yo' Uncle" is when Simon Legree rises from where he's been shot dead.

"Thank you," he tells Harriet Beecher Stowe, "for immortalizing me."

Legree killed? Stowe on stage?

*Uncle Tom's Cabin* is much changed by the adaptor, playwright Robert Alexander.

"The story has been rewritten, adapted, deconstructed and bent every which way in an effort to reconcile history, art and Stowe's good intentions instead of just dismissing this significant legacy from a shameful past," writes Welton Jones in the *San Diego Union*.

"The result is a show at once rousing and thoughtful, crude and sly, cheap of shot but pure of heart and extravagantly rich in theatricality."

Harriet Beecher Stowe is present because the black members of the cast are demanding that the play be rewritten more truthfully. When Uncle Tom first arrives, he does so with an ingratiating flurry of shufflin' and grinnin', not quite ready to revolt, yet prepared to remind Stowe, before the revised play begins, that "I ain't yo' uncle."



THE SAN FRANCISCO MIME TROUPE

*'The result is a show at once rousing and thoughtful, crude and sly, cheap of shot but pure of heart and extravagantly rich in theatricality.'*

Scenes from the original are dropped and others added. Religious motivations shrivel away and formerly unspeakable motives are raked from the dark of innuendo into the glare of reality.

"Yet, oddly enough, the old tale retains a surprising measure of authenticity and even potency," writes Jones.

When the saintly white child, Little Eva, dies begging her father to free his slaves, Uncle Tom first sneers, then debunks and finally acknowledges, "at least she tried."

### S.F. Mime Troupe

Founded in 1959 when R.G. Davis began his R.G. Davis Mime Studio and Troupe, it used classical silent mime in combination with poetry, lectures and movies, along with what would today be called performance art "to teach, direct toward change and be an example of change."

When the decision was made to move to the open air of the city parks, the now re-named San Francisco Mime Troupe performed Commedia dell'Arte, traditional 16th century Italian street theater, with words and music.

The shows were free and the company brought its rousing political comedy to the people in the Bay area from 1961 on.

The year 1965 brought national attention to the Troupe when it performed "Candelaio" and "A Minstrel Show or Civil Rights in a Cracker Barrel," which was outspoken and controversial. "Candelaio" was judged obscene by the San Francisco Park Commission and refused a permit to play.

The Troupe took its show into the park, anyway. The police arrived in mid-performance and arrested Davis. The Troupe won in court after a benefit was arranged to help pay legal fees. Performing in the benefit were the city's newest rock 'n roll bands, Jefferson Airplane, The Grateful Dead, Quicksilver and others.

Later that year the Troupe began touring with "Minstrel Show" and "L'Amant Militaire," a biting satire on the Vietnam War. The Troupe's Gorilla Band was born and led student anti-war demonstrations. Two years later the tour ended in New York where the Troupe won an Obie for "...uniting theater and revolution and grooving in the parks."

Today, the San Francisco Mime Troupe is much more mainstream and has, in fact, won a Tony Award in 1987 as "oustanding regional theater" and receives funding from the National Endowment for the Arts.

It tours internationally now and continues to present original work based upon the immediate issues of our time.

### Ticket information

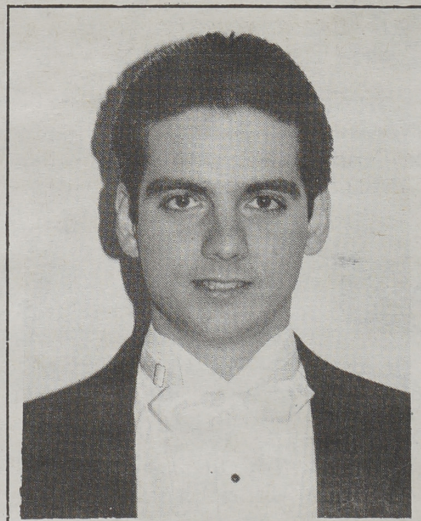
Reserved seat tickets are \$15 with discounts for senior citizens and students, RIC faculty and staff. Roberts box office opens Monday, Feb. 17. For more information, call 456-8194.

## RIC alum is named conductor of symphony in Ohio

John M. DiCostanzo, a 1984 graduate of Rhode Island College with a music degree in piano, has recently been named fulltime conductor-musical director of the Perrysburg Symphony Orchestra in Ohio.

A news account in the local press — Perrysburg is a suburb of Toledo — reported that DiCostanzo's selection was made by the orchestra's executive board and membership after what the newspaper termed DiCostanzo's "superb guest conducting" during last spring's nine-concert season.

At RIC, DiCostanzo won a Special Talent Award. Upon graduation, he received a teaching assistantship at the University of Michigan where he was a student of Martin Katz, Eckhart Sellheim and Katherine Collier. He earned his master of music degree in 1988.



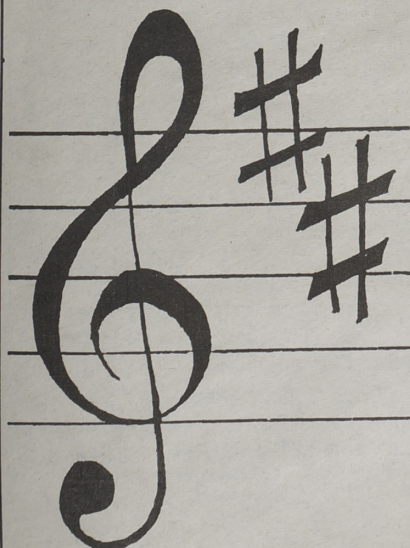
JOHN DiCOSTANZO

A son of Mario and Lee DiCostanzo of Johnston, his father reports that John moved to the Toledo area after obtaining his master's degree and there obtained experience in opera, operetta and musical theatre work. He is currently the assistant conductor/principal pianist of the Toledo Opera.

And, last June, he made his debut with the Findlay (Ohio) Light Opera Company, conducting performances of "Die Fleidermaus" by Johann Strauss.

In addition, DiCostanzo coaches a choral group and teaches music.

"We're all very proud of him and his accomplishments," says his aunt, Marie J. Cardillo of North Providence.





Feb. 10—Feb. 24

# RIC CALENDAR

*African-American History Exhibit.* Throughout the month of February exhibit to be presented in Adams Library. Free.

10

Monday, Feb. 10

12 to 1 p.m.—*Alcoholics Anonymous* to meet in SU 305.

11

Tuesday, Feb. 11

1 p.m.—*Grief Group* to meet in the Chaplains' Office, SU 300. Support group for those mourning the loss of a family member or a friend.

8 p.m.—Play: *The Meeting*. Fictionalized meeting between Malcolm X and M.L. King, Jr. to be held in Gaige Auditorium. For ticket information, call 456-8085.

12

Wednesday, Feb. 12

10 a.m.—Play: *Escape to Freedom*. Presented by Henry Barnard School 5th graders in the SU Ballroom. Free.

1 p.m.—*Chamber Music Series*. Greg Abate, Saxophonist, to perform with Jazz Quartet in Roberts Recital Hall. Free.

1 p.m.—*Slide Lecture*. Documentation and computerization of the Cape Verdeans and the Cape Verdean Diaspora by Ron Barboza, Director OCCV Project, New Bedford, MA to be held in Bannister Gallery. Free.

2 p.m.—*Panel Discussion* on "Columbus and the African Diaspora." Faculty Center. Free.

7 p.m.—Video: *Mo' Better Blues* to be presented in the SU Video Den. Free.

9 p.m.—*House Party*. The RIC Student Film Society presents this film in Horace Mann 193. Admission \$2 or \$1 with RIC ID.

13

Thursday, Feb. 13

10 a.m.—Video: *Mo' Better Blues* to be presented in SU Video Den. Free.

10 a.m.—Play: *Escape to Freedom* presented by Henry Barnard School 5th graders in SU Ballroom. Free.

17

Monday, Feb. 17

10 a.m. to 2 p.m.—*Ethnic Bazaar* featuring arts and crafts, family health information and Sickle Cell screening to be held in SU Ballroom. Free.

12 to 1 p.m.—*Alcoholics Anonymous* to meet in SU 305.

7:30 p.m.—*Gospel Concert* featuring the Rhode Island College Praise Ensemble and special guests to be presented in Gaige Auditorium. Free.

18

Tuesday, Feb. 18

1 p.m.—*Grief Group* to meet in the Chaplains' Office, SU 300. Support group for those mourning the loss of a family member or friend.

7 p.m.—Film and Lecture: *Stayed on Freedom: District Union 1199 and the Hospital Strike in Charleston and I Am Somebody* to be held in Gaige 309. Free.

19

Wednesday, Feb. 19

1 p.m.—Max Belcher, author of *A Land and Life Remembered: Americo-Liberian Folk Architecture*, will lecture in Bannister Gallery. Free.

7 p.m.—Video: *Jungle Fever* to be presented in SU Video Den. Free.

9 p.m.—*Glory*. The RIC Student Film Society presents the film in Horace Mann 193. Admission \$2 or \$1 with RIC ID.

20

Thursday, Feb. 20

10 a.m.—Video: *Jungle Fever* to be presented in SU Video Den. Free.

Noon—*Lecture*. Patricia McCarthy, CND, will lecture about "Dr. M.L. King, Prophet of Christian Non-Violence" in SU 305. Free.

7 p.m.—*Panel Discussion*: "Race in the Age of Political Cynicism: The 1992 Election" with James Jennings, Professor, U-Mass, Boston; Frank Graham, Editor and Publisher, Providence American, George Lima, Director, Black Caucus of RI; Joseph Newsome, State Representative, District 18, Providence, to be held in SU Ballroom. Free.

Thursday, Feb. 20—Sunday, Feb. 23 Play. Rhode Island College Theatre to present *The Skin of Our Teeth* in Roberts Auditorium, 8 p.m. Thursday through Saturday, and 2 p.m. Sunday. General admission \$7; seniors and non-RIC students \$6, RIC students \$3. For further information, contact Roberts Box Office, 456-8144.

21

Friday, Feb. 21—Sunday, Feb. 23

*Retreat for Catholic Students*. For further information, see Sr. Mary Ann Rossi in SU 300 or call 456-8168.

24

Monday, Feb. 24

12 to 1 p.m.—*Alcoholics Anonymous* to meet in SU 305.

7 p.m.—"*History Pursuit*" Contest. Win prizes in this Trivial Pursuit-styled game focusing on African-American historical facts. Participants may pre-register by calling 456-8061. Free.

## Sports Events

Monday, Feb. 10

7 p.m.—*Men's Basketball*. Rhode Island College vs. Eastern Nazarene College. Home event to take place at Providence College (Alumni Hall).

Tuesday, Feb. 11

6 p.m.—*Women's Basketball*. Rhode Island College vs. Wheaton College. Away.

7:30 p.m.—*Wrestling*. Rhode Island College vs. U.S. Coast Guard Academy. Home event but site to be determined. For further information, call the Athletic Department, 456-8007.

Thursday, Feb. 13

6 p.m.—*Women's Basketball*. Rhode Island College vs. Eastern Connecticut State University. Away.

8 p.m.—*Men's Basketball*. Rhode Island College vs. Eastern Connecticut State University. Away.

Friday, Feb. 14

7 p.m.—*Gymnastics*. Rhode Island College vs. Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Home event to take place at RI Gymnastics Village: 411 Narragansett Park Drive, East Providence, RI.

Saturday, Feb. 15

2 p.m.—*Women's Basketball*. Rhode Island College vs. University of Massachusetts-Boston. Home event to take place at Providence College (Alumni Hall).

4 p.m.—*Men's Basketball*. Rhode Island College vs. University of Massachusetts-Boston. Home event to take place at Providence College (Alumni Hall).

TBA—*Wrestling*. Rhode Island College vs. Trinity College at Bridgewater State. Away.

Tuesday, Feb. 18

6 p.m.—*Women's Basketball*. Rhode Island College vs. University of Southern Maine. Home event to take place at Providence College (Alumni Hall).

8 p.m.—*Men's Basketball*. Rhode Island College vs. University of Southern Maine. Home event to take place at Providence College (Alumni Hall).

Thursday, Feb. 20

7:30 p.m.—*Men's Basketball*. Rhode Island College vs. Nichols College. Away.

Friday, Feb. 21—Sunday, Feb. 23

TBA—*Wrestling*. New England Division III Championships at Roger Williams College.

Saturday, Feb. 22

TBA—*Gymnastics*. ECAC Division III Championships at Ursinus College, Collegetown, PA.

## RIC Performing Arts Series presents — 'I Ain't Yo' Uncle'



SAN FRANCISCO MIME TROUPE in a scene from 'I Ain't Yo' Uncle,' a re-write of the classic 'Uncle Tom's Cabin.' The one-time-only performance will be staged in Roberts Hall auditorium Wednesday, Feb. 26, starting at 8 p.m. Reserved-seat tickets are \$15. See article on page 11.