

# WHAT'S NEWS

## AT RHODE ISLAND COLLEGE

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### The Sylvan R. Forman Center dedication— New 'port of entry' renovation project, rich in history, now ready to serve



**WITH PRIDE** Gov. Bruce Sundlun (left) admires the Sylvan R. Forman Center sign as (left to right) Vice President for Administration and Finance Lenore A. DeLucia, College President John Nazarian and Helen Forman, Class of 1934, whose contribution of \$250,000 finalized the project, look on. (What's News Photo by Gordon E. Rowley)

by Clare Eckert  
What's News Editor

The new "port of entry" to Rhode Island College is the quintessential example of the rich history of the 141-year-old institution of higher learning, and is now the first step for thousands of students to come who will cross its threshold to build futures and satisfy dreams.

What was once a dilapidated structure, left to die a slow death in its own time, is now a showpiece of what possibilities lie ahead for the College, thanks to the vision of RIC President John Nazarian and the generosity of Helen Forman, Class of 1934, who saw fit to donate the largest gift to the College to see to it that RIC appropriately welcomes students of all ages to the world of education.

As an afternoon sun broke through gray skies on Sept. 27, 1994, more than 300 people celebrated the dedication of The Sylvan R. Forman Center on the East Campus, which houses the undergraduate admissions office, the Office of Continuing Education and the School of Graduate Studies. In addition, the 21,096 square-foot building offers classroom and conference space, including a 105-seat

lecture hall.

The renovation project of the building, whose history dates back to about 1870, when it was originally built as a country retreat and later purchased by the state in 1885, creating the State Home and School for Dependent and Neglected Children, has special meaning to all who encountered it during their lifetimes.

For Vice President for Administration and Finance Lenore A. DeLucia, who oversaw the project in

**"...it was a labor of love. I look around it now with a great sense of pride. Maybe it's more than the building itself. It is solid like the mission of the College."**

its entirety for the past 15 months "it was a labor of love. I look around it now with a great sense of pride. Maybe it's more than the building itself. It is solid like the mission of the College."

During the dedication ceremony, which included a ribbon-cutting, reception and tours of the building, DeLucia said, "We would not be here if it were not for President Nazarian's vision to see the potential of this building—what it could become and what it would do for Rhode Island College."

For Jack Vickers, RIC plant engi-

neer, who is responsible for writing the \$2.5 million grant to the U.S. Department of Education securing the project for the College, "it is a beautiful facility. It's an example of making good use of a resource that the state has that had a lot of potential but needed a lot of work. New students coming to the College will see it as that first building they will go into and get a feel for what RIC is in the future based on this building."

For President Nazarian, whose life's work has been dedicated to

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### Cordeiro, Rowell are Thorp Profs in School of Ed

by George LaTour  
What's News Associate Editor

Two Rhode Island College educators in the School of Education and Human Development have been named this year's Thorp Professors for their sustained creative and scholarly contributions.

Prof. Elizabeth H. Rowell of Woodstock Valley, Conn., and Associate Prof. Patricia A. Cordeiro of North Truro, Mass., both of the elementary education department, were cited for maintaining the "highest levels of excellence" by Dean David E. Nelson in ceremonies at the opening faculty meeting of the semester.



E. ROWELL

As Thorp Professors, each will give a lecture, Rowell on April 4 and Cordeiro on April 11 at sites and times to be announced.



P. CORDEIRO

As Thorp Professors, each will receive an engraved plaque and a cash payment of \$750 and have their teaching loads reduced by one course each. The money for the awards comes from the Mary Tucker Thorp Fund in the RIC

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### 4th biennial Alumni Day for econ/mgmt students is Oct. 26

The fourth biennial Alumni Day for economics and management students, conducted by the Rhode Island College Center for Management and Technology, is set for Wednesday, Oct. 26, in Roberts Hall auditorium from 8:45 a.m. to 12:20 p.m.

Students will be able to attend two different panel discussions out of a choice of 10 panels with topics based on business disciplines or academic studies.

A select list of successful business alumni will comprise each panel which will be headed by a faculty moderator.

Panels, as of this date, and their

Continued on page 8

## Alumni Association Book Award winners announced

The names of those high school students who are the recipients of the Rhode Island College Alumni Association 1994 Book Awards were released by the president of the association, Betty Filippelli Gordon, Class of 1968, who also heads the Book Award drive, now in its sixth year.

The recipients, who will all attend RIC, received a deluxe bookset of a dictionary and thesaurus. The program is funded and coordinated by RIC alumni volunteers and friends.

The winners, their high school and Book Award coordinators and supporters follow: Sandra Tenreiro, Bishop Keough High School, supported by Dorothy Young, Class of 1977 and others; Shelley M. Gaumont, Central Falls High School, supported by Bruce Maksoud, Class of 1987 and others; Rilwan Feyisitan, Central High School, supported by Joyce Stevos, Class of 1965 and Ricky Wilson; Sandra R. Labbe, Chariho High School, supported by Syd Cohen, Class of 1940; Vincenzo Iacobucci and Julie Conca, Classical High School, supported by Betty Filippelli Gordon, Class of 1968; Kristen L. Brown, Coventry High School, supported by Joseph E. Fournier, Class of 1968, 1972, 1985 and others; Stephanie Tolchinsky, Cranston West High School, support by Donald Babbitt, Class of 1959.

Also, Kerry Odin, Cranston East High School, support by Alan Vessella and Donald Babbitt, Class of 1959; Winner not available, Cranston Area Career & Technology High School, Joanne DiOrio; Stephen Rowley, Davies Vocational Tech, supported by Paula Edwards; Jennie DiGregorio, Exeter-West Greenwich, supported by Elaine Capobianco; winner not available, Hope High School, supported by Mat Santos, Class of 1982 and

Linda Nedvidek; Melinda Wirt, Johnston High School, support by Joe Neri, Class of 1969 and others.

Also, Tanya Izzi, La Salle Academy, supported by Joe Neri, Class of 1969 and Joseph Ronzio and Vivian DuMais; David Tobin and Sarah Hannaway, Lincoln High School, support by Roland Blais, Class of 1959, and Dr. Howard Boyaj, Class of 1959; Amy Rocha, Middletown High School, support by Jo Eva Gaines and Joseph J. Ferreira, Class of 1982 and 1987; Anna Dyanchenko and Niphone Lithavong of Mt. Pleasant High School, support by Thomas O'Brien, Class of 1967 and Sen. Anthony Carnevale and others; Kristin J. Prior, North Smithfield High School, supported by David S. Silva, Class of 1968 and others;

Meredith A. Gallo, Pilgrim High School, supported by Gerald Florio, Class of 1965 and others; winner not available, Prout High School, supported by Mary Paolino and others; Jason Scott Baesemann, Rogers High School, supported by Miguel Lopes, Class of 1971;

Carlene Brown, Smithfield High School, supported by Emily E. Ritter and others; William Schenck, Toll Gate High School, supported by Robert Chilton, Class of 1962; Korin Acedo, South Kingstown High School, supported by Barbara Crudale, Class of 1989; Cherie Simoneau, St. Mary's Bayview, supported by Sr. Mary McElroy and Mary Jane Blanchette; Jill C. Orr, St. Raphael's, supported by Br. James Flaxington, Class of 1989 and others and Melissa D. Simpkins, St. Xavier Academy, supported by Kathleen Siok, Class of 1971.

For information on the program or how your high school can become a participant, please call the Alumni House at 456-8086.

## Thorp Professors

Continued from page 1

Foundation, created by a bequest in her will.

Nominees for the Thorp Professorship were evaluated by a committee composed of faculty from the School of Education and Human Development and the School of Social Work. The professorship honors the contributions of Mary Tucker Thorp whose illustrious career at the College spanned 41 years from 1926 to 1967.

### Elizabeth H. Rowell

During her career, Professor Rowell has received numerous faculty research grants, co-authored four books, including three primary-level social-studies texts, written two book chapters and 46 articles.

Throughout her career, she has made 168 presentations at international, national and state conferences, with 17 being made in just the last four years, her citation notes.

"Professor Rowell's work contains generative, reflective themes which emerge from a lifetime of practice.

"She has always been one of the most productive, published professors in our school and College," remarked a colleague.

Another colleague observed that her research findings "have affected the lives of many adults and chil-

dren.

"By showing strong professional commitment, persistence and analytical skills, by seeing the most fruitful lines of questioning, insights, extrapolations and critical assessments, and by linking findings directly to learning settings for our precious youngsters and professional teachers, Liz Rowell has clearly demonstrated her competence."

Rowell received her bachelor's degree from the University of Texas; her master's from the University of Colorado, and her Ph.D. from the University of Connecticut.

She joined the RIC faculty in 1974 and was department chair from 1987-90. Rowell served as acting coordinator of Women's Studies in 1983-84 and was at one time director of the Reading Improvement Program.

### Patricia A. Cordeiro

Since 1990, Professor Cordeiro has presented 17 papers at national conferences. She has served as a reviewer for four publishers and on the review board of two professional journals, according to her citation.

In addition, she has published 16 journals and one book with another nearing completion.

Her influence, says her citation, extends to three realms: she impacts

# ALUMN

ASSOCIATION & ALUMNI FUND NEWS

In the last issue of *What's News* you may have seen the photo of our news notes secretaries. That group represented alumni from 1925 to 1979. They gathered at Alumni House on Sept. 13 for a meeting and celebration to thank them for serving as volunteers. You never know what you'll hear at events like this, and since I'm always looking for column ideas, I try to pay attention.

Our News Notes Editor Alice Reinhardt, Class of 1959, and I were chatting when Regina Marcotte, Class of 1925 walked in. I usually announce Regina as the person I want to be like when "I grow up." Alice said she had hoped someday to be a great character actress like her role model, Jessica Tandy. As Alice lamented Tandy's recent death at age 85, Regina quipped, "You know, she was just a young chick." It sort of made you put everything in perspective.

We talked to the class notes secretaries about different elements in putting together an alumni magazine or tabloid. I mentioned that several alumni told me they missed the inclusion of an historic photograph. To give an example, I told of a photo we once used of the women's Rifle Club. Yes, RIC had one — and it was felt that the gentle science of firearms would assist prospective teachers in developing a keen eye and steady nerves for the classroom. As I finished, a hand went up and Rose Wolosiewicz McCahey, Class of 1936 said she had been a member. As she mentioned that an afternoon shoot was followed by tea, Marion Sword McCabe, Class of 1942, also a former member, complained that in the 1940's they never got tea!

It was a great evening filled with stories and suggestions on ways to improve our communications with alumni. I still think back to that Rifle Club. In thinking of today's classrooms, a more recent grad said the Rifle Club was ahead of its time as a stress reliever.

Speaking of stress and my offer for stress bricks in the last issue— the last *What's News* arrived on a Friday and that Saturday I got a call at home from a friend who lives in town. Lauren Mountford, master's degree, Class of 1977, wanted to be (and was) the first to call for a brick. She was afraid if she waited for Monday they might be gone. A surprise awaited me Monday morning at the office when our answering machine had a message from Doug Sorem, Class of 1973, whom I hadn't seen in over 20 years. The requests came from as far away as Florida and Arizona and as close as an office on campus where three alumni work. Oh, and we replaced Gary Penfield's lost brick as well. I hope they help. I'll continue to keep mine on my desk (it gets frequent use when my column is due!).



Holly Shadoian  
Director of Alumni Affairs

## WHAT'S NEWS

AT RHODE ISLAND COLLEGE

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the daily lives of teachers as the model of a learner who teaches; she helps to make fundamental educational change possible, and she contributes to the body of knowledge by exploring classroom practice through various philosophical, historical and psycho-social lenses and framing educational issues in larger perspectives.

A Harvard University professor has written of Cordeiro that she "is best known internationally for her research on primary school children's learning of punctuation. Her research is a very significant example of the relationship so important to education between development and instruction."

A noted researcher said that "Clearly, Dr. Cordeiro is among the leading lights of her field and is widely recognized for the quality and usefulness of her research. I suggest the importance of honoring a prophet in her own land."

Cordeiro received her bachelor's degree from the University of Connecticut; a master's in education from Harvard University; a master of arts from the University of Massachusetts, and an Ed.D. from Harvard.

She joined the RIC faculty in 1990 after holding a number of positions at different institutions as adjunct and field faculty and thesis advisor, and teaching graduate-level courses.

## College Shorts

### Symphony to perform

Stephen Martorella on piano will perform Rachmaninoff's "Piano Concerto" in the Rhode Island college Symphony Orchestra concert Oct. 17 at 8:15 p.m. in Roberts Hall Auditorium

### Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship

RIC students interested in a career in mathematics, the natural sciences, or those engineering disciplines that contribute significantly to the technological advances of the United States are invited to apply to the Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship and Excellence in Education Program.

Established by Congress in 1986, the Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship and Excellence in Education Foundation operates an educational scholarship program designed to provide opportunities for outstanding U.S. students with excellent academic records and demonstrated interest in, and potential for, careers in mathematics, the natural sciences, and eligible engineering disciplines.

In April 1995, the Foundation will award scholarships to students who will be college juniors or seniors during the 1995-96 academic year. In order to be considered for an award, students must be nominated by their institution. The DEADLINE for all 1995 nominations is December 16, 1994.

The scholarship award covers eligible expenses up to a maximum of \$7,000 per year. Junior scholarship recipients can expect to receive a maximum of two years of support. Senior scholarship recipients are eligible for a maximum of one year of support.

To be eligible, a student must be a current full-time sophomore or junior and must be pursuing a baccalaureate degree, have a B average or equivalent, stand in the upper fourth of the class, and be a U.S. citizen, resident alien, or U.S. national who will pursue a career in mathematics, the natural sciences, or an eligible engineering discipline.

Interested sophomores and juniors should contact: Charles Marzocco, RIC, Clarke Science Building 205.

### Women's soccer program established

Gail H. Davis, interim inter-collegiate athletics director at RIC has announced that College President John Nazarian has approved a women's varsity soccer program to begin in the fall of 1995 due to the increasing interest in the sport of prospective students.

# Mom is a race-car driver!



NIKKI AND RO JOHNSON  
(What's News Photo by George LaTour)

by George LaTour  
What's News Associate Editor

"Gentlemen, start your engines!  
"Er... excuse me. Make that 'Ladies, start your engines!'"

Well, it's not the Indianapolis 500, that famed Memorial Day Race that tests the mettle of men and machines, but it can be a hell-bent-for-leather race nonetheless when Rhode Island College freshman Nikki Johnson's mom gets behind the wheel of her mini-sprint car at the Sugar Hill Speedway in Weare, N.H.

"I guess I should have been a boy" says Ro Johnson with a chuckle, "I always loved trucks (she drives a Ford Ranger gray and maroon 5-speed these days) and motorcycles."

While it was "just last year" that Nikki's mom "got into race-car driving," she had won second place in a motorcycle race when she was just 16.

Originally from Brighton, Mass., Ro and her daughter, Nikki, and Nikki's older brother, Mark, now reside in Wrentham. Mom is employed by a law firm in Dedham. Nikki is a graduate of King Philip High School. At RIC, where she resides in the Sweet Residence Hall, she intends to study medical technology (now called clinical laboratory science).

Currently, the first-semester freshman is doing a paper for her English composition class on racing. Being on the inside track, so to speak, Nikki's paper should prove to be a winner.

Nikki attends all the races in which her mother drives as well as

**Her goal: 'to run a good line, to keep up the speed...and to drive a midget race car someday.'**

those driven by her mom's companion, Chuck Welling, who drives both mini-sprints and midget racers (which look like the mini-sprints only are "a lot bigger" and can attain speeds of up to 120 mph) at

tracks in Seekonk, Mass., Epping, Hudson and Lee speedways in New Hampshire, Oswego, N.Y., and Thompson, Conn.

"It's our hobby, so it takes a lot of our time," admits Ro, who explains that when you go for a race you are at the track for nearly 12 hours.

"You practice (driving) as often as you can and 'run a heat' (preliminary race) before you start to determine your position for the race itself."

For the women, it costs \$30 to enter the car and driver in a race. There are no cash prizes for women racers as there are for the men —



STRAPPED IN her mini-sprint racer, Ro Johnson gets ready to move out.

only trophies and the satisfaction of driving a good race.

Ro points out that race-car drivers and those who attend the races are "very family oriented."

"It's not a rough crowd at all," she assures, "whole families come out to the track. We've made some very close friends."

The mini-sprints have a 250cc motorcycle engine which runs on a mixture of alcohol and oil, she relates. Those driven by the men can reach speeds of 90 mph.

The women's mini-sprints "are only allowed to go about 45 mph," she says, "but on a small track that's still pretty fast."

Nikki thinks her mom "is daring"

for racing at all.

"I'd never do it if I thought it was dangerous," assures her mom.

Ro explains that cars have to be a certain weight and each is inspected at the track before racing begins.

The mini-sprints have roll bars overhead, added weights and "wings" on top to direct the air flow "to hold you down" and prevent you from becoming airborne.

The women drivers wear "certified fire-proof suits and underwear," gloves and neck collars with a helmet and full-face shield.

They are secured in the cars with five straps over the shoulders, around the waist and between the driver's legs and all are held together by a break-away clip which "can be released in a second" in case of an accident, thus releasing the driver and permitting her to escape from the car.

"When you're strapped in, you almost literally can't move," assures Ro, adding, "you even have arm

### Nikki thinks mom 'is daring' for racing at all.

restraints so your arms won't go outside the vehicle" and be injured in case of a roll-over.

"You can remove the steering wheel quickly and shut off fuel switches immediately" when an accident seems imminent.

Has she had any accidents, she is asked.

Ro says that she was driving her best race not long ago, in third place and over-taking the vehicle in second place when "the girl behind me ran over me."

"I lost my muffler and had to

stop." The mini-sprint's muffler is at the side of the vehicle over the rear tire.

Apparently, you can expect things like that to happen when you race cars even for a hobby.

Thus far, Ro Johnson has won a trophy for fourth place in a race and is still striving for the checkered flag and a first-place finish.

Her goal "is to get good enough to race with the guys — to run a good line, to keep up the speed...and to drive a midget race car someday" which would make her only the second woman to do so.

Would daughter Nikki ever consider following in mom's tire tracks and become a race car driver?

Answer: "No."

# Welcome to the RIC campus!

The College community extends a warm welcome to our new colleagues.

*This document was prepared by the Office of Personnel Services. We apologize for any omissions and ask that you call them to our attention so that we may include them on an addendum list.*

## FACULTY

**DR. SHARIF N. AHKAM**, Assistant Professor, Department of Economics and Management. Dr. Ahkam received an M.Com. from the University of Dhaka, Bangladesh, and an M.B.A. and D.B.A. from Kent State University. He taught at the A. J. Palumbo School of Business Administration, Duquesne University, and was a Teaching Fellow at Kent State University. Dr. Ahkam comes to us from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

**PROFESSOR ALEJANDRO C. ANDREOTTI**, Assistant Professor, Department of Mathematics and Computer Science. Dr. Andreotti received a B.A. from Brandeis University, and is a Ph.D. candidate at Princeton University, where he was also a lecturer. Professor Andreotti comes to us from Princeton, New Jersey.

**PROFESSOR ELLEN BIGLER**, Assistant Professor, joint appointment in the Department of Educational Studies and the Department of Anthropology and Geography. Dr. Bigler received a B.A. from Ohio State University, and an M.A. from SUNY at Albany, where she is also a Ph.D. candidate. She taught anthropology and worked as a field researcher at SUNY, Albany, and was also employed as a secondary social studies teacher in the Hudson Falls New York Central Schools. Professor Bigler comes to us from Albany, New York.

**DR. A. DAVID CAPPELLA**, Assistant Professor, joint appointment in the Department of Educational Studies and the Department of English. Professor Cappella received a B.A. from Bridgewater State College, an M.A. from the University of Maine, and an Ed.D. from Boston University, where he was a Teaching Fellow. He was also an Instructor of English at Newbury College, Brookline, Massachusetts, and taught English at Madison High School, Madison, Maine. Professor Cappella comes to us from Arlington, Massachusetts.

**PROFESSOR MARC C. ERTAN-LAMONTAGNE**, Assistant Professor, Department of Physical Sciences. Professor Ertan-Lamontagne received a B.S. from the University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth, and is a Ph.D. candidate at the University of New Hampshire, where he was a research assistant and recipient of the Alvin R. Ingram Award. Professor Ertan-Lamontagne comes to us from Somersworth, New Hampshire.

**DR. GALE GOODWIN GOMEZ**, Assistant Professor, joint appointment Department of Educational Studies, and Department of Anthropology and Geography. Dr.

Gomez received a B.A. from Florida Atlantic University, an M.A. in Linguistics from the American University, and both an M. Phil., and a Ph.D. in Linguistics and Anthropology from Columbia University. She taught at Fordham University, City College of City University of New York, and was a lecturer at SUNY at Purchase. Dr. Gomez comes to us from Darien, Connecticut.

**PROFESSOR LISA DOOLITTLE HUMPHREYS**, Assistant Professor, Department of Mathematics and Computer Science. Professor Humphreys received both a B.S. and an M.S. from the University of Connecticut, where she is also a Ph.D. candidate. She taught at the University of Connecticut, and also served as a teaching assistant supervisor. Professor Humphreys comes to us from Manchester, Connecticut.

**PROFESSOR ARTHUR LAMBI, JR.**, Assistant Professor, Department of Economics and Management. Professor Lambi received a B.S. from Rhode Island College and an M.S. from Bryant College. He worked at the accounting firm of Ernst & Young, and currently is a practitioner in his own accounting firm. He has also served as an adjunct professor at Rhode Island College. Professor Lambi resides in North Providence, Rhode Island.

**DR. HARRIET S. MAGEN**, Assistant Professor, Department of Communications. Dr. Magen received a B.A. from Clark University, and both an M.A. and Ph.D. from Yale University. She taught at the University of Rhode Island and at Rhode Island College, and also worked as a teacher of English as a Second Language at Brown University. Dr. Magen resides in East Greenwich, Rhode Island.

**DR. ANN MARIE MUMM**, Assistant Professor, School of Social Work. Dr. Mumm received both a Bachelors in Psychology and a Masters in Social Work from SUNY at Buffalo, and a Ph.D. in Social Work from Rutgers, where she taught Masters-level students and served as a field consultant. She also worked at the Center for Change and at the Aroostook Mental Health Center. Dr. Mumm comes to us from Bound Brook, New Jersey.

**DR. SUZANNE PINES**, Associate Professor, joint appointment in the Department of Art and the Department of Educational Studies. Dr. Pines received both a Bachelor of Industrial Design and an M.S. from Pratt Institute, and an Ed.D. from Columbia University. She taught at Marywood College, Scranton, Pennsylvania, Dowling College, Oakdale, Long Island, and Kean College of New Jersey. Dr. Pines comes to us from Watchung, New Jersey.

**DR. XAE ALICIA REYES**, Assistant Professor, Department of Educational Studies. Dr. Reyes received both a B.A. and an M.A. from the University of Puerto Rico, and a Ph.D. from the University of Colorado, Boulder. She taught in the School of Business

Administration, University of Puerto Rico, University of Colorado, Boulder, and Syracuse University. Professor Reyes comes to us from Puerto Rico.

**DR. DANIEL M. SCOTT, III**, Assistant Professor, Department of English. Dr. Scott received a B.A. from Georgia State University, and both an M.A. and a Ph.D. from the University of Illinois. He taught at the University of Illinois, where he was also a teaching assistant, and served as Assistant to the Academic Services Coordinator, Office of Minority Student Affairs. Dr. Scott comes to us from Urbana, Illinois.

**DR. JENNIFER SERGI**, Assistant Professor, Department of English. Dr. Sergi received a B.A. from Radford University, an M.A. from Salisbury State University, Maryland, and a Ph.D. from the University of Rhode Island. She taught at the University of Rhode Island, Rhode Island College, Salisbury State University, and the Providence School Department's Dropout Prevention Program. Dr. Sergi resides in Providence, Rhode Island.

**DR. TOMOJI SHOGENJI**, Assistant Professor, Department of Philosophy. Dr. Shogenji received both a B.A. and an M.A. from the University of Tokyo, and a Ph.D. from the University of Southern California. He taught at James Madison University, Northern Illinois University, and Texas Tech University. Dr. Shogenji comes to us from Harrisonburg, Virginia.

**PROFESSOR ALICE E. SMITH**, Assistant Professor, School of Social Work. Professor Smith received an M.A. and a C.A.G.S. from Anna Maria College, an M.S.W. from the University of Connecticut, and is a Ph.D. candidate at Boston College. She taught at Boston College, served as a federal grant author at the University of Southern Maine, and worked as a mental health therapist in private practice. Professor Smith comes to us from Brewster, Massachusetts.

**DR. FELICIA WILCZENSKI**, Assistant Professor, Department of Counseling and Educational Psychology. Dr. Wilczenski received both a B.S. and an M.Ed. from Boston University, a C.A.E.S. from Boston College, and both an M.S. and an Ed.D. from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. She taught at SUNY, Buffalo, New York, as well as at Notre Dame College, and worked as a school psychologist at Children's Hospital, Boston, Massachusetts.

## ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

**GRAY P. GUENTHER**, Computer Manager, Campus Center. Mr. Guenther received a B.A. in Computer Science from Rhode Island College, and also a diploma in graphic design illustration from the Art Institutes International, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He worked at Corporate Software, Inc., as a Software Support Technician, and also served in the United States Army as Officer in Charge, Defense Communication Satellite Station, Germany. Mr. Guenther resides in Bristol, Rhode Island.

## Annual alumni golf days net more than \$15,000 total

More than \$15,000 has been raised in the four years since the Rhode Island College Alumni Association held its first golf day event. All the money raised goes towards student scholarships. This year about 100 golfers participated in the day, annually held in the fall at the Cranston Country Club, owned and operated by Helen Lombardi, Class of 1940, whose family donates the greens fees each year, according to Holly Shadoian, director of Alumni Affairs.

Other major sponsors of the 1994 event were Nevada Bob's of Seekonk, the Providence Journal, Creative Forms & Systems/Office 2000, the RIC Foundation, and Lincoln Park. Prizes and donations were provided for by the following: Triggs, RIC Campus Store, Lincoln Park, RIC Recreation Center, Golfers' Warehouse, President John Nazarian, Campus Center, International Inn Hyannis, Foster Country Club, Providence Journal, Smithfield Driving Range & Pro Shop Inc., Ivy Lodge, Peter Glanz, Uno's, Twin Oaks, Luigi's Gourmet Express, Colibri, Lincoln Country Club, Yesteryear's Cafe, City Nights Dinner Theatre, Spaghetti Warehouse, Titleist/Acushnet, Il Piccolo, ristorante Pizzico, Club 44, Providence Performing Arts Center, Stuffies, RIC Performing Arts Series, Bugaboo Creek, Little Chopsticks, and Northern Lobster & Seafood.

The top five team prize winners were: first place - Michael O'Loughlin, Class of 1989, Wayne Shepard, James Dardeen, Sal Tanzi; second place - Bill Angell, Joe Konicki, Peter Harman, Wayne Kezirian; third place - Bob Viens, Class of 1961, Bob Viens, Class of 1993, Mark Views, Class of 1988, and Eric Viens; fourth place - Richard Enos, Class of 1982, John Ryan, Class of 1983, Paul Quinn, D. Morrissette, and fifth place - Dennis Kane, Class of 1974, Joe Creedon, Steve Brown, Tom Cobb.

## RIGEA schedules fall conference

The Rhode Island Geography Education Alliance (RIGEA) will present its fall conference for fourth through 12th grade teachers Saturday, Oct. 22, at the Omni Biltmore Hotel in Providence beginning with registration at 8 a.m.

Co-sponsored by Harvard University Center for Middle Eastern Studies, the conference will feature keynote luncheon speaker Rhode Island College professor Carolyn Fluehr-Lobban from the Department of Anthropology and Geography. Other speakers include, Carol Shedd, director of the Teaching Resource Center at Harvard, Christine Braguoli, also of Harvard, Denise Frederick, RIGEA Teacher consultant, and alliance coordinators, RIC professors Chet Smolski and Anne Petry.

Breakout sessions are scheduled for the afternoon on topics such as "family and women," "literature, art, and geometry," "religions of the area" and materials for teaching about the Middle East. The event will end at 3:30 p.m.

For information call 456-8069.

# Looking at the nature side of the nurture/nature question

by Cynthia DeMaio  
What's News Student Writer

Most people know about the social approach to psychology: how one is raised affects one's outlook; when there are family problems, counselors are sought out. But fewer people know about the biological side of behavior, the way a person's nervous and hormonal systems combine with other physiological factors to influence how one acts and feels.

It is the issue of biological psychology that gets Duncan White's attention, and he is overseeing two experiments at Rhode Island College to unlock some of its secrets. White is an associate professor in the psychology department.

The experiments are dissimilar. The first is a down-to-earth study of the effects of ageing on the peripheral vision system. The second explores a basic question: "What is memory?" in a basic animal: the grain beetle.

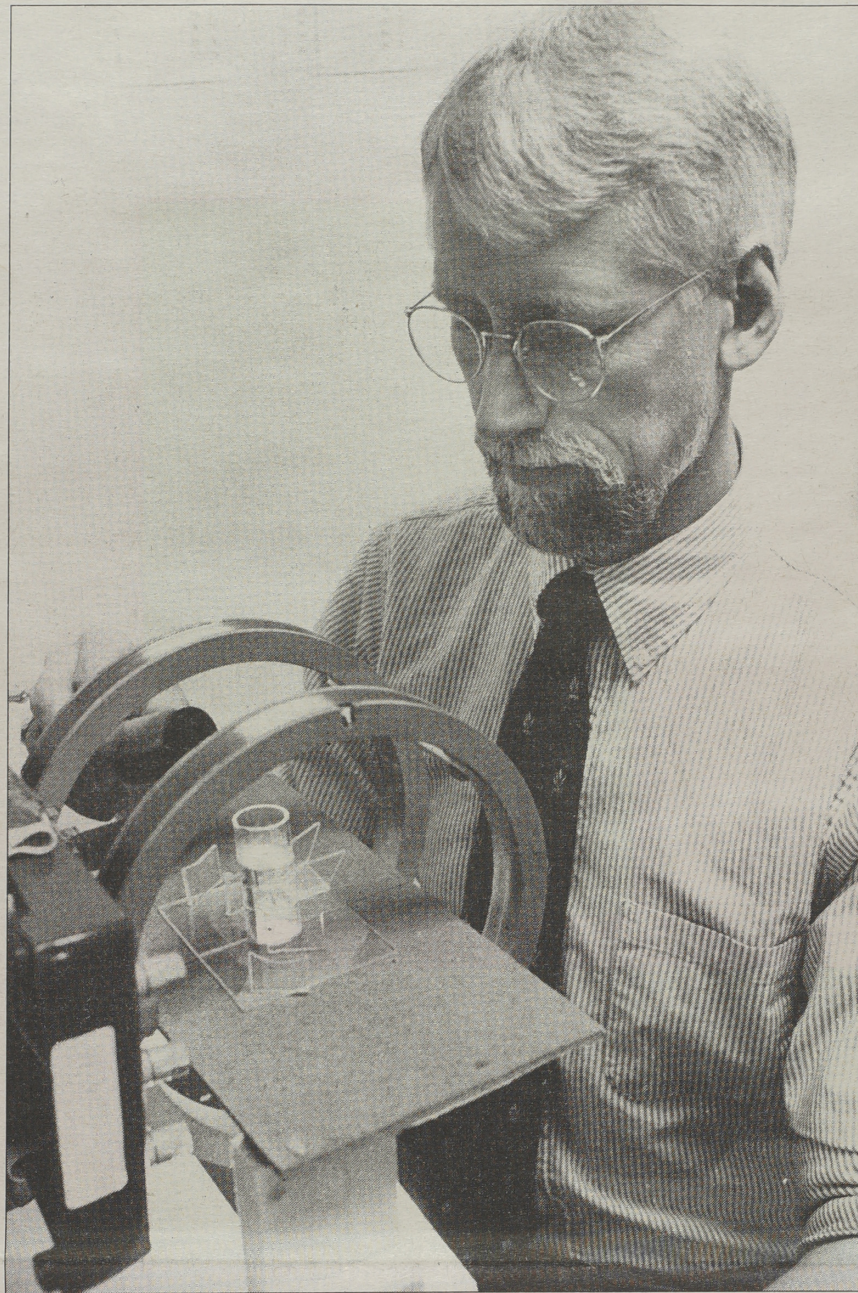
These efforts include help from undergraduate and graduate students. One part of the grain beetle study is an interdisciplinary project done in conjunction with the psychology, biology, chemistry and physics departments at RIC.

The peripheral vision program has the immediate result of helping older people regain their confidence and become more socially active. Everyone's eyesight deteriorates as they age, White said. "People in their 70s start to bump into things and become embarrassed by their actions. Some eventually become housebound, and if they have accidents in the home, this leads to being chair- or bed-bound. They figure 'I'm blind' and they become sedentary."

Through word-of-mouth and posters on campus, Duncan's team recruits volunteers for its nine-day program. Subjects are presented with video games of varying degrees of difficulty. The games test their actual peripheral vision, and most participants find it is better than they think.

Subjects then return to campus once a month for the next six months. They are tested for decreases in their peripheral vision, but this decline often does not occur.

While playing the video games, the subjects are actually increasing



**RESEARCHING:** Associate professor Duncan White conducts research to determine the effects of electromagnetic waves on grain beetles. The apparatus was modified by student Rebecca Corsey as part of her honors thesis. (What's News photo by Gordon E. Rowley)

do the same thing automatically, White said.

The results are spectacular. "Three months ago a woman was brought in by her daughter. She was suffering from diminished vision, so she started on the program. During her most recent visit she came skipping in. She said she had just had a great morning with her bowling team," White said.

Three undergraduate students work with White, collecting data for the vision study. In the grain-beetle study, three undergraduates and one graduate student are involved.

While grain beetles may seem far removed from the problems facing human kind, many believe there are basic laws of nature that unite all creatures. "In experimental psychology, you look at non-human animals because you can't fool around with the brains of humans. But in science, we make the assumption that there are basic laws of nature. Behavior is a natural phenomenon so behavior must follow these laws. The experimental psychologist tries to discover what these laws are," White said.

White is well versed in the principles of science as well as those of psychology. He had a double major in chemistry and psychology during his undergraduate years, receiving a B.S. from Roanoke College in 1970. He graduated with a Ph.D. in experimental psychology from Memphis State University in 1980.

The intriguing characteristic of the grain beetle is that when it undergoes metamorphosis from a

meal worm to the adult beetle, 98 percent of its nervous system is replaced. "If the experience the animal gained as a meal worm helps it continue learning as a grain beetle, then the animal's memory must be stored in the remaining two percent of its nervous system," White said.

Investigating how this memory is stored and what memory actually is could lead to incredible advances in the understanding of the subject. "I thought this project would be our short cut to the Nobel Prize," White said. Unfortunately, the meal worms had other ideas.

White first worked with meal worms in 1989 when he was hired by Ethel Tobach, the director of animal behavior at the American Museum of Natural History in New York City. One method to test an animal's learning is to run it through a maze and use rewards and mild punishment to train the animal to pick a certain pathway. For example, in a two-prong maze the "correct" path may be the alleyway to the right.

Tobach and White couldn't even get their worms to move forward, so they spent several months studying meal worm behavior. They finally discovered the larvae move up and down much more frequently than they move on a flat plane, so they tilted the maze to 45 degree angle. Then the worms were off and running. Unfortunately, so was White, as his time at the museum was up. The grain beetle research had to wait until he joined the RIC faculty in 1990.

The RIC research team is currently working with the adult grain beetles to see if they can be taught to run the maze. If so, the team will try to teach larvae the same thing. They will then test the animals to see if the learning survives metamorphosis.

Responding to the current concern over the effects of electromagnetic fields, the team is also running the same experiments in the presence of an electromagnetic field. The goal is to see what effects, if any, the field has on learning. This is an interdepartmental study involving the biologists, chemists, physicists and psychologists on campus.

While the beetles may or may not provide further clues on how memory works, future experimental psychologists are getting their training by working on this project. The techniques and ideas they take from this experiment could lead to a better understanding of human behavior when they develop experiments of their own.

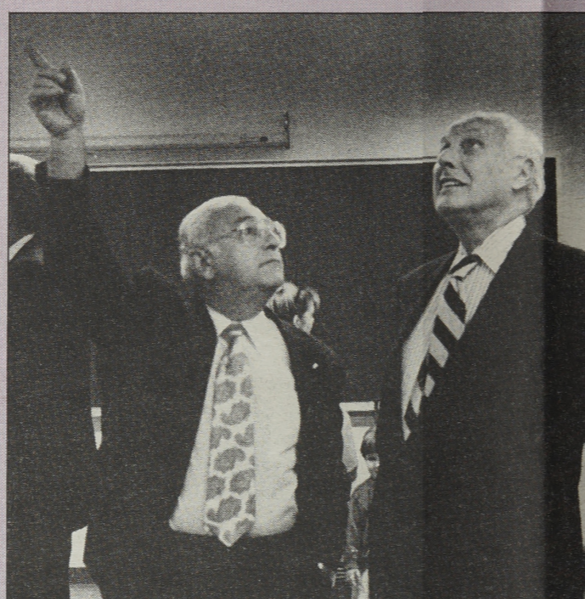
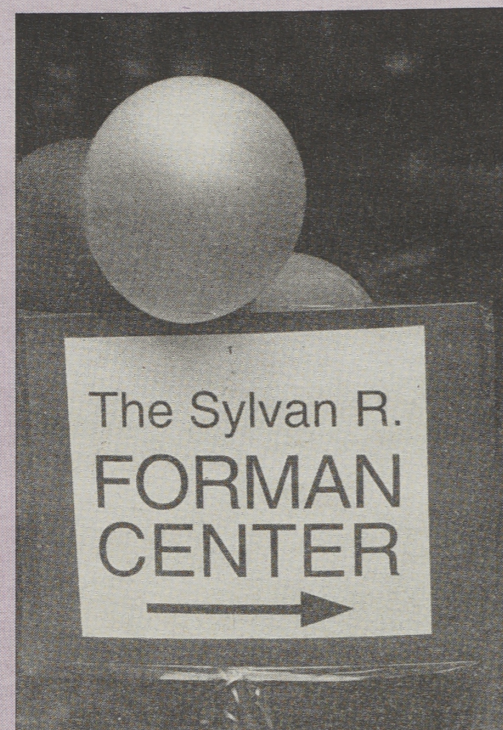
**While grain beetles may seem far removed from the problems facing human kind, many believe there are basic laws of nature that unite all creatures. "In experimental psychology, you look at non-human animals because you can't fool around with the brains of humans. But in science, we make the assumption that there are basic laws of nature. Behavior is a natural phenomenon so behavior must follow these laws.**

the attention they pay to objects in their peripheral vision. The visual information they get about these objects is less accurate than when they were younger, but it is still there. The program forces them to attend to these objects. By doing the exercise, they practice paying attention, and when they go home, they



**CONGRATULATIONS:** RIC senior Kimberly Yurasha receives the 1994 Mary M. Keffe Award for excellence in Biology from department chair, Prof. Jerry Melaragno. Named for the late Dr. Keffe, who retired from RIC in 1977 after 25 years of teaching, the annual award requires a 3.5 GPA in biology studies and includes an engraved plaque and a check for \$250.

# 'Stone Building' becomes Forman Center on Sept. 27



Above: Gov. Sundlun leads the ribbon-cutting. "Watch me. I have a lot of experience at this," he reportedly said. At right: Helen Forman, Class of 1934, widow of Sylvan R. Forman, talks with well-wishers. Left: President John Nazarian points out an architectural feature to Gov. Sundlun. Below: the reception spreads out onto the center's rear patio.

Above: Vice President Lenore DeLucia, who headed the renovation project, welcomes guests to the Forman Center dedication from beneath a tent erected when inclement weather threatened. Just as the ceremonies started however, the sun came out and some guests (see background) donned sun glasses.

Below: Michelina "Mickey" Santos hands a glass of champagne to assistant vice president for academic affairs and graduate dean James Turley, whose office is housed in the building, during the reception after the dedication. At center is O.A.S.I.S. director Dolores Passarelli helping out during the afternoon event.



*Photos  
by  
Gordon E. Rowley*



## 1994 State Employees Charitable Appeal underway



**STRATEGY PLANNING:** Kristen King (seated), director of student activities and Pam Gilbert, administrative secretary, are co-chairs for the upcoming State Employees Charitable Appeal (SECA). (What's News photo by Gordon E. Rowley)

The 1994 Rhode Island State Employees Charitable Appeal (SECA) campaign kicked off recently on campus and will run until Friday, Nov. 4.

According to second-time chairpersons Pamela Gilbert, administrative secretary, and Kristen King, director of student activities, this year's campaign should be another record-breaking one.

Under their guidance last year, volunteer committee members from various departments and unions, collected \$46,808 from RIC employees with 48 percent of employees contributing.

The chairpersons are proud to say that in 1992 and 1993 RIC had a higher percentage of donors than either of the other Rhode Island public colleges!

Their goal this year is to raise \$50,000 with at least 50 percent participation under this year's theme of "Celebrate Living."

RIC employees look forward to the raffle organized each year by the SECA committee and held at the conclusion of the campaign. Raffle tickets are distributed to donors as an "incentive" to contribute.

Prizes range from tickets to the RIC Performing Arts Series to cash prizes, recreation center passes, a gourmet basket contributed by the SECA committee and gift certificates from local restaurants and hotels.

For the second year in a row, local artist Spencer Crooks has donated a print to be raffled off.

Raffle cans will be on display in the Faculty Center Nov. 14, 15 and 16. The raffle will take place at 12:30 p.m. in the Faculty Center on Nov. 16.

Although the raffle makes contributing fun, King reminds donors that their contributions offer hope for people in need and help to build better communities.

"With nearly 500 agencies to target your contributions to, one has surely touched your life in one way or another or will in the future," she says.

The State Employees Charitable Appeal, or SECA, was formed in 1984 to offer the state worker an opportunity to support a variety of health and human service organizations through a single campaign conducted in the workplace.

Last year state employees donated a record \$573,172.

## Forman dedication

Continued from page 1

of higher education in the state.)

Helen Forman, who donated \$250,000 to complete the project, and who helped in unveiling the building's Forman Center sign during the ceremonies, named in honor of her late husband Sylvan R. Forman, said, "My husband believed in education and I am grateful to President Nazarian. I'm proud to be an alumna of a great college and I cherish all the days I've had with Rhode Island College. Today is a special day. I want to thank you all for coming."

(Mrs. Forman's donation made it possible for the College to secure an additional \$83,333 from the state as a one-third match under the Challenge Grant to higher education that the General Assembly passed last year.)

Like the history of the College itself, the history of the building and the site holds special meaning to others. Dorothy Whipple Burgess, editor emerita of *The Observer*, whose father, Lucius Whipple, a former president of RIC and superintendent of the state agency lived there from 1917 through 1922 as a child. She remembers the character of the home "as a gracious house...and beautiful grounds."

The family of Elizabeth Briggs Coady, 78, of Rochester, Mass., whose father took over as superintendent following Whipple's tenure resided in the spacious home through 1927.

"My mother's sewing room was in the building that was restored," she said. "The grounds were lovely." She remembers the herd of cattle, "25 or 30 or more," she said. "We had pigs. We had our own vegetable garden. My father built a farmhouse. There were farmhands, carpenters, drivers. We even had a clothing store and elementary school for the children. It was entirely self-sustained."

After reading about the restoration project in a Providence *Sunday Journal* article, she said, "a flood of memories" came to her. "It was great fun" remembering her childhood days.

Gov. Bruce Sundlun, who turned over the property on the East Campus to the College in 1991, making it possible for the College to seek funding for the use of the building, referred to it and its restoration as the "newest and most beautiful edifice to RIC's expanding campus." He called it the beginning of a "new era in RIC history."

Chairman of the Board of Governor's for Higher Education Richard Licht followed with appropriate words describing the possibilities of what lay ahead for the College and the students it serves as a result of its new port of entry: "The future is better served if we invest in the past."

## Alumni Day for econ/mgmt students

Continued from page 1

faculty moderators are those on accounting (David Filipek), computer information systems (Al Stecker), financial services (Peter Marks), human resource management (Randy DeSimone), international business (Peter Moore), traditional management (Halil Copur), non-traditional management (George Pamental), marketing (Steve Ramocki), "What Do Economics Majors Do?" (Peter Harman), and one entitled "I Never Imagined" which will be moderated by Jules A. Cohen, a successful businessman prior to joining the RIC economics/management faculty several years ago as an assistant professor.

The alumni are expected to impart to the students some of their experiences in the business world along with some helpful hints and advice, thus helping the students to better prepare for career placement after graduation.

### Keynote Address

The keynote address, which will begin the activities, will focus on the importance of networking. It will be given by RIC graduate Gary Parente, Class of '83, who also holds a master's degree in business administration from the University of Rhode Island.

Parente is a financial manager for Troy Systems, a government subcontracting firm which specializes in computing, management and engineering services. Parente also serves as president of the Postal Employees Regional Federal Credit Union; is vice chairman of the West Warwick Republican Town Committee, and a court-appointed special advocate for the state.

Expectations are running high for this event, which has proven very popular among the students in past years, says Natalie Sabha, interim director for the Center for

Management and Technology, which incorporates the former Department of Economics and Management.

The RIC Alumni Office is busy assisting the center in recruiting RIC alumni for the event, according to Holly Shadoian, director of alumni affairs and member of the planning committee.

Professor Cohen heads the community liaison committee for Alumni Day.

### Participating Alumni

Participating alumni (as of this writing) and their business affiliations are: Linda LaBrie, Class of '72, director of business development and client relations, Edwards and Angell; William Muto, Class of '91, political consultant; Patricia Tondreau, Class of '63, president of Creative Forms and Systems, Inc.; Rick Torres, Class of '87, owner of Basic Wholesale and Screen Printing Co.

Also, John Garner, Class of '94, assistant staff auditor, Fleet Financial Group; Ellen Kitchell Riker Class of '81, CPA, assistant controller, J.H. Lynch & Sons, Inc.; Mary Lou Notarianni, Class of '86, senior tax accountant, Lefkowitz, Garfinkel, Champi & DeRienzo.

Also, Michael Poisson, Class of '88, revenue agent, Internal Revenue Service; Kim Moniz Crowley, Class of '93, systems analyst, Amica Mutual Insurance Co.; Tammie Miller, Class of '93, procedure analyst, Metropolitan Properties; Suzanne Nys Harnois, Class of '87, application programmer/analyst, Amica Mutual Insurance Co.

Also, Richard James, Class of '82, stockbroker, government service; Sandra Glaser Parrillo, Class of '78, vice president, Providence Mutual Fire Insurance Co.; Joan Pirraglia, Class of '92, management consultant, N. H. James & Associates.

Also, James Rizzo, Class of '88,

vice president-commercial banking, Fleet National Bank; Erika Geoffroy, Class of '94, pension administrator, Williams Holdings, Inc.; Laura Mainville, Class of '92, consultant, Umbria Consulting.

Also, Beverly Thibeault, Class of '91, assistant vice president-human resources, Foxboro National Bank; Dina Pescione, Class of '90, compensation and benefits analyst, Toray Plastics America, Inc.; Lucia Napoli Amado, Class of '92, technical sales and customer services manager, ETICAM; Elaine Pedro Nelson, Class of '84, general manager and vice president of marketing, Carbide Products Co.

Also, Elizabeth Freitas, Class of '84, vice president, West Cranston Financial Service Center; Deborah Pannullo, Class of '77, major products manager, Stanley Bostitch; Lori Martin, Class of '83, employee relations manager, Elmhurst Extended Care.

Also, Deborah Johnson, Class of '80, assistant director of undergraduate admissions, Rhode Island College; Anthony Maione, Class of '75, executive director, National Conference (formerly National Conference of Christians and Jews); Charles Shadoian Jr., Class of '86, executive director, People in Partnerships; David Pollak, Class of '87, president/owner, Athena Design, Inc.

Also, John DeSimone Jr., Class of '86, key account manager, P.I.A. Merchandising Co.; Ronald Gigliodoro, Class of '87, consultant, Management, Inc.; Elizabeth Beauchemin Milligan, Class of '85, retail support manager, Hallmark; Karen Golde Santilli, Class of '88, team manager/director of sponsorship systems, Childreach.

Also, Ronda Warrenner, Class of '89, investment broker, Advest, Inc.; Norman Cantin, Class of '75, vice president of planning and inventory control, T.J. Maxx Corp.

The next issue of  
**What's News**  
is Monday, Oct. 31.  
**DEADLINE**  
for submission  
of photos etc.  
is Friday, Oct. 21  
at noon.

# Lee DeLucia: A woman about campus, in hard hat and heels!

by Clare Eckert  
What's News Editor

She still knows which bureau drawer in her Jamestown home "I keep that old shirt" as a reminder of her experience helping to build the first of three homes she and her husband have constructed on the Island for their family. "I don't bring it out," says Vice President for Administration and Finance Lenore A. DeLucia. "But I know where it is."

Of those days, DeLucia says "I was the one holding the screwdriver, so to speak" during the early years of her marriage to Ken DeLucia when they started their lives together in Jamestown in 1963. Since the first house, the two have built "the neighborhood," finally settling into the third home they built on Walnut Street. That was in 1974.

Little did the 58-year-old woman realize that 20 years later she would

says, deals more with leading people than holding screwdrivers. But the real "Lee" comes charging through when she describes her attitude about challenges and her hope "that if anything, people recognize me as someone who is able to listen and make a decision on a variety of facts."

"I have provided leadership for a team of people to do their jobs," she says of the last four years as vice president overseeing all the new construction on the campus. Her attitude is positive: "When you fall off the horse, face it, get over it and get beyond it. Usually it's never quite as bad as you think."

DeLucia was born in New York City, "in the Bronx." She traveled throughout her childhood as the daughter of a father whose skills took him to where the work was and a mother who was a teacher. An academically gifted child, who enjoyed a variety of interests, she settled in Rhode Island in 1954 when she became a student at Pembroke.

"It was a wonderful place for women to mature," DeLucia says of

**Her attitude is positive: "When you fall off the horse, face it, get over it and get beyond it. Usually it's never quite as bad as you think."**

be responsible for the complete overall of the renovation of a Rhode Island historical landmark originally built about 1870 and encompassing 21,096 square feet for Rhode Island College. Not only has DeLucia overseen the renovation of what is now known as The Sylvan R. Forman Center on the East Campus, but she has seen to the completion of the new Donovan Dining Center, and is currently leading the charge to complete the \$8.8 million building project for the College's new health, physical education, and athletic complex slated to be completed in the spring of 1995.

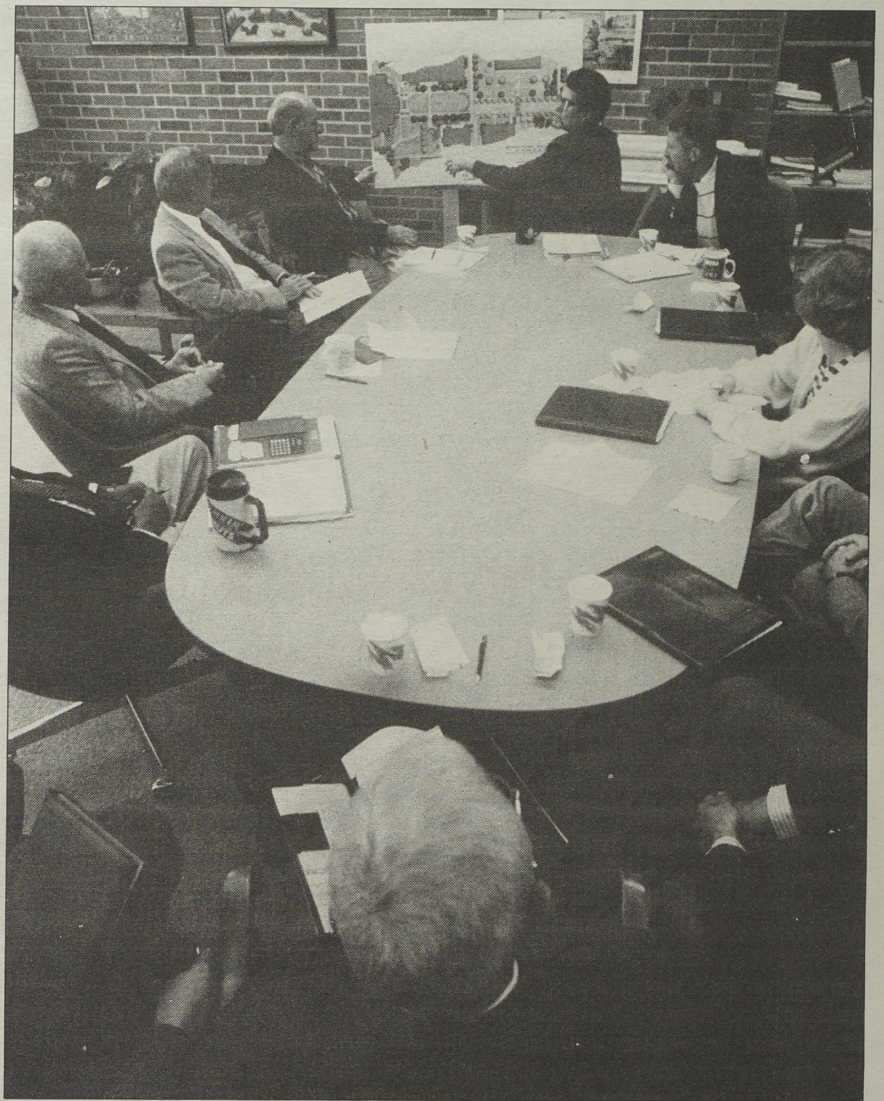
Having earned her undergraduate and graduate degrees in psychology from Pembroke in 1958 and 1963, respectively, perhaps DeLucia learned enough about human nature to get her through the rough spots of a challenging career. It would make sense because much of her work, she

the all-women sister school to Brown University. "It was a place for women to test themselves and learn how to be leaders." Classes were held with the men, but separate organizations, like student government and college newspapers were available for female students.

In the 1970s, the merge took place and Pembroke became Brown. "It was sad in a way to see it occur. Females gave up something that was uniquely theirs."

Her study of psychology was by chance. Not having any idea about a career, DeLucia continued on in the world of academics without knowing exactly what the end result would be. "I knew I was not going to be a teacher," she laughed, recalling how "unappreciated" teachers seemed to be through the eyes of her mother who taught elementary school children all her life.

But once out of graduate school,



**TABLE TALK:** During a staff meeting in her office in Roberts Hall, Vice President Lenore DeLucia (top center) talks about the new landscaping of the campus mall. (What's News photo by Gordon E. Rowley)

and having met her "match" in one Providence resident and Brown employee Ken DeLucia on a blind date and marrying him 35 years ago, an opportunity arose at Rhode Island College to teach psychology. Hence, her career began at RIC in 1962, two months out of graduate school.

DeLucia's motto throughout her career has been "to do the very best I could. I have always felt fortunate that people on this campus have had faith in me. I guess, professionally, I have always had the self-confidence to move forward."

And move upward and onward she did. A full professor by 1969, DeLucia was associate dean of educational studies from 1972 through 1977, taking on the role of acting vice president for academic affairs for nearly one year and acting dean of educational studies during that period as well. In 1979, she was charged with establishing a new college office, Institutional Research and Planning, where she remained until taking over administration and finance as vice president in 1990.

In this position, besides overseeing all building projects, she heads the offices of controller, budget, accounting, affirmative action, audiovisual, bursar, computer center, grant accounting, institutional research and planning, office services, payroll, personnel, physical plant, purchasing, safety and security, student loan, and telephone services.

She is a woman who gets along well with men and women alike, and is considered a "sharp" and "fair" boss. DeLucia calls her work at the College, "a great experience." She knows herself and her colleagues well, seeking out their expertise to help her along in her job. And she is especially apprecia-

tive of the many challenges the College has offered her.

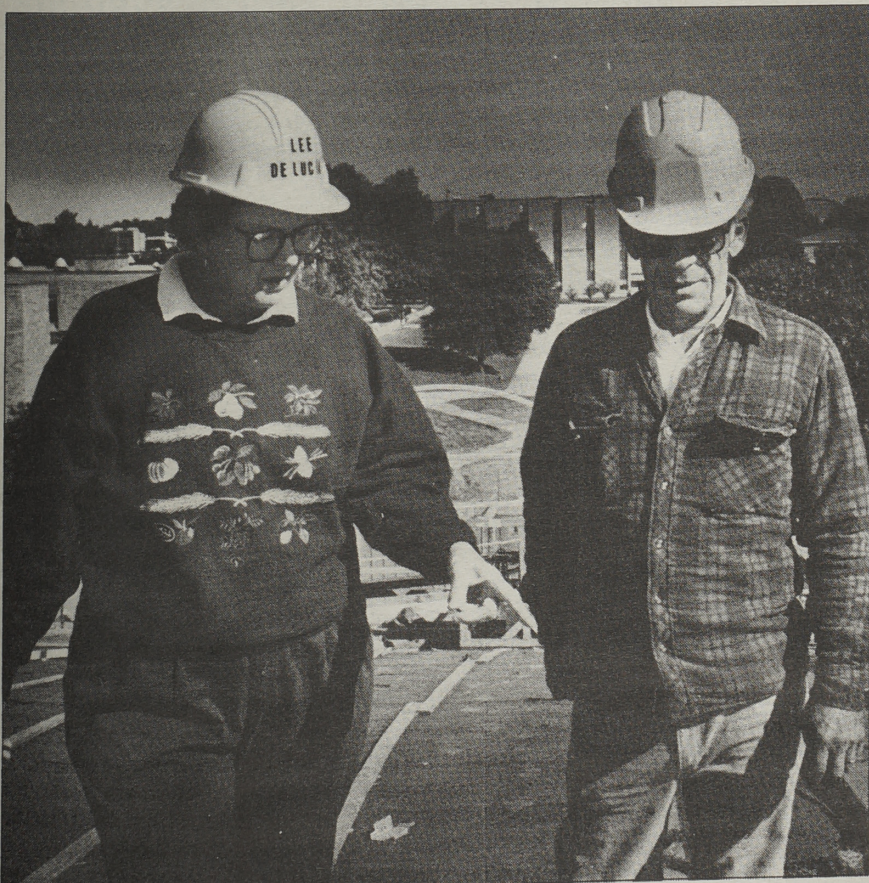
"Rhode Island College has been a supportive environment for women because it comes out of a history of teacher education and teacher education is highly populated by women," she says. Remembering attending graduate school at Brown, "out of 30 people, two were women and there were no tenured women. When I started here, there were a significant amount of women."

DeLucia is a "woman about campus." She can be seen walking from one end to the other, regularly checking up on contractors, talking to colleagues and enjoying the growth of the school. Not one to worry about hairdos or climbing ladders to reach rooftops, she fits in well with everyone and has gained the respect and admiration for those who work with her. She is sensitive to others and willing to do the mundane tasks as well as make the difficult decisions.

On the gloomy and rainy morning of the Forman Center dedication, DeLucia, along with "my right hand" Georgia Bonaminio, her administrative assistant, could be found pounding in the signage along the roads leading to the site of the dedication ceremonies, hauling and pinning the cloth used for the unveiling of the sign, and settled last minute details for the day's special event. At 2 p.m., on that day, without skipping a beat, DeLucia walked to the podium with grace and confidence, as her husband stood quietly in the crowd beaming with delight as his wife presided over the ceremony.

Inside, when Mr. DeLucia spoke with a reporter about the upcoming story on his wife, his only comment was: "She is a special person. Very special."

Indeed!



**CONFERRING:** Vice President Lenore DeLucia confers with construction site manager Val Jean on the roof of the new health, physical education, and athletics complex. (What's News photo by Gordon E. Rowley)



# RIC students travel, study abroad

## Seven visit England, one Germany

by George LaTour  
What's News Associate Editor

Seven Rhode Island College undergraduate students took advantage of the College's first annual travel-study program to England's South Bank University in London from June 18 to July 24, while a graduate student working on her thesis traveled to Wiesbaden, Germany, for two weeks in September, which

expressed appreciation for the travel-study opportunity

"It was great," says Laura Hitt of Cranston, the graduate student, "I met musicians and academicians who are at the top of their fields."

"It opened a whole new world for me meeting these people," she assures.

### Trip to Germany

Hitt had received some financial help for her trip to Germany from the RIC theater and dance depart-

healed the sick, wrote about medicine, saw visions, recorded those visions, and created the first morality music-drama.

"For some inexplicable reason," relates Hitt, "Hildegard seemed to vault the barriers of history to lead me back into a forgotten place of music, dance, visions and laughter."

On April 30, she performed her theater/music work entitled "A Vision of Hildegard: Dust Singing Into the Light" at RIC in partial fulfillment of her Individualized Master of Arts degree in theater and English.

She explains that this performance was the culmination of three phases: 1) training at Trinity Repertory Conservatory from 1986-1988; 2) time spent performing theater and studying voice in Chicago from 1988-92; 3) classes and independent studies at RIC from 1993-94.

Hitt credits her studies with English Prof. Meradith McMunn, particularly McMunn's class on "Medieval Women: Words and Works;" theater Prof. P.W. Hutchinson, who helped her develop her piece on Hildegard through improvisation and writing; and music Prof. Raymond Smith for his opera class.

She sang a song composed by Hildegard at the Wiesbaden conference, and was encouraged by the president of the International Hildegard Society to make a presentation on the 12th Century nun at a Kalamazoo, Mich., conference next May.

All of this has lent to the strengthening of her credentials and resolve to someday teach either in high school or in college and develop private workshops integrating theater, music and dance.

### Off to London

It was off to London last summer for Julie Lima of Coventry, Fernanda Marinho, Tom Bockes, Chris Petrarca and Patty Murphy, all of Providence, Jennifer Cook of Newport, and Jeremy Marquard of Pawtucket.

Marquard, a junior political science major, and Lima, a senior in political science who already has a degree in English, studied political science at South Bank University as well as a course on the European community.

Additionally, they found time to do some independent research.

Their living accommodations were about a 40-minute ride by "tube" from the university, where they would arrive each day about 10:30 a.m.

They reported that all the students enjoyed walking tours around London, including that to the House of Commons, the law courts, and the Reading Room of the British Museum where Karl Marx reportedly wrote his *Communist Manifesto* and conducted research for *Das Kapital*.

At one point during the London stay, Marquard and Chris Petrarca "made a quick trip" to Paris for one weekend and termed that city "beautiful."

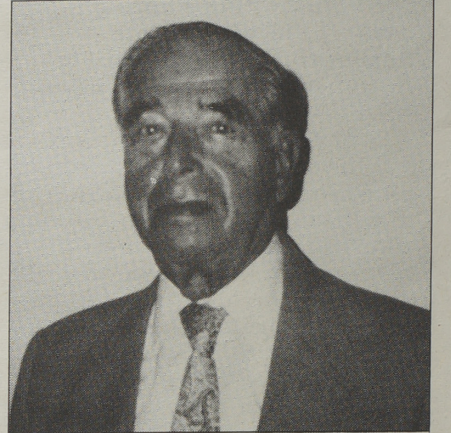
London, on the other hand, was smog ridden ("fog" to Londoners) but otherwise clean and "just wonderful."

# Alumnus elected to journalism Hall of Fame

Zel Levin, 80, of Wellfleet, Mass., a well-known Rhode Island journalist who earned his degree from Rhode Island College at age 65, has been elected to the Rhode Island Press Association's Hall of Fame.

He will be formally inducted in ceremonies Nov. 10 at the University of Rhode Island.

Levin enrolled at RIC in 1980 after having retired as assistant managing editor of the *Evening Times* in



Pawtucket. He received a bachelor of general studies degree in three years and then went on to earn a master of arts degree at RIC in counseling two years later.

Levin has a background of more than a half-century in communications in this state.

His career began in 1928 when he was a high school correspondent for *The Call* in Woonsocket where, after five years of military service during World War II, he was named executive city editor.

He later published his own newspaper, the *Woonsocket Sunday Star*; operated how own public relations and advertising agency; returned to *The Call* and managed that paper's radio division (Station WWON) for 13 years before joining the *Evening Times*.

Even while attending RIC, Levin served as editor of two weeklies, the *East Providence Post* and the *Seekonk Star*. He finally ended his career, producing a prize-winning monthly publication for the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island.

# Ramirez becomes youngest principal in Prov. school system

Tomas E. Ramirez, adjunct professor of education in the Department of Educational Studies at RIC, has been appointed principal of Oliver Hazard Perry Middle School in Providence.

At age 34, Ramirez becomes the youngest principal in the Providence school system.

Ramirez holds a bachelor's degree in chemistry from Brown University, a master's degree in bilingual-bicultural education from RIC and a Certificate of Advanced Graduate Study in school from RIC.

Previously, Ramirez worked as a chemical technician at Technic, Inc., in Cranston, as an analytical chemist at Engelhard Industries in Plainville, Mass. and as a bilingual chemistry and general science teacher at Central and Hope High Schools in Providence.

He is a board member of the Children's Crusade for Higher Education, the Rhode Island Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development, the Regional Alliance for Mathematics and Science Education Reform, Progreso Latino, Volunteers in Providence Schools, and is a member of many other education-related and civic organizations.



LAURA HITT poses with image of 12th Century German nun, Hildegard of Bingen. (What's News Photo by George LaTour)

included attendance at a four-day conference of medieval scholars and a performance by her.

Most all found the experience met their expectations and then some.

Several were inspired in their studies and have since vowed to return for further studies abroad after their RIC graduation.

Virtually all of the students

ment and from the Catholic Academy in Germany, which supported her studies into the life and works of the 12th Century German nun Hildegard of Bingen, a person she describes as one who possessed "a vast knowledge of a multitude of disciplines."

"She composed music, founded two convents, corresponded with popes, kings and commoners,



AT KARL MARX TOMB at Highgate Cemetery, London, are RIC students (front from left) Jennifer Cook, Tom Bockes and Jeremy Marquard, (rear from left) Julie Lima, Patty Murphy, Fernanda Mrinho and Chris Petrarca.

## From music to the study of man; Rhodes is hooked on anthropology!

by Cynthia L. Sousa  
What's News Writer

Imagine translating the wall text of an Egyptian Tomb. Or spending four weeks excavating a tomb in that mystical country. For most of us, interpreting hieroglyphics, surveying a tomb or putting pieces of pottery thousands of years old back together seems far, far away.

But not for Rhode Island College senior Kharyssa Rhodes.

Rhodes spent from Sept. 1993 through July 1994 in Egypt attending the American University in Cairo (AUC) partly through the generosity of the RIC Foundation Ridgway F. Shinn Study Abroad Fund.

A major in anthropology and African/African-American studies with a minor in international studies, Rhodes was a 1994-95 recipient of the fund. Her award was one of the highest ever presented.

Rhodes' interest and first-hand experience studying abroad has allowed her to become the only undergraduate ever to present papers at the Sudan Studies Association's annual conference. The association was founded about 13 years ago by Carolyn Fluehr-Lobban, RIC professor of anthropology and geography. The group is dedicated to the scholarly study of the Sudan.

The young traveler's interest in



anthropology is a direct result of studying the subject under the guidance of Richard Lobban, who agreed to register her for an upper-level course he was teaching when Rhodes was unable to take the entry level class.

Although only a freshman, Rhodes took the course and, three weeks into it, switched her major from music to anthropology. "I couldn't resist the lure of learning about the origin and culture of man, as much as I wanted to study jazz and music," she said. Rhodes sings and plays the piano. She had intended on a career in music.

An "A" student in the class, the husband and wife team of professors said Rhodes has made her mark in the program.

"Kharyssa is an exceptional student," said Fluehr-Lobban. Richard Lobban concurs: "She is highly motivated and clever and accepts all sorts of intellectual challenges not normally undertaken by undergraduates with eagerness."

Of the RIC program, Rhodes said, "RIC has one of the better anthropology programs around on the national level. Wherever you go, people have heard of the work of Peter Allen, the Lobbans and others."

In addition to excelling in her

classes, Rhodes is active in cultural activities on the campus. In 1992 she participated in Black History Month at the College by planning a session.

She also received the RIC Alumni departmental scholarship in 1992 and 1993.

Professionally, she has presented papers for the last three years at the Sudan Studies Association conferences (1994's conference was an international conference held in Boston) and is planning her fourth paper for the 1995 conference.

At these conferences "Kharyssa has tackled some very challenging intellectual questions on some very controversial topics with great success," Lobban said.

Rhodes was the recipient of the Bowman Travel Grant, offered through the Council on International Educational Exchange. The grant is specifically for undergraduates studying in third world countries. Rhodes was one of only 14 recipients in the country.

At AUC Rhodes studied Egyptian art and architecture, literature, religion and ethics. At RIC she had studied Arabic.

It was during her second semester that she, under the guidance of a French Egyptologist, had the opportunity to translate wall text of a tomb. "Learning hieroglyphics was quite an experience," she said.

During the summer session she and four other students spent four weeks in Luxor (The Valley of the Kings) with Kent Weeks, a well-known American Egyptologist. They dug and excavated a tomb in "one of the most important American archaeological ventures in Egypt."

When she wasn't studying, Rhodes and other American study abroad students spent time snorkeling in the Red Sea, visiting the Pyramids and horseback riding in the desert.

Rhodes said classes at AUC taught by American professors were similar to those at RIC although the city of Cairo was very different from Providence. The weather, although unpredictable, was always very hot and smog was also a big problem there.

Rhodes missed the trees and squirrels that abound on the RIC campus, and snow. "I can't wait for it to snow," she said.

This semester she is working with Timothy Wendall in an internship at the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston doing "conservation work." This involves vacuuming and cleaning small statues and then numbering and storing them.

Rhodes also serves as a peer counselor for RIC students who are interested in studying abroad.

She plans to teach someday and will apply to graduate school at the University of California at Berkeley and at Los Angeles and Boston University.

The Lobbans feel that Rhodes will undoubtedly reach her goals. "She's already had field opportunities that some master degree candidates never even get! She has a very promising future in the field of ancient African studies."

Established in the 1987-88 academic year by Ridgway F. Shinn Jr., through the generous support of many of his friends, colleagues, and former students, this fund enables deserving students to experience living and studying in another culture.

Any undergraduate with one year of full-time study at RIC and in good academic standing in any field of study is eligible to apply. For more information, call 456-8105.

## Loft Trio to perform Oct. 26 in chamber recital



THE LOFT TRIO

The Loft Trio with viola, flute and harp will perform Wednesday, Oct. 26, at 1 p.m. in Roberts Hall 138 (recital chamber) as part of the Rhode Island College Chamber Music Series.

Since its inception in 1984, the trio has performed in Rhode Island, Connecticut and New Hampshire. It derives its name from the former Congregational Church in Wood River Junction.

The program will include Ravel's "Sonatine en Trio," Jenkins "Duo Sonata for Viola d'Amore and Harp," Kennan's "Night Soliloquy for Flute and Harp" and Debussy's "Sonate pour Flute, Alto et Harpe."

The recital is free and open to the public.

Trio members are Jennifer Wright Sharp on flute; Joseph Ceo, viola and viola d'amore, and Joan

Harrison Ceo, harp.

Sharp is a graduate of the University of Rhode Island and was formerly an instructor of flute at Salve Regina University. She has performed with the Concerts on the Island Symphony, the Newport Chamber Ensemble and Trillium, and is flutist with Musica Dolce.

Harrison Ceo is principal harpist with the Hartford Symphony, the Connecticut Opera, the Chorus of Westerly, and the Washington Ballet Nutcracker Orchestra. She frequently performs with her husband, Joseph Ceo, in recital.

Ceo performs regularly on the viola d'amore and has commissioned new works by composers Paul Rosenbloom, Joseph Willcox Jenkins and Geoffrey Gibbs.

For more information, call John Pellegrino, series coordinator, at the RIC music department, 456-8244.

## Will present 'Guitar Through the Ages' Oct. 19

Classical guitarist Judith Handler will present a program "Guitar Through the Ages" in the Rhode Island College Chamber Music Series Wednesday, Oct. 19, starting at 1 p.m. in Roberts Hall 138 (recital chamber).

Handler has introduced audiences of all ages to the diverse and enchanting repertoire of the guitar and will give a master class at RIC at 3 p.m. in Roberts 138. Open to the RIC community, it is being sponsored by the College Lectures and Films Committee.

The recital is free and open to the public.

Her performance program will begin with works by John Dowland (1562-1626) which include "Lady Hunsdon's Puffe" and "The Shoemaker's Wife."

Next she will perform Gaspar Sanz's (1640-1710) piece "Canarios" followed by Fernando Sor's (1778-1839) "Variations on a Theme of Mozart, Opus 9," Francisco Tarrega's (1852-1909) "Capricho Arabe," Joaquin Rodrigo's (1902 - ) "En Los Triguales" and Hans Werner

Henze's (1926 - ) "Drei Tentos."

The program concludes with three selections by Annibal Augusto Sardinha (1915 - 1955) and M. Castelnuovo-Tedesco's (1895-1968) "Tarantella."

Handler is said to communicate in a friendly, comfortable manner that leaves her audience feeling entertained and inspired.

Her European appearances include concerts in Siena and San Gimignano, Italy, and Vila-Seca, Spain. She has performed widely throughout the United States, including several performances on Connecticut television and radio.

In 1985, she founded the Connecticut Classical Guitar Society, the third largest of its kind in the country, and serves as its artistic director.



JUDITH HANDLER

# RIC CALENDAR

OCT. 17 — 31

## Sundays

**8 p.m.**—Catholic Mass to be held in Sweet Lounge.

## Mondays

**11 a.m. to 1 p.m.**—Volunteer at a Soup Kitchen. Meet in Chaplains' Office, SU 300 at 11 a.m. For further information, call the Chaplains' Office at 456-8168.

## Tuesdays

**11 a.m.**—Biofeedback-Assisted Relaxation to be held in CL 130. This is an ongoing group sponsored by the Counseling Center. For further information, call 456-8094.

**Noon**—Bible Sharing in the Chaplains' Office, SU 300. For further information, call the Chaplains' Office at 456-8168.

## Wednesdays

**12:30 to 2 p.m.**—Self-Esteem Group for Women to be held in CL 130. This is a 10 week session (Sept. 14-Nov. 30) group sponsored by the Counseling Center. For further information, call 456-8094.

**7 to 8:30 p.m.**—Catholic Student Association meets in Alumni Lounge, Roberts Hall, first floor. For further information, call the Chaplains' Office at 456-8168.

## Thursdays

**Noon**—Prayer Service held in the Chaplains' Office, SU 300. For further information, call the Chaplains' Office at 456-8168.

## 17 Monday

**8:15 p.m.**—Rhode Island College Symphony Orchestra with Stephen Martorella, piano and Edward Markward, conductor, in Roberts Auditorium.

## 18 Tuesday

**Noon to 1 p.m.**—Library Resource Tour. Presented by the Adams Library Reference Staff. Part of New Start Series. Sign up at S.U. Info Desk.

**12:30 p.m.**—Art: "Ceramics in the Contemporary World"—Slide/Lecture by Gerry Williams. Artist Co-op, Art Center, room 5.

**7 to 9 p.m.**—Fabric Photo Album Making. Free. Materials list and sign up at S.U. Info Desk required. Sponsored by the Campus Center. Call 456-8034 for further information.

**8 p.m.**—Comedy Night. Free to be held in the Coffeeground. Sponsored by the Campus Center.

## 19-29 Wednesday

**Art: World Two: A Virtual Artwork in Response to Recent Events in Bosnia.** Virtual reality installation by Jenny Holzer. Tribalism and Post National Identity series in Bannister Gallery during regular hours.

## 19 Wednesday

**12:30 p.m.**—Art: "Art and War: Reconfigured Identity in Yugoslavia"—Lecture by Beth Gersh-Nesic. Tribalism and Post National Identity series in the Bannister Gallery.

**12:30 to 2 p.m.**—Choosing the Right Major for Your Career. Workshop offered by the Counseling Center in Craig-Lee 153. For further information, call the Counseling Center, 456-8094.

**1 p.m.**—Music: Judith Handler, guitar. Chamber Music Series in Roberts Recital Hall.

**2 p.m.**—Forum: "The New Second Generation." Keynote address by Alejandro Portes, author of Miami: City on the Edge. Tribalism and Post National Identity series in Gaige Auditorium.

**8 p.m.**—Theatre: Irene Worth Performs "A Portrait of Edith Wharton." Part of the Performing Art Series held in Roberts Auditorium. Reserved seating \$16, senior citizens and RIC faculty/staff \$14, non-RIC students \$12, RIC students \$4.50.

**11 p.m. to 1 a.m.**—Midnight Madness in the Pool. Free-sign up at Rec Center or S.U. Info Desk. Meet at RIC Recreation Center Pool. Sponsored by RIC Rec Center and Campus Center, 456-8034.

## 20 Thursday

**6 p.m.**—Art: Hate Thy Brother: Documenting Intolerance—Artist's Lecture by Gilles Peress. Tribalism and Post National Identity series to be held in Clark Science 125.

## 21 Friday

**11 a.m.**—Lecture. 1,1'-Ferrocenedicarboxylic Acid: Replacement for Central Amino Acids in a Beta Turn, presented by Ronald Jarret, a 1982 Rhode Island College graduate and Associate Professor of Chemistry at the College of the Holy Cross, in Clark Science 106 as part of the Physical Science Department Colloquium Series.

## 22 Saturday

**10 a.m.**—Boston Museum of Fine Arts. Bus leaves S.U. at 10 a.m. and returns to RIC at 5 p.m. \$6 tickets at S.U. Info Desk. Sponsored by the Campus Center, 456-8034.

## 23 Sunday

**Noon to 2 p.m.**—Kids Halloween Craft Making Party. Wear a costume if you want! Free. Sponsored by RIC ACT, Kappa Epsilon, S.O.S. and the Campus Center, 456-8034.

## 24 Monday

**Noon**—Theatre: "Roger Williams Confronts the Bosnian Debacle: Reality and Virtual Reality"—Performance/Discussion by P. William Hutchinson. Tribalism and Post National Identity series to be held in Bannister Gallery.

## 25 Tuesday

**Noon to 1 p.m.**—Deciding On Your Major. Part of the New Start Series. Presented by the Career Development Office. S.U. 211.

**1 to 2 p.m.**—Resolving Interpersonal Conflict. Part of the New Start Series. Presented by the Counseling Center, Craig-Lee 130.

**7 p.m.**—Film. Romeo and Juliet on a Bridge in Sarajevo. Tribalism and Post National Identity series to be held in Bannister Gallery.

## 26 Wednesday

**1 p.m.**—Music: The Loft Trio. Part of the Chamber Music Series to be held in Roberts Recital Hall.

## Sports Events

### 18 Tuesday

**3:30 p.m.**—RIC Men's Soccer vs. Albertus Magnus College. Home.

**7 p.m.**—RIC Women's Volleyball vs. University of Mass-Dartmouth. Home.

### 19 Wednesday

**3 p.m.**—RIC Women's Tennis vs. Clark University. Home.

### 20 Thursday

**7 p.m.**—RIC Men's Soccer vs. Salve Regina University. Away.

**7 p.m.**—RIC Women's Volleyball vs. Bridgewater State College. Home.

### 22 Saturday

**1 p.m.**—RIC Men's Soccer vs. Colby Sawyer College. Home.

**1 p.m.**—RIC Women's Volleyball vs. Eastern Nazarene College. Home.

### 25 Tuesday

**6 p.m.**—RIC Women's Volleyball vs. Roger Williams College. Away.

### 26 Wednesday

**3 p.m.**—RIC Men's Soccer vs. Nichols College. Home.

### 27 Thursday

**7 p.m.**—RIC Women's Volleyball vs. Clark University. Away.

### 29 Saturday

**TBA**—RIC Women's Volleyball Smith College Invitational Tournament.

**Noon**—RIC Women's Cross Country. Little East Championships. Site: Goddard State Park.

## 28 Friday

**WAVE Ocean State Leadership Conference.** Bus leaves S.U. at 3 p.m. and returns to RIC at 10 p.m. \$5 tickets at S.U. Info Desk (includes dinner). Sponsored by the Campus Center, 456-8034.

**Harvest Classic Semi-formal Dinner.** Reception at 6 p.m. and dinner at 7 p.m. in Omni Biltmore Hotel Ballroom. \$21 tickets at S.U. Info Desk. Sponsored by Classes of 1995, 1996, 1997 and 1998.

## 29 Saturday

**Bus Trip to Salem, Mass.** Bus leaves S.U. at 9 a.m. and returns to RIC at 5 p.m. \$2 tickets at S.U. Info Desk. Sponsored by the Campus Center, 456-8034.

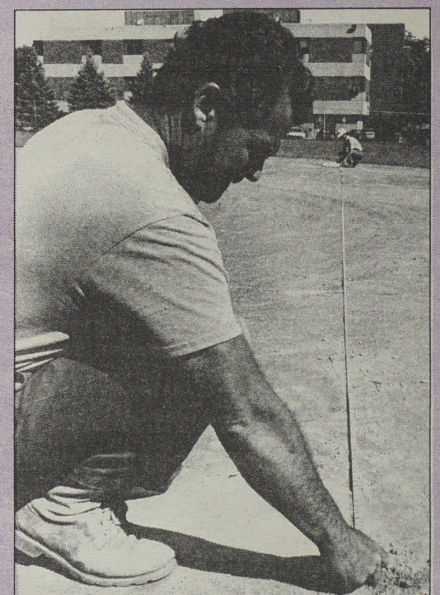
## 30 Sunday

**11:30 a.m.**—Halloween Brunch Bingo. Free. Donovan Dining Center. Sponsored by the Campus Center, 456-8034.

(Saturday, Oct. 29 continued)

**11 a.m.**—RIC Men's Cross Country Little East Championships. Site: Albany, NY.

**7 p.m.**—RIC Men's Soccer vs. Western Connecticut State University. Away.



**FINISHING TOUCHES:** Steven Brodeau (foreground) and Jose Hernandez of Shalvey Bros. Landscape Inc. measure the baseline of the softball field. This summer over \$36,000 was spent to re-sod and refurbish the baseball and softball fields and to top-dress and re-seed the soccer field. (What's News photo by Gordon E. Rowley)