

WHAT'S NEWS

AT RHODE ISLAND COLLEGE

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Handshakes and hugs, cheers and tears mark commencement —

Over 1,300 degrees awarded in two ceremonies

by George LaTour What's News Associate Editor



t was a glorious day for commencement on the Rhode Island College Campus May 23.

That Saturday morning dawned bright with low humidity, temperatures that climbed only into the 70s and a gentle breeze which blew over the 1,000 graduates and the 8,000 to 9,000 people who came to wish them well and witness the annual rite on the Mount Pleasant campus in the College's 144th year.

Family members and friends waved to the graduates, shook their hands, patted their backs, embraced and kissed them as they handed them flowers and balloons.

Speakers imparted wisdom, humor and outright entertainment for those assembled in what one commencement veteran observed was truly a memorable day.

Two days previous, 360 graduate students received their degrees or certificates of advanced study in ceremonies in the New Building during which honorary degrees were bestowed upon Paul L. Binder, founder and artistic director of the Big Apple Circus, a non-profit traveling performing arts troupe dedicated to keeping alive the old-time circus tradition as an expression of American folk art, and posthumously to B. Jae Clanton, former executive director of the Urban League of Rhode Island and a lifelong advocate for minorities.

Her husband, Melvin, accepted the degree on her behalf.

Keynote address

Binder, the keynote speaker, urged students to follow their passions even it if means deviating now and again from their charted career paths.

"You can still join a circus if you want," he added, admitting that this was an improbability for a group of students holding advanced degrees, "but I'm here to tell you that as long as your work is informed by your passions, you'll find the kinds of things you find in a circus — possibility, wonder, beauty."

Speaking on behalf of the graduate students, Katherine A. Brewster, who received a master of social work degree, said the answer to social problems wasn't charity but action. "We have the responsibility to advocate the rights of those we serve."

At that point, Providence Mayor Vincent A. "Buddy" Cianci Jr., who was seated immediately in back of her, stood and shook her hand and kissed her on the cheek to the delight of the hundreds in attendance.

Other speakers included Mayor Cianci, Michael F. Ryan, representing the state Board of Governors for Higher Education, and College



CLASS OFFICERS cheer for their classmates during the awarding of degrees at Commencement '98. From left are Maria E. Cimini, president; Ryan J. Bridgham, vice president; Connie West, secretary; and Brendan K. Lackin, treasurer. For more on commencement exercises, see pages 8 and 9. (What's News Photo by Gordon E. Rowley)

President John Nazarian, bringing the official greetings of the city, the B.O.G. and the College, respectively.

Nazarian noted the nine recipients of the first master of fine arts in theatre degree and said that it represented a terminal professional degree.

Therefore, he asked P. W. Hutchinson, the assistant chair for theatre, to assist in hooding the recipients.

The president said the same applied to the master of social work degree and the certificate of advanced graduate study (CAGS) in the Feinstein School of Education and Human Development.

Consequently, he invited Dean George D. Metrey of the School of Social Work and Dean David E. Nelson of the School of Education to

See Commencement, page 8



MAROCCO CENTER: Steven Marocco (left) and President John Nazarian meet to arrange a gift of \$10,000 from the Marocco family to the College to establish the Marocco Family Student-Athlete Academic Center on the ground floor of the New Building. See story on page 15. (What's News Photo by Gordon E. Rowley)

Annual Fund callers generate ring of success

by Shelly Murphy What's News Editor

Students calling previous donors to the Annual Fund raised an outstanding \$125,000 from more than 3,600 alumni during the Spring Phonathon, according to Cheryl Precopio, Class of 1991, annual fund director at Rhode Island College. Forty-six percent of those who pledged increased their gift amount from the last time they contributed.

The donations pledged during the Spring Phonathon put the Annual Fund well on its way to achieving its \$300,000 goal. Precopio attributes the success of the Phonathon in part to the advance notice alumni received. "We mailed a postcard letting them know we would be calling them during April and May. They were expecting the call and were not only happy to hear from the stu-

See Annual Fund, page 10

The Way We Were...

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



NO, IT'S NOT A SCENE FROM "AMERICAN GRAFITTI," it's the parking lot in front of Roberts Hall in 1960 and those 1950s - and earlier - automobiles belonged to faculty as well as students. (File Photo)

Focus on Faculty and Staff



Len West, adjunct professor in the educational studies department, has completed a series of community service presentations for Reading Week with his new

interdisciplinary curriculum unit for elementary students in the primary grades. His original children's book, My Dog Shag, is the focus for the unit. The presentations featured "Dr. Len Reads Aloud" and "Can you picture this?" instructional models. This project uses desktop publishing to encourage teachers to produce their own curriculum materials utilizing a school computer for typesetting and school photocopier for printing

In addition, West has been selected as a participating educator for a space satellite mission to be launched by NASA from the Space Shuttle in December. He will prepare one of the mirrors covering the outside of the assembled "Starshine" satellite, with the help of college students and Civil Air Patrol Cadets in RI public schools. The results will be used by spacecraft designers and operators for future space missions.

A paper which Charles G. Snow,



Jr., assistant professor of accounting, presented in March at the Northeast Decision Sciences Institute conference in Boston was nominated for its Best Award

and received a certificate of merit. His paper was entitled "A Systems Perspective on Entity Performance." Snow also presented a paper at the American Accounting Association's Northeast Regional Meeting in April. The paper, "Cross-Cultural Teaching: Experiences and Implications," was based on his summer teaching at Clark University in an MPA program for Israelis in conjunction with Israel College.

Robert E. Hogan, professor of English, has been appointed editor of The Leaflet, the journal of The New England Association of Teachers of English, published continuously since 1901. Hogan, a member of NEATE's executive board since 1987, is a past president of the association and a recipient of its Charles Swain Thomas Award.

Lisa Humphreys, assistant professor of mathematics, and Ray Shammas, a math student, jointly presented a poster session entitled "Numerical Investigation of a Nonlinear Differential Equation" in conjunction with the Sigma Xi-Honors Program Student Project Symposium at the RIC Faculty Center May 1.

Duncan White, associate professor of psychology, was sponsored by



the American Psychological Society to participate in the Summit of Psychological Societies. Representatives from 78 U.S. and Canadian behavioral research organization and 11

national research institutes were invited to generate an agenda to advise executive and legislative bodies of their respective federal governments. White is the current past-president of the New England Psychological Association.

Barry Schiller, professor of mathematics, will be discussing at an as yet unannounced date this summer "Mathematics and the Environment" on a new radio talk show entitled "Math Medley" over radio Station WALE (990 AM) Saturdays from 1-2 p.m. The show, featuring various guests weekly, will concern itself with issues on the environment, math, equity, parenting and education.

Apollos Nwauwa, assistant professor of history, presented a paper "Human Rights in Africa: The Case of Nigeria" at the Southern New England Consortium on Race and Ethnicity (SNECORE) spring symposium at Eastern Connecticut State University April 25. And he was invited to participate in the first annual Nnamdi Azikiwe Symposium on Africa and World Affairs at Lincoln University in Pennsylvania April 29-May 1.

Creating A New Service Agenda

Service seminars prompt changes, heighten awareness

"We all want to do better

at what we already do

quite well. - Penfield

by Shelly Murphy What's News Editor

oving furniture, modifying body language and stance, and being more conscious of even the most basic interaction — these are just a few of the immediate responses participants in the Creating a New Service Agenda seminars this semester shared after the first of the two-session workshop. Since the initiative kick-off in January, about 160 participants have completed the workshop and about that same number of interested faculty, staff and administrators have signed up on a waiting list for placement in sessions over the summer and in the fall.

"The response has been great, especially in the comments of people as they come out of the sessions. Going into the class, sometimes people were a bit skeptical. But as they were leaving, I'd hear people saying things like, 'I didn't think it would be so good.,' "said Bette McCabe, manager of classi-

fied employment and training, and co-chair of the Quality Service Screening Committee.

Jason Blank, assistant professor

of sociology and president of the faculty union, RIC-AFT, was one of the skeptical ones going into the class. "I went out of curiosity and also as a person who believed and still do believe that our faculty do provide quality service. I was skeptical," he said. "I found the sessions excellently organized and well-conceived.

"The fact of the matter is that I am firmly convinced that it was preaching to the choir. Those in the sessions are customer-service oriented." However, he added, the sessions were insightful, noting that they pointed out things that "we do automatically sometimes ... for example bouncing the students from one office to another."

McCabe says, "The seminar helps participants become more aware of what they are doing and how it might be perceived from the other person's, (the customer's) perspective.

The Creating a New Service Agenda workshop shows that even simple changes can have a dramatic impact. "The seminars demonstrate that even as an individual, a person can make positive changes that will have a rip-

ple effect rather than feeling that they should sit back and wait because they don't have the authority or capability to make changes. It's good for people to see change coming and realize they can start it now," says Mariam Boyajian, director of Upward Bound and co-chair of the committee.

Jeanne Boichat, of the records office, found the course useful even though she had taken a similar course in the past. "I thought it was enjoyable and found it inspiring and motivating. I thought it should be mandatory." She said she has applied lessons learned in the workshops already. "In trying to defuse people who come to the counter enraged. I just stood back and listened. They knew I was focused on them and listening and it really worked to calm them down," she said.

Other changes were more physical in nature. After completing the quality workshops, Dixon McCool, associate dean of Student Life, and his staff rearranged their office. Simply by reversing the position of the department secretary Barbara

Kingston's desk to face the door, they created a more customerfriendly environment. Now, visitors to the office are greeted by her

smiling face rather than her back. And it's easier for Kingston too because she doesn't have to turn in circles all day. "We were considering the change for some time, but the seminars prompted us to go ahead and do it," says McCool.

These seminars are just the beginning. The committee is compiling a report with recommendations for future training and proposed changes based on the feedback and changes from the participants. This report will provide guidance in developing follow-up training to meet the needs expressed in the evaluation forms.

Gary S. Penfield, vice president for student affairs and dean of students, said the evaluations from the workshops have clearly demonstrated the enthusiasm that the RIC community has for learning and for training and development assistance.

"We all want to do better at what we already do quite well. We are eager for new ideas, for thinking that takes us 'outside the box,' and for constructive feedback all of which contributes to satisfied customers and an improved work environment."

The news and public relations staff wishes everyone a safe and happy summer!
See you in the fall when we will resume publishing.

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Record Upward Bound class graduates; all headed to college



UPWARD BOUND alumni scholarship winners and program counselors are (from left center) Paula Rosario of Central Falls, Monica Tavares of Shea and Luz Sanchez of Central Falls. Counselors are James Walker and Claudia Erazo-Conrad. (What's News Photo by Gordon E. Rowley)

by George LaTour What's News Associate Editor

"You accepted a big challenge. You worked hard. You persevered. You succeeded and your success has brought great honor to you," College President John Nazarian told the record 51 graduates of the Rhode Island College Upward Bound program at its 32nd annual graduation ceremony June 2 in Donovan Dining

All of the graduates have been accepted at various colleges and universities around the United States, a feat, Nazarian noted, no high school in Rhode Island approaches.

Upward Bound is the federalfunded college-based program that prepares selected students from the areas six targeted high schools for completion of high school and acceptance at college. All are the first in their families to attend a four-year college or university.

This year's class was comprised of 22 black, 6 white, 14 Hispanic, 8 Asian and 1 Native American students born in 16 countries, including the United States.

A total of 54 colleges and universities granted acceptance to the graduates, who chose 16 to attend, includIsland, Brown, Georgetown, Providence College, Bryant, Boston Boston College, University. Worcester Polytechnic Institute and the University of Massachusetts.

Keynote speaker Samnang Kea-Or, a member of the 1989 Upward Bound class from Mt. Pleasant High School, who went on to earn a degree at PC and is now a special education and science teacher at the Oliver Hazard Perry Middle School in Providence, told the graduates they were "an extraordinary class."

"Each one of you is unique. You have made it to graduation which means you have achieved one of your goals. All of you have done what was asked and you have done it well."

Kea-Or, who came to this country from Cambodia in 1983, reminded the class they have the power to change their destinies "and make the world a better place for you and your community" and urged them to make the most of their college experience by making it "most adventurous and resourceful."

Other speakers included Mariam Z. Boyajian, program director; Nancy Mayer, state general treasurer, and Gary M. Penfield, vice president for student affairs and dean of students, who offered a salute to the gradu-

Three Upward Bound Alumni

as one from each of the four school districts in which the participating high schools are located.

The winners of the 10th annual alumni scholarships, their high schools, amount of award and the colleges they will attend are: Paula C. Rosario of Central Falls High School, \$2,000, Georgetown University; Monica B. Tavares of Shea High School in Pawtucket, \$1,300, URI; Luz A. Sanchez of Central Falls, \$1,300, PC.

Target School Scholarships presented to the seniors with the highest academic averages are: Rosario, \$250; LaKeisha M. Applegate of East Providence, \$250, Brown University; Denise L. Ramos of Pawtucket, \$250, Brown; Lee Yang of Providence, \$500, URI.

The 1998 Outstanding Service Awards were presented to M. Elizabeth Fusco, former administrator in the admissions office at PC; Joseph Haddad, former assistant superintendent of the Pawtucket School Department; Luis SanLucas, Upward Bound Class of 1983 and chair of the Alumni Scholarship Committee; Paul Vorro, chief of staff of the Providence School Department.

Each was cited for contributions and its students.



EARLY ENROLLMENT PROGRAM (EEP) scholarship winners this year are (center from left) Jill Langford of North Smithfield High, Lay Sun of Classical and Else Arruda of Portsmouth. Flanking them in the Alumni Lounge June 3 are Charles Lawton (left), EEP director, and College President John Nazarian. They were chosen from EEP students from 38 high schools in the program. Each will receive a \$1,000 renewable scholarship for each of all four years at Rhode Island College. (What's News Photo by Gordon E. Rowley)



RIC hosts national jewelry conference

Rhode Island College will host the 19th annual Antique & Period Jewelry & Gemstone Conference July 14-18. This conference, the first and only one of its kind in the United States, was founded in 1980 at the University of Maine in Orono.

Its continued growth is due to an outstanding faculty made up of museum curators, historians, retailers/wholesaler, gemologists, authors and others, and an unusual variety of provocative and timely lectures, workshops and special events, according to a conference brochure.

The emphasis each year is on how to deal with the constantly changing practical and challenging issues facing the experienced jeweler and the neophyte. Registrants attend all lectures and select from a wide range of hands-on and demonstration workshops designed to meet many levels of expertise.

Additional days entitled "Jump Start," on July 12-14, will provide a program designed to teach basic skills, period identification and construction techniques to the new or beginner participant or the gemologist or professional needing a brush-up.

At its conclusion on July 14, participants join the larger group for dinner, cocktails and the opening night lecture. "Jump Start" may be attended independent of the full conference, but limited attendance is essential and priority will be given to conference registrants. "Jump Start" registration is \$25. Tuition for conference attendees is \$175; non-conference \$225. Conference registration is \$50. Tuition at this date is \$450. Meal plans are available. For more information, call Joyce Jonas & Associates at 212-535-2479.

Mathematics camp

Explorations in Mathematics, a week-long mathematics enrichment camp, will be held at the Henry Barnard School July 13-17 and July 20-24. Classes will be held from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. Monday through Friday. The camp features hands-on, challenging approaches to problem solving, mathematical reasoning and communicating ideas. The camp is designed for children completing grades four through seven. The cost to attend is \$150. For further information, contact Gertrude Toher at 401-456-8128 or 456-8127

Yearbooks available

This year's edition of the Rhode Island College yearbook, *Exodus*: Ticket for the Future, can be purchased for \$25. Call 456-8257 to

Also, yearbooks from years past (1930s to 1997 with very few exceptions) are available for \$5 each plus postage and handling. To order one of these, call the alumni office at 401-456-8086.

'Fascinated by what they could see'

Students discover real-life val

by Shelly Murphy What's News Editor

hen you think of research, images of scientists peering into microscopes or bespeckled individuals poring over books likely pop in your head. Erase those outdated images and replace them with ones of elementary students exchanging Haiku poems with children in Japan; nursing students helping pass life-saving legislation or students creating computerized scientific models.

These images are just a glimpse of the dynamic and interactive research that Rhode Island College students initiate this year to impact today, and tomorrow. While research has always been an integral part of the college environment, it is perhaps more pervasive, and certainly more visible and

tangible now.

In the waning weeks of the spring semester as students shared their research in the traditional ways with talks and poster sessions, it was abundantly clear that the research itself was far from just a properly-typed and footnoted term paper.

From sharing Haiku across the ocean to impacting public policy on major health issues right here in Rhode Island, the RIC students took a basic assignment or idea and transformed it into a dynamic project that did far more than just cover a topic. The following is just a brief glimpse at some of the research efforts of RIC students during the spring semester.

If you propose it....

As part of their public policy course, a group of senior nursing students were researching the issue of access to Automatic Electronic Defibrillators (AEDs) and the impact greater access would have on public health in the state of Rhode Island. Their research led them to the scientific support of the premise that greater and quicker access to AEDs could save thousands of lives in America — up to 3,300 lives in Rhode Island alone each year. It also led them to the door of the source of public policy in Rhode Island regarding this issue: Sen. Joseph M. Polisena, D- Johnston, authored the "Good Samaritan" law for AEDs which passed last year. This legislative session, he introduced a bill to purchase two AEDs for every city and town police department in the state to help put them in the hands of the most likely first respondents to a

This is a major public policy and health issue because early defibrillation is key in the American Heart Association chain of survival: early access to the Emergency Medical System, early CPR, early defibrillation and early advanced cardiac care.

The group of students who authored the presentation, "AED Shocking: It Could Save Your Life," interviewed the senator and ended up recruiting him to join them at the annual two-day forum at which nursing students presented their Public Policy projects.

Polisena, a retired firefighter/EMT who is a registered nurse and has a masters in education, discussed his groundbreaking legislation which would be the first in the country to mandate access to AEDs. He also demonstrated how easy an AED is to



EXPLAINING the use of a portable defibrillator is Sen. Joseph M. Polisena, RN and Johnston Democrat. The senator was the main speaker during a presentation on current public policy issues in the medical field held by the RIC Department of Nursing on April 24 in the Student Union ballroom. L to r are nursing student Diane Young, Polisena, Prof. Diane D'Ambra, and nursing student Mary Beth Smith. (What's News Photo by Gordon E.

use at the forum in the Student Union ballroom.

The AED is a lightweight, computerized device that delivers a shock to the heart of a victim of cardiac arrest. To use the machine, all you need to know is basic life skills. The machine recognizes a heart rhythm that needs to be shocked and prompts you on what to do. It won't work if it detects a pulse, Polisena explained.

The students not only learned more about AEDS, they also gained a valuable insight into how they can affect public policy. "I was surprised by how easy it is to reach a senator," said nursing student Diane Young.

"Instead of fear about the unknown with the political machine, we now know that we have the power to access it," said Mary Beth Smith. In addition to Young and Smith, the students in the group were Rebecca Barone, Kelley Dante, Teresa Hook, Emilie Joost, Elizabete Medeiros, and Steven Pechie.

The two-day forum showcased a range of public policy issues in health care, demonstrated how these issues directly affect a health care professional's practice, and emphasized how interested individuals can help shape public policy. Other topics included end-of-life choices, child abuse, drunk driving, teenage smoking, managed care's impact on the elderly, lead poisoning, seat belts on school buses, and sex education.

Research seminar expands horizons

For the first time in its 12 years,

the student research symposium featured presentations on topics other than just science this year. In addition to in-depth scientific reports, topics included the differences in Irish art before and after Christianity and Justice Susan Day O'Connor's legal opinions. The annual symposium is hosted by Sigma Xi, the scientific research society, and the Honors

Six students presented their findings orally and 10 students participated in the poster session. "Most of the students were from the sciences, but we had students from the arts and sciences and computer science. About a third of the students are honors students, but the symposium is open to any student who has done a directed study," said Doug Furton, assistant professor of physics and past president of Sigma Xi.

"Follow through is very important. There is no purpose of doing research if you keep the answer to yourself," Furton said. "The symposium is also an opportunity for faculty to learn from the students and recognize what they've done. They've listened to us for four years, this is a time for us to

The students are also submitting their works for publication in professional journals and, in some cases, using them as a basis for graduate

For instance, Michael Del Signore, who presented on his directed study of Justice O'Connor, discovered that his work will benefit him directly in his constitutional law courses at the University of Connecticut. He views the directed study and the presentation a valuable learning experience, opening his mind to other possibili-

"You can learn a lot more in a directed study because you are reading what you are interested in," Del Signore says. Recalling the difficulty he had in defining a directed study topic initially, Del Signore enthusiastically reports that he already has ideas for other papers. "It's also good practice to speak before a large (and diverse) group. I had to think ahead, to anticipate and explain things



THE CIONA INTESTINALIS, or "sea squirt," was the subject of a study by graduate student Thomas N. Meglio (above), who explains his research during the poster session of student project symposium of the RIC Chapter of Sigma Ki and RIC Honors Program on May 1 in the Faculty Center. (What's News Photo by Gordon E. Rowley)

ue of research



CLASSROOM PROJECT: Student teacher Natasha Axelson explains her project at the poster session for elementary education majors held in Mann Hall on May 13. (What's News Photo by Gordon E. Rowley)

because I couldn't assume they new certain things like I did when I presented to the Poli Sci majors."

Connie West, a double major in anthropology and art history, presented on the Irish High Crosses' artistic tradition. "I approached the departments and said 'I have this crazy idea. Where do I go from here?" They've been invaluable in helping me to do this," West said.

"I was very nervous about this (the symposium). I had no idea how they would respond. I didn't know if they'd nod off," she confides. Her qualms were unfounded as the audience of students and professors totaling about 30 were quite interested. "I found it incredibly refreshing," Furton said.

Taming the Internet

In just it's second year, a project designed to help student teachers use telecommunications and the Internet in the classroom has progressed so

much that it's original name is no longer accurate and its focus has changed dramatically "We had a fabulous time. I'm so glad I ended up in

Initially called TIES (Telecommunications

Instruction to Enhance Science), the project is co-directed by Ezra Stieglitz and Richard Green, both professors of elementary education. It started with grant money to provide training in computers and improve Internet literacy for education students and college faculty so they could apply telecommunications in the elementary grades, primarily in the areas of science and math education.

The students involved in this field test volunteered for the intensive project. Features of this approach will be eventually integrated into the regular part of the student teaching experience. The focus of the training in the field project. And rather than teaching the basics of getting around a computer or surfing the web, the focus was more on sharing ideas about how to use the Internet safely, effectively and creatively in lesson plans.

"Eventually, it (using the computer and Internet) won't be different," Stieglitz said. "It will become seamless. If it fits the lesson, you use it just as you would an overhead, videotape or book."

In the spring semester 15 RIC students were using the Internet for lessons in five Rhode Island school districts. In a poster session in May, they shared the results of their cyberspace journeys to explore topics including biology to geography to writing

Under the guidance of the RIC students, the elementary students shared Haiku poems with students in Japan, wrote their own endings to a "story web" provided on the Internet and read the stories that others students across the world produced from the same "story web," and asked questions of scientists working in the rainforests.

"The kids loved it," said Kelly Gavigan, whose students wrote the web stories. "Any time they get to go near the computer, they are in heaven."

Natasha Axelsen, who led her

fourth-graders into the rainforest via the computer, said, "We had a fabulous time. I'm so glad I ended up in this project. The kids were so enthusiastic and

caught on very quickly."

this project. - Axelsen

Veteran teachers credit Stieglitz and Green for providing the guidance and teaching that makes the program a success. "The students learned how to do research on-line and how to go on-line safely," said Marilyn Perry, Class of 1962 and masters from RIC in 1966, a fourth-grade teacher at Alice Waddington Elementary School in Riverside.

"The RIC students brought the ideas and came well prepared. They guided the students in the Internet, identifying appropriate sites and then letting the students branch out.," said Cheryl Camara, Class of 1967, a fourth-grade teacher at Waddington.

And, branch out they did to explore, discover and connect with people all over the world.

In describing the elementary students' reaction to the Internet lessons, Camara perhaps captured the feelings of all the students involved in research: "They were fascinated at what they could see."

Faculty Research Committee allocates \$57,500 to 45 profs

The Faculty Research Committee has awarded research grants totalling \$57,500 for the upcoming academic year, \$10,000 of which came from the Alumni Association and the RIC Foundation, the first time the two organizations have collaborated on faculty research funding.

Faculty members receiving grants and the titles of their research are listed below.

Peter S. Allen, Regionalism and Local Identity in Southern Greece; Edythe L. P. Anthony, Identification of hypothalamic and pituitary sites of LHRH secretion; Yael Avissar, Construction of a heme auxotroph Salmonella strain for targeted drug delivery to tumors; Pamela J. Benson, Gualdrada and the Emperor's Kiss: the Politics of Narrative in Florentine Legendary History.

Legendary History.
Also, Mary Ann Bromley, The impact of welfare reform on welfare recipients in RI and the impact on immigrant and refugee welfare recipients in R.I.; Lawrence Budner, Background Extra; Roger Clark, Gender Boundaries in Dual-Earner Families; Laura Cooley, Continued Studies of the Excited State Acid-Base Properties of Trisbipyrazine Ruthenium (II); Diana Delia, Ethnicity, Citizenship and the Jews of Alexandria.

And, Stanford E. Demars, The Religious Vacation Resort in America; Rachel Filinson, Evaluation of a gerontological training program for nursing assistants; Dennis Ghindia, Co-Factors Affecting Substance Abuse Among Gay Youth; Terence E. Hayes, Paul Wirz's Pioneering Anthropological Research in New Guinea (continuation); Krisjohn Horvat, Continuing Sculpture Series.

Also. Lisa Humphreys, Investigating the structure of solution spaces for nonlinear dynamical systems; Alema Karim, Gender Impact of Economic Reforms in Developing Countries: The Case of Bangladesh; Thomas T. Kochanek, Influential Factors in the Longitudinal Utilization of Early Intervention Services by Infants, Toddlers, and Their Families

And, Dana Kolibachuk, Molecular Analysis of Poly (3-hydroxyalkanoic acid) Biosynthesis Genes in a Luminescent Vibrio parahaemolyticus; Marc C. Lamontagne, A Novel Method for Determining Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons in Marine

Sediments; Francis J. Leazes & Mark T. Motte, A Study to Assess the Impacts of a Downtown Shopping Mall in Providence, RI; Jianhong Liu, Predicting the Hazard Rate of Reoffending in a Communitarian Society.

Also, Elaine S. Magyar & James G.Magyar, Photo chemical Behavior of Arylcyclopropanes: A Comparison with Ground-State Reactivity; Thomas E. Malloy, Interpersonal Perception in Non-Overlapping Social Groups Within Interdependent Cultures in China and South America; William Martin, Continuing Series of Machine-inspired Sculpture; Charles Marzzacco, The Effects of Surfactants on the Properties of Organic Acids and Bases.

And, Meradith T. McMunn, Study and Description of Western Medieval Manuscripts, Including the Roman de la Rose, in the Grey Collection, The South African Library, Capetown, South Africa; Thomas H. Meedel, CiMDF Expression in the Ascidian Embryo: Distribution of Transcripts in the Primary & Secondary Muscle Lineages.

Also, E. J. Min, A Content Analysis of Local Television Newscasts; Ann Moskol & James Bierden, Math for Elementary Teachers - Does Practice Follow Theory; Rosemary Murphy, Explorations and Adaptations of the Physical Domain of Learning; Jeannine E. Olsen, Education and Vocation in the Reformation and Beyond; George L. Pamental, The Baron's Daughter

And, Russell A. Potter, Arctic Spectacles: Looking to the North in the Nineteenth Century; Stephen P. Ramocki, Physical Fitness and Creativity; Elizabeth H. Rowell, A Search for factors that make a difference in the fostering of emergent literacy in private nonprofit preschool settings; Amritjit Singh, The Road to Home: A Bilingual Edition of Gurcharan Rampuri's Poems

Also, Robert J. Sullivan, Tales of the Trail: Landscapes of the East Bay Bicycle Path; Jane Williams, Patricia Cunningham-Warburton and Carolyn Wood, A Narrative Study of Chemotherapy-Induced Alopecia in a Culturally Diverse Population; Felicia L. Wilczenski, Evaluating the Validity and Reliability of the School Independence Measure; and Ying Zhou, Mathematical Models for Neurons with Dendritic Spines With Recovery Terms.

RIC junior to study in Ireland

Raymond F. Beland of North Providence, a junior philosophy major at Rhode Island College, has won a \$1,200 Elisha Mowry Scholarship from the Rhode Island English Speaking Union to conduct independent research in Ireland this

He will leave June 28 for six weeks during which time he will tour the country, studying the language. This will be his second trip to Ireland, having studied there for a time in the 1996-97 academic year.

Having become interested in language while studying Chaucer and the History of the English Language in Prof. Meradith McMunn's classes, Beland plans to earn a doctorate in linguistics with a focus on the Irish

influence on English.

After graduation from RIC, he hopes to gain acceptance into the doctoral program at Trinity College in Dublin.



He is the son of Raymond G. and Lucille M. Beland. The English Speaking Union of the Commonwealth originated in London in 1918. Its founder was writer and journalist Sir Evelyn Wrench. It seeks to foster cultural links between people of different nationalities.

Rose Butler Browne winners —

Seniors do justice to civic legacy

by George LaTour What's News Associate Editor

wo Rhode Island College seniors, who have been cited for their "willingness to go beyond what is expected" in their service to the community, have been awarded the annual Rose Butler Browne Award this year.

Vernon Brown Jr., of Providence, and Michael Bettencourt, of North Providence and formerly Warren, received the honor named after the late Rose Butler Browne who demonstrated outstanding leadership in professional and community affairs during her lifetime. Browne earned a masters degree in 1919 from the State Normal School, now Rhode Island College, and went on to obtain a doctoral degree in education from Harvard University in 1939, becoming the first black woman to do so.

Brown and Bettencourt received the award at the annual Cap and Gown Commencement May 6 and with it a modest stipend to help in furthering their education.

Vernon Brown Jr.

A secondary education major, who initially thought he'd like to be a lawyer, Brown says now, "I have realized that I would prefer to teach a child and assist in building good morals and values to help him or her make the right choices so as not to fall through the cracks of the system rather than to be that child's last hope on his or her day of conviction.

He has worked in a number of men-



MICHAEL BETTENCOURT

tal health facilities while studying at RIC including the Providence Center, the East Bay Mental Health Center where as a bilingual vocational specialist, and the Bradley Hospital for Children as a bilingual milieu (environment setting) therapist.

Brown also has been involved with a community-oriented organization called Quisqueya In Action which helps to promote youth empowerment, education and pride in one's culture.

> sor David S. Thomas and John-David Thomas, to honor a student who embodies the qualities and values Katherine Murray sought to foster in her teacher education students: excellence in preparatory teaching, commitment to the profession of teaching, a strong academic record and one with emphasis on interdisciplinary preparation beyond General Education, strong equity in society.

Professor Murray died June 10, 1993 at age 54.



VERNON BROWN holds his 7-month-old niece, Ryesha, on Cap and Gown Day (What's News Photo by Gordon E. Rowley)

A native Rhode Islander, he is the son of Joyce and Vernon Brown Sr. and speaks Spanish fluently.

He had attended Roger Williams University for a year before transferring to the University of Rhode Island where he received his bachelors degree in political science in 1990.

He had pursued this track in the hopes of becoming a lawyer. After graduation, he worked as an interpreter and law clerk for a year with an African-American law firm in South Providence before deciding the practice of law was not for him.

While working with high school students as an activity coordinator through an agency called Hispanic Pro-Education and another called SER Jobs for Progress where he served as a job trainer/substance abuse prevention specialist for special needs students, he realized he wanted to become an educator.

"Teachers play a vital role in the lives of children, and it is because of this that I would like to be a part of helping to build a nation of great

'And, because there is a small percentage of people of color in the teaching field, I feel I can be a positive role model for the many numbers of children of color coming into our country," says Brown.

After receiving his RIC degree, Brown plans to continue working with children, take "a couple of courses" in special education and "eventually pursue a masters degree in education.

Michael Bettencourt

A psychology major with a minor in justice studies, Bettencourt, the son Anthony and Geraldine Bettencourt, has been a mentor, residential counselor and respite worker in the Behavioral Health Unit at Family Service in Providence.

He was active in Team Fleet, a civic service group providing outreach through walk-a-thons and community-housing rebuilding projects, and participated in the AIDS Walk-for-Life for three years.

Additionally, he worked in a battered women's shelter and with a New York City civil service outreach program serving the inner-city population. He also volunteered at Family Service in Providence, providing professional caretaking for disadvantaged families with autistic or ADHD children at risk for hospitalization

Currently, he volunteers at the Rhode Island Training School Correctional Facility, tutoring incarcerated youth working to attain their General Equivalency Diploma.

Having been consistently on the Dean's List at RIC; a member of Psi Chi, the honorary psychology society; and selected to Who's Who in American Universities and Colleges, Bettencourt is "really appreciative" of the education he has received at RIC and especially of the one-on-one relationship he enjoyed with virtually all of RIC's psychology department.

"Overall, my academic experiences have strengthened my resolve to be a well-rounded and well-educated social worker," says Bettencourt.

Therefore, he "eagerly anticipates the opportunity to expand my skills to serve families and children more effectively." This fall, he will start his masters program in social work at the University of Pennsylvania



What's News

Langevin, Profughi to teach 'Politics and Govt. on the Internet'

A two-week summer workshop for teachers, principals and public servants on the theme of "Politics and Government on the Internet" will be team-taught by Rhode Island Secretary of State James Langevin and political science Prof. Victor Profughi at Rhode Island College July 7-16.

The workshop, conducted in the tradition of the former popular Taft Institute, will run from 4-9 p.m., I Thursdays. Mondays

The "political participation workshop" introduces participants to the Internet, using electronic mail, producing a Web site and accessing information on politics, among other features "to make the internet work for you in politics, at work and in the class-

Tuition and fees total \$546 for the workshop. Payment is due at the RIC Bursar's Office one week after registration. To register, call the RIC Records Office at 456-8231 and ask for a PIN number for telephone registration. Then call 456-8800 and follow the voiceguided instructions.

For more information or special needs requests, call Profughi at 456-8720, fax him at 949-1384 or e-mail him at vprofughi@aol.com.

Magazine names alumnus top R.I. tech teacher

A 1993 biology and education graduate of Rhode Island College has been named Rhode Island's top technology teacher for 1998 by *Technology & Learning* magazine in its Microsoft-sponsored "Teacher of the Year" program.

Gary Detonnancourt, a biology teacher in the science depart-

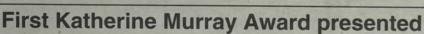


ment Woonsocket High School won the distinction for using computers as a classroom tool and helping other teachers do the same.

Detonnancourt will represent the state at the National Education Computing Conference in San Diego, Calif., June 21. He will be named along with the 49 other state winners in the June issue of Technology & Learning, an education and computer trade

Microsoft also will publish the names of the winners on its company internet website.

The national winner for 1997 was also a RIC graduate. Lucy (Mastrianni) Miller of Carey, N.C. and formerly of Hamden, Conn., Class of 1978, was cited for organizing a SWAT team — Students Working for Advance Technology and her work with other teachers fostering the same.



In addition to being a co-winner of the Rose Butler Browne Award at this year's Cap and Gown Commencement at Rhode Island College, senior secondary education major Vernon Brown Jr., of Providence, was given the first Katherine Murray Award.

The award was established to honor the memory of Professor Murray who taught for many years in the Secondary Education Teacher Preparation Program and the Department of Anthropology/ Geography.

The award was endowed by her husband and son, history profescommitment to fostering intercultural understanding, and an active commitment to promoting greater

Social work student builds new future

by Shelly Murphy What's News Editor

on Jacques has been building things most of his life. As a self-employed contractor, he hadn't planned on going back to school. In fact, he didn't even think he would be successful in college because he hadn't done well academically in high school.

Now, just six years after a spinal cord injury left him paralyzed from the waist down, he has graduated *summa cum laude* from Rhode Island College and earned the respect of his peers and professors. At the Cap and Gown ceremony in May, Jacques received a standing ovation from his fellow student as he accepted the Bachelor of Social Work

Community Service Award.

While earning a cumulative grade point average of 3.92 and building a new career for himself, Jacques, 33, also worked as an advocate for accessibility. He served for three years as the Americans with Disabilities Advocate for the Ocean State Center for Independent Living; for three years as a member of the State Building Code Board of Appeals, including vice chair of the Accessibility Subcommittee; and as a member of the State Building Code Standards Committee.

He has been instrumental in improving accessibility across the state, ranging from curbs and ramps in public spaces, including the RIC campus, to the entrance to the school track in his hometown of West Warwick. Jacques is modest about his accomplishments and his role as an advocate. He says he didn't intend to become a champion or the "poster child" for accessibility, it all started

with a simple desire to exercise.

"I wanted to go to the track to keep my weight down, but the wheelchair couldn't fit through the small opening in the chained gate that was the only entrance." When the school committee declined to change the entrance, Jacques called the mayor. Eventually the entrance was changed.

After that, Jacques ended up serving as the mayor's coordinator for the physically challenged in a volunteer capacity. His efforts helped the town qualify for a \$70,000 community development block grant for improvements in town.

He notes that many of the improvements can be done with no additional cost if it's done right the first time. "People take steps in the right direction. Something might look good on paper, but you need to look at it from the perspective of a person in a wheelchair," he says.

Jacques has adopted a pragmatic approach to accessibility and life itself. "I'm here because I



DON JACQUES

want to be independent, because I have aspirations to do something. I'm not out to change the world." He says he "chooses his battles," focusing on obstacles in his direct path. "I have to get there. It's obvious that others will benefit as well."

This kind of personal approach was also instrumental in his pursuit of a career in social work, and ultimately in elementary education after he completes his masters which he starts this summer. After his spinal cord injury, Jacques and his family were not only coping with his condition and loss of income since he was self-employed, but also were faced with maneuvering through a complicated health care and social services system.

Jacques spinal injury came on abruptly with very little warning — just a handful of times when he felt weakness in his leg, which he attributed to a pinched nerve. Then one morning, everything

In relating the experiences of six years ago, Jacques shares vivid details and poignant feelings of the tragic morning, evoking a picture as clear as if it happened yesterday.

"I was sitting at the table one morning eating breakfast. I got up to make a phone call and then sat down to put on my boots," he relates. As he bent down for his work boot a searing pain swept through his back, causing him to scream and run around the house in agony. His wife came running in, asking what was wrong and suggesting she call an ambulance.

A few minutes later he fell on the floor and couldn't move at all. "I told her she could call an ambulance then." He remembers his son, Ethan, who was then six months old, and his daughter, Brandi, who was then two years old, watching him be wheeled out on the stretcher.

"It didn't seem real," he says of the paralysis. "It was like a switch had been turned off. It seemed like it should be able to be turned on again. I had a lot of hope which helped with acceptance."

It turns out that his injury was caused by bone fragments from a herniated disk which created a blood clot and initiated a "stroke to the spinal cord," causing permanent damage.

He spent three months in rehabilitation, including occupational rehabilitation where the focus is on retraining people so they can work. Watching his wife, Paula, struggle through the bureaucratic maze opened a door for him as he sought a new livelihood. "My wife got the run-around, was given wrong information and sometimes was treated like dirt." Seeing a real need Jacques said, "I decided that social work was something I could do from a

He enrolled in the Community College of Rhode Island, because it was "close to home and not too expensive. I didn't think I would do well. I surprised myself."

He then transferred to RIC where he continued to excel. As a result of hisinternship in the Coventry school system working with teachers, students and parents, he decided that he wants to teach at the elementary school level. Once he finishes his masters and gets his accreditation, Jacques would like to teach in Coventry or West Warwick.

His endeavors are firmly supported by his family, even his children "after I told them they didn't have to worry about my teaching them." His wife, who is now attending CCRI to become a teacher's aide, has been his driving force.

"I give my wife credit. I wouldn't have done anything I've done without her. She's 90 pounds soaking wet, but she helped push me up ramps in the snow during exams and has come with me to lots of events and functions (in case he needed help getting around)."

Physics and math whiz scores four academic awards

by George LaTour What's News Associate Editor

"Students like Jack and those who will graduate with him are why this institution continues to build on its reputation for academic excellence that it has earned since its founding in 1854," College President John Nazarian told the audience at the recent annual Alumni Awards Dinner in the Donovan Dining Contor

The "Jack" he was referring to is John W. Laiho III of Middletown, who graduated May 23 with a double major in mathematics and physics.

Laiho earned four academic awards: the Christopher R. Mitchell Award, which is presented to the outstanding mathematics major from the senior class; the Ronald J. Boruch Award, which is presented to an outstanding graduating senior majoring in chemistry, physics or general science; the Departmental Physics Award, which is the highest award presented by the physics faculty, and the Eleanor M. McMahon Award, which is presented to a graduating senior in the College Honors

He has been the recipient of a RIC Foundation Honors Scholarship all four years at RIC.

Laiho graduated with highest honors with a cumulative grade point average of 3.96, with a perfect 4.0 average in math.

For two years he was part of the RIC team that participated in a nationwide mathematics modeling competition and last summer worked at Penn State University working on anti-matter confinement in the National Science Foundation's undergraduate research program.

His senior honors project, under the supervision of Douglas G. Furton, assistant professor of physics, on "Optical Constants of Carbon Thin Films," using a computer software program called "Mathematica," will be submitted for publication in the Astrophysical Journal.

During his years at the College he has helped tutor other students in physics, has served as an officer of the Physical Sciences Club, and has been a contributing cartoonist for the student newspaper, *The Anchor*.

"Well, I only did a couple of cartoons," says Laiho.

"I was surprised to learn that this young man, who comes across as modest and unassuming, is trained in the martial arts and is a member of the Combative Arts Club at the College," noted Nazarian.

Laiho is seeking a physics internship for the coming year and would like nothing better than to be engaged by the Naval Undersea Warfare Center (NUWC) in Newport which, according to its homepage on the Internet, is seeking "highly motivated scientists and engineers" to help ensure America's undersea superiority.

After that, he plans to enter a Ph.D. program in physics, hopefully at MIT "but I'm not sure."

He wants to specialize in some aspect of physics, being particularly

interested in cosmology, particle physics and relativity.

His long-term plans call for a continuation of his research in physics and becoming a college professor.

More immediate, however, is what to do this summer.

To "keep away from physics," he'll be working as a grounds keeper at the International Tennis Hall of Fame in Newport — "it's relaxing."

It seems Laiho comes from a "ten-

nis family." His mother, Kit, teaches tennis at Laiho's grandfather's club next to the Hall of Fame. Bud Turano is in his late 70s and "still teaches tennis." Laiho's two younger sisters, Shannon and Whitney, are accomplished tennis players at different universities in Florida.

"We're a tennis family," says Laiho, "but I'm not that competitive. My sisters are good," he says with obvious pride.

Laiho's also very proud of his dad, John W. Laiho Jr., who has a doctorate in law and served as a contract administrator for Raytheon before giving up the fast track for an auto mechanics job and "is so much happier now," says Laiho.

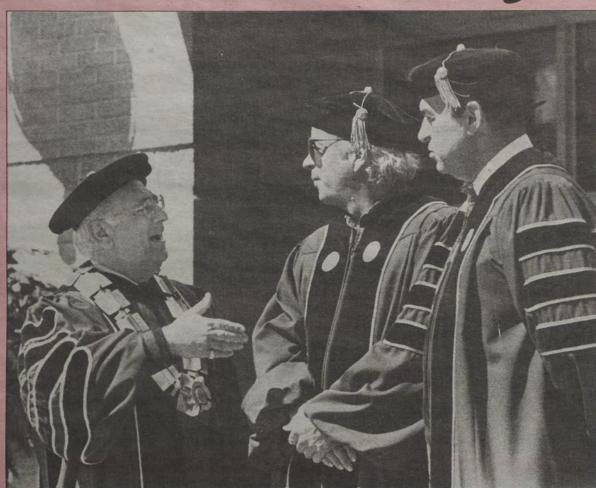
The young physics and math whiz credits Paul Mello, a teacher at Middletown High School, for steering him toward physics.

And, he's quick to credit the individual attention he received from the RIC faculty as "great."

He says he may have missed research opportunities through graduate-level courses at say Brown or Harvard, "but I wanted a liberal arts education." That education was achieved nearby at RIC at a far smaller cost.

"Rhode Island College offers the best education for the money," attests Laiho.

Handshakes and hugs, cheers and tears mark commencement 1998



PRESIDENT JOHN NAZARIAN (left) talks with honorary degree recipients Spalding Gray (center) and Armand LaMontagne just before the official start of ceremonies.

Continued from page 1

assist in their respective hoodings.

Musical selections were provided by The American Band under the direction of Eugene Pollart.

Undergrad commencement

Speaking at Saturday's undergraduate commencement, Gov. Lincoln C. Almond thanked President Nazarian for his leadership of the College through the years and "he and his staff for the beauty of the campus today."

He noted that RIC has "excelled in the arts" and soon would be starting construction of its new arts center. Following this, George Graboys, chairman of the B.O.G., urged that the new arts center be named for Nazarian.

Noting that he has been a part of RIC since 1950, Nazarian recalled the earlier alumni awards dinner which "celebrated the fulfillment of the promise shown by graduates of previous years" and urged the graduates to fulfill the promise they began with an education at RIC.

He added: "As your future is bright, so is the future for Rhode Island College."

In his address Spalding Gray, the Rhode Island-born monologist and actor, said now that he was back in Rhode Island "trying to impart some wisdom" that "I know that I don't know.

"My heroes are still the ones who do the best in the face of not knowing...who walk a tightrope over the abyss and somehow manage not to litter."

The unique storyteller, noted for his monologues including the Obie-award-winning Swimming to Cambodia, was awarded the honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters. Armand M. LaMontagne, known internationally for his portrait sculptures of sports and

historical figures such as Ted Williams and General George Patton, was awarded an honorary Doctor of Fine Arts.

An inspired rendition of A. B. Androzzo's "If I can help somebody... then my living will not be in vain" was sung in an unaccompanied voice by Newport's Michael N. Browner Jr., a secondary education graduate.

If the audience's response was genuinely appreciative of Browner's performance, it was positively elated over that of Beth Dowling Whaley's reminiscences about the Class of 1948.

"Some things never change, but some things do," said Whaley, removing her mortarboard and handing it to classmate E. Virginia Downey O'Connor.

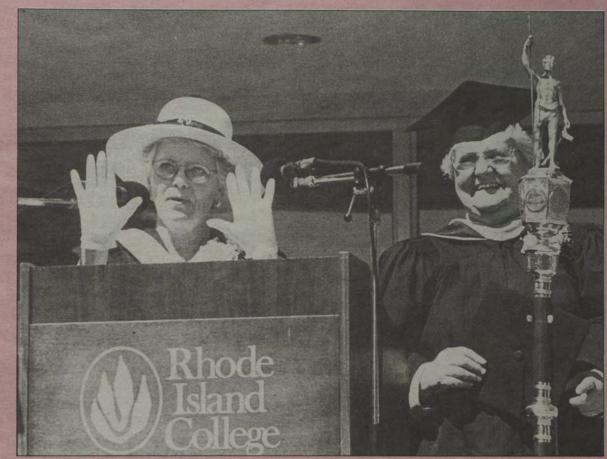
She then donned a white-brimmed hat and white gloves, saying that when she was in school no one would have attended such an important event without those essentials.

She described her days during the end of World War II "going without nylons, butter and men" in a class of 72 women and 2 men at what was then the Rhode Island College of Education

She then sang a verse of "As Time Goes By" to show how some things change and some don't. Then she put on a baseball cap, which her classmate appropriately turned around backwards for her, and proceeded to give a rap version of the same song which was met with uproarious laughter and applause.

As representatives of the Class of 1948, they gave the Golden Anniversary class gift of \$11,003 to Nazarian.

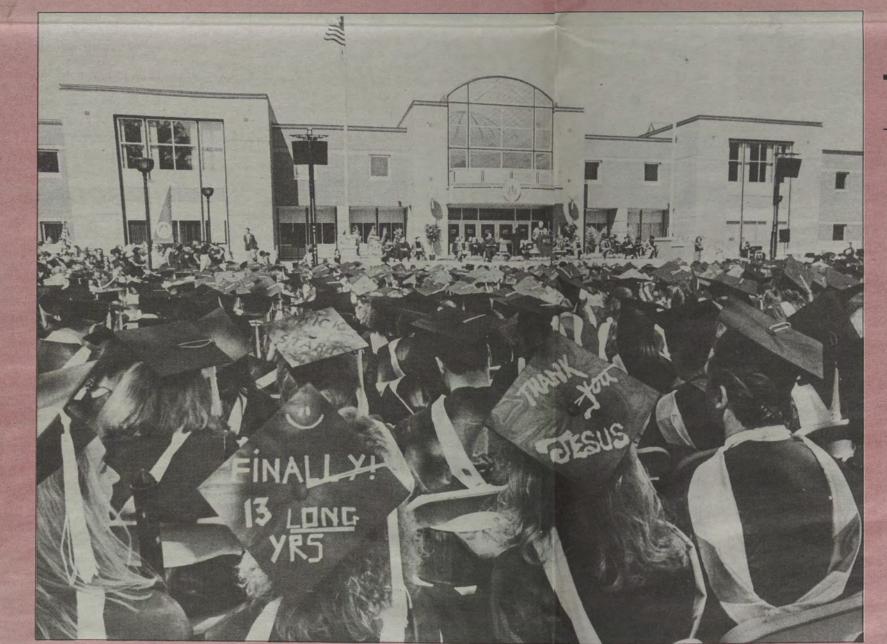
President of the Class of 1998 Maria E. Cimini offered farewell remarks, and Lucia Napoli Amado, vice president of the RIC Alumni Association, welcomed the class as new alumni.



THE DRESS CODE for special events in the 1940s, including straw hat and white gloves, are donned by Beth Dowling Whaley, Class of 1948, who along with classmate Virginia Downey O'Connor (right) represented the Golden Anniversary class. During her address, Whaley sang a traditional rendering of "As Time Goes By," then bowled over the crowd by switching to a baseball hat and singing a rap version of the song.



A SANDWICH BOARD was used to thank the supporters of social work graduate student Mary Beth Healy, during the graduate commencement on the evening of May 21 inside the New Building.



THE DECORATED MORTARBOARDS of Lisa Savage (left) and Diana Santos, both nursing majors, stand out from the sea of caps and gowns in front of the New Building. Lisa's degree took 13 years of both full- and part-time study.

Photos by Gordon E. Rowley



AFTER TWO YEARS in Upward Bound, a summer in the Preparatory Enrollment Program (PEP) and four years as an undergraduate, Janice Sims receives her degree from College President Nazarian.



A FAMILY EVENT: Graduated senior Carla Orlando (center) poses for a photograph with family members after commencement exercises.

Taking pride in our accomplishments

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION ANNUAL AWARDS DINNER: College President John Nazarian (center) joins honorees at the Rhode Island College Alumni Association annual awards dinner on May 14. Also pictured (I to r) are Janet O'Connor, assistant director of student financial aid, the alumni staff award; Linda Cipriano, executive director of the YWCA Greater Rhode Island, the Charles B. Willard Achievement Award; Anne Walsh Cain, alumna of the year; and Arthur Smith, professor of mathematics, the alumni faculty award. Awardees not pictured are Ted Sanderson, representing the Rhode Island Historical Preservation & Heritage Commission and J. Daniel Lugosch, III, managing partner/CEO, Commonwealth Development Group, accepted the alumni service award.





ALUM OF THE YEAR: Holding the engraved plaque featuring the names of all 41 people who have received the honor over the past four decades is Sid Cohen, Class of 1940 and president of the Alumni Association. Cohen, Alum of the Year for 1993. He is surrounded by the recipients of the annual award who attended the dinner. The name of the winner will be added each year. (What's News Photos Gordon E. Rowley)

Annual Fund

Continued from page 1

dents, but were also very generous. They also enjoyed talking to current students and catching up on what's happening at the College today," she said.

As of the first week of June, over \$100,000 in gifts had been collected and another \$69,000 in outstanding pledges had been generated, propelling the Annual Fund past the halfway mark toward achieving its goal.

"We are thrilled with these early results and the generosity of our alumni. But we still have a long way to go," said Marguerite M. Brown, director of development. "This year's Annual Fund Committee has risen to the challenge after last year's record-breaking campaign. They have set a very ambitious goal and are working very hard to raise money for schol-

arships, family support and alumni programs.

programs.

In the 1998 academic year, about 80 students received schol-

arships and emergency assistance totaling over \$70,000, Brown said.

Volunteers will be calling fellow alumni

during t h e Alumni Phonathon on June

15, 25 and 30 to ask for their help in reaching the goal.

In addition, the Annual

Fund appeal letters were mailed in late May. A few students will continue to call alumni throughout the

summer and pledge reminders will be mailed.

The Annual Fund committee, led by Precopio and chairperson Paul Bourget, Class of 1969, has recruited community leaders and marketing professionals to serve as volun-

marketing advisory committee. This group is brainstorming ideas to ensure the success and development of

the Annual Fund for this year and the future.

The advisory committee members are: Fran Driscoll, Class of 1961, senior vice president of external affairs, corporate communications and development at Roger Williams Medical Center; Don Driscoll, Class of 1954, an arbitrator and mediator with Palumbo/Driscoll Associates; Mike Montecalvo, Class of 1984. and news director/public affairs at radio station WWRX; Herb Cummings, RIC's executive-in-residence and retired president of Citizens Bank; Leonore DeLucia, vice president for administration and finance; Inez Cote, Class of 1976, and a member of the Alumni Board.

The advance postcard for the phonathon and the creation of this year's theme *Keep the Flame Burning* are examples of the committee's work.

First Thorp Hall supervisor celebrates 90th birthday

by George LaTour What's News Associate Editor

hen she was born the "unsinkable" Titanic had yet to meet its fate; electricity (and, consequently, the telephone and radio) was not yet in wide use in American homes, and World War I — "the war to end all wars" — was still years away.

The life of Ella M. (Williams) Greene of Wakefield — born in 1908 — has thus far spanned the years from the horse and buggy era to that

of the space age.

"It's been a very exciting, wonderful life. God's been very good to me," says Greene, who, with her four children, 21 grandchildren and 24 great grandchildren will celebrate her 90th birthday at an as yet undetermined date toward the end of this month — "when all the grandchildren and great grandchildren are out of school."

Her actual birthday was June 4.

Born and raised in Fall River, she graduated from Durfee High School. Then, she moved to the home of an aunt in Providence to start her daily treks via the "street car" (trolley) starting in 1926 to what was then Rhode Island College of Education (RICE), having changed its name from the Rhode Island State Normal School in 1920.

She was to meet her future husband, Frank Greene, at RICE in January of 1926 when they were both freshmen. Frank had been a transfer student from Providence College to which he returned later and from which he graduated.

His affiliation with what was to become Rhode Island College was not over, however. In 1946 he returned to teach English which he did for the next 20 years.

Class of 1930

By then, of course, Ella had completed her bachelors degree in education and received her diploma in 1930 "and got married right away."

"When Mom went to RIC, it was free," notes her daughter, Dorothy, a recently retired Ph.D. professor of English from the Community College of Rhode Island with whom Greene shares a house, actually living in her own basement apartment.



ELLA GREENE holds a photo taken on her 50th wedding anniversary of herself and her late husband, Frank, who was a professor of English at RIC for 20 years. They were married for 59 years prior to his death in 1989. Site is Ella's home in Wakefield which she shares with her daughter, Dorothy. (What's News Photo by Gordon E. Rowley)

"She received a good education there and she's always been grateful for it," adds Dorothy.

Greene worked for a period of nine years at Mrs. Stiness' (Nursery) School in Pawtucket before becoming the first resident supervisor of RIC's Thorp Residence Hall in 1961. Dorothy Pieniadz was dean at the time, she recalls.

"I went from nursery school to college," says Greene with a chuckle.

She and her husband both lived in the residence hall for a time.

"Talk about small rooms. There

was a bedroom and living room. Frank just had to fall out of bed to be at work," remembers Greene.

She says that there was a strict code of behavior for the all-girls dorm.

"We had a curfew and the boys had to sign in to pick up their dates. They never went to the rooms," she insists.

Greene had six resident assistants to help her watch over the 144 girls in Thorp.

The students considered her their housemother and always called her "Mrs. Greene" in respect for her position.

"She is known and loved by hundreds of RIC graduates," attests Dorothy.

A wonderful 10 years

Greene says she had "a wonderful 10 years" as dorm supervisor, retiring in 1971.

Husband Frank left RIC in 1966. Considered an outstanding teacher during his 20-year tenure, students twice dedicated their yearbooks to him, notes Dorothy. After RIC, Frank went on to teach at Salve Regina and Bryant for five more years before retiring with Ella.

Of course, during their time at RIC Prof. and Mrs. Frank Greene got to know virtually everyone on campus, some today considered legends at RIC, people like Mary Tucker Thorp herself and professor of music Rita V. Bicho for whom an annual music award and concert are named. The Greenes shared a house at one time with Rita and her sister Mary.

"Rhode Island College has been a very important part of her life," Dorothy says about her mother. "Nothing would please her more than being recognized by the College that has played such a major role in her long life."

Interviewed recently in her bright and cheery apartment, Greene says she is "feeling fine" and gets around all right. She's been living with her daughter in Wakefield for the past year and a half. Before that she lived in Cape Coral, Fla., for 14 years, remaining there even after her husband died in 1989.

Besides Dorothy, Greene's children are her oldest, Jack, who resides in Detroit and Fort Myers, Fla.; Joyce, who graduated from RIC in 1957 and who now resides in Pittsburgh and Boca Raton, Fla., and David, who earned a masters degree from RIC in 1985 and now resides in East Greenwich as a retired school teacher.

They'll all be together soon at the Watch Hill Inn to celebrate Mom's birthday.

Asked what she thinks of the world today from the perspective of 90 years, Ella Greene's bright blue eyes twinkle as a smile crosses her face.

"How times have changed," she muses. Then pausing briefly adds, "The world's gone crazy."

Donovan Dining Center employee Alice Reeder is 'RIC's Mama'

by George LaTour What's News Associate Editor

"The kids make me feel good," says Alice Reeder of North Providence, a long-time food service employee at Rhode Island College's Donovan Dining Center.

And she makes them feel good, too. More specifically, she's been a friend and counselor, mother and big sister to countless RIC students since 1977, giving them encouragement when they would hesitate, advice when they faltered, a soft shoulder to cry on when necessary and just plain love — always love.

She's RIC's Mama, an unofficial but loving designation bestowed upon her by "her kids" years ago and officially noted recently on the campus when graduating seniors dedicated their year-end festivities — called

RIC END — to her.

She's worn with pride a baseball cap with the words "RIC's Mama" on it since at least 1996 when the RIC Staff Award was bestowed upon her by the RIC Alumni Association.

Add to that this year a T-shirt which says "Mama said 'There'd be days like this' RIC END '98, April 19-25."

"That's the best. I wouldn't feel so good if I won the lottery," exclaims Reeder.

The state Senate and House of Representatives also took official note in April of Reeder as "RIC's Mama" when both issued official citations to her offering "sincerest congratulations"

She recalls that years ago one student said she reminded him of his mother "and the name stuck," says Reeder.

"What is it to smile and say 'Hi' (to a student)," asks Reeder, who most always does so with a cheery smile. She says sometimes the students — many away from home for the first time — get lonely or depressed.

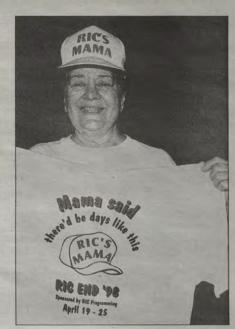
"One kid felt alone and down in the dumps and said he felt like jumping off a bridge," relates Reeder. She quickly assessed the situation as only an experienced psychologist/public relations professional would and told the student with a straight face, "Well, come on. I'll push you off the bridge."

Shocked, the student began to laugh and Reeder joined in and the crisis had passed.

Reeder, who came from a family of eight children, says, "We were always taught to love and respect people. And we always pitched in to help one another"

"I don't have much education," says Reeder, "but if I can help one person, I'm happy."

She adds: "I haven't met one bad kid yet."



ALICE REEDER

Dean's List for Sp ring 1998 semester

Full-time students who attain a minimum grade point average of 3.25 in any semester h ave their names placed on the Dean's List in recognition of their scholastic achievement.

Anna Maria Abrams Marilyn A Ackaway Jeffrey D Adams Sandra R Aguiar Frances S Aherr Sana Al-Masri Richard Alarie Robert W Albanese, II Amy A Albuquerque Jennifer M Albuquerque Heather R Alexion Stephanie L Alfano Matthew V Allder Erika J Allen Matthew R Allen Jamie B Allienello Dennis P Almeida Jason T Almeida Jeffrey S Altomari Melissa E Alves Valerie M Alviti Colleen Y Amaral Nancy M Amaral Nobina M Amara Laura M Ames Thomas J Anderson Beverly Andrade Christine L Andrade Brent T Andrew Beckley E Andrews Herbert W Angel Gayle W Antunes Sondra N Arnold Jessica B Arrighi John R Arrigo, Jr. Nicole M Arsenault Ronald W Asal Kelley-Ann Asciolla Anthony S Assanti Cynthia A Aston tephanie R Atwood-Tucker Jason P Audet Theodore J August, IV Natasha J Axelson Nina M Bachini Patricia M Bacon Andrew J Bailey Kelli A Bailey Steven M Bailey Thomas M Bain, Jr. Denise C Bairos Leonard S Baker J Donna M Balcom Damien J Baldino William D Ballard Gregory J Barker Lori A Barkett David J Barr Helena D Barros Laura R Barry Rebekah R Bascombe Suzanne M Batorski Scott R Baum Joshua P Beagar Christine M Beaubier Sarah E Beaubien Danielle M Beaudoin Holly E Beaudry Charlene M Begir Raymond F Beland Patricia J Bentley Tabetha D Bernstein Nancy M Bertrand Heather A Bethune Lynn A Bettencourt Jennifer M Bettez Charles G Bibeault Pasha C Bilyj Linda R Binder Erika L Blais Christina L Blanchard Cynthia H Blythe Rachel L Bodner Catherine M Boisvert Heather J Bolenis

Eric O Bonsu

Thomas P Conlon Stephanie N Booth Brian D Conrad Kerri-Lynn Constancia Susan M Boragine Brian R Bordieri Jeremy C-Bosco Richard A Conti Colleen M Converse Maria J Bouchard Michelle M Bouchard David J Boucher Jennifer Cook Sheri A Boucher Nancy B Cooksor Robin Boudreau Stephen R Coope Michele A Bourgoin Susan I Copley Nicholas M Bousquet Russell J Bowden, II Jennifer L Cordeiro Stephanie L Boyd Lidia M Cordeiro Allison L Boyden Gail M Cormier Stephen J Brady Kristen L Cornwall Christy J Brancatell Marc D Correia Eric M Corrigan Jennifer L Brandt Katherine E Brennan Jean M Costa Melissa A Costa Courtney E Briar Ryan J Bridgham Erin C Costigan Moira K Costigar Kristy C Brouillard Heather M Brown Todd J Couchon Jennifer M Courtney Kristen L Brown Nathan A Brown Lucia Couto Kelly D Couture Sandra J Brown Michael N Browner, Jr. Michael C Cranshaw Jennifer L Crapulli Amy Bruno Kyle J Bryer Jessica L Crawley Jane M Bucci Shannon K Crawley Kerri A Crescenzo Kelly A Buckley Michael J Buckley Scott Budnick Elizabeth A Crowley Julia A Crowley Diane M Bugner Amy L Burgess Jose A Cruz Deborah J Burlingame Steven J Cuddy Catherine M Cummins Rebecca A Burns Matthew D D'Agenais Cindy A D'Ambra Elisabeth J Burton Courtney J Bush Erin L Butler Melissa A D'Amico Daria L D'Amore Jennifer K Butler Kristen M Cabral Paul A D'Ercole William J Cafaro Sergio E Da Costa Sheila K Cahill Kristin A Calabro Bethany A Davis Hope M Davis Tricia A Calise Howard L Davis Joshua P Camara Jamie C Davis Todd N Cambio Julie A Davis Margie K Campanelli Mark R Campopiano Margaret M De Angelis Beata De Conti Jenny L De Gregorio Michelle A Canava Joseph C Capalbo Stefanie De Long Daniel J Caparco Sherry A De Macedo Jennifer L De Palma Gail A De Simone Mary A Caporelli Jacquelyn T Cappelli Holly E De Simone Lynn-Marie Card David M Dekonski Robyn M Del Ponte Nina C Cardoso Gina M Del Pozzo Nicole L Carey Michael K Del Rosso Joy M Carletti Robin L Del Santo Angela M Carlino Kristin M Carlino Michael A Del Signore Melissa A Demers Frin C Dennigan Katie A Carlson Alicia M Deroy Kerianne Carlson Kristen L Desvovaux Donald L Carrara Jacques A Dextradeur Michele M Di Giulio Lori Casali Lisa D Di Martino Amanda J Casiano Michele L Castagliuolo Dawn M Di Petrillo Stacey A Castellucci Jodie L Di Pierro Michael P Cellemme Joanne M Di Raimo Nicole J Centazzo Melissa M Di Tommaso Jill Chandronnet Sarah J Diggle Melissa A Chenail Kerri A Dionne Wai Ming Cheung Tracy A Dipetrillo Sandra M Choquette Robyn M Doiron Sheila C Ciccone Alexis T Dolock Karen M Cipriano Jamie C Donahue Kathryn Dorazio Cathleen M Dowd Paul A Cirillo, Jr. Jessica S Clark Tammy C Drake Christina M Clay Tracy J Cledes Jeffrey L Drury Kimberly A Dubois Marc N Dubois Kristen M Cobb Michael C Coggeshall Kerri L Dubord Elizabeth L Dudley Shana Dupre Giustinian E Colarusso Merrill A Cole, Jr. Patricia C Duran Heidi B Durand

Christine D Conant

Julie M Conca

Michaela M Dwyer

Malgorzata Dziadkiewicz

Carol Dzialo Nicole S Dziok Sharon A Eagleson Christina L Economopoulos Roland Edouard Joshua P Eirman Cynthia M Eldridge Olutavo E Elemo Dorie F Ellison Claircine Emile Shana E Emmett Mark D Ercoland Wendy L Erickson Luis J Escobar Erica D Evans Michael R Fahey Charity A Fairbanks Christopher J Farias Derrick R Farish Elizabeth A Favata Carla A Fazio Cheryl A Feeley Pauline L Feldhus Lauren G Feldman Laurie-Ann Ferland Michael S Ferreira Sandra R Ferreira Amanda M Ferriola Amy E Field Brian C Fineberg Lisa M Finucane Thomas K Fitzgerald Fred Fletche Jeremy J Flori Alissa J Florio Lori A Fogarty Karrie K Folco Lori B Fontana Heather R Forand Elizabeth A Forte Michelle L Forte Susan M Forte Jenna L Fournier Kevin P Fox Sandra P Fragoso Anthony Francisco John P Fredericks Michael A Fredette Richard P Fredette Adam G Freedman Jessica L Fregeau Noelia M Freitas Lynda M Friedman Nilton A Furtado Michael J Fusaro Jamie L Gaglione Raymond J Gagne, II Donna D Gallagher Joanna M Gallo Meredith A Gallo Richard A Gameli Kerri L Garvin Anne-Marie Gaspa Katherine B Gately Timothy F Gaulin Jaime A Gauvin Michael B Gavitt Carrie B Gelinas Stephanie N Gelsomine Christine E George Kathleen A Gifford Jennifer J Gilbert Joseph M Gilbody Heather R Gilheene Kim P Gilligan Brian F Girard Kami R Girolimon Stephanie A Giroux Michael G Gobin Peter G Gobin Laurie M Goff Alison M Gomes Fernanda M Goncalves Rachel Goncalves Malia J Goodwin Diane M Goralski **Christine Gormley** Benjamin P Goulet Mary B Gousie Michelle M Gouveia Olivia F Gouveia Amy K Gower

Christopher D Grace

Jessica L Grant

Eric J Greenlund Alissa K Greenough Lisa O Gregoire George R Grimes Edicta M Grullon Janet A Guerrero Greta A Guilbault Karen A Guilmette Debra J Gustavso Jenny R Hallal Elizabeth M Hallorar Maryellen M Halloran Ann-France Hamill Denice M Handren Robert F Hanlon Sarah R Hannawa Efstathia Hantzopoulos Kathleen A Hardiman Robin Lee Harpir Jill M Harraka Lynne M Harrison Lisa M Haruber Jacquelyn M Hassel Christi M Hastings Lynn M Healey Laura J Hebert Tracy M Hedley Jason A Hencler Joan L Hencler Kathryn E Hennessey Kevin P Herchen Abraham Herrera Holly-Jane Hewitt Melissa A Hevwood Jessica L Hiatt Laura B Hicks Amy E Hines Eileen S Hinsley Shannon M Hintor Anissa L Hoard Bethany R Hogar Karin L Hogan Stephen J Holahar Elona B Huffman Rachel A Hughes Scott P Huntley Elizabeth A Hyne: Kenneth B Hynes Dino B lacobo Rebecca A lannuccill Catherine L Inzer Olivia K Izzi Kevin M Jamro Laurie E Jansen Amy S Jeffrey Maria V Jeffrey Megan A Jennings Alison M Jester Cherie K Jocelyn Christiana V Johnson Nicole M Johnson Craig A Jolicoeur Melissa R Jones Jennifer H Jutras Patricia P Jutras Victoria M Kalnietis Ka-Lai C Kan Lindsey L Karem Peter A Karon David M Keefe Tammy A Keefe Adam J Keenan Shanna D Kelley Meaghan M Kelly Lamthoun Keomanykouth Christopher J Kiernan Mark A King Melissa M King Kevin P Kirby Susan M Kline Freeman B Knowlton Judith Koegler Krzysztof P Krajanowsk Shannon J Kramarski Jillian M Krebill Bonnie L Kusiak Raina C La Plantè Adam N Labonte Kelly S Labossiere Laura L Labruna Amy L Lacroix

Douglas J Lafrance

Jennifer K Lai Brettney A Laiter Susan E Lake Becky A Lamarre Julie A Lamarre Jennifer L Lamothe Lisa Lancia Christine R Landon Erika L Langevin Jennifer E Langlais Scott D Langlais Helen H Lantagne Ryan P Lapham Jeffrey A Lapierre Maureen B Lapre Maleeha A Latif Melissa A Lauzon Lisa L Lavergne Christopher A Le Doux Jeff R Leclair Laurie M Leger Angela M Lemieux Brianna L Lemos Michele M Lepre Molly Leung Matthew C Leveille Andrea M Lewandowsk Thomas A Lewis Michael J Liberatore Kerrie Lima Jessica J Lindermar Marcia L Lisker Erin P Littlefield Donna M Lobello Gina M Longolucco Julia H Loo Elizabeth V Lopes Michelle P Lopes Yola M Lopes Gretchen L Lopez Rebecca A Low Erica L Lowery Heather Lucitt Timothy Lugini Carol E Lussier Danielle M Lussier Nicole R Lussier Tara Lussier Kimberly A Lynch Shara B Lyons CaighIn B Mac Aliste Jessica L Macari Steven B Macedo Terri-Lynn Magnan Kate E Maguire Joy K Maimoni David A Major Alan M Mal Thomas F Mallov Erik J Mancyak Lisa A Mantell Kristen J Manzi Monique Marchand Bryan A Marcotte Lissa M Marinaro Jesse D Marsden Amy-Lynn Marteka Christine M Martin Kelly L Martin Susan R Martin Sarah A Martini Lori A Martone Melissa R Massa Hollie M Masso Sherri L Matheu Sherry Matook Jessica L Mattia Tracev A Mattos Jessie A Maurice Natalie A Maxwell

Marissa A Mazzarella

Keith A Mc Carthy

Sandra D O'Dell

Jennifer L O'Donnell

Kellie A Mc Donough Jennie A Mc Dowell Diane B O'Kelly Lynn A O'Malley Timothy M Mc Duff Brian P O'Neill Jaimee L Mc Elroy Timothy M O'Rourke Amanda Mc Gannon Erin A Oakley Laurie A Mc Grath Toyin Ogundipe Alison C Mc Kay Sachiki Okawa John M Mc Kenna Melissa A Mc Kenna Elaine S Oliver Melissa A Mc Laughlin Salvatore Oliveri Shannon B Mc Laughlin Annette L Olson Dona J Mc Millar Jaime L Orabona Julie A Mc Murry Carla J Orlando Robert F Mc Nelis Monica J Ouellette Ryan J Mc Nelis Katherine S Pacheco Nathan J Paquet Meghan F Paquette Dawn M Mccormick Sara L Mcmillan Nancy C Medeiros Aimee R Parenteau Charles Meehan Elizabeth M Parrillo Damon M Melidossia Lisa D Pasonelli Robin M Melillo Diana Passaretta Heather M Pastina Thomas J Meller Frank P Patalano Richard B Patch Keri L Mello Karen A Patterson Barbara S Melone Louise Paul Jazmine Mena Michelle M Pelletie Tina M Mendes Jean A Pepper Timothy G Pernini .Marisa L Meneses Lisa M Meniates Donna M Perretta Kerri E Mennella Kelly A Perron Michael Mercier Kathleen M Perry Frank M Merolla Heather A Messerlia Jason J Peters Erica M Meyer Nina R Petrarca Linda J Middleton Eric J Petrosinell Jason M Pezzullo Jennifer L Mignanell Thomas M Milewsk Bonnie J Phalen Jennifer M Picard Joanna J Millard John P Piccirillo Patricia D Miller Filomena Piccolino Kristen M Minchillo Catherine E Pilkingtor Christopher A Mink Paul J Pinault Linda M Mitchell Corinne L Piner Rebecca A Pinheiro Gianfranco Monaco Jane I Monaghan Christine M Monahan Carina L Pinto Raymond D Moncato Robert C Pires Christina Pirolli Tracey J Mondor Edmund R Pistocco William P Monigar Catherine A Moniz Alvcia A Pitassi Megan S Plante Matthew Moniz Kristine L Monroe Colleen A Moone Amy M Pompetti Stefanie A Pontifice Christine M Morais Tony R Poole Robert R Morar Elizabeth A Potanas Rose M Potanas Christina L Morda Julie B Powers Ryan M Moreau Sheryl A Powers Christopher A Morello Lori I Morenzi Aaradhana K Prajapat John B Moretta Kristin J Prior Ellen M Morey Kathleen A Provost Wendy A Morgan Kristen M Morin Peter J Prvor Sherri A Morin Bridget L Morisseau Keith W Pyatak Brenda L Quattrucci Lutgarda Quezada Kelly A Morris Stephen R Morrison Nelia F Mota Nicole M Rabideau Lisa A Mott Erin M Raffa Elizabeth D Motta Sherri A Moussea Jason J Rainone Shana L Ramaglia Tara S Moyer Pearl B Ramos Jerilyn A Muccio Pauline G Mueller Lisa Ramzi John J Rapczak Robert L Mullen Donna M Raposo Kathleen D Mullins Sarah A Mumford Edith Rappaport Lauren E Raspallo Yolande G Muoio Melissa M Murano Alicia A Rathbun Maryellen Murphy Elizabeth A Murray Angela L Musco Joseph T Rebello Tissaigna N'Dem Patricia M Nanni Nancy A Regine Dyana M Natale Bobbie C Reid James B Naughton Brian D Reifler Bonnie L Renfrew Victor M Navedo Erin M Nealon Heather L Neil Robert A Revnolds Melissa D Rhynard Jennifer A Nelson Andrea B Neto Amy R Ricci Christine Neville Julie M Ricci Jennifer A Nichols Staci L Nickerson Heather M Richardson Erin P Nientimp Melanie Nobles Kelly J Richardson Mia Nocera Shanna J Rider Christine M Noel Rebecca A Riley Sandra L Novak Pamela Rivero Jessica A O'Brien

Kerri A Robbio

Ondrea Robinson

Kathleen A Okeeffe-William Sheri L Ross Keri L Rossi Brian R Roy Paul G Ryan Diane Sattari Paul Saucier Lori A Scalzo Jason E Silva Judd N Silvia AI P Storm Kerri A Roberts

Nancy A Rocha Sandra M Rocha Kerissa L Roderick Erica B Rodin Cristina Rodrigues Melissa A Rodrigues Angela K Rourke Joseph P Russell William S Russell, Jr Craig G Sacco Danny L Saccoccio Amy B Salustio David A Salvador Stephen E Samek Catherine G Sampson Jonathan P Santin Jason M Santo Amy Santorelli Christine M Santos Isabel M Santos John C Santos Susana Santos Alivia J Sarno Alberto R Savoretti Kelley L Schimme Courtney B Schindler Glen R Schneider Jessica A Schondek Francine M Schultz Richard S Schwall Derrith A Schwarz Timothy J Scott Dean A Scungio Roger M Scungio Todd A Scungic Thomas J Sederback John C Sellechio Michael D Sepe Amanda M Sequir Donna Shaw Elizabeth A Shea Melissa M Shee Doreen A Shottek Jason M Silva Jennifer A Silva Christine M Silvia Taysha A Silvia Julie A Simmons Mark D Simoes Cherie A Simonea Marybeth Simonelli Karen R Skerry Michael C Skodras Elizabeth Smith Jennifer M Smith Jonathan Smith Rachel A Smith Maryellen B Snyder Amanda A Soave Kristen M Sorrell Kelli L Soscia Richard J Sousa Timothy A Sousa Christopher P Spadazzi John W Spears Tamatha L Spivey Nicole A St. Germain Dan J St. Jacques Cheryl M Stacy Maria E Stanlewicz Lester M Stasey Janice E Stenson Susan A Stevens Christopher Stewar Jessica S Stewart Holly A Stowik Lori A Streker Eric R Sturtevant Kim L Sun

Chonalee A Swetnam Patricia A Sylvia Lisa M Tammelled Susan L Tarbell Stephanie L Tariela Melissa L Taurisan Mark E Tavares Virgen S Tavares Jason F Taylor Gina M Tedesco Laura A Teixeira Jessica L Tellier Arkadiy A Terpunov Acelia Terrer Joseph G Testa Melissa L Tew Ryan D Theroux Theresa M Thomas Wendy J Thomas Melissa Tiscione David H Tobin Amilcar A Toj Pamela Y Toste James S Touhill, Jr. Mara S Trachtenberg Kerri L Travers Sarah B Traynor Sarah E Tremblay Stephen Tremblay Dena R Tsonos Laurie A Tubman J. Matthew Turner Jennifer M Urban Jennifer L Vaughn Eric Ventura Crystal M Vest Rachel M Vieira Sonnia Villegas-Gonzal Elena A Vingi Kate E Vitalo Kelly A Vocatura Melissa A Voller Stephanie Wachewsk Michael F Walach Beth A Waldrop Christopher A Wallick Christine A Walsh Robert A Walsh Sarah A Walsh Suzanne M Walsh Robert E Ward Michael P Waterma Scott P Waterman Heather M Watson Thomas H Weaver, Jr Rebecca L Weidele Erin K Weyand Julie L Whatmough Dawn M White Jason R Whitford Jessica A Wildenhai Jennifer S Wilkinson Lynn M Willey Jeanna L Williams Jessica L Williams Kristen A Williams Sarah A Williams Sarah J Williams Brett K Winn Amy M Wintle Julia E Wittig Erik C Wohlgemuth Kyra W Wolfe Kate B Wolloff Nathan J Wood Sze-Wai Yam Ella Yanko Christopher P Zabbo Stephen M Zabinski Lisa M Zagarella Yolanda Zalewski David Zea Andrea B Ziobro Corinne L Zisiades Marianna Zotos

Students put the best of themselves in The Best of Me

by Cynthia L. Sousa What's News Writer

n Sunday, June 21, the second showing of Scott Maiocchi's 20-minute film entitled The Best of Me will be shown at 7:30 p.m. in Brown University's List Auditorium as an entry in the Providence Film Festival.

This is a great honor for producer/director/financier Maiocchi and the three other Rhode Island College students who produced the 16mm short film.

"Only about 50 films get chosen to be shown in a number of categories. We were very fortunate to have our film be accepted in the narrative short category," said Maiocchi.

short category," said Maiocchi.

The 25-year-old from Warwick and three film studies majors: Brian Hainse of Coventry, and recent May graduates Gary Stevens of Providence and Russell Bowden of Cumberland produced the film on Maiocchi's budget of \$3,000 with the help of RIC film students and professors Claudia Springer and Tom Dooley. Hainse was a writer; Stevens, a camera operator and an actor in the film; and Bowden a camera operator and editor. Student Meredith Gallo, a film studies/English major, was the script supervisor.

"Everyone involved in the production of the film worked on a volunteer basis" including local actors Thomas Roy Clifford Jr., Kristina Rae, Joseph Petrucci, Steve Mulhearn (RIC Class of 1993), Jeff Phillips and Jessica Lebeouf, according to the Maiocachi

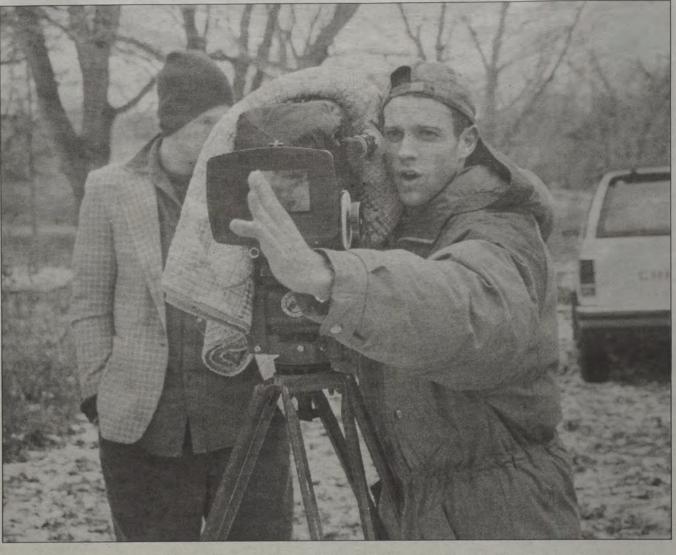
ing to Maiocchi.

The money was spent on buying the film, renting equipment and post-production work. "We couldn't have done it without the sacrifices and commitment that everyone made," said Maiocchi.

The film is about a janitor named Charlie (played by Petrucci) who gets fired from his job and struggles to find a way to support his mother and disabled brother by opening a

cleaning business.

Maiocchi and his crew worked for



ACTION: Scott Maiocchi producer/director/financier of The Best of Me studies an angle to get the desired effect.

four months on pre-production, shot the film on a blustery winter day and did post-production work at Spot Digital of Providence.

"It was quite an experience," said Maiocchi, whose interest in the film industry was piqued by a temporary position with Hollywood Pictures in New York City after a stint in the service.

He came back to Rhode Island and enrolled in the film studies program at RIC and has been very impressed with the professors. "They're topnotch, have a lot of contacts in the industry and have been very supportive," he said. "It's a great program"

Maiocchi has experimented with super 8 films, producing six short ones and has produced one music video. The Best of Me was his first experience with 16mm higher quality film

He will spend the next few months promoting the film, entering it in other film festivals including the British Short Festival in London and the Rhode Island International Film Festival to be held in August and working on finding funding for future projects The thing that Maiocchi was most impressed by with the production of The Best of Me was the fact that a lot of people truly love to work in film and filmmaking. "They're not just in it for the money. They really do it to entertain." This was heartening to this young entrepreneur who said his ultimate goal is to be a film director.

"I feel the same way. I really care about the audience's respect for the story line and the quality of the film on a whole. I've got to buy into the film before I agree to work on it, " he said.

RIC Theatre 1998-99 season to offer drama, comedy, farce and a musical

Rhode Island College Theatre will offer a full range of theatrical hits for its 1998-99 season which begins in October and runs through April.

The drama A Fair Country by Jon Robin Baitz runs Oct. 1-4; the classic comedy The Servant of Masters by Carlo Goldoni, Nov. 12-15; the farce Noises Off by Michael Frayn, Feb. 18-21, and the musical Cabaret, April 22-25.

All are staged in Roberts Hall auditorium. Curtain times are at 8 p.m. except for Sunday matinees which start at 2. *Cabaret*, the traditional end-of-season musical bash, offers two matinee performances.

A season subscription — one ticket to each show and a ticket to the Spring Dance concert of the RIC Dance Company — costs \$40 (\$54 if purchased separately). For information write to Season Ticket, RIC Theatre, 124 Roberts Hall, Rhode Island College, Providence 02908.

A Fair Country
RIC theatre Prof. P. William
Hutchinson will direct A Fair
Country, set in the decade between
1977 and 1987. It focuses on the con-

flict between a pragmatic father, who is a U.S. information officer in charge of cultural affairs, and his radical son, who is actively involved in South African politics. The play raises questions not only about social and political issues of the 1980s, but also about personal ethics and family trust.

The Servant of Two Masters

The Servant of Two Masters will be directed by theatre Prof. David Burr. The plot is built upon a standard commedia dell'arte device of two pairs of frustrated lovers. After much confusion and many mistakes, including a woman disguising herself as a man who is perceived as a rival by the woman's own lover, all is sorted out, lovers are united and all is well.

Noises Off

Noises Off will be directed by a guest director and RIC alumnus Dennis Blackledge. The former Broadway hit uses the play-withina-play approach to present a farce within a farce. The playwright heaps a hilarious melange of characters and situations into the play, from

outraged wife to squeaky blonde, stampeding about the set in a sidesplitting display of comedic theatre.

Cabaret

William M. Wilson Jr., assistant professor of theatre, will direct *Cabaret* with book by Joe Masteroff which is based on the play *I Am a Camera* by John van Druten and on stories by Christopher Isherwood with music by John Kander and lyrics by Fred Ebb.

Cabaret opened on Broadway in 1966 and ran for nearly three years, garnering all three of the "Best Musical of the Year" awards, including the coveted Tony, in its first season.

The show is a tale of tarnished innocents abroad in a land with no time for innocence. It is Berlin and Hitler is coming to power. In the background, a pageant of frighteningly important events loom and everybody tries to ignore them with ever more feverishly forced gaiety.

The show is melody drenched and features the title song which says, "Life is a cabaret, old chum, come to the Cabaret"

Workshop with Howard Fine set for July 20-24

Howard Fine, recognized as one of Hollywood's premiere acting teachers and a Rhode Island College graduate, Class of 1981, will conduct a master scene-study workshop July 20-24 in Gaige Hall.

An intensive five-day course, it will include on-stage work, analysis of scene and acting exercises.

Morning and afternoon sessions are available at \$300 each (\$100 if only auditing the workshop), net proceeds to benefit the Providence Film Foundation. Each class is limited to 30 participants.

Register by June 22 by sending check or money order to Select Services, P.O. Box 19655, Johnston 02919 or call Susan Johnston, producer, at 934-3331.

Fine's celebrity clients have included Brad Pitt, Darryl Hannah, Val Kilmer, Brooke Shields, Jon Bon Jovi, Heather Locklear and Jim Belushi.

He's been invited for the past five years by the Los Angeles Times to review Oscar nominees, and has directed Michael Chiklis on Broadway in Defending the Caveman.



SPORTS AUCTION: Auctioneer Joseph Abbate, Class of 1974, and Channel 6's Ken Bell spur the bidding for an Armand LaMontage print of Red Sox legend Ted Williams, during the second annual RIC Sports Auction May 7 at the Providence Marriot Hotel. (What's News Photo by Gordon E. Rowley)

Kelley named head women's basketball coach

West Warwick's Mike Kelley has been named the head women's basketball coach at Rhode Island College, replacing Ken Hopkins who resigned at the end of the current season.

"I am looking forward to taking over the women's basketball program at RIC," says Kelley. "I consider it to be one of the best coaching jobs in Rhode Island."

Kelley has been the varsity head girls' basketball coach at North Kingstown High School since 1995. He led the team to a 60-21 record over the past three seasons.

North Kingstown qualified for the playoffs in each of his three seasons at the helm. North Kingstown was the division champion and State Class A finalist in 1998. The team was a State Class A quarter-finalist in 1996 and 97.



Prior to coaching at N o r t h Kingstown, Kelley was the varsity head girls basketball coach at West Warwick High School from 1983-95, compiling a record

of 211-77 and capturing the State Class A championship in 1991 and 92. West Warwick was the division champion under his guidance in 1988, 89, 91 and 92.

"We are very excited and fortunate to hire a women's basketball coach with the credentials Mike Kelley has," says Donald E. Tencher, RIC director of athletics, intramurals and recreation. "He is an outstanding coach who we hope can take this program to the next level."

Kelley inherits a strong RIC team. In 1997-98, the Anchorwomen posted a 20-7 overall record and qualified for the Eastern College Athletic Conference's (ECAC) postseason tournament.

RIC lost in overtime (99-89) in the quarter-finals to the eventual champion, Williams College.

Having lost no seniors to graduation, the entire team will be back for the 1998-99 season.

Kelley will see some familiar faces on the court this upcoming winter, having coached senior forward Pam Johnson, junior forward Jennifer Cook and sophomore guard Jessica Ouellette at West Warwick.

RIC will open the 1998-99 season at the Trenton State Tournament Nov. 21 and 22.

\$10 K gift benefits student-athletes by Shelly Murphy What's News Editor

Steven Marocco, a dedicated supporter of RIC athletics, has donated \$10,000 to establish the Marocco Family Student-Athlete Academic Center. The center, on the ground floor of the New Building, will provide an appropriate environment and home for the academic support services which will serve about 350 student-athletes next year alone.

"This generous gift will provide the upfront support to purchase computer equipment and related furnishings. It will also serve as the leadership gift to establish an endowment to provide ongoing support for academic-athletic services," said Marguerite M. Brown, director of development at Rhode Island College.

The formal designation of an academic center for athletics, the first named space in the New Building, is the latest in a series of milestones in RIC's athletic academic support program. Athletic Director Don Tencher has instituted mentor and study hall programs to provide additional resources for student athletes.

About 25 faculty and staff members have served as volunteer mentors during the past year, providing academic support services such as tutoring and general counseling support for RIC athletes. Nightly study halls have been required for student athletes. In addition to traditional academic support, the center will provide life-skills including resume writing, diversity training, writing skills, community service and financial skills.

Marocco says he was pleased to be able to help provide academic support for athletes. "Balancing scholastics and athletics and everything else is a real challenge. The athletes at RIC, which is a Division III school, are playing the sport because they really love it, not because they can get a scholarship. These kids are making a big sacrifice to play while working to get an education. They need any support we can provide."

Marocco knows firsthand the challenges of getting an education while balancing the time and energy commitments inherent in athletic competition because he played junior varsity basketball at URI. Athletics helps prepare students for the future by providing experience in working as a team and prioritizing tasks and managing time, he said.

So he was pleased to have the chance to help support the student-athletes. When they proposed it to me, he added, "It took me about two seconds to say 'yes,' Mr. Tencher has put together an outstanding program and has really focused the efforts. He has worked together with the faculty, getting them to donate their time as mentors."

Marocco, who is involved with youth athletics in Cranston and with boxing on a statewide basis, resides in Cranston with his wife Linda and their two children, Mark, 10, and Matthew, 16.

The Marocco Family Student-Athlete Academic Center will be officially dedicated at the re-induction ceremony of the Athletic Hall of Fame on Saturday, Oct. 3 during Homecoming '98.

KITES project gets \$472,000 national grant

The National Science Foundation (NSF) has awarded the science education reform project KITES (Kits in Teaching Elementary Science) \$472,656 as part of a five-year \$1.8 million grant. In addition, the Ocean State Charities Trust has recently granted \$2,000 more to the program to purchase science kits.

The project has also received funding from the Rhode Island Foundation and the prestigious Drevfus Foundation.

"The NSF grant requires grantees to raise matching funds. KITES has been very successful in securing funds from other sources including foundations, corporations, school committees, and parent-teacher-associations. This is truly a private-public partnership which has benefitted thousands of students state-wide," said Marguerite M. Brown, director of development for Rhode Island College.

Headed by MacGregor Kniseley, associate professor of elementary education, the project is based on the RIC campus. KITES furnishes hands-on, inquiry-centered science kits to thousands of Rhode Island students. Its goal is to support 600 K-6 teachers and 13,400 students with creative, interactive lessons and all the necessary materials to bring science to life.



HEARTBEAT AWAY: Central Falls fifth grader Jenifer Mazo (left) listens to the heartbeat of classmate Natalia Pola as Sara Tavares of Pawtucket, a Rhode Island College junior special education major, supervises. About 140 fifth graders from Veterans Memorial School made their "We Go to College" field trip to RIC where they were given demonstrations on health assessment and chemistry under the direction of Colette Matarese, associate professor of nursing, and David Greene, professor of chemistry. (What's News Photo by Gordon E. Rowley)

College honors retirees at Commencement Gala

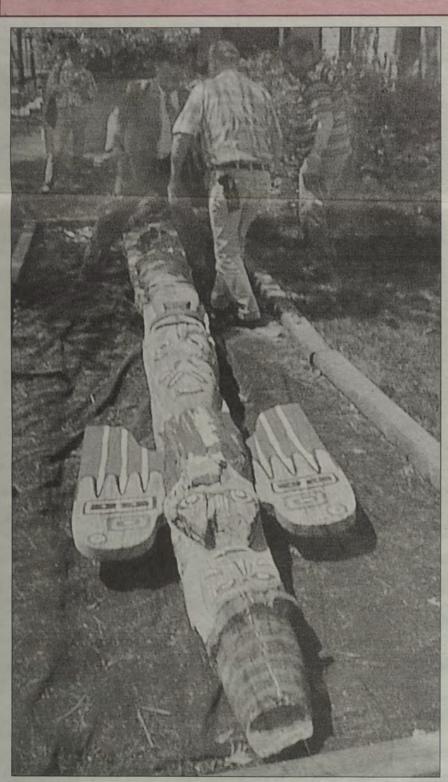
t the Commencement Gala on May 22 in Donovan Dining Center employees retiring this year from Rhode Island College were recognized.

Retirees this year and their years of service at RIC were: Joao Botelho, professor of secondary education 16; Thomas M. Calhoun, assistant professor of elementary education, 25; Rosanne Corrente, personnel aide in the Career Development Center, 9; Earl L. Culton, Jr. of Custodial Services, 8; Loretta S. Earley, senior clerk-typist in Human Resources, 12.

Also, Charles V. Foltz, associate professor of biology 30; Debra Fontaine, senior clerk stenographer in the Office of Student Life, 2; Alberta Gardiner, word processing typist in Conferences and Special Events, 12; Phyllis Gath, secretary of Physical Plant with 19 years of service; Pamela S. Gilbert, administrative secretary in the Office of Student Affairs, 10; Cecilia Iannazzi of the Records Office, 24; Eleanor Morra of Housekeeping, 4; Joyce T. Reisner of elementary education, 26; Shirley A. Rinehart of Audiovisual, 25; Dorothea S. Silvestre, nurse in College Health Services, 16; and Cherie S. Withrow, director residential life and housing, 19.



AMONG RETIREES honored at the Commencement Gala on May 22 in Donovan Dining Center were Joyce T. Reisner, associate professor of elementary education (left), with 26 years of service, and Phyllis Gath, secretary, of Physical Plant with 19 years of service. They are seen here with President John Nazarian. (What's News Photo by Gordon E. Rowley)



THE TOTEM POLE which has stood in front of Gaige Hall for the last 25 years was taken down and laid to rest in a bed of cedar chips this spring. Although it was not an authentic Northwest Native American carving, the geography/anthropology department together with Anthropos, the student anthropology club, decided that, because of its deteriorating condition, the pole should share the fate of authentic totem poles and rot into the ground. (What's News Photo by Gordon E. Rowley)

Homecoming '98 - Come Back to RIC!

Alumni, parents, and guests are invited to return to campus for RIC's Homecoming '98. The event will combine Homecoming and Parents Day into one campus-wide event aimed at bringing the entire campus community together for a weekend of social, educational and athletic activities.

Mark your calendars now for Homecoming '98 – Come Back to RIC!, scheduled for Friday and Saturday, Oct. 2 and 3. The committee is planning a variety of events

Alumni Cabaret Friday, Oct. 2, 7:30 p.m. Donovan Dining Center

Twenty-five

mer, RIC hosted the

first Summer Cabaret

years ago this sum-

including:

featuring students from
the Department of Performing
Arts.
These cabarets were ongoing for
nearly 15 years. Homecoming '98
will bring back several of the per-

formers from the 80s era.

Reunion classes are encouraged to attend as part of their celebration.

Sponsored by the Department of Performing Arts, the RIC Foundation and the Alumni Association.

Saturday, Oct. 3

Carnival

Resume rewriting
Career counseling opportunities

Computer classes

Parents Day

RIC women's soccer game

RIC women's volleyball tournament RIC women's tennis

Alumni men's soccer game

Alumni women's volleyball game.

Faculty/student recital

Theatre - student perfor-

mance Athletic Hall of

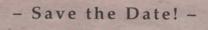
Fame re-induction

Class reunion activities

Young Alumni kick-off event

Many other activities are in the making for the weekend. Watch your mail for details!

A block of rooms has been reserved at the new MainStay Suites one mile from the airport in Warwick. Call 401-737-6667, identify yourself as a RIC alumnus/a attending Homecoming and you will receive the rate of \$79.95. Rooms will be held through Aug. 3, 1998



Tuesday, Aug. 11
RIC Foundation Golf Tournament
Warwick Country Club
For more information, call the Foundation office at 401-456-8105.

Monday, Sept. 28 Alumni Golf Tournament Cranston Country Club

Proceeds will benefit the RICochet Fund, the emergency financial assistance fund for students. For more information, call the Alumni office at 401-456-8086.