



# WHAT'S NEWS

AT RHODE ISLAND COLLEGE

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## Alumnus of Year, four other awardees and 29 honor roll inductees named

by George LaTour  
What's News Associate Editor

**Paul Bourget** of Woonsocket, Class of 1969 and current president of the Rhode Island College Alumni Association, has been named Alumnus of the Year by the association which also named four other alumni award winners as well as a record 29 inductees to its Honor Roll as outstanding RIC graduates and role models for students.



PAUL BOURGET

Bourget was cited for his three years of active participation with the alumni association which included serving as the 1998 Annual Fund Honorary Chairman, co-chairing fund-raising golf tournaments, committee memberships and serving as phon-a-thon volunteer.

He also is a RIC Foundation trustee.

A true believer that one should

'give back' to the community which encouraged him as a student, Paul has established an endowed scholarship, and is the largest single donor to the Annual Fund," noted Eleanor O'Neill, director of Alumni Affairs.

Other alumni award winners are:

• **Nancy H. Gewirtz** of Providence, professor and director of the Poverty Institute at the RIC School of Social Work, Faculty Award;



NANCY GEWIRTZ

• **James R. Langevin** of Warwick, Class of 1990, Rhode Island secretary of state, Service Award;



JAMES LANGEVIN

• **Lynne Urbani** of Cranston, Class of 1983, president and CEO of Coordinated Health Partners, Inc.

(Blue Chip), a subsidiary of Blue Cross-Blue Shield of Rhode Island; Charles B. Willard Achievement Award.



LYNNE URBANI

• **Sandra E. Levine** of Cranston, secretary to the director of undergraduate admissions, Staff Award;



SANDRA LEVINE

They will be honored at the annual Alumni/Honor Roll dinner Wednesday, May 12, starting with a 5:30 p.m. reception in the Donovan Dining Center. Dinner is 6:30.

Tickets are \$30 and may be purchased by calling the Alumni Office at 456-8086 by May 5.

See Alumni awards, page 8

## Speaker explores 'Cost of Racism to White America'

by Shelly Murphy  
What's News Editor

In the fourth annual spring symposium sponsored by the Rhode Island College Dialogue on Diversity Committee, John H. Bracey Jr. from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst will discuss "The Cost of Racism to White America" on April 21 at 12:30 p.m. in Gaige Hall Auditorium.

Bracey, a professor in the W.E.B. DuBois Department of Afro-American Studies at UMass, Amherst since 1972, has published numerous articles and book reviews, delivered papers at scholarly gatherings, and has lectured at campuses across the nation on various aspects of the history of African Americans. His major interests are African-American social history, radical

See Diversity speaker, page 3

## Gender equity handbook provides insights, lessons

by Shelly Murphy  
What's News Editor

*Danger.*

What does that simple word communicate to you? The response may differ significantly, depending on your gender, according to education specialists.

"When you post 'danger' in a (industrial technology) shop what you are saying to women is 'don't go there' while to the guys you are saying 'go for it.' The difference is in the way men and women are trained, encultured in our society," says Nancy Sullivan, associate professor of educational leadership at Rhode Island College and editor of *Infusing Equity by Gender into the Classroom: A handbook of classroom practices*. Sullivan is also the director of the Rhode Island Center for School Leadership, based on the RIC campus.

"Girls are encultured that danger is bad and to stay away. While guys

See Gender equity, page 5

## In their own words...



Marissa A. Marandola

Class of 2002

Recipient of:  
RIC Alumni  
Freshman Award

Upon entering my junior year of high school, I began greatly considering my future education. I had already made my mind up several years ago that I wanted to teach young children, but I was unsure of which college or university I wanted to attend to pursue this goal. As I began looking at my options, RIC became more and more appealing.

After doing a little research on my own, as well as speaking to informed others, I became quickly aware that RIC indeed has one of

See Alumni scholarship, page 5



**BRISK TRADE:** Phyllis (Van Orden) Nathanson, Class of 1974, helps her son, John David, 5, (at the cash register) during a bake sale at Henry Barnard School April 2. The sale, sponsored by Jeanmarie Fratus' preschool class as part of its activities while studying pollution, was for the benefit of Save the Bay. (What's News Photo by Gordon E. Rowley)

## Going, going, gone

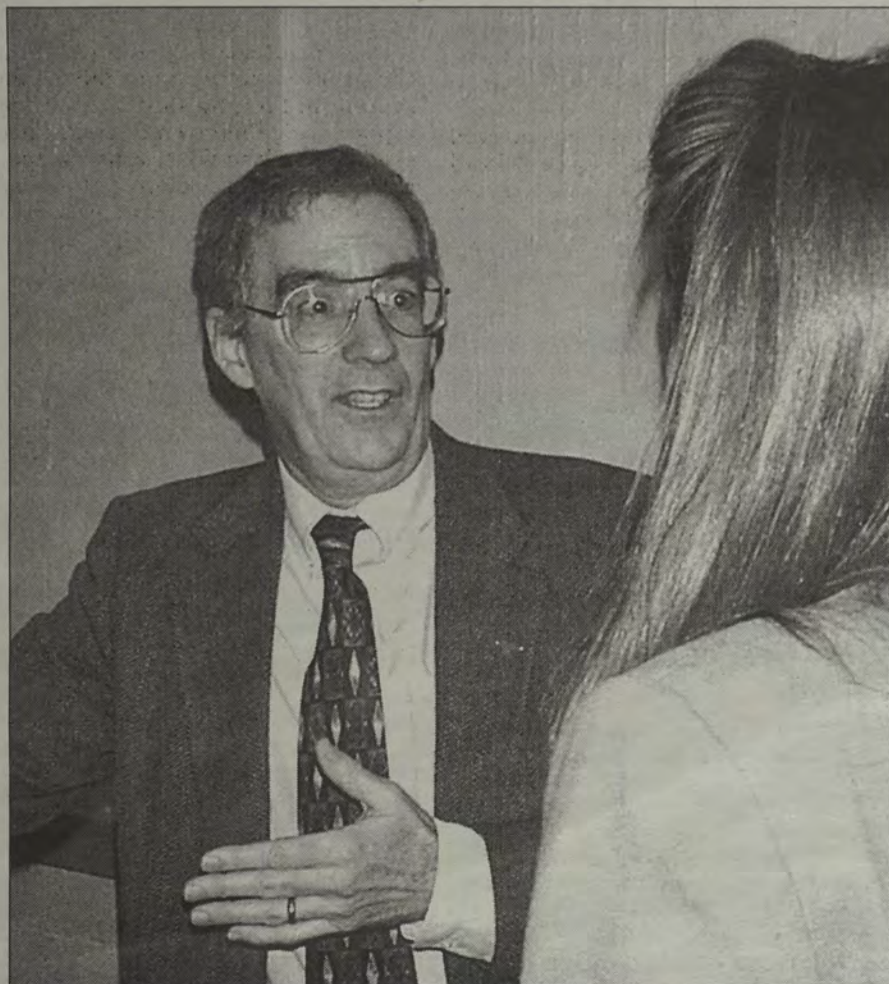
Don't miss your chance to own that special piece of sports memorabilia and to support Rhode Island College student athletic programs at the third annual Sports Auction. The action takes place on Wednesday, May 5, at the Providence Marriott. For more information, see story on page 9.

# 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.



"THE GIRLS FROM GROSS" is how these female students in a touch football game from 1971-72 liked to be known. According to one of the women pictured above, GROSS stood for Gamma-Ramma-Omega-Sigma-Sigma, which was a spoof on sororities. From left are Pam Heslin, Suzanne Nolette, Dolores Passarelli, Pat Kelly and Arlene Marcotte. (file photo)



**MAIXNER LECTURE:** Stanley Lemons, professor of history, talks to an audience member just before presenting his Paul Maixner Lecture in the Faculty Center April 1. The topic of Lemon's address was "Tough Love." (What's News Photo by Gordon E. Rowley)



**WORKSHOP:** The Rhode Island Association of Childhood Educators International sponsored a "Make It and Take It" program for education majors and student teachers at Henry Barnard School on March 25. It was an opportunity for teachers and future teachers to share ideas for classroom projects and activities. Above, masters candidate Valerie Pecchia (left) learns about the African game of Mancala from Lynn Bettencourt, a student in the elementary education curriculum. (What's News Photo by Gordon E. Rowley)

## Focus on Faculty and Staff

**Sharon Fennessey**, associate professor at the Henry Barnard School, recently presented a clinic at the 30th Northeast Regional Conference on the Social Studies in Boston. The two-hour workshop, entitled "Learning History through the Communicative Arts," presented strategies such as drama, storytelling, debating, reader's theatre and oral histories as powerful teaching tools in classrooms of learners with diverse abilities and learning styles.



**Richard A. Lobban**, professor of anthropology, has edited and contributed to his *Middle Eastern Women and the Invisible Economy* (University Press of Florida), and his book *Cape Verde: Crioulo Colony to Independent Nation* (Westview Press) now has come out in a paperback edition. In addition to these published works, he recently presented a lecture on "Kerma: Africa's Most Ancient Civilization—Egypt's Rival on the Nile" to the Narragansett Society of the Archaeological Institute of America, and delivered the keynote lecture on "Cape Verdean Culture and History" at the East Providence City Hall during a celebration of African American History Month.

## WHAT'S NEWS

AT RHODE ISLAND COLLEGE

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# With determination RIC junior overcomes obstacles and pursues his art

by George LaTour  
What's News Associate Editor

A bicycle hangs from the ceiling above the bed of Jason Hamel of Jamestown — a reminder of the fall that changed his life.

Hamel, now a junior at Rhode Island College, was the No. 2 ranked BMX (bicycle) racer in the state when he broke his neck on Sept. 16, 1990 while practicing in Charlestown for a race.

The impact crushed two of his vertebrae and rendered the then 19-year-old Hamel a quadriplegic. The accident that changed his life forever occurred just two weeks into his freshman year at the Community College of Rhode Island where, as an art major, he planned to study pottery.

Now 27, he has had to shift gears, but still pursues artwork, only without the use of his arms.

Hamel creates computer-generated art by using a "mouthstick." The acrylic rod, which he grips with his teeth, allows him to work an elevated Macintosh computer keyboard and mouse mounted on a track with the dexterity of a skilled typist.

Self-taught in the discipline, Hamel started exploring the world of computer art three years ago. He said he learned through trial and error.

He admits that at first he "didn't do so well" but today his art speaks for itself.

He creates collages, combining scanned images with rich swirls of color as well as abstract art in color and black and white. The work provides no evidence of an artist with limitations.

"It comes pretty easy actually," Hamel told reporter Terrence Synnott, who recently wrote a profile of Hamel in the *Newport Daily News*. "I can usually bang them out in a couple of hours."

## Learned to draw

He says he also has learned to draw by maneuvering a pencil with his mouth. He keeps a stack of his sketches — mostly nudes and still-lives — in a box under his bed.

He had earned his associate's degree in fine arts from CCRI in 1997 before coming to RIC where he studies graphic design, a pursuit that he hopes will eventually land him a paying job.

Hamel says he has noticed the "good changes" in accessibility at RIC in recent years, allowing him access to those areas to which he needs to go. And, he finds the professors he studies under "excellent."

Hamel lives in a home that has certain refinements which allow him to maneuver with little difficulty. He resides with his father, William, and

stepmother, Betsy.

Julie Gredruk of Newport, a full-time nursing assistant; Debbie Hodges, a personal-care attendant, and Percy, a yellow lab trained by K-9 Companions for Independence in New York, aid Hamel to perform his daily functions.

Hamel travels to RIC two days a week by a van driven by Hodges.

although there is doubt by his doctors and Hamel that one would have prevented his injury.

## Fallen many times

Hamel had fallen many times during his 10 years of riding, but this time was different. The impact left him dazed. When he tried to pick himself up from the ground, the only thing that moved was his left arm.

He was taken to South County Hospital and then Rhode Island Hospital and eventually to Boston University Hospital.

Hamel would spend four months hooked to a ventilator and wearing a halo. He underwent two spinal surgeries, during which doctors inserted a metal plate and wire to stabilize his broken neck. He spent five months lying on his back in a hospital bed.

"Now I look at it and it seems like a movie. It doesn't even seem real," he says.

His bedroom contains many reminders of his BMX days. More than 100 trophies fill the shelves, and a blown-up photograph of a slimmer Hamel riding in a race in Connecticut hangs from a wall. A banner signed by fellow competitors hangs behind

his bed.

For a time, his father even served as president of the Rhode Island chapter of the National Bicycle League, which coordinated BMX races on tracks in East Greenwich, Charlestown and Johnston. The young Hamel also had competed throughout the Northeast, including Trumbull, Conn., Schenectady, N.Y., and Harrisburg, Pa.

Hamel has made some strides in his recovery, impressing all those in his life with his drive and positive attitude.

His nurse told the *Daily News*, "I've never met someone with as much determination as him. He's very inspirational to me as a person...He works so hard."



**A MAN AND HIS ART:** Jason Hamel of Jamestown with some of his computer-generated art work in the Art Center. With him is his faithful lab, Percy. (What's News Photo by Gordon E. Rowley)

Once on campus he maneuvers by motorized wheelchair to which is tethered the faithful and friendly Percy. Hodges says that Percy is trained to open doors for Hamel, pick-up things, and turns light switches on and off for his master.

Hamel has no difficulty discussing his accident.

While waiting for their turn to race at Ninigret Park in Charlestown, Hamel and two teenage friends left the course to ride in an adjacent dirt lot that bulldozers had transformed into a biker's dream.

The dream became a nightmare when Hamel hit a jump, flipped over the handlebars and landed on his head. He was not wearing a helmet,

## Course numbering system revised

The course numbering system at Rhode Island College was revised in the 1998 spring and fall semesters and the changes are to be implemented with the 1999 Summer Session, according to James D. Turley, assistant vice president for academic affairs and dean of graduate studies.

The change serves two purposes. It helps distinguish the level of courses better and also aligns the system with other colleges and universities numbering systems.

The change will help students trans-

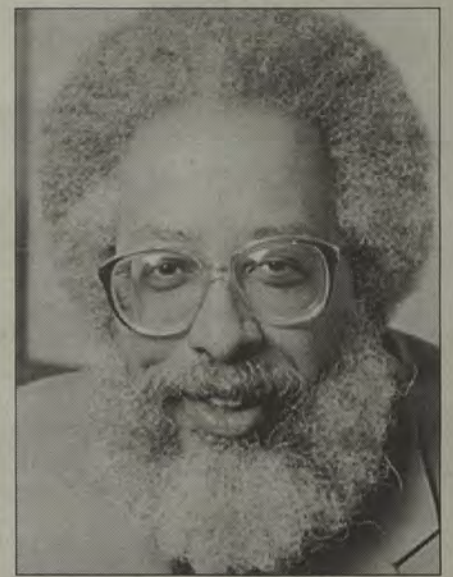
ferring between RIC and other institutions, particularly the University of Rhode Island, "because we have a lot of transferring back and forth."

Turley said they also wanted to make a distinction between upper level undergraduate courses that are introductory in nature and other advanced level undergraduate courses that might be appropriate for graduate students.

The new course numbers will be reflected in the 1999 Summer/Fall Course Bulletin as well as in the 1999-2000 College Catalog.

## Diversity speaker

Continued from page 1



**JOHN BRACEY JR.**

ideologies and movements, and the history of African-American Women.

In discussing the cost of racism, Bracey takes a different perspective. "Most discussions of race relations look at it from the point of view that racism affects only minorities," Bracey said in a recent telephone interview. "What needs to be pointed out is the devastating impact that racism has on the larger society — on the lives and resources of White America."

He elaborates, "The biggest example of this is the Civil War which cost one million lives. If you had asked anyone if they wanted to give one million lives to end slavery, no one would have."

"Things that look like they impact only African Americans, also impact Whites. There were no public schools before the Civil War because they didn't want to educate the Blacks so they had no public schools at all," Bracey said.

He cites the Jim Crow laws as a 20th Century example of how racism affects White America. Bracey notes that those laws were enacted because Congress was not democratically elected. "Blacks couldn't vote, although they were the majority in many Southern states." So, he added, those elected to Congress weren't democratically representing the people who lived in their home states. In fact, he said, they were representing their own interests, not even those of the White constituents. For instance, "They didn't put money into the schools because Blacks would have benefited."

The impact of racism on White America continues today, Bracey said. "Racism isn't free. It costs three times as much money to put someone in prison as to send to college. States don't have the money to fix school buildings, but they keep putting money into jails." If you deal with the issues so everyone has housing and a job, that will impact crime, he said, noting, "It's much cheaper to spread the money around."

Bracey, who was born in Chicago and grew up in Washington D.C., has co-edited a number of volumes on various aspects of the Afro-American experience including Black Nationalism in America, eight volumes in the series Explorations in the Black Experience, and most recently a revised edition of Black Protest in the Sixties. He is currently co-editor, with August Meier, of the microfilm series Black Studies Research Sources. Bracey is a life member of the Organization of American Historians.

Bracey's lecture will be followed by workshops in which participants can explore the topic and related subject matter in depth. The event is free and open to the public.

# R.I. Writing Project offers summer institutes for teachers, young writers

by George LaTour  
What's News Associate Editor

Rhode Island Writing Project is sponsoring a conference, three teacher institutes and two young writers programs at Rhode Island College this spring and summer.

Graduate credits are available for those teachers attending the institutes who wish credit, otherwise attendance is free.

The annual spring conference with Toby Fulwiler, a professor of English and director of the Writing Program at the University of Vermont, conducting two learning-to-write workshops is May 1 from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in the Student Union ballroom. Cost is \$25 (\$10 for student teachers) which includes a continental breakfast and lunch. The workshops are open to teachers in the state. RIC faculty may attend the keynote address free of charge.

Fulwiler, the author of a number of books, including *The Working Writer* and *When Writing Teachers Teach Literature*, had presented a series of writing workshops at RIC several years ago.

To register, contact Marjorie Roemer at the RIC English Department, Providence, RI 02908.

The 14th annual Invitational Summer Institute on Writing and Critical Literacy for teachers of all subject areas and grade levels from kindergarten through college runs from June 30 to July 29. It meets four days a week from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the RIC campus. It is free to those who do not wish academic credit. Six credits are available for those who wish at a cost of \$300. Send application to Dina Sechio DeCristofaro, 22 White Court, North Providence, RI 02911.

The eighth annual Advanced Level Summer Institute is open to those who have completed an Invitational Summer Institute. It runs from June 30 to July 15 from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the RIC cam-



**NATIONAL WRITING PROJECT:** On April 5, Sen. Jack Reed visited the class of Beverly Paesano, first grade teacher at Centredale Elementary School in North Providence. His visit was part of an effort to build support for the renewal of federal funding for the National Writing Project. Above, Reed talks with Jillian Maine, 6, about the piece of driftwood she is holding and writing about. Paesano, RIC Class of 1968, is a candidate in the RIC/URI doctorate program and a member of the R.I. Writing Project. (What's New Photo by Gordon E. Rowley)

## Reed visits N. Providence class to see writing project in action

U.S. Sen. Jack Reed visited Centredale Elementary School in North Providence April 5 to observe the writing activities of its students under teacher Beverly Paesano, Class of 1968, of the Rhode Island Writing Project. His visit was part of an effort to build support for the renewal of federal funding for the National Writing Project as introduced in a Senate bill by Thad Cochran of Missouri.

The Rhode Island Writing Project, that recently changed its name from the Rhode Island Consortium on Writing, offers writing institutes for the state's classroom teachers as well as summer programs for young writers from grades 1-9. Because of its federal funding, it is able to offer these programs at RIC at minimal cost. (See related story.)

While in Paesano's classroom, the senator had the opportunity to observe students sharing their writing and illustrations from daily journal entries and other activities. The students had written Senator Reed letters of greetings in anticipation of his visit.

Paesano is a fellow of the Rhode Island Writing Project and currently serves on its board of directors. She also is a doctoral student in education in the Joint RIC/University of Rhode Island program.

In an article recently published on the use of alternative approaches to teaching writing, Paesano wrote, "The Consortium (Rhode Island Writing Project) reinforced my goals as an educator: to provide the environment, the stimulation, the encouragement, and the invitation to explore and discover."

pus. It will feature guest speakers, discussion of best classroom practices, time for journal writing, writing groups, and discussion regarding the teaching of writing and the practice of teacher research. Three graduate credits are available at a cost of \$150. Send application to Susan Vander Does, 1113 Smithfield Ave., Lincoln, RI 02865.

The first Literature Institute for Teachers is July 19 to 29 from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. each day at RIC. It is open to all teachers from the seventh grade through college. The institute will study interactive Writing Project strategies to the study of reading and writing connections. Guest speakers, discussion of best classroom practices, journal writing and writing and reading groups as well as discussion of literacy issues will be featured. Three graduate credits are available at a cost of \$150. Contact Marjorie Roemer at the RIC English Department, Providence, RI 02908.

The Summer Program for Young Writers runs July 6 to 15 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at RIC. The cost is \$50. To register children from grades 1 to 3, contact Denis Roy, 107 Dawn Maries Center, North Kingstown, RI 02852; for children from grades 7 to 9, contact Barbara Wahlberg, Young Writers Program, 27 Kent St., Cumberland, RI 02864.

The Rhode Island Writing Project is one of 157 sites around the country where teachers teaching teachers is strengthening literacy instruction throughout the nation, says Roemer, associate professor of English and project director.

Formerly the Rhode Island Consortium on Writing, it has changed its name to the Rhode Island Writing Project in an effort to improve recognition of the program as an affiliate of the National Writing Project.

The National Writing Project has served over 1.8 million teachers and administrators from 1973 to 1997.

## RIC to observe 'Mathematics Awareness' in April

The mathematics and computer science department will observe "Mathematics Awareness" at Rhode Island College during the month of April.

The month's activities are designed to make the community aware of mathematics and its value at all levels.

The observance is being held in conjunction with the Mathematical Association of America, the American Mathematical Society, and the Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics. Funding is being provided jointly through a grant by the College Lectures Committee and the Park City/Institute of Advanced Study.

This year's theme is "Mathematics and Biology." Ann Moskol, professor of mathematics, is organizing the events.

Gov. Lincoln Almond is expected to issue a proclamation declaring April "Mathematics Awareness Month" in recognition of the significance of mathematics in society and RIC's leadership role in mathematics and mathematics education, according to Robert

J. Salhany, professor of mathematics.

Barry Schiller, professor of mathematics, says that Mathematics Awareness Month "demonstrates the significance of mathematics in numerous applied areas ranging from biology to finance and medicine."

The lectures and other events — with some exceptions — are free and open to the public. The schedule is as follows:

- Wednesday, April 14, Ockle Johnson of Keene State College, New Hampshire, will address the subjects of "Integrating Technology into Geometry" from 12:45 to 1:45 p.m. in Gaije Hall 168 and "The Familiar and Not-So-Familiar Worlds of Non-Euclidean Geometry" from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. in Donovan 202.

- Saturday, April 17, Walter Stromquist, a PhD in graph theory from Harvard University and former member of the U.S. Treasury Department, will address the topic of "The Mathematics of Finance" at the Northeast Section of the Mathematical

Association of America's spring minicourse from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Whipple Hall.

The course will focus on two main ideas in mathematical finance: portfolio optimization and option valuation. The first means allocating a fixed investment fund over a number of instruments in such a way as to maximize expected return; the second, involves probability theory.

To register, send a check for \$55 made out to NES/MAA to Helen Salzberg, Mathematics/Computer Science Department, Rhode Island College, Providence, RI 02908. The fee covers the talks, materials and continental breakfast. For more information, call Salzberg or Schiller, co-organizers, at 456-8038.

- Thursday, April 22, the NES/MAA also is sponsoring a Rhode Island dinner meeting featuring Joseph H. Silverman, professor of math at Brown University, at 7:30 p.m. at Johnson & Wales University, Providence. The title of his talk will be

"Mathematical Cryptography for Fun and Profit." It will be preceded by a 6 p.m. dinner at the India Restaurant. Contact Schiller at 456-9654 for more information.

- Wednesday, April 28, Larry Liebovitch, of the Center for Complex Systems and Brain Sciences at Florida Atlantic University, will discuss "Using Fractals and Chaos in Ion Channel Proteins" from 12:45 to 1:45 p.m. in Gaije Hall 373.

Other events that day consist of a poster viewing from 3:30 to 4 p.m.; a session called "Lessons about Mathematics from the Timing of Heart Attacks" from 4 to 5 p.m.; a short program honoring RIC students and faculty from 5 to 5:30 p.m., and a reception with refreshments from 5:30 to 6 p.m., all in the Faculty Center.

In addition to Moskol, Schiller and Salhany, other contributing math faculty members are Terrence Adams, Mariano Rodrigues and Ying Zhou. For more information, call Moskol at 456-9761.



**GEHRENBECK LECTURE:** The fourth annual Richard K. Gehrenbeck Memorial Lecture was held March 25 in Clarke Science 128. Above, at a dinner in the Faculty Center before the lecture, are (l to r) guest speaker Joan Richards, a professor of History at Brown University; Rita Gehrenbeck, widow of Richard; and College President John Nazarian. Richards spoke on "Truth and Consequences: The Place of Science in the Young Darwin's England." (What's News Photo by Gordon E. Rowley)

## Alumni scholarship

Continued from page 1

the best education programs in the country. This was extremely important to me since I am looking for the best possible training in the field I hope to excel in.

My mother and cousin both attended RIC and have had nothing but positive things to say about their experiences. While neither of them were residents of RIC, as I plan to be, they feel that they were not in any way robbed of "the college experience." My mother and cousin both excel in their education of others and I believe it was the training from RIC that has allowed them to do so.

I also want to attend RIC because I know I will have the opportunity of hands-on experience. This is something I found to be untrue of other schools that I had looked into. With an elementary education, there are several other options open to me in the same general area, such as special education or secondary education. This is important since I can be confident that I am not limited in my own education.

There are also more personal reasons why I wish to attend RIC. From a financial perspective, RIC is much more affordable than many other colleges and would give my parents a break. My older brother attends a rather expensive college, while I also have a younger brother who has four years of tuition at high school ahead of him. If I attend RIC, I can be assured an excellent background for my career study, while saving my parents the hassle of loans and other financial burdens.

While I want to live away from home, I really don't have to leave the state. Attending and living at RIC would give me the freedom I desire, while at the same time, allowing me to remain in relatively close contact with those important to me at this time. I have a job as well that I would like to hold on to while going to college. This would be virtually impossible if I were to attend any other school. As a Rhode Island resident, I also feel that attending RIC would allow me to move ahead and mature in my life, but would also make the transition from high school student to college student a lot easier.

So, for all these reasons, I truly wish to attend RIC. I believe my education there will be crucial to my career choice and think it will open up several opportunities for me that may not be available elsewhere.

## Fluehr-Lobban to give Thorp Lecture

Carolyn Fluehr-Lobban, professor of anthropology at Rhode Island College and winner of the 1998-99 Faculty of Arts & Sciences Thorp Professorship for creativity and scholarship, will give the Mary Tucker Thorp Lecture Thursday, April 15, at 4 p.m. in Fogarty Life Science 050.

George M. Epple, chair of the Department of Anthropology and Geography, will present Fluehr-Lobban whose topic will be "Scholarly Humanism." A reception follows.

The lecture is free and open to the public.

## Gender equity

Continued from page 1

are told just to be cautious, but go for it," Sullivan elaborates to illustrate the need for the Gender Equity handbook.

The danger sign posted in the industrial technology shop in a school is intended merely to advise all participants to take safety precautions, not to encourage or discourage active participation by either gender.

But after working on the Gender Equity handbook project that's what one industrial technology teacher discovered he was inadvertently doing. "One of his concerns is to get more young women involved in the field. If they feel they are doomed to ostracism, they aren't likely to go into the field. Male communications gets in the way of female acceptance. They don't even go in that area because of the differences in communication," Sullivan says.

Gender equity affects both sexes

Phrasing on signs was just one of many insights gained by the 45 educators who collaborated on the venture to develop a comprehensive but easily usable "living document" to provide lesson plans created and tested by classroom teachers for classroom teachers to use to foster gender equity. Gender equity is "being accepted for what you can contribute" regardless of gender, Sullivan says, adding that gender equity applies to male and female students.

The handbook, the result of a joint venture of RIC's Feinstein School of Education and Human Development, the Rhode Island Women's Commission, and the Rhode Island Department of Education, includes lessons for grade levels kindergarten - 16.

Subjects addressed include industrial technology, consumer and family science, English, math, science, social studies, and foreign language. In addition to lesson plans, the



**NANCY SULLIVAN**

handbook provides guidance on how to structure classes in order to encourage gender equity. The focus is on collaborative learning and involving all of the students.

Techniques include having the students work together in groups and then assess each other using a rating form which requires them to justify their ratings. "It creates a different environment for learning as to what is expected and what is accepted," Sullivan says.

### Two years in the making

The project started as a summer workshop funded by a state grant to develop this handbook using standards set by the National Commission on Women, Sullivan recalls. In the spring of 1997, Rose Marie Cipriano, co-chair of the Colloquium and then-principal of Cumberland High School, and Vivian Morgan, associate professor of mathematics at RIC, wrote the successful

proposal for a state Working Wonders grant. The funds supported a week-long institute in the summer of 1997 held at RIC.

"What we discovered is that even those individuals who thought they knew the issue, really didn't." The group of teachers, guidance counselors, faculty and school principals realized the week-long program was just a beginning, an opportunity to "get everyone on the same the page and to design the process for informing lessons."

The 1997 summer institute provided the structure, and the participants left with their assignment: develop and test three to five lessons in their area based upon the national standards. The group reconvened for three intensive workshops held at RIC in early 1998.

By the summer of 1998, the group had produced and selected about 120 lessons for inclusion. "I ended up with all the disks and spent the summer of 1998" immersed in the project.

Sullivan had the daunting task of editing each of the 120 lessons and drafting the introduction. She worked closely with the teachers to finalize the lessons and was impressed by their level of commitment.

"They really wanted to do this and to do it well. They saw a real need for it. The males were just as committed as the females. They are seeing their daughters and wives struggle with gender equity," Sullivan says.

A limited quantity of the handbook has been printed due to budget restrictions. The Commission on Women is coordinating the dissemination of the handbooks. The goal is to strategically place the handbook in every school in Rhode Island. For more information, contact Nancy Sullivan at 401-456-8701 or at 401-421-0650.

# Resident students and hall directors say 'thank you'

The week of March 29 to April 2 was RA Appreciation Week at Rhode Island College. RAs, of course, are "resident assistants," upperclassmen who live in the residence halls and "act as role models, counselors/helpers, teacher/educators, administrators and disciplinarians" to the other residents, according to Penny Oakley, director of Thorp Hall.

"It takes a special person (to be an RA)," adds Oakley. "...although they may never know the positive impact they have on their communities, it is important to acknowledge their efforts, dedication and leadership."

Throughout the week, residents and directors showed their appreciation with cards and posters, gifts, and other special favors to the College's 16 RAs who oversee nearly 600 residents. For example, RAs in Sweet Hall got a delivery of cookies and milk each evening of the week.

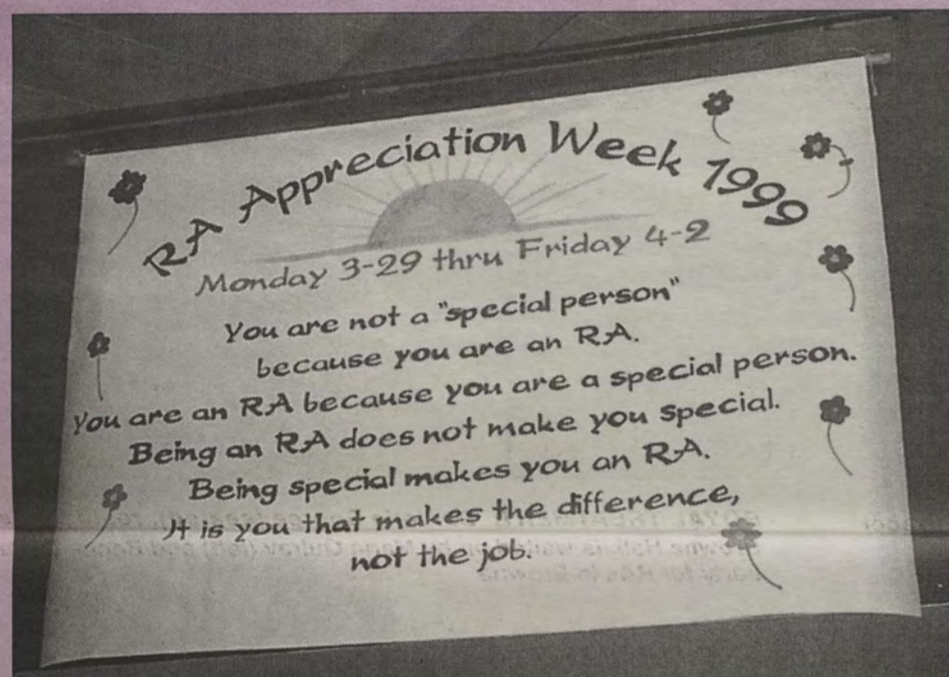
Here is a look at some of the other "thank you's."



ADMIRATION SOCIETY: Residents of Browne Hall gather around resident assistants (l to r) Trena Mikell, Elizabeth Tavares and Sherri Matheu.



ROYAL TREATMENT: Danielle Socree (seated), resident assistant in Browne Hall, is waited on by Maria Quiray (left) and Renee DeBeaulieu at a party for RAs in Browne.



A LARGE BANNER in Donovan Dining Center proclaims RA Appreciation Week.



BEARING A GIFT: Shawn Pearson (right), resident assistant in Thorp Hall, gets an appreciation gift from Thorp Hall director Penny Oakley. The package contains snacks, "inspirational quotations," and a letter of appreciation from Gary Penfield, vice president for Student Affairs.



CARD OF THANKS: Kevin Clarke, resident assistant in Thorp Hall, looks over a "poster card" signed by appreciative residents in the five suites he oversees.



LIKE A FAMILY: Resident assistants were treated to a final party by their hall directors on April 2 in Willard Hall.

Photos and text by  
Gordon E. Rowley

## Alumni awards

Continued from page 1

### Faculty Award: Gewirtz

Winner of the Alumni Faculty Award, Gewirtz has taught for more than 20 years, winning the College's Thorp Professorship on two occasions, once for teaching excellence and once for service.

As a founding member of the faculty of the School of Social Work, she served as the first chair and played a major role in the development of the curriculum and subsequent revisions.

Termed "a tireless community activist" working to improve the plight of poor women and children, her leadership with the Rhode Island Campaign to Eliminate Childhood Poverty, welfare and welfare reform and the Poverty Institute at the RIC School of Social Work "serve as a reminder that promoting social justice goes beyond the classroom."

### Service Award: Langevin

Winner of the Alumni Service Award, Langevin earned a masters degree in public administration from the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University after graduation from RIC.

He is the first RIC alumnus to hold statewide office, having been elected secretary of state in 1994, the youngest so elected in the country at the time.

Langevin has taken a leadership role in sponsoring legislation supporting open government and accountability.

He replaced the state's antiquated voting machines with optical scan equipment, created an Office of Public Information which provides the public with reports on activities of the General Assembly, established a Public Information Center which provides a range of legislative tracking and search capabilities, and his office published *Access Denied*, a joint report with the Taubman Center for Public Policy at Brown University, examining the General Assembly's compliance with the Open Meetings law.

### Staff Award: Levine

Winner of the Alumni Staff Award, Levine has served as secretary to six successive directors or deans of admissions while serving as "operations manager" for the somewhat complicated systems and processes which comprise the Office of Undergraduate Admissions.

"Sandy is among the most capable, dedicated and loyal of the truly wonderful staff which Rhode Island College is so fortunate to have," said William Hurry, former dean of Admissions and Financial Aid. "She has provided the glue which has held the office operations together and the oil which has kept the admissions processes running smoothly and efficiently."

### Willard Award: Urbani

Winner of the Willard Achievement Award, Urbani has brought honor to the College by distinguished achievement in her field, a prerequisite for the award.

She was a nursing major at RIC and holds a masters degree in health services administration. In addition to her role as president and CEO, she is chair-elect of the board of directors of the American Heart Association and a past chair of the March of Dimes and Options for Working Parents, and serves on the Greater Providence Chamber of Commerce and the board of trustees of Leadership Rhode Island.

The governor recently appointed her to the Lottery Commission. Urbani is an instructor of health care finance at Salve Regina and a clinical associate instructor at Brown University School of Medicine.

## 1999 Alumni Honor Roll Recipients

All Honor Roll recipients are graduates of the College, have been out of RIC for at least five years, recognized for their achievement in their chosen field and considered role models whose success demonstrates the value of a RIC degree.

A photograph and background information on each winner is mounted, framed and displayed in the Board of Governors Conference Room in Roberts Hall for one year and then sent to the respective departments for permanent display.

**Accounting/Computer Science: William Riendeau**, Class of 1992, controller, CHI Engineering Services Inc., Greenland, N.H. He demonstrated his leadership potential as president of the student accounting club and continues this involvement today as vice president of communications for the Institute of Management Accountants, New Hampshire chapter. He volunteers for Share Program, New Hampshire.

**Anthropology: Charles Paxton**, Class of 1975, secretary to the director, Henry M. Jackson School for International Studies, University of Washington, Seattle. He earned a certificate in organization management and is a co-founder of the Seattle Children's Museum, visited by over 200,000 people each year.

**Art: Dennis DeLomba**, Class of 1976, MFA, Rhode Island School of Design. Owner, DeLomba Studios, Cranston. He and his wife, Joanne, Class of 1978, started their studio in 1982. Their work has been bought by nearly 1,000 galleries and museum stores in the United States, Canada, Japan and England. He is currently designing a new series of sculptures.

**Bachelor of General Studies: Michele Passarelli O'Malley**, Class of 1992, MBA and MLS, University of Rhode Island. She is director of information services, KMI Corporation, Newport, and is a member of the URI Graduate School of Library and Information Studies Advisory Board.

**Biology: Carolyn Clark**, Class of 1984, MD, Duke University School of Medicine; pediatrician, Pediatric Associates, Bristol, Conn. She completed her residency at Children's Hospital Medical Center in Cincinnati, Ohio (1994-1997).

**Career and Technical Education: Christopher Bannister**, Class of 1992, MS, RIC; associate professor and chairman of automotive technology department, New England Institute of Technology. He was a member of the South Kingstown School Committee (1994-98).

**Chemistry: James Covill**, Class of 1976, director of manufacturing, Surfactants North America. He has 23 years with Clariant Corporation, directly responsible for all production activities in North America. This encompasses four production locations in Mexico and United States with sales revenue of \$180 million.

**Communications: Donna DiSegna Merritt**, Class of 1973, MS, University of Michigan; PhD, University of Connecticut; assistant professor communication-sciences department, University of Connecticut. She served as research associate at URI and had a clinical private practice (1992-1998). She is a national presenter and has published books, manuals and journal articles.

**Computer Science: Jo-Ann Pelletier**, Class of 1992, MS, Boston University; director, administrative computing and information systems, Bristol Community College. She is responsible for the college's network infrastructure, which services over 500 campus users, and she chairs the college-wide computer committee. She graduated from RIC with a double major in Computer Science and Computer Information Systems.

**Dance: Suzette Hutchinson**, Class of 1984, dance educator, dancer, artistic director and choreographer of Danscapes Dance Theatre, Orleans, Mass. She serves as a faculty member of the dance department at the Academy of Performing Arts in Orleans and Studio 878 in Chatham. She also teaches dance for R.I. Dance Alliance's *Chance to Dance* program and has received a national choreography award.

**Elementary Education: Suzanne Gileau Bartlett**, Class of 1972, MEd, RIC; kindergarten teacher, Coventry Public Schools. Suzanne is one of four Rhode Island teachers to obtain national certification. She consistently contributes to the development of beginning teachers by serving as a cooperating teacher and mentor for new teachers in the system. She also serves on the program approval design team for the Rhode Island Department of Education.

**English: Ellen F. Gardiner Shelnett**, Class of 1983, MA, RIC; PhD, State University New York; associate professor of English and director of freshman English, University of Mississippi. She received the William Andrews Clark Fellowship in 1991 and was an Outstanding American Young Woman in 1997. She has been nominated for Who's Who in America 1999.

**Film Studies: Carl V. Dupre**, Class of 1990, Hollywood screenwriter. Carl wrote the screenplay for the movie *Detroit Rock City* to be released in all 50 states this spring. His screenplay *The Prophecy III*, a gothic horror story, is also going to be released this spring.

**Health Education: Andrea G. Vastis**, Class of 1992, MPH, Boston University (1999 candidate); senior public health promotion specialist, Rhode Island Department of Health. She assists with coordination of major projects with the state Department of Education and links the needs and resources of the schools and communities.

**Management: Richard W. Rose**, Class of 1986, JD, Northeastern University School of Law; assistant U.S. attorney, district of Rhode Island. Since 1995 he has been a criminal prosecutor in the district's Organized Crime Strike Force. He also served on Rhode Island Ethics Commission.

**Marketing: Daniel R. DiSantis**, Class of 1994, regional sales manager, INSCI Corporation, Westborough, Mass.

**Mathematics: George A. Lozy Jr.**, Class of 1969, MA, RIC; math department chair, Saint Raphael Academy. From 1986-97, he served as chair of the math department at Charles E. Shea High School where the 1998 yearbook was dedicated to him. In addition to his teaching, he has chaired, advised and coordinated activities for both student bodies as well as presented workshops for teachers.

**Music: Diane Alexander**, Class of 1985, opera singer; major roles with New York City, Santa Fe, San Francisco operas and the Ocean State Light Opera, Ocean State Chamber Orchestra and the RIC Symphony Orchestra. She will debut with Opera Grand Rapids and Opera Festival of New Jersey in late spring and summer. In 1991 she was the Metropolitan Opera's regional winner. That year she was awarded the RIC Alumni Charles B. Willard Achievement Award for contributions to her chosen field.

**Nursing: Pamela L. McCue**, Class of 1988, MSN, URI; executive director, R. I. State Nurses Association. She is responsible for the fiscal management of the association as well as spokesperson in the legislature, community and media. She serves as a consultant to the Skilled Nursing Facilities.

**Philosophy: Michael S. Pisaturo**, Class of 1988, state representative, Rhode Island General Assembly. In 1997 he was named one of Rhode Island's top five "heroes" by the Providence Phoenix, the only politician to make the list. Also that year he was nominated by the speaker of the House for the Darden Institute as the House of Representative's most outstanding first-term legislator. He has been a community spokesperson and advocate for HIV and AIDS related services.

**Physical Education: Bonnie Jodat Clayton**, Class of 1977, elementary physical education teacher, East Providence School Department. She is a valued clinical instructor for the department, sharing her expertise with practicum teachers and student teachers. She was recognized for her excellence in teaching as 1998 Elementary School Physical Education Teacher of the Year and is involved in community activities and professional organizations.

**Political Science: Madeline Quirk**, Class of 1976, JD, Suffolk University Law School; associate justice, Rhode Island District Court. She is the first alumnus/a to be elevated to the district court bench. Upon graduation from law school she worked in the Rhode Island attorney general's office and then several Rhode Island law firms. She is a member of the Bar of Rhode Island, United States District Court for the District of Rhode Island, and Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

**Psychology: Laurel Reardon Goulet**, Class of 1981, MBA, URI; PhD, University of Connecticut; director of leadership and undergraduate programs, School of Business, University of New Haven. Her students nominated her for the teaching excellence award in 1997 and 1998 and to Who's Who in American Teaching in 1998.

**Secondary Education: Joyce L. Caldwell Stevos**, Class of 1965, MA, RIC; director of strategic planning and professional development, Providence School Department. She received the Milken National Educator Award in 1992. She is the former president of Urban League of Rhode Island and a founding member and past president of Rhode Island Black Heritage Society, a member of the adjunct faculty at RIC and listed in Who's Who of American Women. Joyce serves as a director of the alumni association.

**Social Work: Barbara L. Rayner**, Class of 1981, MSW, RIC; director, Rhode Island Department of Elderly Affairs. She has been at the center of planning and debate regarding services to senior citizens in the state for nearly two decades. She served as executive director of Coventry Senior Service Center for more than 10 years. She maintains a relationship with the College, supervising student interns and sharing feedback regarding program enhancements at the School of Social Work.

**Sociology: Karen A. Davie**, Class of 1976, MSW, University of Connecticut; president, National Hospice Organization, Arlington, Va. She leads the nation's largest non-profit organization advocating for the needs of terminally ill people. Previously she worked at United Way of America, serving as acting president and CEO, senior vice president of communications and vice president of government relations.

**Special Education: Sandra Mocadlo Spiridi**, Class of 1971, MEd, Providence College; special education teacher, Sackett Street School. Among her honors and activities are: Teacher of the Year, Sackett Street School, and Outstanding Elementary Teacher of America; she served the College as a special ed cooperating teacher for 15 years. Sandy died March 17. *This honor is given posthumously.*

**Technology Education: Charles H. McLaughlin Jr.**, Class of 1978, MEd, RIC; PhD, University of Maryland; associate professor, Department of Industry and Technology, Ball State University, Indiana. He has been widely published in professional publications and is a national lecturer in his discipline. He was a Benefactor Day honoree at Ball State and received an outstanding teaching award.

**Theatre: Denise Duhamel**, Class of 1975, MA, RIC; English teacher, Classical High School. She teaches theatre/English and is recognized statewide and regionally for her stage direction and outstanding pedagogy and mentoring of her students. Her Classical High School students have represented Rhode Island at the New England Drama Festival Showcase six times. She received the 1999 Excellence in Theatre Education Award.

# RIC Athletics

## Clouse leaves behind wrestling legacy at RIC

by Scott Gibbons  
Sports Information Director

They say once you're a wrestler, you're always a wrestler. The intense training and dedication it takes to be successful bonds all competitors from all levels. It doesn't matter if you competed in high school, college, or in the Olympics for that matter. A wrestler can look another wrestler in the eye, and there is that unspoken respect. In some ways, it's like a family.

Although Tim Clouse recently stepped down as Rhode Island College's Head Wrestling Coach, he'll never be forgotten. The hundreds of wrestlers he competed with as an undergraduate, worked with as an assistant coach, and then as the head coach, won't forget the countless hours he spent with them on the mat. "I think the thing I'll remember most is all of the people I've met and come to know over the years," Clouse says. "There's been so many great people I worked with that I wouldn't have known if it wasn't for RIC wrestling."

Rhode Island was a long way from Clouse's mind 50 years ago. He was born in Ottumwa, Iowa in 1949 and can still remember his first introduction into the sport of wrestling. "One day my dad brought home a college wrestler. I had played football and track in the past, but I really didn't know that much about wrestling. He showed me some moves on the front lawn and I fell in love with the sport."

In the Midwest, wrestling is very popular, and before long, Clouse began competing at the elementary level. While in his early high school years, Clouse remembers his team, which was undefeated at the time, traveling 150 miles to face another undefeated team. "There were 8,000 people in the stands and the meet was televised back home," Clouse recalls.

His father was a cross-country truck driver and his family moved around during Tim's youth, spending time in Nebraska and Illinois before finally settling in Rhode Island in 1965. "My uncle lived in Rhode Island. He offered my dad a job out here and he took it." Clouse entered Mt. Pleasant High School in Providence as a junior and quickly became known as one of the top young wrestlers in New England. He dominated almost every one of his opponents.

He was the Rhode Island State Champion and the New England Champion at the 180 pound weight class as a junior and as a senior. He was also named the Co-Outstanding Wrestler of both tournaments. "That type of dominance is virtually unheard of," says former RIC Head Wrestling Coach Rusty Carlsten. "I can remember his high school coach raving about him when Tim first moved to Rhode Island. No one had seen him wrestle before and he sure lived up to his advance billing."

After graduating from Mt. Pleasant in 1967, Clouse headed to Arizona Western College, hoping to get a scholarship for wrestling. Things didn't work out and he returned to Rhode Island, taking a job with the state in traffic engineering. While working, Clouse realized that earning his college degree would help him in job advancement. He began to take a few courses at RIC.

In 1970, Rusty Carlsten was hired as the wrestling coach at RIC. "In those early days, the program was in a state of disarray. A lot of the wrestlers were balancing school, families and trying to compete. I had talked with Timmy on and off about coming to RIC, but it never worked out." Finally in 1974-75, Clouse joined the squad. Despite battling an assortment of injuries over the next three years, Clouse was a

remarkable competitor.

He posted a record of 6-2 in 1974-75, 7-1-1 in 1975-76 and was 5-0 as a senior in 1976-77. Including tournament victories, he posted a career record of 21-6-1, a .777 winning percentage. Carlsten says, "Tim was an uncanny pinner. He pinned his opponent in 15 of 28 career matches. That's 54 percent of his matches. No one has come close to equaling that mark at RIC." Clouse was also a big help on the practice mat each day. Carlsten says, "Tim was almost like an assistant coach back then. He gave our program credibility and was a key in getting other wrestlers to come here."

Clouse earned his degree in industrial education from RIC in 1978. He took a job teaching at Central High School and was the head wrestling coach at Warren High School with former RIC wrestler Rich Duguay. Clouse piled up an extensive background in coaching, working wrestling camps all over New England. He was named the Rhode Island Schoolboy Coach of the Year while at Warren High School in 1980.

In 1981, after talking with Carlsten, Clouse became RIC's first assistant wrestling coach and the program began to take off. RIC was soon to be one of the most dominating Division III wrestling programs in New England, RIC's greatness culminated with winning an unprecedented and unequalled five consecutive New England College Conference Wrestling Association (NEC-CWA) Championships from 1988-92. RIC was consistently ranked as one of the top teams in the country.

"I think the record shows how good we were working together," Carlsten says. "Tim was the guy running practice, working the camps and talking with coaches. I was able to concentrate on recruiting, fundraising, administrative tasks and the daily grind of running a college program. Between the two of us, we ran the program like a machine."

Clouse adds, "We had so many state champions, quality wrestlers and out-of-state wrestlers wanting to come to RIC."

During the off-season, Clouse worked as an instructor at the New England



**DONALD E. TENCHER**

director of intercollegiate athletics,  
intramurals and recreation 456-8007

## Sports Auction benefits student-athlete programs

The third annual Rhode Island College Sports Memorabilia Auction will be held on Wednesday, May 5, at the Providence Marriott. Doors will open at 6:30 p.m., a silent auction will precede the live auction which starts at 7 p.m.

The proceeds from the auction go directly toward supporting programs for RIC's student-athletes, particularly those involving academics and life skills. Last year's proceeds were used to buy new computers and software programs for the Marocco Family Student-Athlete Academic Center.

The 1998 auction was a huge success and everyone in attendance had a terrific time. The auction included more than 200 items. This year's list has already surpassed that number. The items include memorabilia of star athletes, political figures and stars from the big screen. There are

also golf days and trips to some great sporting events.

Among the items to be auctioned are an autographed Joe DiMaggio hat, an autographed Ted Williams jersey and a limited edition 500 home run lithograph autographed by 11 of baseball's greatest home run hitters, including Mickey Mantle. There will also be a raffle to win an autographed Joe DiMaggio baseball.

The RIC pep band will provide entertainment and refreshments will be available.

Tickets are \$10 and everyone in attendance will receive a free gift.

Mark your calendar and plan to join us on Wednesday, May 5, at the Providence Marriott. For more information, or to purchase tickets in advance, call the RIC Athletic Department at 401-456-8007. Tickets will also be available at the door.

Wrestling School and the University of New Hampshire Wrestling School. He coached Rhode Island's first-ever Junior National Freestyle team in 1987 and the Greco-Roman team in 1988. For his work with RIC, he was selected as the National Assistant Coach of the Year by *Wrestling USA* magazine in 1988.

In 1992, Carlsten stepped down as RIC's head coach. After years of dedication to RIC wrestling, Clouse was selected as the new head coach. He quickly became aware of the differences

between being a head coach and being an assistant. "That was quite an adjustment," Clouse remembers. "Dealing with eligibility rules and scheduling buses was quite an eye-opener." Clouse adjusted quickly and the New England College Conference Coaches' voted him as the Rookie Head Coach of the Year in 1993.

Clouse guided the team to a 45-81-1 record in seven seasons at the helm before stepping down last month. Under Clouse's tutelage, RIC's Billy Cotter became the National Champion at the 134 pound weight class in 1994. Cotter was the first-ever Division III National Champion from any New England school.

"I have a lot of great memories of coaching here at RIC," Clouse says. "I'd like to thank all of my assistant coaches: Rob Del Prete, Scott Carlsten, Brian Allen and Craig Blanchard for all of their help and hard work. I'll also miss a lot of the traditions we had in the wrestling program."

Clouse points to the way the RIC family came together as a source of strength and grieved over the loss of James Quinn, who passed away unexpectedly while training for the upcoming season in October. "When something like that happens, it's just a devastating blow to the wrestlers as individuals. Quinn was one of the most well-liked and respected members of the team and it was a tragedy to lose him. I was really proud of the way the RIC wrestling community was there for each other."

With his coaching career over, it's now time for some new challenges. Clouse will stay involved with the sport. "I've always viewed wrestling as a family and I'll always be around," he says. Clouse is currently an industrial arts teacher at North Providence High School. He resides in North Providence with his wife, Nancy, and daughter Amelia.

A dinner to honor Coach Clouse is being held at Julio's Family Restaurant in North Providence on Friday, April 30 beginning at 6 pm. For more information or to make reservations to attend, contact Rusty Carlsten at 781-8344.



**WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT:** Coach Tim Clouse, left, discusses strategy with one of his wrestlers during a match. (Photo by Tom Maguire)



# 'Come to the Cabaret' by RIC Theatre April 22-25

by George LaTour  
What's News Associate Editor

Theatre-goers will have just four days to take up the invitation of the hit song "Come to the Cabaret," April 22 through the 25, when the pungent, tuneful Broadway musical success called Cabaret will be presented at Rhode Island College's Roberts Hall auditorium by RIC Theatre.

Opening on Broadway in November 1966, and continuing nearly three years, *Cabaret* won all three of the "best musical of the year" awards in its first season, the Tony Award, the New York Drama Critics' Circle award and the Outer Circle Critics Award. When the show was given in London, it won London's *Variety* poll and the *Evening Standard* poll as the best musical of the year over there.

The film version was directed by Bob Fosse with screen play by Jay Presson Allen. It won eight Academy Awards, including one for Liza Minnelli as Sally Bowles and one for Joel Gray as the emcee.

Based by Joe Masteroff on John Van Druten's 1952 play *I Am a Camera* and Christopher Isherwood's 1935 book of *Berlin Stories* which inspired Van Druten, and with songs by John Kander and Fred Ebb, *Cabaret* is a tale of tarnished innocents abroad in a land with no time for innocence — Berlin in the years just before Hitler came to power.

But although *Cabaret* captures the foreboding atmosphere of the period just before the Third Reich, it dwells only incidentally on doom and decadence.

It is chiefly a fun show from the opening moment when the leering master of ceremonies sings his famous song drawing in the night club's patrons to his own bawdiness, "Willkommen, Welcome, Bienvenue," and brings on the black-gartered Kit Kat "girls" (men and women), clad in the alluring style of Marlene Dietrich in *The Blue Angel*.

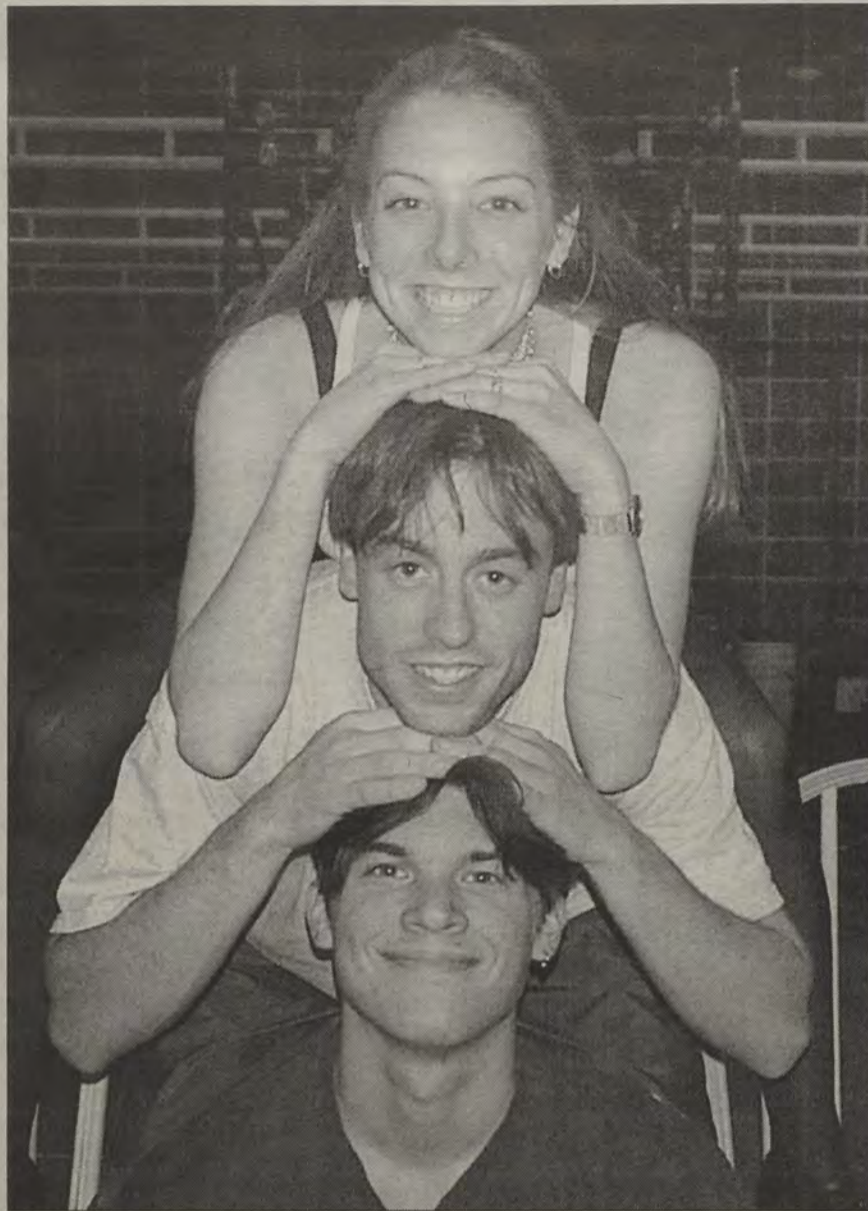
Sarah A. Martini of Cranston (Sally Bowles) and Dominique Doiron of Woonsocket (Clifford Bradshaw) will portray the outsiders caught up in the events taking place in the glitter and frenzy of Berlin in those days. She will enact a restless, reckless English girl (in the film, among other changes, Sally Bowles was an American) trying to believe in her singing talent, he an American hoping to become a writer and fatalistically drawn to her.

Michael J. Backes of Rye, N.Y., will be seen as the clown-faced master of ceremonies of the cabaret where much of the musical's action occurs, a place symbolizing the sleazy debauchery of the time, in which people tried to ignore the evil rising on the horizon.

Ralph P. Bruno of North Providence (Herr Schultz) will be seen as a Jewish shop-keeper who deludes himself that the Nazi movement is no threat to him ("I'm a German myself," he insists, "Germans will not be taken in with that foolishness."), and Bethany Vanasse of Coventry (Fraulein Schneider) will act the part of a sadly resigned rooming-house keeper with whom Schultz hopes to end his loneliness.

Michael P. Roderick of Smithfield (Ernst Ludwig) will be seen as a fanatically devoted Nazi.

Sixth grader Alexander P. David, son of William and Kris David of Cumberland, will sing the haunting song, "Tomorrow Belongs to Me." He's already a veteran of several



**COME TO THE CABARET!** Beckley Andrews, Jimmy Calitri (center) and Michael Backes rehearse a dance number from the musical Cabaret, to be presented April 22 to 24 in Roberts Hall auditorium. (What's News Photo by Gordon E. Rowley)

musicals staged at the Wheeler School in Providence and the films *Outside Providence* and *There's Something About Mary*, in both of which he played young boys.

Cabaret will be directed by Bill Wilson. Musical direction of the melody-drenched show will be by Robert Elam; sets by Chris Abernathy; lighting by John Boomer, and Barbara Matheson will provide the tacky yet provocative costumes to back up the show's theme, expressed in its biggest song-hit, "Life is a cabaret, old chum, come to the cabaret."

Evening performances Thursday, April 22 through Saturday, April 24, are at 8. Saturday and Sunday matinees will be at 2. Presentation of the Sylvan and Helen Forman Theatre Scholarship will be made prior to the opening night curtain.

Tickets are \$14 with discounts for seniors citizens and students and may be purchased in advance via VISA or MasterCard by calling 456-8060.

The box office is open daily from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and until time of performance.

## Special tickets to matinee aid Shinn Fund

Tickets to the *Cabaret* 2 o'clock matinee Saturday, April 24, ordered through the Rhode Island College Foundation will benefit the Ridgway F. Shinn Study Abroad Fund.

Such tickets are \$25 and entitle the holders to the performance and a reception afterward in Whipple Hall 102B at which winners of the 1999-2000 Shinn awards will be announced.

Those who make contributions or purchase matinee tickets by April 15 are eligible to win a weekend in the Berkshires in a luxury condo with dinner for two in the Lenox House, and two tickets to the Norman Rockwell Museum. The drawing will take place at the reception.

To get matinee tickets that will benefit the Shinn Fund, write Lynn Vinacco at the RIC Development Office, 600 Mt. Pleasant Ave., Providence, RI 02908 or call 456-8087. Checks should be made payable to the RIC Study Abroad Fund.

The Shinn Fund, held within the RIC Foundation, provides income to support undergraduate students in planned study outside the United States.

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

Any undergraduate with one year of full-time study at RIC and in good academic standing in any field of study is eligible to apply. Grants are for a minimum of three months and a maximum of 24 months, and are of variable amounts.

## Blackstone Chamber Players to perform works by Mozart, Shostakovich

The Blackstone Chamber Players will perform works by Mozart and Shostakovich in the Wednesday, April 14, Chamber Music Series at Rhode Island College, starting at 1 p.m. in Roberts Hall 138 (recital hall). The recital is free and open to the public.

The Players, performing locally since 1994, are Ian Greitzer, clarinet; John Sumerlin and Laura Gully, violin; Michael Kelley, viola, and Janet Chapple, cello.

They will perform Mozart's Quintet in A Major and Shostakovich's Quartet No. 7, Opus 108.

Greitzer serves as principal clarinet for the Rhode Island Philharmonic and the Boston Classical Orchestra, and has performed with the Boston Symphony Orchestra and the Boston Pops among others.

Sumerlin is an associate professor of music at RIC. He attended the Juilliard School of Music, the Manhattan School of Music and the Cincinnati Conservatory.

Gully performs with the Rhode Island Philharmonic and the Keewan



**BLACKSTONE CHAMBER PLAYERS**

Quartet, and teaches at The Music School.

Kelley is a member of the award-winning Arden String Quartet and has performed all over the world with the Apple Hill Chamber Players. He is a teaching fellow for music technology at Juilliard and composes and per-

forms electronic music.

Chapple also performs with the Rhode Island Philharmonic and the Keewan Quartet as well as with the Rhode Island String Quartet and the New Music Ensemble.

For more info, call John Pellegrino, series coordinator, at 456-8244.

**The importance of being Oscar —**

**Ken Ruta's solo a witty and heartfelt call of the Wilde at RIC**

by George LaTour  
What's News Associate Editor

"This evening I am simply going to offer my observations," says the titular hero of "Oscar Wilde: Diversions & Delights," as if he were apologizing for not having prepared a formal lecture — then adds the expected devilishly self-celebrating kicker: "and how fortunate you are in that."

The incomparable Ken Ruta will portray the most celebrated playwright and wit of his generation, Oscar Wilde, in the Rhode Island College Performing Arts Series Tuesday, April 27, at 8 p.m. in Roberts Hall auditorium.

Written by John Gay, the 20th century American screenwriter (*Run Silent, Run Deep* and *Sometimes a Great Notion*), it premiered in 1977 starring Vincent Price and went on to a Broadway run. The revival is directed by Kevin Jackson.

The year is 1899. The place is Paris. The actor's eyes shine in the gloom of a rundown concert hall set, undercutting notions that this solo performance will provide an evening of unbroken wit. The abject sound of dripping water, and a shabby sign billing Sebastian Melmouth — Wilde couldn't use his own notorious name — sets the somber tone of Jackson's staging.

"There are laughs over the next two hours, and Ruta delivers Wilde's best material with an impish sense of self-delight," said Steven Winn of the *San Francisco Chronicle*.

But anguish, rage and a pain-riddled soul loom large in this rambling but full-figured stage profile of the Victorian writer whose career was marked by extremes of celebrity and shame.

In 1895, Wilde was at the peak of his career and the acknowledged master of decadence and wit in late Victorian England. He was called the greatest self-consciously deliberate master of the art of conversation to speak the English language.

His plays — *Lady Windermere's Fan* (1892), *A Woman of No Importance* (1893), *An Ideal Husband* (1895), and *The Importance of Being Earnest* (1895) — had all achieved tremendous critical popular success.

Then, disaster struck. Despite being married and the



**CELEBRATED WIT: OSCAR WILDE as portrayed by Ken Ruta in 'Diversions & Delights' at Rhode Island College's Performing Arts Series Tuesday, April 27.**

father of two children, Wilde was arrested and eventually convicted for violating England's law against same-gender sexual relations over his affair with Lord Alfred "Bosie" Douglas. He was declared bankrupt; his name was removed from the advertisements and programs of his plays (which soon closed), and he was sentenced to two years' hard labor in a series of hellish British penal institutions, primarily Reading Gaol.

Wilde never recovered from the horrors of his prison experience. Although he wrote two of his most moving works — *The Ballad of Reading Gaol* and *De Profundis* — during his incarceration, Wilde disappeared from the English literary and social scene.

Rejected by society, his family (which changed its name), and most of his friends, he spent the last three years of his life in impoverished exile in France.

Ruta enters as a man unsure of himself, intimidated by his time in prison (during which his mother died) but determined to push on. He promises honesty. "There will be no secrets," he says. "You have paid to see Oscar Wilde in the wicked flesh and here he is."

He's partly the beaten man whose hands unconsciously rearrange the books on the table, a physical memory of the punishments he received when the items in his cell weren't in perfect order, and who paces as if he were still confined. He's also well aware that his attraction depends on still being "this rather large figure of notoriety," and of his responsibility to keep up his reputation for wit.

Many of the expected witticisms are as familiar as old friends. "I have nothing to declare but my genius." American women are "quite irresistible, perhaps because they

behave as if they were beautiful." Fox hunting is "the unspeakable in pursuit of the uneatable." "Nothing succeeds like excess."

"In Ruta's choked delivery," wrote Robert Hurwitt of the *San Francisco Examiner*, "the pain of Bosie's betrayal and of Wilde's separation from his family become touchingly real. So too does the courage of his wit, as he pulls himself together in the end, in true Wildean fashion, to assert, "Give me the luxuries of life and I can dispense with the necessities."

Reserved-seat tickets are \$18 with discounts for senior citizens and students, and may be purchased in advance by telephone via VISA or Mastercard by calling 456-8194 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily. For in-person sales, the box office is open weekdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and up to the time of performance.

**Jazz vocalist Rose Weaver in Chamber Series April 21**

Jazz vocalist Rose Weaver will focus on the history of jazz lyrics in her performance in Rhode Island College's Chamber Music Series Wednesday, April 21, at 1 p.m. in Roberts Hall 138 (recital hall).

She will select from spirituals, the blues, protest songs and life reflected in the lyrics of Bessie Smith and Billie Holiday.

The recital is free and open to the public.

Actress, singer, writer, educator, Weaver has spent the past 25 years in all these pursuits, but is, perhaps, best known as a professional actress and singer on stage, television and film.

As resident actress, she has appeared at Trinity Repertory Theatre many times, including

her performance as the late blues singer Billie Holiday in *Lady Day at Emerson's Bar & Grill*, Trinity's longest running production.

She served as writer/producer/host and lead actress of the Emmy award winning dramatic half hour special *Another Christmas Miracle* on NBC-TV in 1984.

Weaver has worked for major studios, including Paramount,



Columbia and 20th Century Fox and for television on NBC, CBS, ABC, HBO and PBS.

Her acting appearances include those in *The Accused*, *In the Heat of the Night*, for which NBC nominated her for an Emmy, *L.A. Law*, *Tales from the Crypt* and *The Young and Restless*.

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

**Dinner honors Brisson, supports ceramics program**

An "Empty Bowl Dinner" in honor of art Prof. Emerita Harriet Brisson will be held Thursday, April 29, from 6 to 9 p.m. in the Rhode Island College Art Center, room 8.

Proceeds from the \$25 tickets will go to support the ceramics program.

Billed as a casual dinner, it will be served in handmade ceramic bowls after which the bowls will be cleaned and returned to the patrons as a gift from the Artist Co-op.

For more information, call Bryan Steinberg, assistant professor of art, at 456-9687.



# RIC CALENDAR

APRIL 12 - 26

## Tuesdays

**Noon to 1 p.m.** — Bible Study in the Chaplains' Office, SU 300. Conducted by Larry Nichols.

## Wednesdays

**12:30 to 1:45 p.m.** — Catholic Student Association meets in the Chaplains' Office, SU 300.

## 1-30

**Art:** Scorched Earth — Changing Concepts in Ceramics. Bannister Gallery exhibit. Call 456-9765 for hours.

## 12-14 Mon.-Wed.

"Reading Week 1999" will be celebrated at Henry Barnard School. The theme for this year's reading week is: "Celebrating Our Heritage through Many Faces of Literacy." For more information and involvement, call Mary Foye, 456-8153.

## 13 Tuesday

**8 p.m.** — Spring Celebration of the Arts. Reading: Richard Price, novelist/screenwriter. Student Union Ballroom. No charge.

## 14 Wednesday

**12:45 to 1:45 p.m.** — Lecture: "Using Fractals and Chaos in Ion Channel Proteins" in Gaige 168.

**1 p.m.** — Music: Blackstone Chamber Players. Roberts Hall 138. Part of the Chamber Music Series. Free.

**3:30 to 4:30 p.m.** — Lecture: "The Familiar and Not-So-Familiar Worlds of Non-Euclidean Geometry" in DDC 202. For further information, call 456-9761.

**8 p.m.** — Screening: *Sea of Love*. Movie written by Richard Price, novelist/screenwriter. Horace Mann 193. A question-and-answer-session with Price will follow the screening. No charge.

## 14-28

**Mathematics Awareness Month** observed with lectures and other events. See story on page 4.

## 15 Thursday

**4 p.m.** — Mary Tucker Thorp Lecture: Carolyn Fluehr-Lobban, professor of anthropology will present "Scholarly Humanism." Fogarty Life Sciences 050. A reception follows. Free and open to the public.

## 16 Friday

**6:30 p.m.** — Murder Mystery Dinner in SU Ballroom. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$7 for students and can be purchased at SU Info Desk.

## 17 Saturday

**8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.** — Mini Course: "The Mathematics of Finance" presented by Walter Stromquist, mathematical consultant with doctorate from Harvard University. In Whipple Hall. For more information, call Helen Salzberg, 456-8038.

**9 a.m. to 3 p.m.** — Habitat for Humanity. Carpool leaves SU at 8:15 a.m. and returns at 3 p.m. Call 456-8168 to pre-register. Bring a bag lunch. Sponsored by the Chaplains' Office.

## 18 Sunday

**11:30 a.m.** — Spring Brunch Bingo in DDC. Free! Sponsored by Student Activities, 456-8034.

**7 a.m. - 9 p.m.** — Trip to Bronx Zoo. Purchase tickets (\$17) and sign up at SU Info Desk. Call 456-8034 for further information. Sponsored by Student Activities.

## 19-24 Mon.-Sat.

**Asian Week** — The Asian Student Association will be sponsoring a week full of activities beginning Monday, April 19. All events will be held in the SU Ballroom.

Schedule follows: **Monday, April 19**, from 7 to 11 p.m., is movie night; **Tuesday, April 20**, from 7 to 9 p.m., is martial arts; **Wednesday, April 21**, during free period, is Mehndi; **Thursday, April 22**, from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., is Asian art; and **Saturday, April 24**, from 2 to 5 p.m., is the Third Annual Cultural Show. For more information, contact Kam San, 456-8523.

## 21 Wednesday

**12:30 to 2 p.m.** — Dialogue on Diversity Speaker: John Bracey Jr., professor of sociology and African/American Studies at UMass-Amherst, will speak on "The Cost of Racism to White America" in Gaige Hall auditorium. Workshops to follow. Free and open to the public. For more information, contact Joe Costa at 456-8237.

**1 p.m.** — Music: Rose Weaver, jazz vocalist. Roberts Hall 138. Part of the Chamber Music Series. Free.

**7 p.m.** — Fashion '99. Fashion show presented by Harambee in SU Ballroom. Tickets are \$5 and can be purchased at the SU Info Desk. For further information, call Harambee Office, 456-8085.

## 22-25 Thurs.-Sun.

**Theatre:** Cabaret presented by RIC Theatre in Roberts Auditorium. 8 p.m. April 22-24 and 2 p.m. (matinee) April 24 and 25. Reserved seating \$14. Call 456-8060 to charge tickets by phone.

## Sports Roundup

### BASEBALL

The RIC baseball team is 6-8 overall and has yet to see action in the Little East Conference. Head Coach Scott Perry's team returned from its spring trip to Tampa, Fla. with a 2-5 record against difficult opposition.

Second baseman Paul Pimental leads the team in batting with a .421 average and a team-high 12 runs scored. First baseman Dave Walsh leads the team with nine RBI in 11 games. Third baseman Andy Barron and centerfielder Ben Libbey are also hitting well, batting .414 and .395 respectively.

Keith Croft leads the pitching staff with a 2-1 record. Dennis Soito and Jay Olson lead the team in innings pitched, each hurling 14 1/3 innings so far this spring.

### SOFTBALL

The softball team is 7-9 overall and 1-1 in the Little East Conference. Head Coach Maria Morin's team recorded a 4-6 record while playing in the annual Gene Cusic Softball Classic in Fort Myers, Fla. over spring break.

First baseman Christie Moreira leads the team in hitting, batting .455 in nine games. Third baseman Rachel Medeiros is batting .417 and is tied with catcher Jen Sabatelli for the team lead in runs scored at 14. Medeiros leads the team with 11 RBI on the year. Shortstop Jen Cook and centerfielder Jen Siciliano are also hitting well, batting .324 and .302 respectively on the year.

Lea Wiggins has been the pitching staff's workhorse, posting a 4-5 record in a team-high 71 innings. Wiggins leads the rotation with 28 K's on the year. Beth Covill and Stacy Perruzzi are 1-4 and 2-0 on the year.

### MEN'S TENNIS

The men's tennis team is currently 0-2 on the year. Head Coach Dick Ernst's team has battled tough competition early on. RIC opened the season with a 9-0 loss to Division I and cross-state rival, University of Rhode Island on March 26. The Anchormen then lost a close match at Salem State 5-4 on April 1.

Pat Prendergast, who competes at number two singles and number one doubles, is the team's early point leader with 1.5. Prendergast is 1-1 in both singles and doubles on the year.

### MEN'S AND WOMEN'S TRACK AND FIELD

The men's and women's track and field teams put forth an outstanding effort in their first action of the season at Wesleyan University on March 27. The Anchorwomen placed first out of 14 schools with 124 points on the day.

The women's team did so well, they had several players qualify for the New England Division III Championships, which will be held at Springfield College on April 29-30. The players are: Crisolita daCruz in the hammer, Joyelle Galli in both the long and triple jumps, Crissy McCullah in the javelin, Mindy Roczynski in the high jump, Angelina Stewart in both the long and triple jumps, and Keely Subin in the 200 meter dash.

## Sports Events

Baseball		
April 13	ROGER WILLIAMS	3:30 p.m.
April 15	UMASS-DARTMOUTH (1-9) *	3:30 p.m.
April 17	at Plymouth State (2-9) *	Noon
April 19	WENTWORTH	3:30 p.m.
April 20	at UMASS-Dartmouth (1-9) *	3:30 p.m.
April 24	UMASS-BOSTON (2-9) *	Noon
Softball		
April 13	ENDICOTT (2-7)	3:30 p.m.
April 15	BRIDGEWATER STATE (2-7)	3:30 p.m.
April 17	PLYMOUTH STATE (2-7) *	1 p.m.
April 20	at Western Connecticut State (2-7) *	3:30 p.m.
April 22	ROGER WILLIAMS	3:30 p.m.
April 26	JOHNSON AND WALES (2-7)	3:30 p.m.
Men's Tennis		
April 13	at Suffolk	2 p.m.
April 15	UMASS-DARTMOUTH *	3:30 p.m.
April 17	at Little East Conference Championships #	TBA
April 18	at Little East Conference Championships #	TBA
April 24	at Plymouth State *	1 p.m.
Men's and Women's Track and Field		
Apr. 17	at Tri-State Championships #	10:30 a.m.
Apr. 24	at Little East/MASCAC Alliance Championships	11 a.m.

HOME GAMES/MEETS ARE IN CAPITAL LETTERS

\* Denotes Little East Conference opponent

# Denotes hosted by Colby College

### Notice of Affirmative Action and Nondiscrimination

Rhode Island College is committed to equal opportunity and affirmative action. No student, employee, or applicant will be denied admission, employment, or access to programs and activities because of race, sex, religion, age, color, national origin, handicap/disability status, sexual orientation/preference, or veteran status. This College policy is in concert with state and federal nondiscrimination laws. Inquiries concerning the College's administration of the nondiscrimination laws should be addressed to the College director of affirmative action. Reasonable accommodation upon request.