



WHAT'S NEWS

AT RHODE ISLAND COLLEGE

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RIC's Y2K preparation on track

by Shelly Murphy
What's News Editor

With Jan. 1, 2000 just weeks away, Rhode Island College is putting the final touches on its fast-track implementation of the PeopleSoft Y2K compliant system. The multi-million dollar project officially began in November 1998 when PeopleSoft was selected as the vendor for all administrative applications for the state's three institutions of higher education and KPMG was selected as the implementation partner.

Record setting implementation

RIC is implementing the system in a fraction of the time normally allotted — less than one year compared to three to five years. In addition, the College is also the first institution in the world to implement the Student Administration module 7.6. The Student Administration software includes programs for student registration, admissions, records, bursar and financial aid.

RIC launched this module in October with student registration for spring 2000 semester. The PeopleSoft system is integrated with the College's new Periphonics Voice Registration system, which was installed this fall. The student telephone registration for spring 2000 was delayed by two days in October due to unforeseen problems with the new voice registration system. The technical problems have been resolved. The student registration module will also provide an Internet-based registration capability that is slated to be operational for first summer session 2000.

The other PeopleSoft modules being implemented are finance and human resources, which went "live" in July. Six teams were created for

See Y2K preparation, page 8

Statistical chorus: Psych prof uses novel approach to teaching 'devilish' stats



SINGING PSYCHOLOGY statistics is professor Jill Chafetz's (left) class at RIC. (What's News Photo by Gordon E. Rowley)

by George LaTour
What's News Associate Editor

Like the nursery rhyme's Little Tommy Tucker who sings for his supper, the students in a Rhode Island College psychology class sing — not for their supper — but for grades!

It's arguably a new approach to teaching and one worthy of a psychology professor.

Jill E. Chafetz, assistant professor, came to RIC three years ago from Bard College in the mid-Hudson Valley in New York where she had her students sing occasionally so difficult facts might more easily imprint themselves in the students' gray matter.

But she really got into it at RIC in her second year teaching Introduction to Psychological Methods "which is really statistics in psychology," she says.

What kind of statistics, you might ask.

Well, "descriptive statistics" which include mean median mode, standard deviation, Z-scores, percentiles, ranks and then go on to inferential statistics which include t-tests, analysis of variants, correlation and possibly to non-parametric tests and regression.

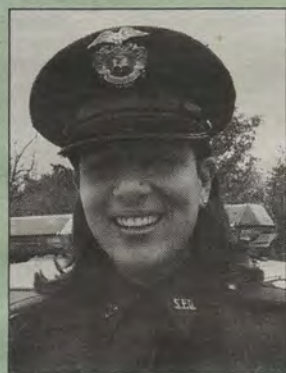
That's all perfectly clear — to psychology students and others in the profession. The reader can easily assume that that sort of

See Psychology, page 10

Where are they now...?

Communications and public relations was Lisa Gelsomino's (Class of '96) major at RIC. And every day she uses the knowledge and skills she acquired in college but not in the way she envisioned when she was a student. You see, for the past two and a half years she has been a police officer in the Town of Smithfield, and she is happy in her work.

"I love every minute. Every day is different. It's busy. You're dealing with a whole community," she



said recently in a sparsely-furnished office at the police station.

Is it exciting? "Yes," she said. Perhaps not as exciting as television's "NYPD" but ... "We are called to situations that other people run from."

Most people think of Smithfield as a quiet bedroom community, but Gelsomino, 25, sees

another side to the town. The town, she said, has its fair share of

See Where are they now?, page 10

Phone-a-thon generates \$36K

Seventeen Rhode Island College students called RIC alumni this fall receiving about \$36,000 in pledges for the annual fund. A total of 966 pledges were made by alumni to help support student scholarships, faculty research projects and alumni-related activities.

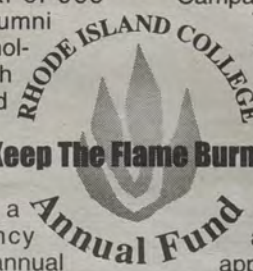
Most of the students in this phone-a-thon were new callers. "They did a great job," said Nancy Hoogasian, director of the annual fund. "The students showed a lot of persistence and enthusiasm for the phone-a-thon right from the start. Their positive attitude really produced results."

"The phone-a-thon was very successful and exceeded last fall's phonathon total by \$3,000. Our thanks

to all of you who have made a pledge to help reach our goal of \$310,000 for the 1999-2000 Annual Fund Campaign," Hoogasian said.

The personal appeal by current students is well received by alumni. For instance, Marguerite Russo '93, of Cranston, made a \$100 pledge when she was called by freshman Tara Beaulieu. "Tara was so nice and friendly on the phone. I appreciated talking to Tara about her experience at Rhode Island College and wish her much success," Russo, a nurse at Fatima Hospital, wrote in a note accompanying her pledge.

Pledges can be sent to Annual Fund, Rhode Island College, 600 Mt. Pleasant Ave., Providence, RI 02908.



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.



During this harvest season, we look back to the student council dance in the fall of approximately 1957. And we are not sure of the location. Can anyone out there help us with this one?

Happy Holidays!

from the Office of News and Public Relations

The next issue of What's News
is Monday, Jan 31, 2000.

DEADLINE
for submission of text and photos
is Friday, Jan. 22 at noon.

Story ideas are welcome.
Call 401-456-8090 or email smurphy@ric.edu.

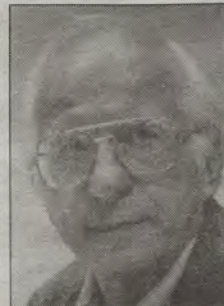


PARTNERS IN PHILANTHROPY: Helen Forman '34 and Paul Bourget '69 were among more than 80 philanthropists honored by the Rhode Island Chapter of the National Society of Fund Raising Executives at Rhodes-on-the-Pawtuxet Nov. 16, which was designated National Philanthropy Day. (What's News Photo by Gordon E. Rowley)

Focus on Faculty and Staff

Faculty and staff are encouraged to submit items of information about their professional endeavors to What's News, Office of News and Public Relations, 300 Roberts Hall or email them to csousa@ric.edu.

Edward D. Bzowski, professor of educational studies, has been granted a U.S. patent as of July 27 for a caddy system for lockers. The system has a set of louvered vents formed in the door of the locker for ventilation of the interior, providing extra storage space within the interior of the locker. It is Bzowski's first patent.



Thomas Malloy, professor of psychology, served as the statistical analyst on a federally funded research project focused on AIDS risk behavior among sexually active, minority (African and Latin American), urban adolescents that included researchers from the University of Connecticut (J. Fisher), the University of Western Ontario (W. Fisher), and the State University of New York (S. Williams). Structural Equation Models were estimated using LISREL to test a theoretical model of AIDS risk/preventive behavior that is termed the Information-Motivation-Behavioral Skills Model. Results of this study were published (1999) in the journal *AIDS and Behavior*.

Tracy Caravella-Nadeau, assistant professor of health and physical education, chaired the Rhode Island Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (RIAPERD) fall conference Oct. 22 at Rhode Island College. Over 220 professionals and students met to learn and network. Other HPE faculty presented sessions and assisted in the conference organization. **Karen S. Castagno**, assistant professor, presented "Strategies for Increasing Physical Activity among Sedentary Children; **Richard Cain**, assistant professor, presented "Technology in the Classroom—Part I and Part II; **Robin Kirkwood Auld**, assistant professor, presented two sessions, "A Potpourri of Warm-up and Fitness Activities and How to Utilize Them" and "Helping High School Students with the Recruiting Process." Castagno and Kirkwood Auld served as registration co-chairs. Betty J. Rauhe served as coordinator of student activities; Ben Lombardo as chair of the nominations committee.

Patricia A. Beezer, assistant professor of nursing, received the

Key Award for excellence in member involvement from Delta Upsilon Chapter-at-Large of Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing in ceremonies Nov. 7 at the 35th Biennial Convention in San Diego. The Delta Upsilon Chapter-at-Large is comprised of RIC and University of Rhode Island nursing faculty.

Mary L. Burke, professor of nursing, and **Margaret Hainsworth**, professor emerita of nursing, received the Best of Image Award from Sigma Theta Tau International at the San Diego convention. The award was given for their article — co-authored with Georgene Eakes of East Carolina University — "Middle Range Theory of Chronic Sorrow." *Image* is the society's journal of nursing scholarship.

Stephen Fisher, professor of art, has an exhibition of his recent drawings and prints in the Lenore Gray Gallery, 15 Meeting St., Providence, through the end of December. Gallery hours are weekdays from 9-5. Also, Fisher, along with two other artists, have an exhibition of their paintings, drawings and prints entitled "Illusions" at the Fawick Art Gallery, Kleist Center for Art and Drama at Baldwin-Wallace College in Berea, Ohio, this month.



Edward Markward, professor of music, was guest conductor of the Rhode Island Philharmonic Orchestra's "Home for the Holidays" concerts Dec. 4 and 5 at Veterans Memorial Auditorium. Featured artists for the concerts were tenor Arturo Coppola, members of the Festival Ballet of Rhode Island and the Rhode Island Civic Chorale. The concert will be performed again Friday, Dec. 10, for the workers at Taco, Inc. in Cranston as part of the educational outreach program of the philharmonic.

These performances mark the third consecutive season Markward has guest conducted the philharmonic. In addition, this past summer he made his debut at the internationally celebrated Newport Music Festival.

WHAT'S NEWS

AT RHODE ISLAND COLLEGE

Director of News and Public Relations: Clare Eckert

Editor: Shelly Murphy

Associate Editor: George LaTour

Staff: Pauline McCartney, Word Processing Supervisor; Gordon E. Rowley, Photographer; Cynthia L. Sousa, Writer/Technical Assistant

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The Century in Retrospect – The 1980s and the 1990s

Facility improvement, curriculum development and technology

In this final academic year of the 20th century, *What's News* is providing a glimpse of the College from each decade. In this final issue of 1999, we complete this series with a look at recent history: the 1980s and 1990s.

by Shelly Murphy
What's News Editor

The 1980s started with the country battling inflation and an economic slowdown, and the College facing serious budget constraints as the state wrestled with the economy.

Yet, with an enrollment of approximately 5,500 full time equivalent students and a waiting list of about 500 for space in the residence halls, the College was also dealing with the need for facility improvements and expansion.

In November 1980, the voters rejected a bond issue that would have supported an addition to the Walsh Center and an addition to the Student Union.

On Sept. 16, 1984, President David Sweet suddenly passed away at the age of 51. John Nazarian, then vice president for administration, was named as acting president by the Board of Governors for Higher Education.

In October 1986, Carolyn Guardo was inaugurated as the seventh president of the College. A new College signature was adopted and the color burgundy was added to accent the College's official colors of gold and white.

In the mid-80s, the economy improved and voters authorized funds for construction. In November 1984, voters approved \$2.2 million for the conversion of the Whipple Gym into the Center for Industrial Technology. In 1987, \$2.5 million was approved for construction of a recreational complex. In 1988, the College Bookstore was renovated and re-opened as the Campus Store. In 1989, work was completed on the Whipple Gym, which opened as the Center for Industrial Technology. Later that year, Phase 1 of the Recreation



WALSH GYM (left) was destroyed by fire on Jan. 5, 1992.

THE NEW BUILDING (below) was completed in 1995.

Photos by
Gordon E. Rowley

Center, which included an indoor swimming pool, opened.

In August, 1989, President Guardo announced her resignation effective Jan. 1, 1990. Nazarian was named as acting president again. In May, the Board of Governors named Nazarian as the eighth president of the College.

The 80s were also a time of academic growth with the official approval of the School of Social Work, which offered a bachelors program and the state's first MSW program, and the addition of bachelors programs in accounting, marketing, and computer information systems.

The 1990s

The 1990s emerged quickly as a decade of growth also. In August 1990, the College broke ground on its fifth residence hall, which was dedicated the David E. Sweet Residence Hall in October 1991. In May 1991, the College conferred more than 1,000 undergraduate degrees at its May commencement for the first time. The following year, it surpassed the 400 mark for graduate degrees for the first time.

In January 1992, the Walsh Gym was destroyed by an early morning fire; the New Building was built in its place.

In 1994, renovations of the Donovan Dining Center were completed. That same year, restoration



of the old Chapin Homestead was completed, in part with funds donated by Helen Forman '34. The Sylvan R. Forman Center was dedicated in September.

In 1996, Alan Shawn Feinstein presented the College with its first-ever private gift of \$1 million and the School of Education and Human Development was renamed the Feinstein School of Education and Human Development.

In November 1996, state voters approved bond issues, including \$5.6 million for telecommunications improvements at RIC and \$9.5 million for the construction of a Performing Arts Classroom Facility.

The bond issue enabled the College to leapfrog forward with technology, creating walk-in computer labs for student usage and infusing computer technology into the classrooms and offices throughout the campus. The Technology Center at Horace Mann Hall was dedicated with a "virtual ribbon cutting" in November 1997.

As the year closed, renovations began on the Student Union building. The walls on the third level surrounding the ballroom below were replaced with glass to let natural light into the facility.

In 1998, ground was broken for the Performing Arts Classroom Facility, at which Gov. Lincoln Almond announced he would recommend to the Board of Governors that the new facility be named to honor President Nazarian.

That same day, a ribbon cutting ceremony officially opened the new

home of the School of Social Work in a renovated former DCYF building on the Mt. Pleasant Avenue side of campus.

The '90s were also a time of academic development. Both the Master of Fine Arts in Theater, offered collaboratively with the Trinity Rep Conservatory; and the joint University of Rhode Island-RIC PhD in education program began in 1995. In 1996, General Education 2000, a complete revision of the general education curriculum was implemented.

A finance major was approved for the Center for Management & Technology in 1999 and a masters in professional accountancy is currently proposed.

The year and the decade close this month with the much anticipated, or dreaded, Y2K imminent. The roll-out of the Y2K compliant PeopleSoft package and necessary hardware is winding down. The College, like much of the world, looks forward to the new century—and the new millenium, even if it technically doesn't start until the year 2001.

Research materials and photographs furnished from the College archives with the assistance and guidance of Marlene Lopes, special collections librarian.

Note: Charles B. Willard served as president of the College from 1973 to his retirement in 1977. The name of the president at this time was incorrect in the Nov. 22 installment of *Century in Retrospect*.



RESTORATION TO THE former Chapin Homestead was completed in 1994 and the building was dedicated as the Sylvan R. Forman Center in September.

Foundation & Alumni Affairs

Foundation News



Marguerite M. Brown
Director, Development
Executive Director,
Foundation

• Members of the Rhode Island College Foundation and Alumni Association continued their year-long focus on board development at a training session on Monday, Nov. 29. Under the direction of Simone P. Joyaux, ACFRE, of Joyaux Associates, board members and trustees came together for four hours as part of our program of bringing together the volunteer leadership of the College to enhance support for the College

as we begin the 21st century. Joyaux, well-known counsel for fund raising and organization development, led the group in exploring issues around philanthropy, advocacy, effectiveness, and accountability.

• Rhode Island College is headed for Florida! Showing that we have no fear of Y2K problems as they might affect airlines, RIC's women's basketball team is heading to Florida on Jan. 1. The Foundation and Alumni Association will be hosting two events around the team's games. The first event will be held on Friday, Jan. 7 at Team Headquarters, Vistana Resort near Walt Disney World, in Orlando, and the second event, based on last year's successful West Coast luncheon, will be held at the Sanibel Harbour Resort, Ft. Myers, on Saturday, Jan. 8. Both will be afternoon events. Our Florida friends should watch their December mail for details and reservation forms. If you will be traveling in Florida during these times, please contact the Alumni Office.

We have almost 800 alumni living in Florida. We expect large numbers of you to dust off your yearbooks and join us!

• The State Employees Charitable Appeal (SECA) is currently under way on campus and at all state agencies. Once again you can select the Rhode Island College Foundation as your "charity of choice" by writing in #4984 on your pledge card. Your gift may be directed to the Foundation as unrestricted, to the Annual Fund, or to any one of the endowment, department, athletic performing arts, or other funds administered by the Foundation.

✓ **Rhode Island College Foundation # 4984**

• For those of you considering a planned gift to the College or another charity, you might consider using retirement-plan assets, such as IRAs, 401(k)s, and other pension accounts. Although contributions to, and assets in, many kinds of retirement plans are not taxed, withdrawals and distributions — whether to the people who own the plans or their heirs — are. Funds that are in tax-deferred plans that are left to heirs can be subject to both income and estate taxes that can erode a significant portion of the fund. If assets are passed to a charity when an individual dies, however, no taxes are levied and the full amount goes to the selected charity.

Gifts of retirement-plan assets can be made outright, naming the charity as the beneficiary of all or a portion of the plan, or they may be made in such a way that the donor's family may have opportunities to recommend how the funds will be spent. Or, donors may leave funds from retirement plans to a charitable remainder trust that would make annual payments to their heirs before the remainder of the trust's assets pass to a charity.

As the end of the year approaches and you are thinking about federal taxes, it may be a good time to consider giving options for the many different types of assets you hold. We'll be happy to answer any questions you may have.

• Since this is the last issue of *What's News* for 1999, I want to take this opportunity to express our sincere appreciation for your time and your gifts over the past year. On behalf of the trustees of the Foundation and the members of the Alumni Association, I wish you and your families the happiest and healthiest of holiday seasons.

Prof. emeritus demonstrates love of art, faith through gift of \$100,000

by Shelly Murphy
What's News Editor

Angelo Rosati, professor emeritus of art, and his wife, Antoinette, have donated \$100,000 to Rhode Island College to establish an endowed scholarship to help students studying in two areas close to their hearts — art education and religion — at an institution close to their hearts, and their home.

The couple reside less than a block away from the College campus, in the same Cathedral Avenue home they moved into when Rosati first joined the College in 1958. It was a new home for the Rosatis and the Mt. Pleasant campus was a new home for the College. Rosati, who was born in Italy and moved to New York in his youth, recalls, "I was interviewed at the old school and started at the new campus."

They bought their home because it was convenient to the College, and Rosati often walked to work. They still walk on the campus from time to time and attend many RIC events.

Rosati, who retired in 1985 from the College after teaching here for 27 years, was a catalyst for the development of an art education program at RIC. A world traveler and an artist whose works have been exhibited in New York, Mexico, Italy and the New England states; he is hardly retired from art.

He will be exhibiting in June or July at the Providence Art Club on Steeple Street, and he is currently working on two life-sized paintings to complement the one he painted 30 years ago for St. Anthony's Church in North Providence. With the church's recent expansion, the original painting needed company to fill out the space, Rosati explained.

Incidentally, the church was recently selected as a Millennium Church by the Bishop of Providence. When the bishop saw the painting hanging at the front of the church, he wanted to meet the artist, a momentous occasion for Rosati.

The project is a perfect blend of two areas of life-long devotion: art and the Catholic Church. Over the years, Rosati and his wife have helped others who have similar devotions by providing financial support for them to attend college in various parts of the world. Now, they have decided to formalize

this commitment through an endowed scholarship at RIC. They are also establishing an endowed scholarship at SUNY-Buffalo, Rosati's *alma mater*.

The Angelo V. and Antoinette C. Rosati Endowed Scholarship will award two scholarships annually through the fund, which will be administered by the RIC Foundation. One scholarship will be awarded to a student who indicates his intention of becoming a priest. The name of the eligible student will be forwarded to the College by the Diocese of Providence. The qualified student must demonstrate financial need, be a full-time undergraduate student at RIC, and enroll in a year of art history as an elective.

The second scholarship will be awarded to an African-American female who pursues a major in art education at RIC, and is a full-time student. Preference will be given to a Rhode Island resident.

Both scholarships will be renewable annually provided the students remain academically eligible to continue their chosen programs. The intention is to award scholarships to incoming freshmen who fulfill their criteria, and to support those students through graduation. The scholarships are to be awarded for the first time for the fall 2000 semester.

In explaining the specific requirement for art history for the student studying for the priesthood, Rosati said, "You can't separate the Catholic Church from the arts. The Church kept culture alive after the fall of the Roman Empire." Rosati used to teach a whole course on religious influences on art.

The second scholarship reflects his continued commitment to art education, his personal understanding of discrimination and his desire to remove barriers established by such discrimination. Reflecting on his personal experience, especially as a new immigrant during his youth, Rosati relates, "Italians were oppressed. Not as much as African-Americans though."

Marguerite Brown, executive director of the Foundation and director of development, said, "Together, Angelo and Antoinette have enriched the lives of students throughout the world. The creation of this scholarship is an extension of that work to help students here at home."

For more information about the scholarships, contact the Foundation office at 401-456-8105.



PROFESSOR EMERITUS Angelo Rosati and his wife, Antoinette, in his studio, (What's News Photo by Gordon E. Rowley)

Leadership Training

Thirty representatives from the Rhode Island College Foundation and Alumni Association attended a Board Development and Training Session on Nov. 29.

Pictured are (l to r) Claire Giannamore '64, Isabel Picozzi, Emily Smith, and Norma Dilibero '81. This training session was the latest in a series focused on training volunteer leadership for the College for the 21st Century.



RIC's Web site dons new look for new year

by Shelly Murphy
What's News Editor

The Rhode Island College Web Site, www.ric.edu, will start the new year with a new look and organization. The revised Web Site, which will go live by mid-December, is the product of hours of research, consideration and design conducted this semester by faculty, staff and students.

"Our goal was to create a Web Site that was easy to understand and navigate, and that reflected the nature and feeling of our College," said Karen Rubino, RIC's Web manager. "We took a step back and tried to view the site from the perspective of someone who is not familiar with the College. So rather than organizing departments strictly by where they fit in the organizational chart, we tried to place them where it would be logical to find them based on function or services."

In developing the revised site, the student Web design team and the Web Policy Advisory Committee, chaired by Clare Eckert, special assistant to the president, reviewed hundreds of Web sites and examined data regarding Web site development and usage.

"We wanted the site to be visually appealing and professional, but we also wanted to make sure it could download rather quickly. We wanted to make it easy to get from one area to another and to find information as quickly as possible. So we established logical links throughout, included a menu of main topics on each level, and created a search feature," Rubino said.

The result is a new home page featuring animated, rotating photos of students and campus activities and the following headings: Welcome, Academics, Foundation & Alumni, Admissions & Financial Aid, Athletics & Recreation, and Campus Life. A menu bar on the top of the home page has links for easy access to: News/Calendar, Search/A-Z, Library & Technology, and the Virtual Tour. The animation of the photos allows for flexibility to change the look of the Web site to reflect current activities or themes.

The second and third level pages incorporate design elements from



RIC WEB TEAM: From left, students Jim Murphy; Joan Crisostomo; Matt Graves; Karen Rubino, web manager; and student Mike Amaral. (What's News Photo by Gordon E. Rowley)

the front page to create consistency and continuity throughout the site. The second level page lists links to key headings within that category. The third level includes basic information on the individual departments or areas such as the name and picture of the department head, the mission of the department, and contact information including telephone number, location and e-mail address.

The Web team is also developing templates for department level pages to make it easier for departments to create new pages. Training to use the software application selected for web management will be offered next semester.

In February, when classes resume for the spring semester, the Web committee will host a reception for the College community to re-introduce the site, and to share information about its development and how to get assistance in creating or maintaining pages.

"The creation and launch of the new site was Phase 1," according to Eckert. "In Phase 2, we will review the already posted pages for accuracy, consistency and timeliness. We

will also start training classes and present the templates that departments can use to create new pages."

The Web team will continue to be available to help design or customize departmental pages. A member of the team will be assigned to each department or area on the Web site so individuals know who to call for assistance. The team, which is directed by Rubino, consists of student members Mike Amaral, Joan Crisostomo, Matt Graves and Jim Murphy. Additional student members of the Web team are needed.

The Web Advisory Committee members are: Belle Evans, associate professor of social work; John Denio, director of residential life and housing; Gray Guenther, computer manager; James Magyar, professor of chemistry; Paul Morin, president, student government; Richard Olsen, director of Adams library; Richard Perreault, assistant professor of accounting and CIS; and Ezra Stieglitz, professor of elementary education.

For more information, contact Rubino at 401-456-8849, or through e-mail at theweb@ric.edu.

Nominations sought for RIC Alumni Awards/Honor Roll

Nominations are being sought for the 2000 Alumni Awards and Honor Roll at Rhode Island College which will be awarded at the annual Alumni Awards Dinner Thursday, May 11.

Deadline for receipt of nominations and supporting material by the Alumni Office is Feb. 1.

The awards to selected outstanding alumni are presented to graduates and community leaders whose personal and professional attainment and service to the College and community bring honor upon themselves and upon RIC.

Candidates are chosen on the basis of professional achievement, community service and service to the College or alumni association.

The honor roll nominations are made through the academic departments, but input from the College community for all categories is

encouraged. The process is confidential and individuals should not be notified of their nomination.

The alumni award categories and criteria for selection are:

- **Alumna/Alumnus of the Year:** A graduate of the College who has shown continuing interest in the College and the alumni association as represented by outstanding service and/or by impressive financial contribution.

- **Charles B. Willard Achievement Award:** A graduate of the College who has brought honor to it by distinguished achievement in her/his field.

- **Alumni Service Award:** The person need not be a graduate of the College but one who has made a contribution to it by giving of time, talent or resources; or an outstanding

citizen who has made a contribution to the state or nation which reflects the ideals of service to humanity.

- **Alumni Faculty Award:** The person need not be a graduate of the College, but shall be employed by the College and have made a unique contribution to the College (e.g. wide student commendation for exceptional competence in teaching, printed publication, initiative in research, development of a new program, wide community recognition of quality of service to the community or campus.)

- **Alumni Staff Award:** The person need not be a graduate of the College, but shall be employed by the College and have made a unique contribution to the College (e.g. development of a new program, wide community recognition of quality service to the community or campus.)



What's
News

Board of Governors vacancy to be filled by RIC student

The Rhode Island Board of Governors for Higher Education is the lawful governing board for the state's three public institutions of higher education—URI, CCRI, and RIC. State law provides that one seat on the 15-member Board shall be held by a full-time student in good standing at one of the three public institutions of higher education, and that the student appointment shall rotate among the three public institutions. This member, appointed by the governor of Rhode Island, serves a two-year term.

The next vacancy, for a term of Feb. 1, 2000 through Jan. 31, 2002, is expected to be filled by a student from Rhode Island College who meets the stated criteria. Full-time undergraduate or graduate students in good standing who are interested in being considered for nomination by the College for appointment to the Board, and who expect that their full-time academic status will continue throughout the specified term, should submit a letter indicating their interest and outlining their qualifications for the position. Similarly, faculty, staff, and friends of the College are invited to nominate qualified students whom they feel are worthy of consideration.

Board members are not compensated for their service. Letters may be addressed to: Office of the President, Roberts Hall, Rhode Island College, Providence, RI 02908, Attn: Board of Governors File. The deadline for submission of letters or nominations is Dec. 10.

More information on the role of the Board of Governors and the responsibilities of its members may be found at their web site at the following address: <http://www.uri.edu/ribog/>.

New training program for insurance technicians

Rhode Island College Outreach Programs announces the beginning of a new program for Family Independence Program (FIP) recipients only, at no charge, to train adults for jobs in the insurance industry.

Called Project TRAIT (Training Responsible Adults as Insurance Technicians), it includes training in insurance ratings and billing, computer literacy, business math and job skills.

Also included are job placement assistance and group counseling with an emphasis on problem solving.

The training sessions, funded by the state Department of Education, are scheduled to begin in early December at RIC.

For more information on eligibility call Vidal DeLaCruz or Karon Dionne at 456-8698. The Outreach Programs is located in the RIC Center for Management & Technology, Whipple Hall, room 108.

Shacktown '99 raises over \$1,000 for Habitat for Humanity



ASIAN STUDENTS ASSOCIATION members building their house. From left: Laynging Sun, Srey K. Som and Salim Lab.

On Nov. 17 a "village" of sorts sprouted on the College's esplanade. It was "Shacktown '99," a collection of cardboard houses built by the RIC Chapter of Habitat for Humanity. Several brave souls actually spent the cold night of Nov. 17-18 in the houses.

The idea was to call attention to the plight of those with sub-standard housing and to raise money and attract volunteers for a house being built on Pembroke Street in Providence.

The Pembroke Street house is a joint effort of five area colleges, including RIC. In addition, students of the RIC Chapter are also working on a house on Putnam Street that is being built by Greater Providence Habitat for Humanity.

"Shacktown '99" raised just over \$1,000 from pledges and the sale of miniature houses, which sold for \$1 each.

On Nov. 27 and Dec. 4 the RIC Chapter worked on the houses and is planning more work dates during the spring semester. Anyone interesting in contributing or volunteering should call the RIC Chaplain's Office at 401-456-8168.

On Dec. 1, after three years of participating in Habitat for Humanity, the RIC Chapter achieved full certification in the organization.

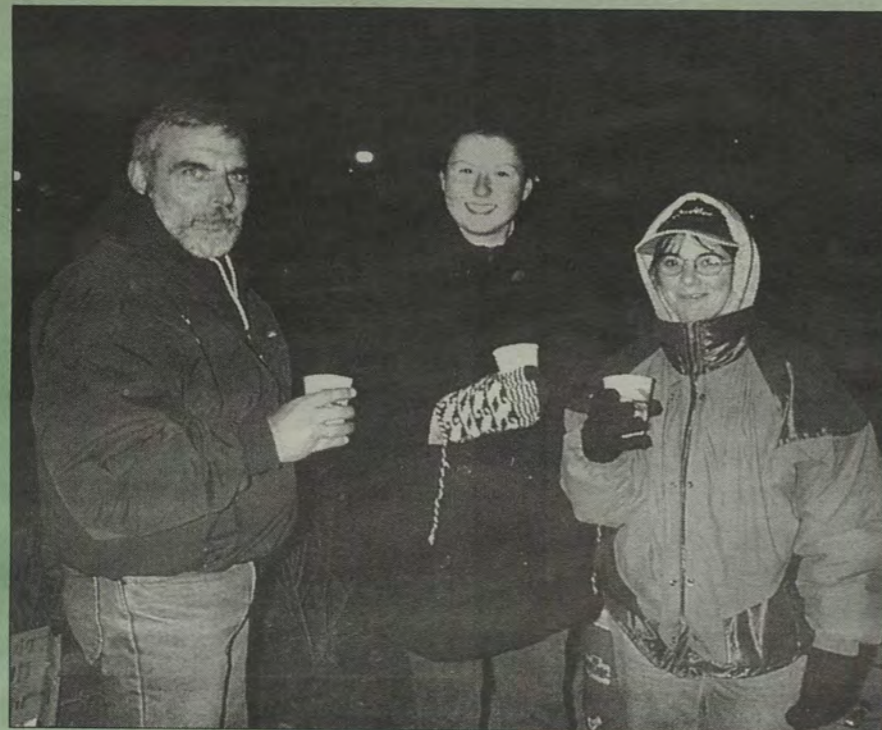


MORNING finds Jennifer Butler (left) and Jessica Dumas comparing their sleep patterns in "Shacktown '99."

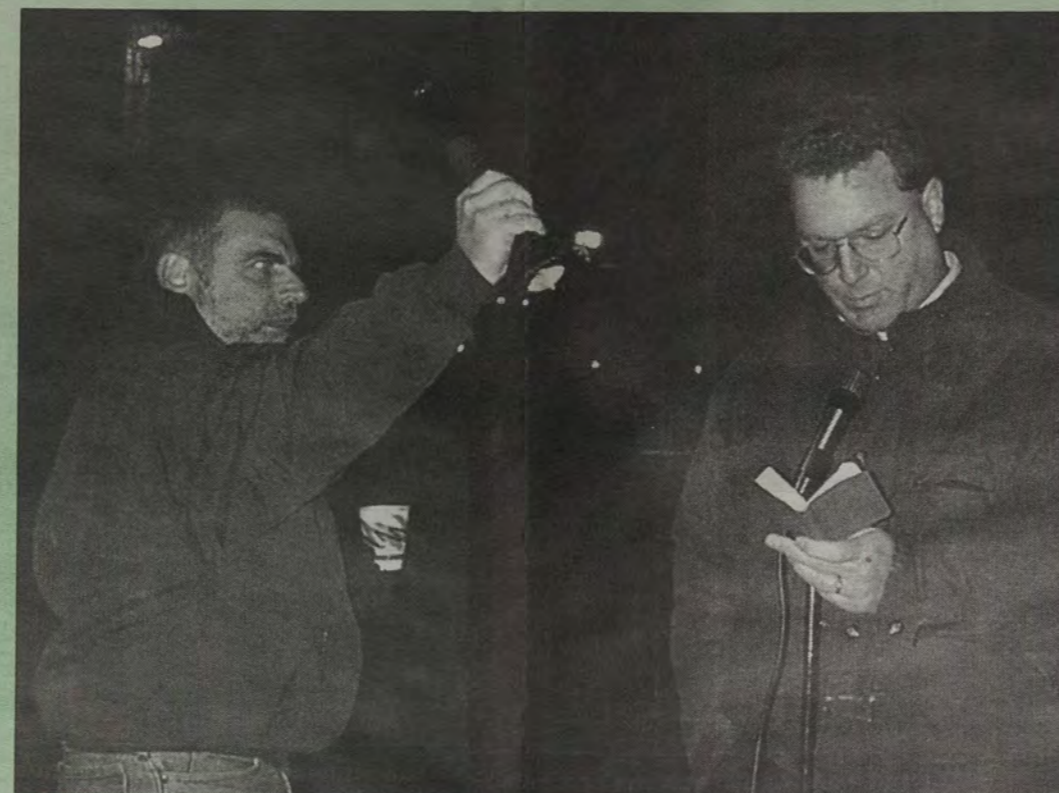


DONORS: Melissa Jordan, a senior, sets up the list of sponsors who contributed to the building fund.

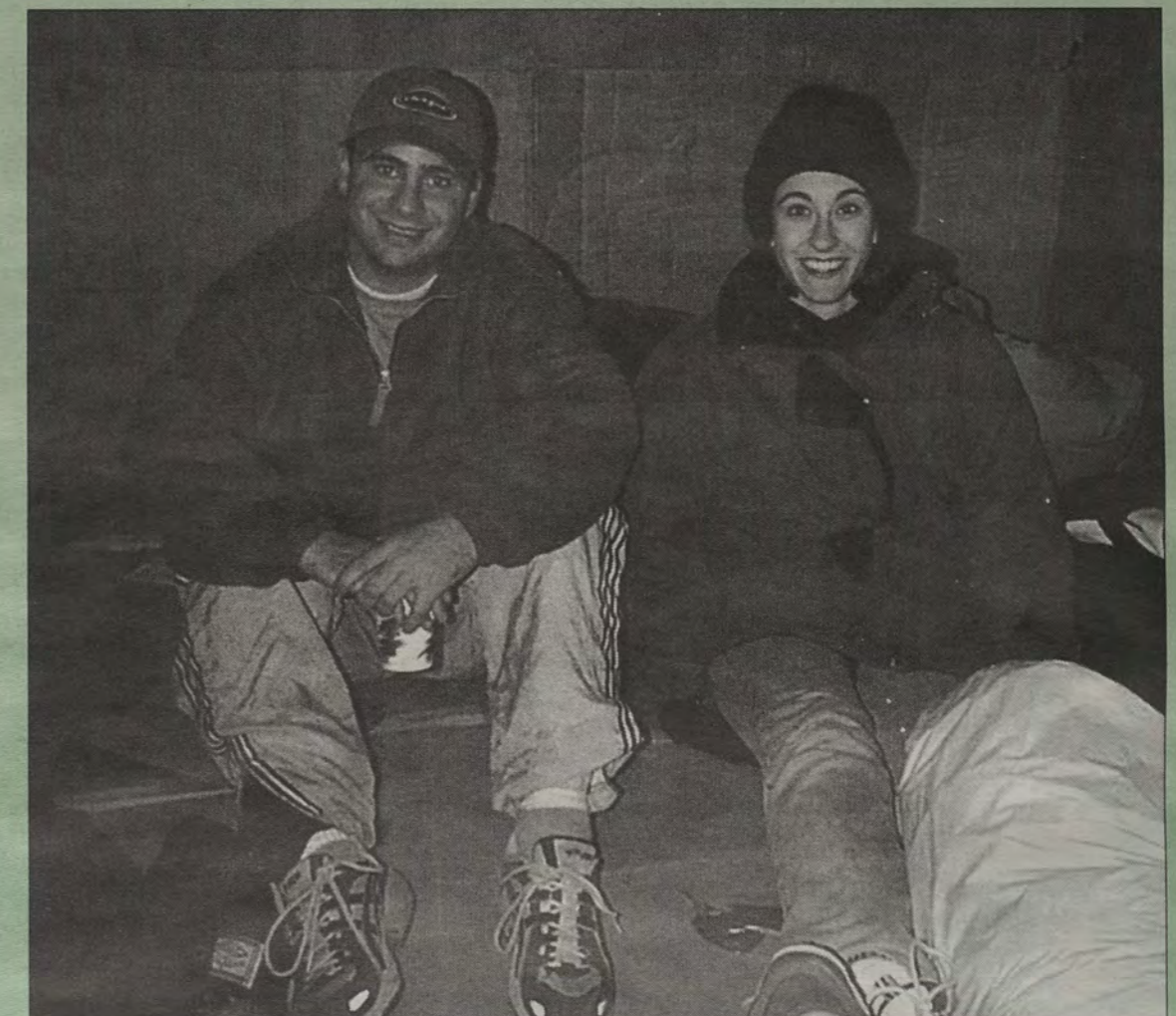
Text and Photos by
Gordon E. Rowley



KEEPING WARM with hot chocolate during a cool evening are (l to r) Deacon Mike Napolitano, Kristine DiNicola and Jessica Dumas.



FLASHLIGHT VIGIL: Deacon Mike holds a light while RIC Chaplain Larry Nichols reads from the scriptures.



SNUG ACCOMMODATIONS: Brian Pappas and Melissa Jordan try out their sleeping arrangements. In all five people would spend the night in this cardboard "shack."

Y2K preparation

Continued from page 1

the implementation, including a program management team, a technical team, and one for each of the three modules. The teams consisted of staff from management and information systems, individuals from the specific departments involved in each module, and consultants.

"The PeopleSoft project teams have been working hard since Jan. 4, 1999 to get PeopleSoft in place at RIC," said Vince Ross, MIS director. "We are happy that we are finally nearing the finish line. While one year may seem like a long time, for systems like PeopleSoft it is an extremely aggressive schedule. All of our administrative computing systems are being replaced, hardware and software.

"With a project of this magnitude, teamwork is essential. I have been extremely impressed with the way our teams have come together and solved time critical issues again and again on what at first glance seem to be 'Show Stoppers.' The real leadership for each team has been from the departments themselves. I have heard many times something is 'impossible' and routinely it is accomplished by the PeopleSoft implementation teams here at RIC. The functional leads have done a fantastic job, especially Karen Zifcak, Melissa Souza, Holly Shadoian, Bob Conrad, Jim Hanbury, and Burt Cross."

He added, "Within the MIS department Elaine Wilczek and Donna Konicki have worked many long nights and weekends since August of this year to accomplish the student data migration. They will have moved 80,000 individual student records, close to a million rows of information into PeopleSoft. Also, every course ever offered at RIC has had to be loaded into PeopleSoft, this can be a daunting task considering that information may be incomplete or course numbers reused.

"Dennis McGovern and the Records Office have done a lot of work to set up the course catalog and spring schedule in PeopleSoft. Many others have made significant contributions, including Amy Sousa, who led the upgrade from PS 7.5 to 7.6, and Tim Bergeron, who has been the lead for



MASS PRODUCTION: The RIC technical staff, including RIC senior Peter Mwasaru (foreground), install Zip drives into new Pentium 3 computers in the Tech Center in Mann Hall. (What's News Photo by Gordon E. Rowley)

the PeopleSoft financial systems technical support since the new system went live in July," Ross said.

The PeopleSoft system will completely replace the College's outdated mainframe legacy system. The new hardware is significantly more capable than the old Legacy system.

"We now have a total of 16 CPUs and 16 GB of RAM in our cluster of servers compared to a single CPU

and 128 MB of RAM for the mainframe. During our recent peak period of registration we were only 20 percent utilized on our hardware which means we have a lot of room for growth," he said.

The new system will allow authorized users across campus to access necessary data directly, rather than requesting reports from the Computer Center, as was necessary with the mainframe system. This will increase operating efficiency and allow users to generate specific reports and conduct in-depth analysis within their own departments. In addition, the data will now be inter-related, allowing for greater accuracy, accessibility and consistency of information. The PeopleSoft system is also user-friendly and, of course, Y2K compliant.

"Diana Larkin has done a wonderful job designing and rolling out new PeopleSoft reports that are accessible on-line to everyone. These same reports on the mainframe were harder to produce and usually just available as hard copy. With PeopleSoft you can even download them to an Excel spreadsheet, which can be very convenient for instructors who would like to manage course rosters electronically," Ross said.

To ensure members of the College community have the access they need to the system and receive the support they need in the use of the system, the MIS department has established a PeopleSoft help desk at 401-456-9873.

Training was provided along the way as departments went 'live.' Classes for PeopleSoft users are being offered and a pre-class tutorial is available. Bill Angell is the lead for the PeopleSoft training at RIC.

Users can call and register for training classes or have Russ Chenot or Laurie Proulx walk them through an initial use of PeopleSoft. Loni

Hooper is the security administrator and enables PeopleSoft logons and passwords.

Hardware shuffle

Although the PeopleSoft system is the core of the College's Y2K project, it is only part of the story. In addition to switching data to the new applications and testing the systems, the College is also providing training and furnishing users with updated or new computers that can handle the sophisticated software.

Providing the necessary hardware to PeopleSoft users has created an interesting process in Network and Users Services, which oversees the computer labs, operates the help desk, and supports the College's computer hardware needs.

In early November, the computer lab in Horace Mann Technology Center looked like a computer assembly line. In a tightly orchestrated process, about 60 Pentium 3 (450Mhz) computers were installed in the lab, starting a domino effect. The Pentium 3s replaced the Pentium 2 (350Mhz) computers, which were to replace older Pentium 2 (233Mhz) computers in the teaching labs in Gaige Hall. The older Pentium 2s will then be distributed to PeopleSoft users, and the computers that had been in use by the PeopleSoft users will be distributed to another office or department that needs them.

"Our goal is to have the newest machines in the labs so the students' have access to the latest technology," Dennis Sousa, senior information technologist, explained. "To save money we bought the Pentium 3s without Zip drives and took the Zip drives out of the Pentium 2s. Then we'll replace the older Pentium 2s in Gaige with these newer ones and give those Pentium 2s to PeopleSoft users. By the time we install those and roll down the older computers replaced by the Pentium 2s to someone who may not have any computer right now, we will have touched about 300 machines."

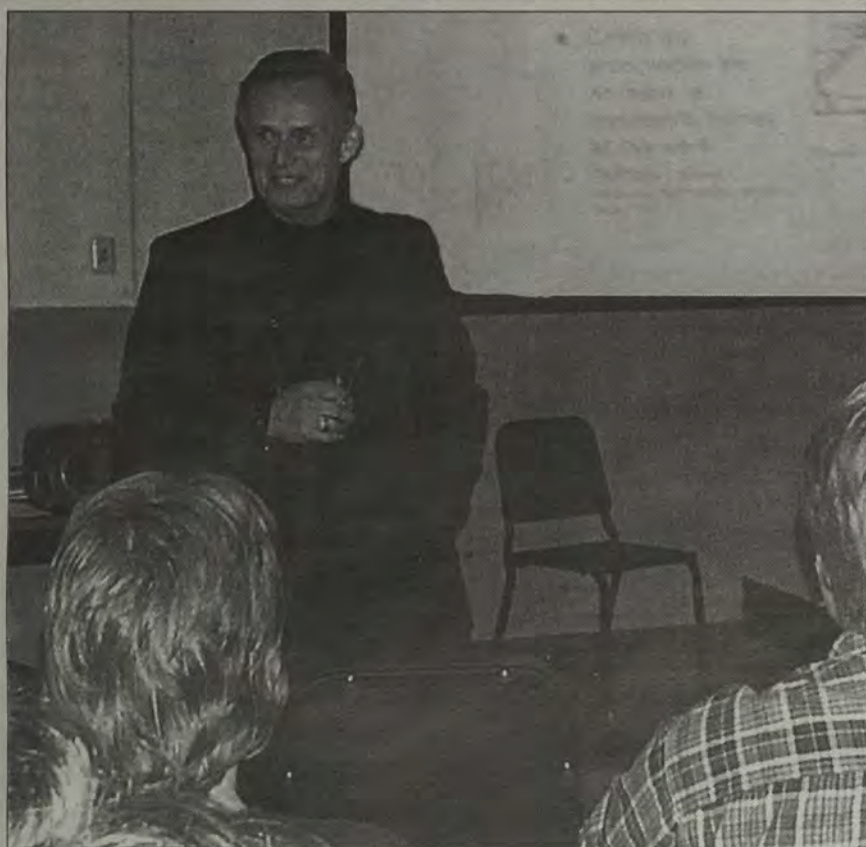
So, when the new machines came in, Sousa and the student desktop support team went into action: disconnecting the older machines, removing the Zip drives, boxing the older machines, installing the Zip drives into the newer machines and connecting them to the network. They operated on about 20 machines at a time, completing the process in just two hours each time.

The assistance of Maureen Tobin, technical support specialist, and the innovative software ImageCast were integral to the process. ImageCast allows Tobin to set up "the perfect PC" with the appropriate software, preferences and settings and create an image that can then be written onto a machine in a matter of minutes rather than hours.

"We have created two images — a lab image and an administrative image. The lab image has all the software and settings that we run in the labs. So we are able to cast this image quickly onto multiple computers at once. We cast a 2G image in about 25 minutes. If you did it individually, it would take at least 12 hours for each computer," Tobin said.

Before disconnecting the computers to be distributed to administrative users, they cast the administrative image onto those computers. "That way they are good to go and all we have to do is set up specific things like e-mail for an individual user," Sousa said.

In addition to taming the job of upgrading the computers, ImageCast also helps in supporting the systems. "It has revolutionized the way we troubleshoot," Sousa said. "We don't have to worry about what's wrong (what might be conflicting or set incorrectly), we just cast a new image."



'FEARS, TEARS, JEERS AND CHEERS' in middle schools is the theme of a workshop for music educators given by David G. Reul on Nov. 17 in the Nazarian Center for the Performing Arts. Reul is an independent educational consultant, who was a middle school band instructor for 36 years in Oconomowoc, Wis. The title of the workshop was "Behold the Young Adolescent: Keys to Success in Middle Level Music." (What's News Photo by Gordon E. Rowley)

Athletics

From the athletic director's desk



Donald E. Tencher
Director,
Intercollegiate
Athletics, Intramurals
and Recreation

I can't help but reflect on all the things we in the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics, Intramurals and Recreation are thankful for during this Thanksgiving season. At the same time, being someone who has a strong belief in Santa Claus, I can't help but wish for a few things that will help us as we continually strive to improve. So, here's my letter to old St. Nick:

Dear Santa:

First, maybe you could find a way to bring some gifts to thank all the people that work so hard in making our department successful: the Department staff, from the coaches to the support staff, the aerobic instructors to the student-employees; the campus community, from the faculty to the physical plant, from the housekeepers to the computer center, from the mail room to the development office. We really appreciate everyone's efforts.

To our alumni, we wouldn't be able to get the job done without the support of the Paul Bourgets, the Jim Whites and the Donald Hickeys of the world.

To friends of the department, the Sarah Blacks, the Steve Maroccos and the Bill Falks who really believe in and have been willing to invest in our dreams.

The College's administration, the president and the vice presidents who have been willing to step to the plate in our support.

Most of all, could you find some special gifts for the student body and our student-athletes? Without them the department and the College wouldn't exist.

Though things have been going pretty well, there are few things we could use. A few more talented student-athletes who want to be as successful in the classroom as in the athletic arena. More fans to attend all athletic events. The student-athletes work so hard and it's a shame at times that there aren't more supporters - especially at tennis matches, volleyball matches and cross-country meets.

Our new booster club, the Anchor Club, will be kicking off early in the year 2000. It would be great if we could get lots of our alumni and more of our friends to join the club. Our athletic alumni are so very important to us and it would be wonderful to have a stronger connection.

The soccer field could use a new score board and a few more seats. This would enable us to host events that will continue to showcase our outstanding College to prospective students. The Black Track could use a storage facility and a steeple chase pit that would allow us to host a national championship in the early 2000s.

A mild winter would also be helpful. It would allow the new shrubs around the newly renovated Bazar Softball Field and baseball field to take root. It would also allow us to work outside and complete some last minute finish work.

The Marocco Student-Athlete Support Center is so busy and we really could use some more computers as well as some athletic alumni who want to come back and give some time to our current student-athletes.

Lastly Santa, I'd really like to get a name for the "New Building" and try to get Phase II completed at the Recreation Center. It gets confusing at times when people ask if we mean the "New Building" or the "Old New Building." I know the president and Peg Brown have been working hard at this task so maybe you could give them a little help. Phase II, which calls for the renovation of the annex at the Rec Center to include a new fitness center, is something students really want. Right now I know we need all the classroom space in the annex, but maybe you could get us some money for new classrooms which would free up that space.

Well, Santa, whatever you can do would be helpful but most important, please wish everyone a very happy holiday season.

Please give everyone hope as we enter the next millennium!

Chase stars for RIC women's gymnastics

by Scott Gibbons
Sports Information Director

If there ever was a perfect example of an intercollegiate student-athlete, it's quite possible that Rhode Island College junior Anita Chase is it. Not only is she one of RIC's top gymnasts, Chase has also excelled in the classroom over the past two years. The biology major currently owns a 3.71 grade point average and was recently selected as a Scholar-Athlete by the National Association of Collegiate Gymnastics Coaches for Women (NACGC/W) for the second consecutive year.

It is only fitting that the Southington, Conn. native was chosen as the team's captain for the 1999-00 season. "Anita is a great kid to coach," says Kim Zeiner-Daigle, RIC head women's gymnastics coach. "She is a tremendously bright person who will be one of our top gymnasts this season. Her top event is the vault. In addition, Anita knows how to balance her academics as well as her athletic endeavors. She sets a great example for the whole team."

The Anchorwomen are in uncharted water for the first time in several years. Many of the program's all-time greats have been lost to graduation over the past two seasons, including two-time All-American Amy Bright. "We have a lot of new faces on the team this year," the 5'2" Chase says. "We know that this will be a building year for the future."

Chase points out freshmen Sajdah Ahmad and Shannon Hughey as some of the top newcomers to the team this season. Along with Chase, sophomores Elise Arruda, who qualified for the 1999 NCGA Championships, and Kristen Oliver, are the only returning veterans on the team

this season. The squad's lone senior, Alicia DeFronzo, is red-shirting this winter due to a back injury she suffered over the summer.

Chase is hoping the team qualifies for the National Collegiate Gymnastics Association (NCGA) Championships after missing out for the first time in three years in 1998-99. Individually, she hopes to improve upon her scores on the bars event.

As a sophomore in 1998-99, Chase averaged scores of 8.714 on vault, 7.293 on bars, 8.184 on beam, 8.661 on floor and 32.582 in all-around competition.

Chase placed 17th in the all-around with a 34.100 score at the ECAC Championships. She was tied for 17th with a score of 9.100 on vault, 30th with a season-high score of 7.900 on bars, 32nd on beam at 8.450 and 33rd on floor with a score of 8.650 at the ECACs.

She registered a season-high score of 9.100 on vault at the ECACs. She posted season-high marks of 8.725 on beam, 9.300 on floor and 34.475 in the all-around at Springfield on Feb. 7.

As a freshman in 1997-98, she averaged scores of 8.665 on vault, 7.047 on bars, 8.217 on beam, 8.547 in the floor exercise and 32.658 in all-around competition.

Chase registered season-high marks of 8.900 on vault against Southern Connecticut/Ursinus,

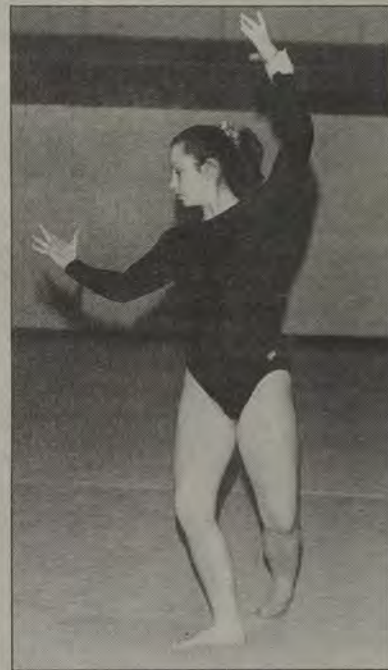
7.500 on bars at the NCGA Championships, which RIC hosted, 8.400 on beam against Springfield, 8.875 in the floor exercise at the Big Red Invitational and 33.225 in all-around competition against Springfield.

At the NCGAs, she finished 54th on vault with an 8.725 score, 49th on the bars with a 7.500, 45th on the beam with a score of 8.200, 56th with a 8.750 in the floor exercise and was 20th in all-around competition with a 33.175 score.

Chase chose RIC over the University of Vermont, West Chester University and Quinnipiac College. "I decided on RIC because I could continue to compete in gymnastics and I also received an academic scholarship."

Prior to coming to RIC, Chase competed for both her Southington High School team and the Southington YMCA club team. She was named both All-State and All-Conference in 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97. Chase, who has been competing since she was five years old, went to the YMCA National Championships in 1994, 1995 and 1996. She is a 1997 graduate of Southington High School.

Chase hopes to go on to graduate school to study either exercise science or sports medicine after her gymnastics career at RIC is completed.



ANITA CHASE

Sports Roundup

Men's Basketball

The men's basketball team is currently 0-3 overall and has yet to see action in the Little East Conference. James Adams is in his 21st year as the team's head coach, the longest tenure of any current RIC coach.

The Anchormen dropped both games they played at the College of New Jersey Tournament on Nov. 19 and 20. RIC fell to host TCNJ 85-60 in the opening game and to Lasell 98-78 in the consolation game. The Anchormen lost to Johnson and Wales 87-56 on Nov. 23.

Ramaal Layne leads the team in scoring, averaging 15.7 points per game. Captain Steve Clarke leads the team in rebounding, averaging 8.7 boards per contest.

Women's Basketball

The Anchorwomen are currently 0-3 overall and have yet to see action in the Little East Conference. Head Coach Mike Kelley's team lost two tough games at the Williams College Tournament on Nov. 20 and 21, falling to Springfield College 74-65 in the opening game and 65-64 to Johnson and Wales in the consolation round. The loss to JWU came on a last second shot by the Wildcats. The Anchorwomen lost at Salve Regina 77-63 on Nov. 23.

Meaghan Davis, who scored a career-high 28 points against Springfield, leads the team in scoring, averaging 16.7 points per game. Jen Cook and

Christine Martin are the club's top rebounders, each averaging 7.7 boards per contest. Beth Iacoi is averaging 4.3 assists and 5.0 rebounds per game.

Wrestling

The wrestling team saw its first action of the 1999-00 season at the Doug Parker Invitational, hosted by Springfield College, on Saturday, Nov. 20. The Anchormen finished tied for 18th place with 10.5 points on the day.

Sean Magee was 3-2 at 133 pounds. He currently leads the team with seven escapes. Jay Giroux, Craig Henault and Troy Lambert each went 2-2 at 149, 125 and 165 pounds, respectively. Henault leads the team with eight points. Giroux, Henault and Stephen Signore each have a team-high seven takedowns on the year.

Men's and Women's Cross Country

RIC closed the door on the '99 season at the New England Regional Championships, hosted by UMASS-Dartmouth, on Saturday, Nov. 13.

Head Coach Dick Hoppman's men's squad placed 26th out of 31 competing teams at the New Englands. Marc Lavallee was the men's top finisher, placing 104th with a time of 27:08. Jeff Montagano placed 162nd with a time of 29:04.

For women's Head Coach Matt Hird, Alysia Blinn placed 169th at the New England Championships with a season-best time of 21:22. Tarrah Parent placed 196th with a season-best time of 22:11.

Swing is king (again) —

'Swingtime!' a jumping, moving, grooving good time at RIC Jan. 27

by George LaTour
What's News Associate Editor

In a scene right out of the '30s and '40s, young men spiffed up in wide ties and suspenders, zoot-like suits and black-and-white spectator shoes and young women whose Mary Janes gleam as their dresses flare with the spins, groove to the music of swing.

It's the stage in the Auditorium in Roberts Hall at Rhode Island College. The date: Thursday, Jan. 27. The time: 8 p.m. And RIC's Performing Arts Series is presenting *Swingtime!*

It's a "jumpin', movin', and groovin' good time" featuring Warren Vache's New York City All Star Big Band and London's Jivin' Lindy Hoppers on their national tour with the lively new musical revue.

The band will feature frequent performers from jazz impresario George Wein's JVC Jazz

Festival, whose organization, Festival Productions, is co-producing *Swingtime!* with Columbia Artists Management, Inc.

The high energy six-member swing dance ensemble, the Jivin' Lindy Hoppers, has won wide acclaim in both the U.S. and Europe for preserving the great American popular dance styles from the 1930s, '40s and '50s.

These dances have enjoyed renewed popularity across America in recent years.

The musical backbone of *Swingtime!*, which will feature every-

thing from the jitterbug to the Lindy Hop, will be fresh new arrangements of the swinging compositions of the great band leaders of the Swing Era such as Duke Ellington, Benny Goodman, Tommy Dorsey, Woody Herman, Harry James, Gene Krupa and Glenn Miller.

Vache has performed in major jazz festivals all over the world, including the Newport Jazz Festival, the JVC and Playboy Jazz festivals, and in top venues such as the Kennedy Center, Carnegie Hall, the Music Center of Los Angeles, the Vienna Opera, the Royal Festival Hall and Lincoln Center.

His club dates have included those at Michael's Pub, The Blue Note, Sweet Basil and Blues Alley, and the Blue Note in Tokyo.

He trained actor Richard Gere to play the trumpet for Gere's role in the film *The Cotton Club* and has performed on the soundtrack for many movies, including *Biloxi Blues*.

His recent releases, "Horn of Plenty" and "Talk to Me Baby" showcase his mastery of the cornet and the jazz idiom.

His playing "can sound quietly elegant or fiercely exciting," according to Max Jones of the Melody Maker pub-



WARREN VACHE



JIVIN' LINDY HOPPERS

lication.

The Lindy Hoppers were established in London in 1984 by Terry Monaghan and Warren Heys at the cultural intersection of two trends: the 1983 revival of interest in the Lindy Hop and the 1984 upsurge of interest in dance in the United Kingdom.

They organized weekly workshops in London's East End and within 11 months were on stage with the Count Basie Orchestra at the Royal Festival Hall.

The multi-cultural ensemble has given hundreds of workshops and performances since and has won major awards for both its performances and pioneering work in edu-

cation.

Referring to the revival of the swing movement at a recent concert in Chicago, Mike Tierney, vice president of music programming at VH1, said, "It's one of those rare moments where you feel there's a party going on and you're jealous you're not at it."

Swingtime! reserved-seat tickets are \$23; for senior citizens, \$20, and students, \$15 and can be purchased in advance via Visa or MasterCard by calling 401-456-8194 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily. For in-person sales, the Roberts box office is open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays and up to the time of performance on Jan. 27.

Psychology

Continued from page 1

information might require some mental gymnastics to comprehend fully.

Hence, singing.

"The median, it is the score with half above and half below!

You can eyeball it or guesstimate;

It's an easy one to know!

The mode's the score, of which you find you have got the most!

It's even clearer than the median;

It's as plain as day-old toast!"

The excerpt above is entitled "Oh

Statistically" and it is sung to the tune of "America the Beautiful."

It is one of two Chafetz has written thus far, the other being "Statistical Daze" sung to the tune of "My Favorite Things." She's currently in the process of writing a third which will be sung to Aretha Franklin's "Respect."

Chafetz starts her statistics class in the standard way with a lecture, use of a chalkboard and students taking notes, but when she sees their eyes starting to glaze over it's time to "get up (from their seats) and get out(side) for a stimulating change of

pace."

The 25 or so students in her statistics class in RIC's Craig-Lee Hall 224 gladly don their coats and troupe out to the campus mall where they serenade passers-by.

Her students seem to enjoy the exercise, says Chafetz. In fact, they've gotten so much into it that now they've suggested to her that they march while they're singing.

"I thought it would ease the fears of psychology students who, by and large, are just terrified of statistics,"

'Everything they need to know is in the songs — it (is) a fun way to learn and it's not threatening.' — Jill Chafetz

says Chafetz.

"I thought if I had these songs — everything they need to know is in the songs — it would be a fun way to learn and it's not threatening.

"If they sing the songs, then they'll remember things," she assures.

Chafetz reports that one of her students from last year told her he tried to forget the lyrics but couldn't and "still has nightmares over it."

They both had a good laugh over it, says Chafetz.

"I love teaching. I do. It isn't always fashionable to admit it. But, yeah, I do," she says. That love

extends to RIC and the state of Rhode Island as well.

Chafetz teaches other courses at RIC, including an introductory course in psychological research and one in child development.

She doesn't have her students sing in those courses but "we do different things" to make them interesting.

Chafetz grew up in New Providence, N.J. Her father, Lester, is originally from Rhode Island and has a number of cousins here, including Syd Cohen '40, who is a past president of the RIC Alumni Association.

Asked how she got started writing songs, Chafetz says she "always made up songs. I make them up all the time. As a child I was told I should be on the stage."

She began song writing in earnest here after her dad's 70th birthday for which she wrote a song fashioned after "Ode to Joy." It ended with, "Why want more when you have Les?"

Chafetz's novel approach to teaching statistics has met with her students' approval and generated enthusiasm for learning.

Will her students continue to learn those "devilish" stats? Yes they will.

Or Professor Chafetz's first name isn't Jill.

Where are they now?

Continued from page 1

domestic disturbances, routine drug arrests, traffic violations, etc. And Gelsomino likes solving problems.

She even likes her midnight to 8 a.m. shift. "I have the whole day to myself," she explained. "Awhile back I was on days. I'd go home. Take a shower. Eat. And it was time to go to bed, then get up and go to work again," raising her shoulders as if to say "what's the attraction?"

It's not the career she was aiming for at RIC in the classes of Kay Israel and Moyne Cabbage, two of her favorite teachers. But she served an internship at an advertising agency and found desk work "boring." Even a sales and advertising job at a daily newspaper didn't excite this Johnston resident. But somehow all along the idea of police work had been at the back of her mind.

So she filled out an application, "took the test" and never looked back. Now she is enrolled at Roger Williams University working on a degree in criminal justice.

Text and photo
by Gordon E. Rowley

Starring, Bzowski also retiring —

Ed Scheff bows out as managing director of theatre at RIC

by George LaTour
What's News Associate Editor

Edward A. Scheff will bow out as managing director of theatre and lighting designer this month, ending a more than 30-year career at Rhode Island College.

Perhaps best known for his many years of affiliation with the popular summer Cabarets of the mid-'70s and '80s when sold-out shows were the norm, he says he "wouldn't trade it all for anything."

Other RIC stalwarts ending their careers at the College this month are Ellsworth A. Starring, professor of elementary education, and Edward D. Bzowski, professor of educational studies. Although Bzowski ends his teaching in December, he won't officially retire until June.

Scheff came to RIC in the fall of 1969 after earning a bachelor's degree in theatre at Brooklyn College, a master's and doctorate in speech at the University of Kansas and four years of teaching speech and serving as debate coach at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. Prior to earning his PhD he taught theater and was a scene designer at Wright Junior College in Chicago.

He dived into the fray at RIC as chair of the speech and theatre department, a post he held for the next six years.

In 1975 or '76, he remembers, he was asked to share the lighting design responsibilities for the Cabaret theatre with John Custer, that being his first "direct involvement" with theatre at RIC.

Scheff recalls that in the early 1970s the name of the department changed to communications and theatre. It was during this time that he established the department's public relations program. He continued in the department as a communications professor until 1984 when he became managing director of theatre, a post he still holds, although sharing it with Bill Wilson this semester.

A lot of work

From 1975 on he "many times" did the lighting design for summer theatre programs.

"Cabarets," he says, "were a lot of work."

Summers proved "very tedious" in the early days of Cabaret, starting in late June and running until early August six nights a week in the Student Union Ballroom. This included two performances a week for the entering freshman class through the summer Freshman Orientation Program.

"I'd like a nickel for every hour I waited in the lobby of the ballroom while the shows were being performed," says Scheff.

"But during the heydays of the show, it was very exciting," he says pointing out that Cabaret was performed before capacity audiences.

"For years it was the most popular show of the summer season in Providence," Scheff says.

After a successful run that would put most Broadway musicals to shame, Cabaret's "popularity started to ebb."

For a number of reasons, including air conditioning and stage problems, the show was moved to Roberts Hall auditorium.



EDWARD SCHEFF

Other exciting things

Cabaret was not the only activity for Scheff and the department in those days.

"We also did some other exciting things," including a Performing Arts Festival; a production of *Man of LaMancha* and *Jacques Brell is Alive and Well...*, both in Gaige Hall auditorium; a concert of Broadway dance numbers; showings of three of the most famous Hollywood musicals, and orchestra and band concerts.

"We did all of this in an eight-week period from late June to mid-August. It was amazing!" declares Scheff.

In the meantime, he and his wife, Helene, who is well known throughout the state as director of the Chance to Dance programs, raised four children: Fredric, who in recent years has sung in the national touring production of *Phantom of the Opera*; Carolyn and Jordan, all RIC grads, and Daniel, who graduated from the University of Rhode Island. The Scheffs have made their home in North Kingstown for many years.

"We're coming up to our 41st wedding anniversary for which Congress will give Helene a medal for service above and beyond the call of duty," says Scheff with an admiring shake of his head.

"Once I became managing director (of RIC theatre programs) there was only one summer when I wasn't

engaged in some kind of organized activity connected with the theatre," he says.

Along the way, he served on innumerable departmental and College committees. In the early 1970s he was secretary of the Council of RIC and chair of the Curriculum Committee, both while teaching "at least half time" — two or three courses a semester.

His favorite course

His says during that 15-year period his favorite course was an introduction to theatre to non-theatre majors — "trying to excite people who didn't give a hoot about theatre."

Scheff currently serves on the Governor's Task Force on Literacy in the Arts and is volunteer chair of the Rhode Island Alliance for Arts Education, an affiliate of the Kennedy Center Alliance.

He says coming to RIC "was one of the best career moves of my life," adding that he and the people he's worked with over the years "have had our differences at times, but we were always able to disagree agreeably. I wouldn't trade it all for anything."

He says he has "no specific plans" after his retirement, but will continue with the Task Force and as chair of the Alliance for Arts Education.

Ellsworth Starring

Starring, of Barrington, joined the RIC faculty in 1972. One of the projects with which he was involved was the establishment of the NASA Center and serving as the Northeast liaison to the Smithsonian Air and Space Museum.

Asked what he would do after retirement, he replied: "Anything I want to."

Edward Bzowski

Bzowski, of Johnston, who has been on the RIC faculty for 32 years, has been on phased-in retirement for the past several years during which time he did volunteer work as a teacher in Jamaica and Poland.

After his official retirement, he plans to stay in Rhode Island but will continue with his "service work" going to Surinam in Dutch Guinea where he'd like to study the endangered large turtles there. And "maybe in October I'll go to Italy to teach English."

RIC Orchestra concert features violinist John Sumerlin

Violinist John Sumerlin will be the featured artist in the Rhode Island College Symphony Orchestra concert Friday, Dec. 10, at 8 p.m. in the Auditorium in Roberts Hall. The concert is part of a two-season retrospective by the orchestra of 20th century music.

Sumerlin will play Sibelius' Concerto in D minor for Violin and Orchestra.

The orchestra, conducted by Edward Markward, also will perform Aaron Copland's popular *Fanfare for the Common Man* and the Rhode Island premiere of Randall Thompson's Second Symphony, the latter in honor of the 100th anniversary of the composer's birth.

A frequent recitalist across the country and in Europe, Sumerlin is an associate professor of music at RIC who teaches applied violin and

viola, coaches chamber music and conducts the RIC Chamber Orchestra. He also performs with the Blackstone Chamber Players and is director of the String Quartet Program at Tollgate High School.

Tickets to the concert are \$7; \$5 for senior citizens and students. RIC students and faculty admitted free. For more information, call 401-456-9883.



EDWARD MARKWARD

Young People's Concert —

'Music for the New Millennium' Jan. 23

"Music for the New Millennium" is the theme of The American Band's annual Young People's Concert Sunday, Jan. 23, starting at 3 p.m. in the Auditorium in Rhode Island College's Roberts Hall.

The one-hour musical program for children will feature *Star Wars* music complete with a galactic parade.

Children are invited to don space costumes for the event. Those that do will get a discount on the \$5 ticket price, according to band member Michael Thomsen.

Gene Pollart will direct the 65-member band in the concert which has been presented each year for nearly 25 years. The idea for a Young People's Concert was originated by the late Francis Marciniak at RIC.

Tickets may be purchased at the door at the time of the concert.

Site changed for Dec. 8 Chamber Series concert

The Rhode Island College Chamber Music Series Wednesday, Dec. 8, concert of holiday music will be held in the John Nazarian Center for the Performing Arts 198 and not Gaige Hall auditorium as previously announced, reports P. William Hutchinson, chair of the music, theatre and dance department.

Soprano Jeanne Maciel, baritone Gabriel Alfieri and pianist David Harper will perform new and traditional arrangement of Christmas favorites as well as some seldom-heard seasonal works from the classical repertory.

It is free and open to the public.

Holiday party for underprivileged children

The Resident Student Association (RSA) at Rhode Island College will host its annual holiday party for underprivileged children from the Smith Hill Center Friday, Dec. 10, from 6 to 9 p.m. in Weber Hall lounge.

The RSA is looking for people who are willing to sponsor a child for the party as well as people who will perform musical selections. For more information, call Cara at 521-2224.

Film Studies Program

The Film Studies Program will be presenting a discussion of "The New Documentary in the Digital Age" on Tuesday, Dec. 7, 10 a.m., in Horace Mann 193, with Bonnie MacDonald, Bret Rothstein, and Larry Budner. Admission is free and open to the public. Although documentaries are enjoying a vast popularity due to classroom use and cable television screenings, will there be a role for the documentary in this Internet and disc storage age? The faculty panel will be considering the structure, style, and shape of documentaries in an age of CD-ROM's and DVD-ROM's which offer random access audio tracks, video tracks, still photos, and texts in equal availability for the user. For further information, call 401-456-8638.

RIC CALENDAR

DEC. 6 — JAN. 31, 2000

Sundays

10 p.m.—*Catholic Mass* in the SU Ballroom. Conducted by Fr. Joseph Pescatello. All welcome.

Mondays

10 to 11 a.m.—*Bible Study* will be held in Student Union 300.

Wednesdays

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

6 Monday

8 p.m.—*Music*: RIC Chorus Presentation of the Sylvan & Helen Forman Endowed Scholarship for Music in the Auditorium in Roberts Hall. Theresa Coffman, conductor. General admission is \$7. For further information, call 401-456-8194.

8 Wednesday

1 p.m.—*Chamber Music Series*: Jean Maciel, soprano, Gabriel Alfieri, baritone, in the Nazarian Center for the Performing Arts, room 198. Free and open to the public.

12:30 to 2 p.m.—*Workshop*: The Names Project-AIDS Memorial Quilt in SU Ballroom. Sponsored by the Women's Center, 456-8168.

1:15 p.m.—*Catholic Mass for the Immaculate Conception*. Location TBA. Sponsored by the Chaplains' Office, 456-8168.

7:30 p.m.—*Film: Face Off* in Horace Mann Hall, room 193. Sponsored by the Film Society.

9 Thursday

4 p.m.—*Annual Holiday Dinner*. "Times Square 2000." Featuring a talent showcase of RIC students competing for a Millennium prize

package. Hors d'oeuvres will be served at 4 p.m. followed by a dinner buffet at 4:45 p.m. Admission price for the college community \$10 and students on the meal plan will have one meal's worth of points deducted. DDC.

7 p.m.—*Art: Annual Art Club Auction* in Bannister Gallery.

10 Friday

8 p.m.—*Music*: RIC Symphony Orchestra in the Auditorium in Roberts Hall. John Sumerlin, violin, and Edward Markward, conductor. General admission is \$7. For information, call the Auditorium box office at 401-456-8144. The Auditorium box office, 456-8144.

11-13 Sat.-Mon.

Dance: Everett Dance Theatre and the Carriage House Youth New England Premiere of "Somewhere in the Dream," in the Auditorium in Roberts Hall. Performances will be held: Dec. 11, 8 p.m.; Dec. 12, 2 p.m.; and Dec. 11, 10 a.m. General admission is \$12. For information, call the Auditorium box office at 401-456-8144.

13 Monday

8 to 10 p.m.—*Second Annual LASO Auction* in Student Union Ballroom. Tickets are \$5 at SU Info Desk and door. Sponsored by LASO, 401-456-8285.

23 Sunday

3 p.m.—*Music*: American Band Annual Children's Concert in the Auditorium in Roberts Hall. General admission \$5. For information, call the Auditorium box office at 401-456-8144.

24 Monday

Classes resume.

27 Thursday

8 p.m.—*Music & Dance: Swingtime* in the Auditorium in Roberts Hall. Performing Arts Series. Reserved seating is \$23. For information, call the Auditorium box office at 401-456-8144.

Sports Events

Men's Basketball

Tues.	Dec. 7	Connecticut College	7:30 p.m.
Thurs.	Dec. 9	Salve Regina	7:30 p.m.
Sat.	Dec. 11	Keene State *	3 p.m.
Wed.	Jan. 5	at Connecticut College	7 p.m.
Sat.	Jan. 8	at Plymouth State *	3 p.m.
Tues.	Jan. 11	at Southern Maine *	7 p.m.
Thurs.	Jan. 13	at Bridgewater State	8 p.m.
Sat.	Jan. 15	at Eastern Connecticut *	3 p.m.
Tues.	Jan. 18	at UMASS-Dartmouth *	8 p.m.
Sat.	Jan. 22	UMASS-Boston *	3 p.m.
Tues.	Jan. 25	Western Connecticut *	7:30 p.m.
Sat.	Jan. 29	at Keene State *	3 p.m.

Women's Basketball

Tues.	Dec. 7	Pine Manor	5:30 p.m.
Sat.	Dec. 11	Keene State *	1 p.m.
Tues.	Jan. 4	at Webber (FL)	3 p.m.
Wed.	Jan. 5	at Warner Southern (FL)	5 or 7 p.m.
Thurs.	Jan. 6	at Warner Southern (FL)	5 or 7 p.m.
Tues.	Jan. 11	at Southern Maine *	5:30 p.m.
Sat.	Jan. 15	at Eastern Connecticut *	1 p.m.
Tues.	Jan. 18	at UMASS-Dartmouth *	6 p.m.
Sat.	Jan. 22	UMASS-Boston *	1 p.m.
Tues.	Jan. 25	Western Connecticut *	5:30 p.m.
Sat.	Jan. 29	at Keene State *	1 p.m.

Wrestling

Sun.	Dec. 12	Yeshiva1	11 a.m.
Sat.	Jan. 8	at Hunter College Invitational	9 a.m.
Wed.	Jan. 12	Wesleyan and Bridgewater State *	6 p.m.
Sat.	Jan. 15	Tri-Meet at NY U	10 a.m.
Wed.	Jan. 19	at MIT *	7 p.m.
Sun.	Jan. 23	New England Duals at Springfield	11 a.m.
Wed.	Jan. 26	Western New England	7:30 p.m.
Sun.	Jan. 30	Quad-Meet at Southern Maine	Noon

Women's Gymnastics

Sun.	Dec. 12	Bridgeport	2 p.m.
Fri.	Jan. 14	Wisconsin-Whitewater & Wilson College	6 p.m.
Sat.	Jan. 29	at Southern Connecticut	1 p.m.

Men and Women's Indoor Track & Field

Sat.	Dec. 11	at Harvard Invitational	11 a.m.
Sat.	Jan. 15	Quad Cup at Tufts	Noon
Sat.	Jan. 22	Quad Cup at Coast Guard	Noon
Sat.	Jan. 29	Quad Cup at Bowdoin	Noon

Home games in Caps

* Little East Conference game

Celebrate...
the tradition of Friendship,
the beauty of the Season,
and a New Year of Peace
and Happiness

Join RIC President John Nazarian
for a Holiday Open House
and tree lighting ceremony.

Tuesday, Dec. 14, 1999
3:30- 6 p.m.
President's House.
on campus.

The tree lighting will take place
outside the President's House at 5 p.m.
followed by a reading
of "A Visit from St. Nick"
by Prof. Amritjit Singh

Please join us!



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.