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WHAT'S NEWS

AT RHODE ISLAND COLLEGE

Vol. 14 Issue 15

Circulation over 35,000

May 9, 1994

Student leader named to Board of Governors

by Clare Eckert
What's News Editor

Rhode Island College student leader Monica Yvette Paige joined members of the Rhode Island Board of Governors for Higher Education at their May 5 meeting as the first college student in the history of the state to have voting rights on issues that

come before the policy-making board. Her appointment was announced by Governor Bruce Sundlun on April 14 after a competitive selection process involving student candidates from the three state public schools.

In making his selection, the governor said, "Monica Paige is an enthusiastic and well-rounded

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Cap and Gown

Muir to perform in "universal language of music"

The Muir String Quartet, Afro-American art pioneer, and 'Black Eagles' aviator to receive honorary degrees at undergraduate commencement

by Clare Eckert
What's News Editor

The internationally acclaimed Muir String Quartet, noted worldwide for "entrancing" its audiences, and Edmund Barry Gaither, a pioneer in the promotion of Afro-American art and the founding director of Boston's Museum of the National Center of Afro-American Artists (NCAAA), will receive honorary degrees at the 1994 Rhode Island College undergraduate commencement ceremony scheduled for Saturday, May 21, at 9:30 a.m. on the lawn to the west of Whipple Hall.

In addition, U.S. Air Force Retired Lt. Col. Spann Watson, who was a member of the famous Tuskegee "Black Eagles" during World War II, and later played a key role in the development of the integration plan for the armed forces during the sixties, will receive



THE MUIR STRING QUARTET

an Honorary Doctorate of Public Service Degree during the undergraduate ceremonies. Watson will be the keynote speaker at the School of Graduate Studies commencement, scheduled for Thursday, May 19, at 5:30 p.m. in Roberts

Auditorium. (See below) Singled out for their "amazing perfection," The Muir String Quartet recently completed six RIC performances of the complete

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Lt. Col. Watson to keynote School of Graduate Studies commencement

U.S. Air Force Retired Lt. Col. Spann Watson, who was a member of the famous Tuskegee "Black Eagles," a group of black U.S. Air Force trained pilots who were refused combat duty during World War II, yet fought against the Germans on a least one occasion, will give the keynote address at the 1994 Rhode Island College School of Graduate Studies commencement, scheduled for Thursday, May 19, at 5:30 p.m. in Roberts Auditorium. A reception will follow in Donovan Dining Center.

This is the first time in 13 years that the College has held separate commencement exercises for its undergraduate and graduate classes. Lt. Col. Watson will receive an Honorary Doctorate of Public Service Degree the following Saturday (May 21) during the College's undergraduate commencement.

The 24-year Air Force veteran joined the U.S. Army Air Corps in 1941 and became one of the first to graduate from flying school at Tuskegee Army Air Base. He later became a member of the Tuskegee Airmen Experience and one of the original 99th Fighter Squadron pilots, an all black, eight-member unit of pilots flying P-40 fighter aircraft. Denied the right to fly during World War II, the "Black Eagles" - as they came to be called - did fight in combat as the first black unit to ever do so.

Born in Johnston, South Carolina, and having attended one-room schools as a child, Watson's interest in aviation grew subsequent to having been a member of an audience before which Charles A. Lindbergh spoke. In 1939, while a student at Howard University, he joined the original Civil Aeronautics Sponsored Pilot Training Program, later pursuing advance flight training at Tuskegee Institute in Alabama, from where he was later inducted into the armed forces and began his military aviation career.

Watson's military life has taken him to numerous countries throughout the world, and he has accumulated significant flying experience in all categories of military aircraft. In addition, military assignments and commands include controller and manager of air traffic control facilities in the United States and abroad. In 1959, Watson became senior director and manager of the Semi-Automatic Ground Environment Air Defense Center at Newburgh, N.Y., just prior to his



LT. COL. WATSON

Continued on page 6

In Memoriam —

Biology Prof. Robert Young

Characterized as "a valued and respected colleague who gave more than 24 years of service to Rhode Island College," Robert M. Young of Providence, a professor of biology and former department chairman



(File photo)

for a period of 10 years, died April 29 at Miriam Hospital.

He was 54.

Born in Brooklyn, N.Y., a son of the late Thomas and Hannah (Schoenfeld) Young, he had

moved to

Providence 24 years ago. He received his bachelor of science and master's degrees in 1960 and 1965, respectively, from Brooklyn College.

He was a member of the Sigma Psi Fraternity. He received his Ph.D. in biochemistry from the University of Pittsburgh Medical School in 1970.

He was a member of the American Society of Microbiologists, the American Society of Zoologists, the Association for the Advancement of Science and the American Institute of Biological Scientists. He was a member of the executive committee of the Rhode Island College chapter of the American Federation of Teachers and a past treasurer and member of Temple Beth Shalom.

There are no immediate survivors. He was the companion of Sharon Gleckman of Providence.

Funeral services were held at Temple Beth Shalom, Providence. Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick.

G.L.

Prof. Emerita 'Tess' Hoffman dies at 70

Anastasia C. "Tess" Hoffman, 70, a professor emerita of English at Rhode Island College, died March 14 at Guemes Island, Wash., where she lived since 1988.

She was the wife of Charles G. Hoffmann, professor emeritus of English at the University of Rhode Island.

A Rhode Island resident for 37 years, she and her husband lived in Kingston, Providence and Newport before they moved to Guemes Island.

Born in Atlanta, Ga., a daughter of the late Chris and Helen Carlos, she was educated at Agnes Scott College (B.A.), the University of Iowa (M.A.), and the University of Wisconsin (M.A.L.S. and Ph.D.).

She taught a variety of courses in the English department at RIC from 1965 until her retirement in 1988, and played a major role in the formation of both the College's film studies and creative writing programs.

She served as director of the General Studies Program and as assistant chair of the English department.

Professor Hoffmann taught courses in creative writing, 19th and 20th century British and American literature. Her extensive work in the film studies program included courses in film noir and Italian cinema. An accomplished photographer and gardener, she taught in the College's Elderhostel program, designing courses that link New England's visual landscape to its literature.

Her numerous awards included

four MacDowell Colony fellowships, a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities, and several grants from the Rhode Island Committee for the Humanities — one for a film and lecture series at the Providence Public Library on Afro-American women in Hollywood cinema.

Her scholarly articles and short stories appeared in *North American Review*, *Rhode Island History*, *New England Quarterly*, *Accent*, *Colorado Quarterly*, *Transatlantic Review*, and *Horticulture*, among others.

After her retirement, Professor Hoffmann co-wrote with her husband two books about Rhode Island history, *North by South* (University of Georgia Press, 1988) and *Brotherly Love* (University of Massachusetts Press, 1993). An excerpt from *Brotherly Love* appeared in *The Rhode Islander Magazine* last fall.

She was a member of the Rhode Island Historical, the Newport Historical and Providence Preservation societies.

Besides her husband, she is survived by two brothers, Michael and Andrew Carlos, both of Atlanta, Ga., and a sister, Peggy Caldwell of Mount Pleasant, Mich.

A private graveside service was held at the Guemes Island Cemetery March 28.

Contributions in Tess Hoffmann's memory may be made to the Rhode Island College Foundation, Tess Hoffmann Film Studies Scholarship Fund, 600 Mt. Pleasant Ave., Providence 02908.

AAUW led by alumna

Rae K. O'Neill, Class of 1945, is currently serving as president of the Providence Plantations Branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW). Two other RIC alumnae—Joan Alexander Ryding, Class of 1947 and Mary G. Davey, Class of 1941, serve on the branch board.

The AAUW will hold a meeting Monday, May 9, at Hamilton House, 276 Angell St., Providence, following a reception and dinner at 6:30

p.m. Don Ernst, director of development, communications and policy for the Coalition of Essential Schools, will speak at the meeting. Before joining the Coalition, which is based at Brown University, Ernst served as director of educational policy in the Office of the Governor of Indiana.

The program is open to anyone interested. Reservation may be made or more information obtained by calling 434-3832 or 354-6963.

ALUMNUS

ASSOCIATION & ALUMNI FUND NEWS

Solicitation for the 1994 Alumni Fund has begun and what a response we've been getting! Twenty-five student callers spent three weeks on the phone in April, seeking new and increased support for the Fund from you, Rhode Island College's alumni. We received commitments during those three weeks exceeding \$126,000, a record among all previous phonathons at the College!

Our goal for the 1994 Fund is \$250,000. It's a challenging goal, but one we can meet with your help and your classmates' help. The response from alumni we called during the phonathon was so heartening. People are giving \$250 to \$500 because it is *essential* to the College. They are demonstrating in a very tangible way that they are proud of Rhode Island College and grateful for what it did for them.

One aspect of the phonathon that, for me, makes up for the crazy hours required is that I get to work with current students. Not only are they a great group of people for me to manage, but through the calling process they are learning about the College from an alumni perspective. They can see what an alumna is doing with her English degree or they hear the pride in an alumnus' voice when they hear that someone is calling him from their alma mater. The contact the students have with alumni help them realize they can do something for the College after they graduate and that their connection with the College continues for their entire lifetime. It's a message that cannot be overstated. I thank them for their successful efforts and I thank you for responding so positively. If we haven't reached you yet, we will keep trying by mail or by phone. I look forward to hearing from you.



Kristen A. Jalbert
Assistant Director of Development/Annual Giving

President announces faculty promotions and tenure

Rhode Island College President John Nazarian recently announced the following faculty promotions and those granted tenure.

Promoted to full professor were: John Bucci, educational leadership, foundations & technology; Linda Cathers, nursing; Anne Carty, nursing; Robert Hogan, English; Jerry Melaragno, biology; Ann Moskol, mathematics & computer science; Stephen Ramocki, economics & management; David Sugarman, psychology.

Promoted to associate professor were: Joan Arches, school of social work; Yael Avissar, biology; Peter Brown, history, Laura Cooley, physical sciences; Randy DeSimone, economics & management; Ronald Dufour, history; Heemong Kim, art; MacGregor Kniseley, elementary education; Joseph McSweeney, English & secondary education; Darek Niklas, sociology; Philip Palombo, communications; John Sumerlin, music.

Faculty granted tenure July 1 of the year indicated were: Joan Arches (1994), school of social work; Yael Avissar (1994), biology; Peter Brown (1994), history; Laura Cooley (1994), physical sciences; Ronald Dufour (1994), history; Frank Farinella (1995), industrial technology; Heemong Kim (1994), art; Kay Israel (1995), communications; Macgregor Kniseley (1994), elementary education; Darek Niklas (1994), sociology; Philip Palombo (1994), communications; Marita Sheridan (1995), biology.

A reception for the above persons was held Monday, May 2, at the President's House.

WHAT'S NEWS
AT RHODE ISLAND COLLEGE

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What's News at Rhode Island College (US681-650) is published biweekly by Rhode Island College Office of News and Publications Services, 600 Mt. Pleasant Ave., Providence, RI 02908. It is published throughout the academic year except during semester breaks. Second-class postage paid at Providence, RI.

Postmaster: Send address changes to What's News at Rhode Island College, Office of News and Publications Services, 600 Mt. Pleasant Ave., Providence, RI 02908.

Deadline
Deadline for submission of copy and photos is noon the Thursday two weeks before publication date.

Telephone
(401) 456-8090

Printing
Herald Press

Look for the summer issue
of What's News
for stories and features
on 1994 Commencement!

College Shorts

You're invited to participate in triathlons

Members of the Rhode Island College community are invited to participate in two sprint triathlons, one in Newport on June 12, and one in Exeter, August 7.

Entry fee by age group is \$50 per person, higher for professional entrants for whom there will be cash prizes. For the entry fee you get a T-shirt and water bottle, are eligible to participate in sports medicine symposia focusing on injury prevention and pre-performance enhancement, attend trade shows for the sponsors and partake of a carbo-loading meal.

For more information or entry form, contact Tri-Pro International at P.O. Box 823, North Scituate 02857-0823 or call 946-7994.

Tri-Pro is run by RIC grads David Wardrip, Class of 1990, and his wife, the former Carolyn Oswald, Class of 1981.

Summer Music Workshop at HBS

Henry Barnard School at Rhode Island College will present a workshop organized by the music textbook company Silver Burdett Ginn. This summer workshop, to be held July 11 and 12, will use the company's textbook *The Music Connection*.

Participants will be able to interact with *The Music Connection* authors and consultants including Catherine Nadon-Gabriel of the University of Michigan, Larry Eisman of Aaron Copland School of Music and Queens College of the City University of New York and Cici Hunt, music consultant for Silver Burdett Ginn.

Participants may take this workshop for one credit by registering for Music Education course 480-20 (please call for tuition and registration fees) or for non-credit at a tuition fee of \$30. A \$20 materials fee is required of participants on the first day of the workshop.

Registration by June 27 is recommended. For more information, please call Mary Foye or Shirley Lacroix at 401-456-8127.

Accounting students take top honors

For three out of the last four years a Rhode Island College accounting student has taken top honors in the mock Certified Internal Auditor (CIA) exam administered by the Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA) as a means of exposing students to material covered in the real CIA exam and stimulating interest in careers in the internal auditing profession.

Kenneth White of Johnston came in first and Christopher Sicard of East Providence came in second. RIC students, in fact, obtained eight of the top 10 scores statewide among 69 students from Bryant College, the University of Rhode Island, Salve Regina University and Johnson & Wales. The top three finishers received an award and cash prize at the May 2 IIA meeting in Providence.

Public relations lab works two ways: helps students and the community

by George LaTour
What's News Associate Editor

For some non-profit organizations in Rhode Island, Rhode Island College's course, Communications 377 (public relations lab), has proved to be a blessing.

For in it this semester, 15 communications majors whose interests lie in public relations careers, have had the opportunity to get some valuable "hands-on" experience in PR while offering free service to the organizations.

In short, it's been a chance for college students to acquire that all-important experience to add to their resumes before they even graduate, while providing assistance to the small non-profit groups whose budgets do not allow for anything but minimal staffing.

And, usually, in small non-profit organizations one of the most needed services — public relations — often goes begging for lack of funds to hire people versed in the field.

Why the need for public relations? Well, first of all, the term "public information" might better be used, but the need is to have an organization's planned activities made known to the public so that they will support them and the organization can benefit.

The RIC PR students divided into three equal groups and donated their time and efforts to organizations that indicated they would welcome their assistance.

These were the Chance-to-Dance program of the Dance Alliance of Rhode Island, Leadership Rhode Island, and the Travelers Aid Society.

Crystal Martin, a senior from Coventry, says the group she was in assisted in arranging and providing publicity for the Rhode Island Dance Alliance's "SleeQueFEET" performance May 7 in the Rhode Island Mall in Warwick, as well as assisting in the publicity of the Alliance's Chance-to-Dance program.

This latter activity of the Dance Alliance is described by administrative director Helene Scheff as a "really terrific" arts program that gives Rhode Island school children



FLYING HIGH: Students from schools throughout Rhode Island participate in the *Chance to Dance* program sponsored by the Dance Alliance of Rhode Island.

in grades four through eight the experience of participating in a full-scale dance performance.

Throughout the school year, explains Scheff, specially trained professional dance teachers and accompanists conduct weekly dance classes at participating schools throughout the state.

Then, in May, the students put on a full production at the Providence Performing Arts Center. The dates and times for this year's performances are May 18 and 19 at 12 noon and May 20 at 7 p.m.

for the students, and Dan Scheff, another "in-class" musician.

"Our (PR lab) group," says Martin, "worked like a public relations agency (for the Chance to Dance program)."

"We each had a project that we concentrated on to help the program" which included planning for the Warwick Mall performance May 7.

She says she, personally, feels the experience she gained would prove valuable in furthering her career in public relations.

The RIC PR students divided into three equal groups and donated their time and efforts to organizations that indicated they would welcome their assistance.

As Scheff points out, volunteers from RIC working for the Chance-to-Dance program include others besides those taking the PR lab course.

For instance, dance instructors Gerri Lallo and Suzette Hutchinson are RIC grads as are Charlotte Burgess, who coordinates costumes for the Chance to Dance kids, and John Boomer, who serves as technical director and lighting designer.

Other RIC people volunteering their time and efforts to the program include Diane Gualtieri, musical director and "in-class" musician

Leslie Richmond, a first-semester senior from Cumberland, whose group helped organize a media and marketing plan for Leadership Rhode Island, values the contacts made with career professionals and the experience she received in "doing press releases" and dealing with the media.

Leadership Rhode Island is a non-profit organization of community leaders representing a mix of professional and cultural backgrounds sponsored by the Providence Chamber of Commerce.

Participants meet regularly to discuss community issues such as education, health care, environment, criminal justice, economic development and government.

Rebecca White, a senior from Portsmouth whose group assisted in publicizing the 100th anniversary observation of the Travelers Aid Society as well as develop a volunteer recruitment brochure, shared the enthusiasm of fellow students Martin and Richmond.

"We all felt like we were a real public relations agency."

Senior parents invited to champagne brunch

Parents or guardians of graduating seniors are invited to the Rhode Island College Senior Week champagne toast and brunch Friday, May 20, from 10 a.m. to noon in the Donovan Dining Center.

Tickets are \$8 and may be picked up by your student at the Student Union Information Desk or you may call 456-8034 to reserve them.

Those attending the brunch also are being invited to watch the senior slide show on events in Senior Week. The slides will be shown in the Student Union ballroom from noon to 12:30 p.m.

Secretaries honored during special week



TOASTING THE EFFORTS OF COLLEGE SECRETARIES: President John Nazarian (l) pays tribute to the College's secretaries with Belmira Peters, a teller in the Bursar's Office and Director of Personnel, Gordon Sundberg at a reception at the President's House.



RECOGNITION AWARD for his encouragement and support of *The Muir String Quartet Beethoven Cycle Project* is presented to College President John Nazarian (left) by Aaron Roitman, who represents the charter donors to the project. The silver bowl was presented in ceremonies April 11 in Gaige Hall auditorium, the site of the Muir String six performances from September through April. In the background are Peter Zazofsky and Bayla Keyes, both members of *The Muir String Quartet*.

RIC initiates 65 into Kappa Delta Pi April 10

The Epsilon Rho Chapter of Kappa Delta Pi, the honor society for education majors, held its initiation for new members Sunday, April 10, in Gaige Hall Auditorium on the Rhode Island College campus.

This year's initiation celebrated the 50th anniversary of the Epsilon Rho Chapter at RIC.

John J. Salesses, vice president for academic affairs at RIC gave greetings followed by congratulations from David E. Nelson, dean of RIC's school of education and human development.

The guest speaker was Bennett J. Lombardo, professor of health/physical education at RIC.

The honor society's officer conducted the initiation ceremony and John A. Bucci, associate professor of foundations of education at RIC, gave the closing remarks.

A reception for initiates and their guests followed the ceremony.

Initiated were:

Brenda Ann Abatiello of Warwick, Kristen Jennifer Albertelly of Pawtucket, Kim M. Alix of Esmond, Patricia Susan Ayotte of Lincoln, Karen M. Bacci of No. Providence, Mary K. Barden of Providence, Rebecca L. Bitar of Tiverton, Elaine E. Blais of No. Providence, Marc Andrew Brocato of Warwick, Ann

Elizabeth Cahill of Barrington, Patricia M. Casey of Matunuck, Diane J. Cianci of Cranston.

Also, Daureen K. Clyde of Cranston, Linda Marie Cogean of No. Scituate, Meredith Frances Coia of W. Warwick, Bethany E. Cooke of No. Providence, Elizabeth R. Cross of E. Greenwich, Michael H. Deslauriers of Chepachet, Sharon Lee DiRaimo of Cranston, Laurie Ann Durkin of Cumberland, Gary Russell Edwards of Warwick, James Robert Ellis, Jr. of Warwick, Lori A. Ferguson of Clayville, James A. Field of Chepachet, Leigh-Ann Gauvin of Woonsocket.

And, Cynthia J. Gould of No. Scituate, Anne Grafos of Pawtucket, Roger Rene Guimond of Somerset, MA., Michaella Gumpson of Coventry, Erika L. Hann of Bridgton, Maine, Norma Veronica Hardy of Providence, Glen Hopkins of Providence, Christine Keegan of Woonsocket, Denise M. Kinney of Warren, Louise Ann Krueger of Central Falls, Linda Marie LeClair of Pawtucket, Michael J. Lowell of Scituate, Rebecca Lin Loxley of Smithfield, Stephen T. Mailloux of Tiverton, Christine Anne Major of Johnston, Patricia J. Martinez of No. Providence, Gina M. Martino of E. Providence.

Alumni Assn. to honor 19 as 'role models' at Awards Dinner

At the Rhode Island College Alumni Association Awards Dinner Thursday, May 12, 19 alumni "role models" for students—representing various academic departments and programs—will be honored in addition to the annual award winners recently announced.

Named to the 1994 Alumni Honor Roll are: Vincent McNamara, Class of 1985, accounting; Heemong Kim, Class of 1980, art; Phyllis Hunt, Class of 1980, BGS; Annibal Melo, Class of 1982, biology; Jill O'Brien, Class of 1986, DVM, chemistry; E. Sharon Capobianco, Class of 1966, elementary education; Patricia DiCenso, Class of 1978, health education.

Also, Elizabeth Beauchemin Milligan, Class of 1985, marketing; Mary McNulty, Class of 1966, mathematics; Dinarte Ferro, Class of 1983, music; Yolande Patenaude Lockett, Class of 1981, nursing; David Thomas Kayata, Class of 1986, physical education; Marlene Roberti, Class of 1985, political science; Marcel Desrosiers, Class of

1977, psychology.

Also, Michael Marran, Class of 1980, public administration; Sara Weiss, Class of 1985, sociology; Susan Moniz, Class of 1985, theatre; David Florio, Class of 1980, urban studies; and LuAnn Baptista, Class of 1975, English.

Winners of the major alumni awards as recently announced are:

Carmela Santoro of Providence, RIC professor emerita in history, Class of 1937: Alumna of the Year;

Robert J. Salhany of North Providence, professor of mathematics: Faculty Award;

Russell J. Monaghan of West Kingston, technical director of Roberts Hall auditorium, Class of 1970: Staff Award;

Dr. Monique Picard Root, O.D., of North Kingstown, an optometrist, Class of 1978: The Charles B. Willard Achievement Award; and

Rev. Maurice H. Sykes of Cranston, associate director for shelter services at the Urban League of Rhode Island: The Alumni Award for Service.

BOG appointment

Continued from page 1

student. Her record of involvement in her school and her community proves she is a true leader."

Of her appointment, Paige said, "I felt that it was an honor to become a part of the whole process" of higher education. "At each stage of the interviewing, I was surprised and honored that my name had gone forth."

Paige is a junior studying elementary education, communications and theater. She acts as an affirmative action representative, is chair of the Conditions and Services Committee for Student Parliament and is treasurer of Harambee, the College's multicultural student organization. A Thorp Hall resident, Paige is also a member of the College's choir and dance groups.

"In addition to my academic responsibilities," Paige said, "I will do the best of my ability" at her new undertaking. "I have an open mind. I'm willing to listen, and will base my decisions on knowledge and research." Having already begun her job, Paige has met with several of her constituency groups, including students, Office of Higher Education officials and Board members.

Paige graduated from Classical High School in 1991, where she ran track and was a member of "Times Square," a program dedicated to promoting math, science and engineering in the state's high schools. Besides her activities on the RIC campus, she has served as a public service announcer at WBRU-FM and is a former Miss Junior Providence Teen. She also participated in fundraising activities for the RI Educational Enrichment Program and volunteered for the Neighborhood Empowerment Program at the Mount Hope Neighborhood Association. She currently works as a clerical assistant in the Office of the President, and as a cashier for Dunkin' Donuts.

In releasing his selection of Paige as the first student representative to the Board, Gov. Sundlun said, "I am confident that Monica will make (the student) voice heard."



HONORED AT FOUNDATION GALA: Tullio DeRobbio (center), treasurer and former vice president and president of the RIC Foundation, is honored at the fifth annual Foundation Gala April 10 at the Donovan Dining Center. From left are Kathleen McNally Wassenaar, vice president for development and college relations and Foundation executive director; College President John Nazarian; Therese Howe, Foundation president; and Jack Dougherty, chairman of the gala committee. (What's News Photo by Gordon E. Rowley)

Nursing students prepared for public policy in state and national health care issues

by Clare Eckert
What's News Editor

Higher on the state and nation's agenda than ever before are issues and public policy choices concerning the cost and distribution of health care. For economic reasons and the future of the country's well-being, the health care professions can expect to be in the limelight for the next several years.

Right now, there are a minimum of 16 so-called variations of health care packages facing the Congress of the United States. Measures to implement and money to pay for preventative health care, as well as those human diseases already known, have taken center stage and are being bantered about daily by some of the nation's best known researchers, doctors and lawyers.

Today's noted decision-makers on health care policies will be joined by the leaders and practitioners of the future by the time final decisions are made. And members of the Rhode Island College Department of Nursing's senior class will be there to aid in making and assisting those needing expert advice on public health care policy.

Over 140 senior nursing students, as part of their last semester's coursework, have studied the process of public policy making in health care, examined current questions of pro-active health care and have learned how to get an issue before the public's eye in order to make a difference. As a result of their classes, these nursing students will not only be able to help their soon-to-be patients feel better physically and mentally, but are themselves well-prepared to be leaders of tomorrow in the board rooms and advocates for their clients in their chosen health related field.

The "public policy activities" section of Nursing 333 started about six or seven years ago, according to Carol Shelton, assistant professor of nursing, "because clearly we felt it important that nurses ultimately are effected when legislators are considering issues that effect nursing practices."

This assignment "propels them into a whole new arena," Shelton said. "It's not an individual assignment, it's a group effort. The point that is important is working within a group. They share the grade" which makes each student's overall involvement "important to the entire group dynamics."

For two mornings in April, 22 prominent health issues were presented publicly by that same num-



DISTRIBUTING INFORMATION for Organ Donor Awareness Week at the Rhode Island Registry of Motor Vehicles in Providence is Lillia Catlin, a Rhode Island College nursing student. At her right are Peter Lombardi and Jane Boyajian, both of the R.I. O.D. A. C.

ber of nursing groups composed of about eight students each. The department prepared a brochure for the events, and invited the campus community to attend and participate in the sessions held in the Student Union Ballroom.

Described on the first page of the brochure was the rationale behind the learning experience: "The Department of Nursing is committed to preparing students to act as change agents in the public policy arena both at the state and national level. These public policy presentations demonstrate the knowledge and skills the students have acquired in meeting this important goal."

Lillia Catlin took this assignment very seriously. Catlin, along with her group leader, Donald P. Bobola, and six other colleagues learned how to make a difference. The other students are Mark Clarke, Laurie K. Fisher, Lisa B. Levin, Denna Nardolillo, Kristen L. Ray and Elizabeth DeMello.

Their topic was organ transplants, and the need for the public to be more aware of what it means to people who need a heart or a kidney or another organ to survive or have a more fulfilling life.

On April 19, from 8:30 a.m. to 1

p.m. Catlin and Bobola, along with members of the National Kidney Foundation and the Rhode Island Organ Donor Awareness Committee (RIODAC) stationed themselves at the Providence Registry of Motor Vehicles to draw awareness to the issue, pass out information and answer questions. People would regularly stop by and ask questions about becoming a donor and learn about the thousands of people waiting to receive transplants. The groups success at creating public awareness of the issue in downtown Providence was complemented that evening on Channel 6 when the station broadcast the student's efforts.

And again, on April 26, at 9:45 a.m. - the group's designated time to report their group findings - Channel 10 covered the event. In part because of investigative reporter Jim Taricani's recently reported personal struggle to live knowing he needs a heart transplant. And because Catlin and her group made it their business to not just talk about the issue, but to act on their convictions.

To the music of the *Wizard of Oz*, and a walk through by group member Ray dressed up like the character portrayed as the heartless Tin Man, the group opened their public

session at RIC. They coordinated an informative session on organ transplants complete with slide presentations; verbal explanations on the process of pending state legislation on bone marrow transplants; and a panel of distinguished Rhode Islanders working in the field of organ transplants, along with those who had already received a transplant, and - like Taricani - those bravely waiting for "someone to die, so I can live."

This is an "extremely" important topic in today's world, according to Joe Hearn, state director of the National Kidney Foundation. "Working with the RIC students and RIODAC on this project has been a great effort on all parties to bring more awareness to the public on organ donations and what that means to the lives of so many."

For Catlin, "this has been a great learning experience because we have learned what channels we have to go through (in the process of public policy making) and have learned to maybe write our own legislation."

The group researching organ transplants was only one among all the other students who presented topics over the two-day event, including legal issues and smoking, lead poisoning, mental detectors in schools, needle exchange programs, guns in the schools, milk labeling and teen pregnancy. Each presentation was as note-worthy as the next, this year and in past years.

Shelton noted that about three years ago a group of student nurses investigated domestic violence. "They developed a business card listing all of the shelters in the state and important telephone numbers for victims to call if they needed assistance." Every emergency room in the state continues to distribute these cards to suspected victims of domestic violence.

Others have included compiling information on issues surrounding infant mortality and low-birth weight. "The data suggested that home visits can help to improve mothering," Shelton said. This information has been useful to state agencies. Last year, a group of students videotaped the "near-impossible" mobility of wheelchair bound people in their investigation of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

Once graduated, "each students' practice will be dictated by people and institutions" they work for and with, Shelton said. "For nurses, you can wrap up the bruises, but if you're not involved in the individual's care and how it comes to be," the nursing profession will be left up to someone else.

FIRST-PLACE WINNER in RIC's annual jewelry model-making competition Peter Murphy (front center) receives a check for \$500 from Susan Linsley, president of the New England chapter of the Precious Metals Institute. Pictured with them at rear from left are Jonathan McCurdy, who won a student membership in the institute; Michelle Blackmer, who won honorable mention for her design; Sam Ames, chairman of the art department; Wayne Gleason, honorable mention; Carlos Mariscal and Patricia Marvel, both of the institute, and Curtis LaFollette of the art department. Site is the RIC Art Center April 6.



Pay attention now!



WORDS FROM THE TOP: Governor Bruce Sundlun (facing students) reads to first graders at the Henry Barnard School as part of the state's annual Reading Week.

Undergraduate Commencement

Continued from page 1

Beethoven Quartet cycle to standing-room-only audiences. The performances "started out as exceptional and got better with each performance." The four musicians - Peter Zazofsky, violin; Bayla Keyes, violin; Michael Reynolds, cello, and Steven Ansell, viola - will each receive an Honorary Doctorate of Fine Arts Degree. The Muir has agreed to perform for a seventh time at RIC during commencement, addressing the graduating class in the "universal language of music."

Gaither, a noted scholar, art historian and published author, curated an exhibit at the College's Bannister Gallery, "Treasures from the Museum of the National Center of Afro-American Artists" in the fall. The NCAAA, started in 1969 by Gaither, houses over 4,000 objects. Gaither will receive an Honorary Doctorate of Fine Arts Degree.

Acknowledged as one of the world's most powerful and insightful ensembles, The Muir String Quartet appears annually in most of the major chamber music series in North America, and tours extensively in Europe. It has won two Grand Prix du Disque for its EMI recordings of the Franck Quintet and Chausson's Concert, Op. 21 and String Quartet, Op. 35.

Since 1985, The Muir Quartet has been Boston University's quartet in residence, performing, teaching and overseeing the school's chamber music series. The quartet presented the first complete Beethoven Quartets cycle during the 1991-92 year at Boston University. Besides the RIC appearances this year, it reprised the series in Boston and New York.

Winner of the 1981 Naumberg Chamber Music Award and 1980 Evian International String Quartet Competition, the Muir - named after the great naturalist, explorer and founder of the Sierra Club, John Muir - first appeared on the scene in 1980. Because of their dedication to the environment, they have begun a long series of recordings on the EcoClassics label, the net proceeds of which benefit various conservation organizations. The four first met at the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia.

BRIEF BIOGRAPHICAL PROFILES OF THE MUIR STRING QUARTET

Peter Zazofsky: A member of the

Muir String Quartet and professor at Boston University since 1987, Zazofsky balances a highly successful solo performing career as well. A second prize winner of the 1980 Queen Elisabeth Competition in Brussels, and recipient of the 1985 Avery Fisher Career Grant, Zazofsky appears in recital and with major orchestras in the U.S., Canada, and 21 countries throughout Europe, Asia, the Middle East and South America. A Boston native, he lives in Boston with his wife and two daughters.

Bayla Keyes: A founding member of The Muir String Quartet, Keyes received her bachelor's degree from the Curtis Institute, her master's degree from Yale University, and her first professional experience with the acclaimed Music from Marlboro. She performs as soloist and chamber musician in concerts throughout Europe and North America. In addition to her duties at Boston University, she teaches at the Taos School of Music and the Interlochen Chamber Music Conference, and lives in Boston with her husband and two daughters.

Steven Ansell: A founding member of The Muir String Quartet, Ansell has held positions at the University of Houston, Yale University, and at age 23, as assistant principal viola of the Pittsburgh Symphony. In addition to his busy teaching load at Boston University and his performing schedule, Ansell spends time with his wife and two daughters, and is an avid outdoorsman.

Michael Reynolds: Reynolds began his career as a founding member of The Muir String Quartet. In addition, he has appeared in recital throughout the Northeast, and as a concerto soloist in his home state of Montana. President of EcoClassics, a non-profit recording company dedicated to creating CDs for the conservation of music and nature, Reynolds is also the director of the Montana Chamber Music Festival and professor at Boston University. He is a passionate fly fisherman, freelance writer, and lives in Boston with his wife and daughter.

EDMUND BARRY GAITHER

As a special consultant and adjunct curator at the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston, Gaither has curated eight exhibitions including Afro-American Artists: New York

and Boston, 1970, one of the largest and more critically successful Afro-American art exhibitions. For the NCAAA, Gaither developed the museum from a concept dedicated to the support, criticism, celebration and preservation of the contribution of black peoples to world culture.



EDMUND BARRY GAITHER

His curatorial approach is said to have balanced two imperatives: to preserve and elucidate the socio-historic, cultural identity of the art of black peoples and to remain open to the expanded dynamics of contemporary black artists and cultures.

Gaither was educated at Morehouse College, Georgia State University and Brown University. He has taught at Boston University, Harvard College, Wellesley College and Massachusetts College of Art. He has co-produced the Visual Arts Resources Guide for the Massachusetts College of Art, and authored and produced *The Making of the Americas*, a curriculum introducing the Caribbean to middle school students. He has been a curriculum consultant to Urban Gateways: The Center for Arts Education in Chicago and the Miami public school system. In 1990, he was appointed to the President's Advisory Board on Historically Black Colleges and Universities.

Among his published works are, *Museum Education and Ideals*, *Ancestral Legacy: The African Impulse in Black Arts*, *The American Art Analog*, and *Black Perspectives Teaching Guide*.

FOLLOWING COMMENCEMENT

A reception for family and friends of members of the graduating class will be held in Donovan Dining Center following the ceremony.

In the event of inclement weather, the ceremony will move to the Providence Performing Arts Center on Weybosset Street and be held at 10:30 a.m. Students are advised to call the campus inclement weather telephone line at 456-9500 after 7 a.m. on commencement day, or listen to their local radio station.

Watson to keynote

Continued from page 1

retirement in 1964 as a team leader in the Regional Air Inspectors General's office.

Upon his departure from the military, Spann joined the federal Aviation Administration as an Equal Opportunity specialist, continuing a lifetime mission of service to his country. As the first black to be a recipient of the National Aeronautic Association's "Elder Statesmen of Aviation" award in 1990, Watson's selection was based on "his lifetime of integrity and service to his country, dedicated to the principles of fair treatment and equal opportunity for all. One of the Tuskegee Airmen with a distinguished World War II flying record, he played a key role in the development of the integration plan for the armed forces that became our country's official policy."

Watson has continued promoting the Air Force Academy and aviation careers for minority youths, regularly addressing classrooms of high schools students, and by making personal contact. In 1991, NBC News profiled his experiences as a "Black Eagle," including interviews with two USAF Academy graduates who credited Watson for motivating them to enter the academy. That year, he was also cited for his work with young people by the Air Force Association, which awarded him the President's Citation Award for his support of AFA youth programs. Watson is also the recipient of the 1991 Brigadier General Noel F. Parrish Award, the Tuskegee Airmen's highest award.

A tireless mentor to young people and humanitarian to all, Watson has provided financial backing to numerous families over the years for health care needs and scholarship aid. At one local school district, Watson paid for 73 inner-city students to see the film *Glory*, "because of its enlightening message."

During his career, Watson has assisted more than 30 young people to attend one of the three service academies, and hundreds of others find jobs and improve their work situations in the aviation industry or in federal employment.

Honored by several national groups over the years, in 1991 Watson was honored by the Congressional black caucus in Washington, D. C. as one of the surviving members of the original 99th Fighter Squadron and received an award from the Federal Aviation Administration for air participation in air traffic operations supporting Desert Shield.

He is a graduate of several aviation and air traffic control schools, and has helped found and lead a number of national and regional aviation organizations.

The annual
Commencement Gala
will be held
Friday, May 20
in Donovan Dining Center.

Please join the community at the
reception at 6:30 p.m.
and dinner at 7:30.

Tickets are \$15 each
(two for \$25) and can
be purchased in
the Office of Conferences
and Special Events, Roberts 300.
Call 456-8122 for more information.
Deadline for tickets is May 13.

Accommodation for disabilities upon request.

Honors biology student to pursue Ph.D. in AIDS-related diseases

by Cynthia DeMaio
What's News Student Writer

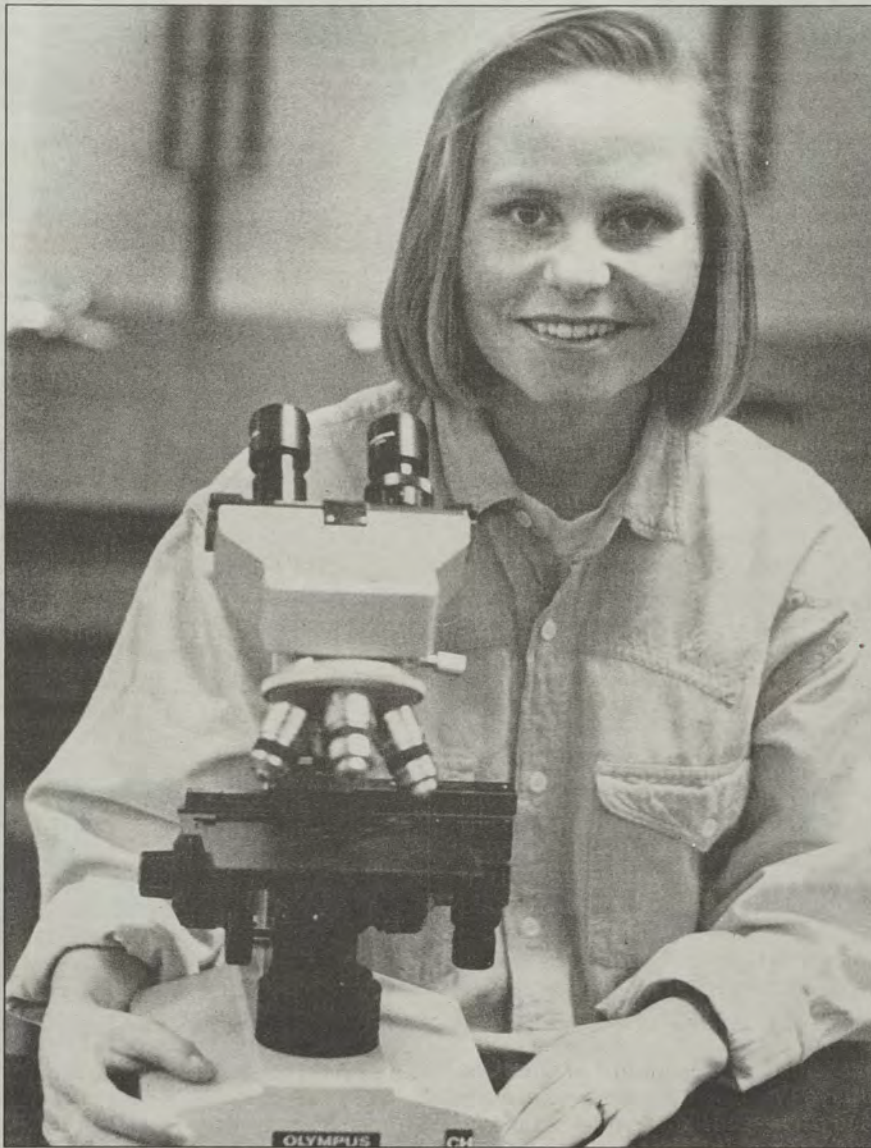
"I could have chosen anything in the field of biology," says Dorothy Wood, a graduating senior at Rhode Island College, "but I felt the need to do something with the human body." As a result, Dorothy will be pursuing her doctoral degree in pathology at the University of North Carolina (UNC), Chapel Hill, after graduation.

Dorothy is this year's recipient of both the W. Cristina Carlson Award for excellence in biology and the Theodore Lemeshka award for excellence in microbiology. She will graduate with honors in biology, a minor in chemistry, and a grade-point average of 3.99.

The woman she will work with at UNC, Dr. Christine Dykstra, is doing research on diseases in AIDS patients. Specifically, she studies a normally harmless bacteria which causes chronic pneumonia in AIDS victims, and hopes to develop a drug to counteract its effects.

(Dorothy has received a full scholarship which pays all tuition and includes a stipend for living expenses. The first year of her program will be paid by the UNC Biology Department and the rest will be funded by Dykstra's grant.)

This past fall, Dorothy conducted research in the immunology department of Pfizer, Inc., Groton, Conn., working to enhance the immune system of cattle. Dr. A.P. Ricketts of Pfizer stated that in the six months Dorothy was at the company, she made a significant contribution, one of which an experienced researcher "would feel



DOROTHY WOOD

proud."

Originally from England, Dorothy came to Florida in 1988 through a tour company for which

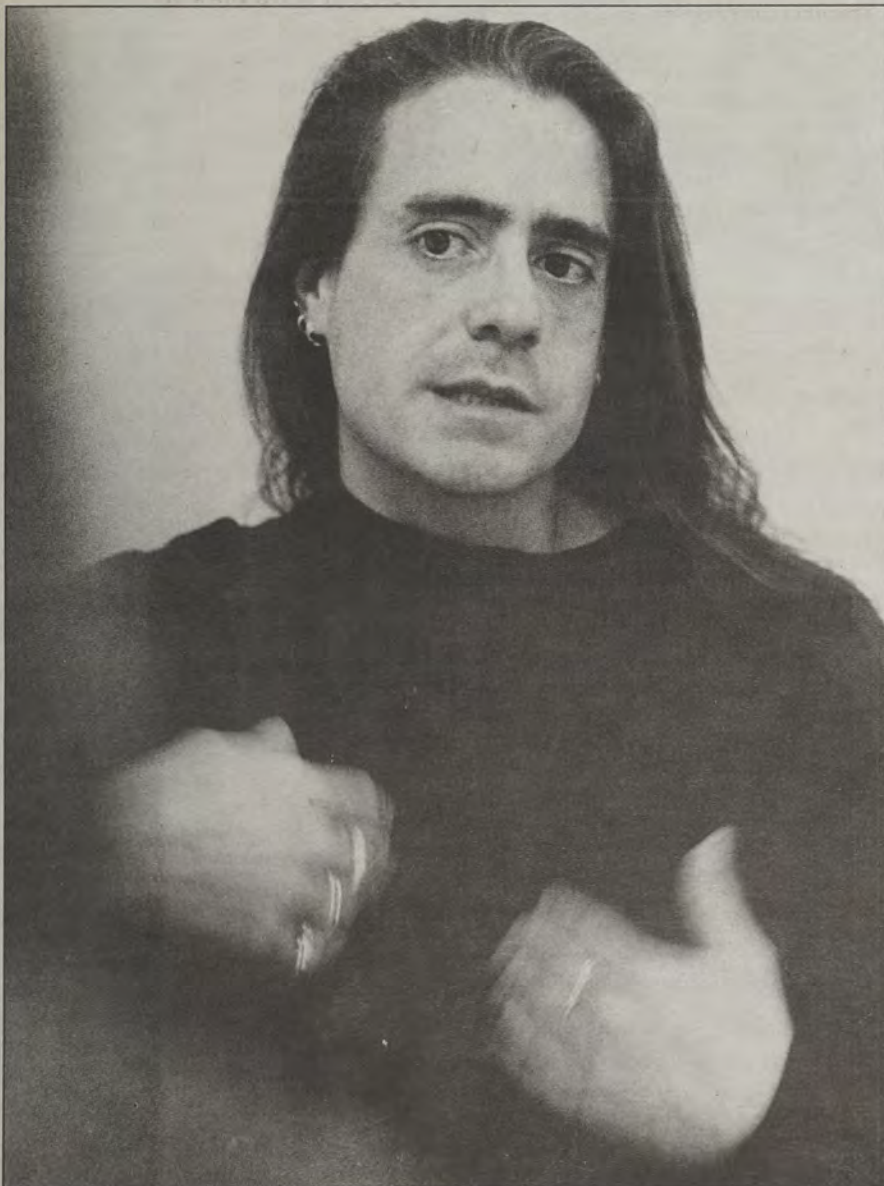
she was working. She lived there for two years then moved to Rhode Island with her husband, Michael Wood, a Rhode Island native.

On her sister-in-law's recommendation, Dorothy chose RIC over the state's other schools. "I was in a strange country and felt more comfortable attending a smaller school," she said. The decision turned out to be a good one. "I found the science program to be wonderful here. The professors go above and beyond what they have to do. And I feel I might have gotten lost in a larger school such as URI or Brown where I'd be in an auditorium with 300 other students."

Dorothy came to the field of pathology in a roundabout way. She began her bachelor's degree at RIC in 1990 with the intent of becoming a high school biology teacher. But, because of the small size of RIC, "teachers notice students who show that they care about the subject," Dorothy said. It happened that Dr. Charles Owens, assistant professor of biology, noticed her efforts. "Dr. Owens gave me encouragement and took me under his wing. He recommended that I go on to graduate school, and I realized these were the words I was waiting to hear," she said.

Dorothy is, perhaps, difficult not to notice. Over the past four years she has been active in the biology department as a tutor and an assistant in the microbiology labs. She is also an aerobics instructor at the Recreation Center. And lately, Dorothy can be seen on campus strolling around her 4-month-old daughter Hayley.

Reflecting on her decision to enter the field of pathology, Dorothy said "disease is what gets us all in the end. This is the most worthwhile thing I can do in science."



MICHAEL SCHRADER

A study of philosophy can sharpen our morals and our wits

Although we may seldom think about it, every one of our actions is a reflection of our basic philosophy. A study of philosophy can help us make the right decisions and act in a moral fashion, says Michael Schrader, this year's philosophy faculty award winner.

For example, legislators and people serving as jurors must deal with moral issues as they carry out their work. "Ethics and moral issues fall under the purview of philosophy. People can benefit in their decision-making process if they have a background in philosophy," Schrader says.

The field also helps students develop their critical thinking skills. "For example, there are common fallacies in ads such as 'jump on the bandwagon and buy this product, everyone else has.' These fallacies become apparent when you study logic," Schrader says. "You become less gullible."

A native of Iowa, Schrader attended the University of Iowa between 1978 and 1981, taking general studies courses and philosophy. "I just wasn't ready for college, so I took a 10-year break," he says. During that time Schrader was a cook, kitchen manager, academic office supervisor, executive secretary, and baritone soloist.

Needing a break from the Midwest, Schrader moved to Rhode Island, where his brother was on the faculty at Brown University. He enrolled at Rhode Island College in

1991 on the recommendation of his voice teacher, who had connections with the school. Starting as a music major, Schrader soon decided "I would be better off having music as my avocation rather than my vocation." He then switched to philosophy.

"I knew from the outset that I wouldn't be earning a living with a bachelor's degree in philosophy," Schrader says. "I plan to pursue a Ph.D. in the field and to work in academia. I would like to teach, write, and think, and have this the way I make my living."

Schrader, a resident of Cranston, bemoans the fact that intellectualism is not more highly prized in America. "If you don't produce a consumer product in this society, it is difficult to earn a living. Perhaps in other countries, your works are read and your ideas listened to by people outside of the walls of academia. That is rarely the case here."

Schrader would like to pursue a program of analytic philosophy. "This field, in part, involves the critical analysis of language and logic. I am particularly interested in analyzing natural language, the language we use on a daily basis, to try to determine how we use it and why it works."

Whether it's aesthetics, ethics, epistemology, or metaphysics, all branches of philosophy help a person to "improve critical analysis skills and develop a better understanding of the world," Schrader says.

Cap 'n Gown Convocation 1994 —

A time for recognition of achievement

For the third straight year, Rhode Island's finicky spring weather threatened to dampen Rhode Island College's annual Cap and Gown Convocation May 4 in and outside of Roberts Hall auditorium as the Class of 1994 donned its academic regalia for the first time and paid homage to its own, the high achievers of the senior class.

Before the ceremony had gotten underway, the sun began peaking through the clouds, perhaps as an omen of things to come for the graduates.

College President John Nazarian extended the official

greetings of the College to the Class of 1994 and then introduced Susan D. Beller of the class, who delivered an address to her fellow students.

She said she had found "driven intelligent people" at RIC when she first came here after more than a year since her high school graduation and that the College provided her with "a wide variety of choices" which led to "a quality education at reasonable tuition for our hard-earned or borrowed money."

Assistant professor of sociology Jason L. Blank, whom the students had chosen to deliver the

main address, reminded his audience of a whole host of humanity's social and other ills, and called for the elimination of prejudice. He was introduced by class president David Fazo.

Departmental award citations were read by John J. Salesses, vice president for academic affairs. Department chairs presented the citations. President Nazarian led the cap and gown investiture. Mary B. Voccio, class secretary, provided the RIC Alumni Association introduction to the students who will graduate in May 21 exercises. The senior class gift was presented

by Eamon C. McCoy, class vice president, and Kevin J. LeMay, class treasurer.

The National Anthem was sung by music student Amy E. Bordes. Musical selections by the RIC Wind Ensemble were conducted by Francis M. Marciniak. Bearer of the Del Sesto Mace, John J. Gleason, chairman of the Council of RIC, led the processional and recessional. A reception, hosted by President Nazarian, followed on the southeast lawn of Roberts Hall.

Photos by
Gordon E. Rowley

Text by
George LaTour



CAP 'N GOWN AWARD WINNERS and their awards: (front row from left) Donna J. McGuire, Yetta Rauch Melcer Dance; Sheryl J. Kopel, Psychology Faculty Senior; Patricia J. Caya, Nursing Faculty - Undergraduate; Rachel A. Proulx, Psychology Faculty Senior; Dorothy H. Wood, W. Christina Carlson and Theodore Lemeshka awards in biology; Jennifer M. Toupin, Mary Ann Hawkes in Justice Studies; Gerre Alderwick, Bachelor of Social Work Community Service; (2nd row from left) Heather Smith, Studio Art; Denise J. Morell, Health and Physical Education Faculty Senior; Melissa B. Arage, Josephine A. Stillings - Special Education; Ilda M. Pinto, Josephine A. Stillings - Special Education and Nelson A. Guertin Memorial Award-Spanish; Richard S. Weiss, Claiborne DeB. Pell - History; Daniel R. DiSantis, Bertha Christina Andrews Emin for Scholastic Excellence (RIC Foundation); Michelle L. Arnold, Bertha Christina Andrews Emin for Outstanding Achievement (RIC Foundation); Jeannie V. MacKenzie, Wall Street Journal - Economics and Management; (3rd row from left) Toni C. Leone, Leonelli Family Memorial (RIC Foundation); Julie A. Lima, Eleanor M. McMahon - College Honors Program; Joseph D. Coleman, Herbert R. Winter - Academic Excellence in Political Science; Tina L. Maranda, Christopher R. Mitchell - Mathematics and Computer Science; Cheryl D. Jones, American Institute of Chemists; Tianshu Zheng, Ronald J. Boruch - Physical Sciences; Emily F. Krueger, Tegu Polyglot - Modern Languages; Jennifer R. Verrill, Helen M. Murphy - Intercollegiate Athletics; (4th row from left) Jennifer L. Mudge, RIC Theatre; Mikhail Braude, Richard A. Howland Computer Science; Joseph Longo, Jean Garrigue - English; Denise A. Elliott, Nursing Faculty - Undergraduate Registered Nurse; Susan K. Reavey, Evelyn Walsh Prize - History; Rene S. Parker, John H. Chafee - Political Science; Julie A. Trahan, John Silva Memorial Scholastic - Economics and Management; (5th row from left) Malcolm G. MacDonald, John E. Hetherman - Intercollegiate Athletics; James P. Cawley Jr., James Houston - Geography; Michael J. Schrader, Philosophy Faculty; Lori Broomfield, Anthony E. Ricci Social Work Practice; Scott M. Battey, Nelson A. Guertin Memorial - French; Jeremy A. Hedge, Lauris B. Whitman - Sociology.



Clockwise from left: Laurie Scaramucci looks for a friend; an enthusiastic grad proceeds to Roberts Hall auditorium; Prof. Jason Blank delivers the final address; and Prof. Pamela Jackson (fourth from right) poses with social work department graduating seniors.



Planning for the big event

Wishes do come true for 74-year-old graduating senior

by George LaTour
What's News Associate Editor

"All my life I'd wished I had a college degree," explains Pawtucket's Dorothy Lowe Conlon.

After all, her sister, now Marjorie Lowe Nuttall of Florida, graduated from Rhode Island College (then called Rhode Island College of Education) in 1939.

And her oldest daughter, Kathleen Garlick Palmer, now of Long Beach, Calif., graduated from RIC in 1966.

Well, on Saturday, May 21, after having survived two husbands and raising five children (all of whom she put through college), this 74-year-old grandmother of six will have her wish come true when she receives her bachelor of arts in history from Rhode Island College at its annual spring commencement.

"Mother always wanted to go to college, but life kept interrupting," writes daughter Kathleen from California.

After having attended high school in the Great Depression and gotten married during World War II only to send off her new groom to fight in Patton's Army in Europe, she settled down after the war with him to raise their five children.

During that time, says Kathleen, "mother instilled the value of education in her children and sent us all off to college...some to URI, some to RIJC (the former Rhode Island Junior College) and myself to RIC."

"In the late 1960s war upset my mother's life again. She saw a son off to Vietnam. Fortunately, he returned safely and graduated from URI.

"After we had all left home, my youngest brother, William, graduated from URI in 1979. With the house empty, my mother began to care for her own mother, my grandmother, until she died at the age of 101.

"Finally, it was Dorothy's turn to go to college. She and her oldest grandchild were both freshmen at



DOROTHY LOWE CONLON

the same time. Elizabeth graduated from the University of Southern California in 1993.

"Grandma will graduate from RIC in 1994, but she did have a hip replaced in 1993," says Kathleen.

All my life

"All my life I moaned about not having a college degree," says Mrs. Conlon. Then, one day she thought, "Well, heck, DO something about it!"

So she enrolled in the Community College of Rhode Island (CCRI) at Lincoln in 1988 in liberal arts and began work toward an associate's

degree.

"I remember my first day back in class. I hadn't been to school in 50 years and I was nervous and thinking maybe I'd made a mistake," she relates.

She, somehow, got through that first day and while driving toward home on Prudence Island that evening saw a huge rainbow across the bay and took it as a sign that she was on the right path.

From then on it was just a matter of persevering...mostly.

"My first test — in psychology — I

cried for days thinking I would flunk it." And, again, she pondered the wisdom of her actions and considered trying to get her money back and withdrawing.

She didn't. She stuck it out, earning her associate's degree and transferring to RIC in January 1992 where she enjoyed what she called a "mature" approach to the students by the faculty.

She also enjoyed the company of her fellow students whom she credited with being "very accepting" of her and of displaying "a very nice attitude."

"Of course, everybody knows the old lady in the class," she says referring good-naturedly to herself. "The old lady stands out." It wasn't as easy for her to identify "all those young students" as it was for them to identify her.

"Some of them have to work and (they) have kids (while going to college). I admire them so much," says Mrs. Conlon, who had stopped by the Office of News and Publications the other day after class.

With her college days soon to be in the past, she was asked what she plans to do.

"I can't wait to be able to pick up a newspaper again or watch 'Jeopardy' on television without feeling guilty that I'm not studying," she says with a smile.

Other than that, she explains, she just hopes St. Peter has a special place in Heaven for those with college degrees "after all this work."

"We are so proud of my mother," writes Kathleen. "All five of her children, six grandchildren and three sisters plan to be at the graduation. My family and I are flying from Los Angeles for the big event."

High school writing contest winners named

Winners in the annual Rhode Island High School Writing Contest have been announced by Rhode Island College in May 4 ceremonies in Alumni Lounge at which novelist and RIC English department faculty member Ann Hood spoke.

Pens donated by the Quill Company of Cranston were awarded to each winner in the RIC English department-sponsored contest.

Winners, schools and categories are: Michelle Young, first, and Adam Bartlett, second, both of Exeter-West Greenwich, and Mary E. Lagh, third, of Cumberland, poetry, division I;

Amy Pennington, first, Burrillville; Brendan Elliott, second, and John Magyar, third, both Classical, poetry, division II;

Brett Choiniere, first, Exeter-West Greenwich; Chris Bissell, second, Toll Gate; Andrea Morin, third, Edward Martin Junior High, short fiction, division I;

Tiffany Rosenberg, first; Anne Ewens, second, and Alex Rose, third, all of the Wheeler School, short fiction, division II;

Sara Baumgartel, first, the Wheeler School; Peter Alfano, second, Mount Hope; Kerri Skurka, third, St. Mary-Bayview, essay, division I

Heather Ibach, first, North Providence; Alice Lee, second, Cranston West; Michelle Anderson, third, Rogers, essay, division II.

The Way He Works



THE WAY HE WORKS: Illustrator David Macaulay, whose exhibit was at RIC's Bannister Gallery in April, discusses his work with Henry Barnard School children at a lecture and book signing April 13.

The secret ingredients of good chess are in us all

by Cynthia DeMaio
What's News Student Writer

"Unless he is already doomed, fortune is apt to favor the man...who keeps his nerve." -Beowulf

Originally developed in Pakistan around 500 A.D., chess has gone up and down in popularity through the centuries and across the continents. In the Bobby Fischer years, it gained popularity in the U.S. and is on the comeback again due to computer chess. But what does it take to be a decent chess player? Intelligence, drive, or just plain luck? The answers may surprise you.

Rhode Island College was one of the first schools in the nation to offer chess scholarships, and it continues to do so today. As a result, it has attracted some very good talent including Sharon Burtman of Stoughton, Mass., (originally from Moscow), who was the first woman in history to be rated among the top 50 chess players in the U.S.

In 1991 the team included Alex Sherzer from Fallston, Md., who ranked as an international master on the world chess circuit.

The team's current star is Mikhail Braude of Miami Beach, Fla. (originally from the Ukraine), who is ranked 48th in the country. He is also the highest ranked untitled player in the U.S., according to Charles Roy, assistant professor of mathematics and computer science and Chess Club advisor.

So what does it take to be a good chess player? Braude says the key to greatness is "10 percent talent (combined with a stable nervous system) and 90 percent hard work. It's like everything else, if you spend six to seven hours per day studying chess, you will be good. You can have average intelligence and become a grand master just by working at it." (Braude said that between the ages of 10 and 18 he spent four hours a day learning chess.)

Chess players are rated in the following order by the French organization FIDE (the International Chess Federation): Expert, Master, Senior Master (Braude is at senior master level), International Master, and International Grand Master.

Steady nerves do come into play, adds Braude, a senior computer science major. "You have to be able to bounce back from defeat. You can't go crazy when something bad happens."

The game is "practiced" by studying books, not by playing chess, Braude continued. Josh Anderson, a history major, points out that there are thousands of books and several magazines that publish chess strategies for the opening, middle, and ending of games. For example, standard openings with names such as the "Sicilian Dragon" or "The Dutch" are routinely studied and used by players.

Steady nerves may actually play a larger role in chess than Braude lets on, said Jim Della Selva, an English literature major and Chess club president. Della Selva said many intelligent people don't play chess well because when they are defeated, their ego takes a beating. "I've heard it said that there may be professors on campus who like



RIC CHESS CLUB: (standing from left) Vladimir Mercedes, advisor Charles Roy, David Sylvestre (seated from left) Mikhail Braude and Josh Anderson.

chess. But they don't come in and play because they hate the idea that they may be beaten by a student."

"The old expression in chess is 'When you win, you show what you know,'" Anderson said. He added that when you lose, you have a chance to learn from your mistakes.

"I think I learn more from the games I lose than those I win," Della Selva said. "If you get beat, you can go back and study the game. You can ask yourself 'Why was I defeated?' It's the sort of game that is very exact. There is a reason why

you lost. There is no mystery about it."

Part of the beauty of chess is that the strategy of the grand masters is available to everyone, Della Selva added. "When the masters play, their games are recorded move by move. Anybody can look up the games," he noted.

While he learns by studying, Della Selva says he also gains experience when taking on a superior player. "You can learn from another person who has studied (more than you have). Eventually, he has to

reveal his strategy. You may lose to him several times, but you will still learn."

Dedication is the key to a winning game, said Vladimir Mercedes, originally from the Dominican Republic and an industrial technology major at RIC. "You have to be dedicated to the game, spend time at it. You have to study it, like any other career or sport. That is, unless you are gifted. And even the gifted have to study."

Mercedes believes that while hard work will help a chess player go far, no one can achieve grand master status without creativity. "Creativity is important. Players at the grand master level come up with things that are not in books. This sets them apart," Mercedes said.

To help their creative, hard-working future chess champions get a head start, the Russians include chess class as part of their basic school curriculum. So does the Dominican Republic, Mercedes said.

Traditionally a male-dominated game, chess now has its women champions as well, Della Selva said. Judit Polgar of Hungary is rated among the top 20 players in the world. At age 9 she was considered a better player than Bobby Fischer at the same age. RIC's Sharon Burtman played internationally as well, representing United States in the 1990 Women's World Chess Championship held in the former Soviet Republic of Georgia.

The name chess comes from the Persian word "shah" which means king. (Checkmate comes from the Persian expression "shah mat" which means "the king is dead.") The Arabs learned the game when they conquered Persia in the 600s and spread it to Spain, Sicily and Constantinople.

The golden age of chess began in the 1800s when it became very popular. International contests were held regularly, top-notch masters became recognized, and thousands of chess clubs sprang up all over the world. Chess is played every Wednesday at RIC during the free period (12:30 - 1:30 p.m.) in Gaige Hall, Room 203. All are welcome.

As American chess authority Fred Reinfeld once said, "To enjoy chess, you don't have to be a great master; you only have to be a little better than your opponents."



WHO'S WHO RECEPTION: RIC students named to 'Who's Who Among American Universities and Colleges' this year gather for a reception at the President's House April 6. (List of names appeared in the April issue of What's News)

For this RIC grad 'it's just a matter of valuing every moment of your life'

by George LaTour
What's News Associate Editor

A Rhode Island College graduate has "intertwined" her love of dance and interest in the various cultures of the world and come up with the College's James Houston Award this May as the outstanding student in anthropology.

Cranston's Shellie A. Carr, who had actually earned her diploma last August, graduated magna cum laude in anthropology with minor studies in philosophy and dance.

She's already landed a professional job in dance, currently working with the Everett Dance Theater as administrative director. As such she handles the dance troupe's bookings and writes grant proposals for the group's funding.

She's always been "intrigued by dance" as performed in various parts of the world, and found as a student she could "learn about other cultures through dance."

While her dance interest may have initially been classical ballet, through the years she has developed an appreciation for African and African-American dance, including tap and hip hop (originally urban street dancing), modern and even the Brazilian "capoeira" or combination martial arts and dance.

While at RIC, she performed with the College's dance company for all

four of her undergraduate years, and was part of the group that went to New York City a couple of years ago to perform in the Big Apple with the Marta Renzi ensemble.

In that "gig," as she calls it, she and her fellow RIC dancers performed at the Central Park Summer Stage, the Lincoln Center Out-of-Doors concert and at Coney Island and experienced the thrill of her young life.

When she returned to finish her classes at RIC, she garnered yet another honor, the Yetta Rauch Melcer Dance Award as an outstanding dancer with the RIC Dance Company.

"I feel so lucky," she says of her experiences and her resultant job opportunities, not all of which relate to dance or anthropology.

But, she assures, she's up for the challenge and all the experience working with people she can get.

A second job she holds now, albeit part-time, is at a local nursing home. It didn't take her too long to see a role for dance there to help brighten up the lives of the seniors within and she is trying to work something out now along those lines.

Anthropology/geography department chairman George M. Epple points with pride to Ms. Carr's involvement as a student with "extensive volunteer work" as a tutor for Literacy Volunteers in America and Volunteers in Providence Schools, as well as her work as "a leading force" in the revitalization of the student anthropology club, ANTHROPOS.

Additionally, he points out, she has been active in various research projects in her major field of study



SHELLIE CARR DANCING in New York City with other Rhode Island College dancers performing 'If the Shoe Fits.' Ms. Carr is at left.



(anthropology).

"We marvel at Shellie's ability to create a meaningful synthesis of her varied interests," writes Professor Epple, who will join her at the College's annual Cap 'n Gown Day breakfast on May 4, and then watch from the stage as Ms. Carr's name is called and her award presented to her in the formal Cap 'n Gown Day Convocation in Roberts Hall auditorium.

rium.

Of course, sitting in the audience will be Shellie's mom, Mrs. Naomi Carr, and her brother, David Carr, who also is a student at RIC. Shellie's dad, Raymond, died as a young man a couple years ago after a long illness, leaving his daughter with the belief that happiness is "just a matter of valuing every moment of your life."

Student athletes honored at awards ceremony April 29

by Ed Vaillancourt
Sports Information Director

The following Rhode Island College athletes were honored at the 1993-1994 Rhode Island College Honors Banquet on Friday, April 29:

Special Performance Awards were awarded to: Sue Paul ECAC floor exercise champion - watch award; Lonnie Morris - HWT New England champion - watch award; William Cotter - 134 lb. New England champion - watch award; William Cotter - 134 lb.

NCAA champion - credit card calculator & pen set.

1993-1994 Senior Plaque Award winners were: Melissa L. Andrescavage, basketball; Derek T. Barden, tennis; Lisa M. Beagan, cheerleading; Chris D. Brown, basketball; Wendy

Castillo, cheerleading; Jerry D. Coro, baseball; William C. Cotter, wrestling; Denise Courtemanche, volleyball; Kyle J. Dionne, tennis.

Also, Chris M. Fera, tennis; Kevin M. Fera, tennis; Jose Gonsalves Jr., track & field; Climaco F. Guzman, soccer; Tanya J. Haugen, softball; Hiliary R. Johnson, track & field; Jay M. Jones, baseball; Kevin M. Lanni, baseball; Kristen B. Lewis, basketball; Patricia M. Lewis, softball.

Also, Malcolm G. MacDonald, soccer; Todd G. Mancini, baseball; Chris M. Maragulia, baseball; Jamie K. Marden, wrestling; Robert J. McAdam, cross country/cheerleading/track; Debra A. McGovern, basketball; John D. McLaughlin, wrestling.

Also, Lonnie D. Morris, wrestling; Audrey A. Narodowy, volleyball; Terri M. Penha, gymnastics; Guillermo A. Perez, basketball; Reginald T. Pitts, basketball; Lisa E. Plummer, cross country/track & field.

And, David R. Proulx, basketball; Kevin F. Ratte, tennis; Frank A. Ribezzo, baseball; Rachel R. St. Jean, softball; Jennifer R. Verrill, gymnastic.

The Helen M. Murphy Award went to Jennifer R. Verrill and the John E. Hetherman Award went to Malcolm G. MacDonald of Riverside.



STUDENT ATHLETES DISPLAY THEIR CERTIFICATES OF RECOGNITION

'Wonderful...playful...' student murals expected to lift the spirits of Family Service clients

by Cynthia L. Sousa
What's News Writer

Geraldine Crooks, the receptionist at Family Service, Inc., and all of the 100 or so employees there have had their days brightened recently. Six colorful murals created by Rhode Island College art students in adjunct professor Paula Most's class have found a home on the walls of the non-profit social service agency in Providence.

Crooks is ecstatic about the murals. "They make my day a pleasure," she says.

The brightly colored murals depict scenes from aquatic life to a city skyline and certainly could improve anyone's day!

Working with Carolyn Benedict-Drew, executive director of Family Service, Most arranged to donate these artistic murals to the agency "where they could be enjoyed by the children and families who visit Family Service for counseling, support and educational services."

Most says the idea of RIC reaching out into the community by donating the artwork is beneficial for all involved. "Carolyn and all of the people at Family Service were very receptive," she says. "And the students' work gets to be seen and enjoyed by many, many people."

Benedict-Drew called the murals "wonderful...playful... and so colorful." She says she hopes they lift the spirits of the clients of Family Service, especially the children.

This is the second group of murals to be donated to the Providence community. In 1992 five murals were donated to the pediatric department of Rhode Island Hospital. These murals have now been moved to the new Hasbro Children's Hospital.

The murals, each 36" x 36," were created by students in a Methods and Materials class last semester. The class was divided into five groups. Each group decided on a specific theme for their mural and



MOUNTED MURALS: RIC adjunct art professor Paula Most (l) and Carolyn Benedict Drew, executive director of Family Service, Inc., in front of two of the murals Most's class donated to the social service agency. (What's News Photo by Gordon E. Rowley)

then produced it using printmaking methods by using styrofoam, sponges, string, vegetables, cardboard and rollers.

According to Most, John M. Maxson, a senior elementary education major from Bradford, R.I. can be credited with the idea of donating these murals to a social service agency. Maxson says he enjoyed the class and thought the murals should be seen and enjoyed by others.

Being an education major, Maxson's concern is for children. "I hope the murals brighten their days."

"A Day in the City" was created by Kristen Brasso, Susan Demehy, Cheryl Dynsza, Christine Green and Monique Benoit.

"Alladin" was produced by Leonor Oliveira, Terrie Marcell, Karen Kuhn, Jamie Plante and Mary-Ann Puchalski.

Joy Restelli, Vivian Shaull, Melissa Jerrett, Michelle Bourassa and John M. Maxson created "City with Sea."

"Balloons" was made by Keven O'Neil, Monika Blakely, Jill Sacchetti and Mark Sylvestre.

"Underwater" and "Snow Scene"

were created by Lori Caruolo, Christine Gamelin, Evelyn Gendreau, Karen Schab, Kimberly Trazi and Sonya Yaziojian.

Most has been teaching the Methods and Materials class to prospective elementary school teachers for four years.

This semester she is teaching an Intro to Art Ed class to students who plan to become art teachers.

She says she is planning a similar mural project with this class and will probably donate the pieces to another social service agency.

"It's nice to help," she says.

Distinguished faculty give lectures

VIVIAN MORGAN, the 1993-94 Maixner Distinguished Teaching Award winner in the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, lectures on 'A Call to Change in Teaching' before colleagues April 7 in Fogarty Life Science Building.



NANCY GEWIRTZ, the 1993-94 Thorp Professor for the combined Schools of Education/ Human Development and Social Work, presents the annual Thorp Lecture on 'Welfare: Who and What Needs Reforming?' before colleagues April 21 in Fogarty Life Science 050.



1994-95 Faculty Research Award Recipients

The following is an alphabetically arranged list, by primary author, of the 1994-95 Faculty Research Award recipients, accompanied by the titles of their research:

Edythe L. P. Anthony, Comparative Studies on the Microanatomy of Pituitary Portal Vessels in Mammals; Yael J. Avissar, Regulation of 5-aminolevulinic Acid (ALA) Formation in *Escherichia coli*; Pamela J. Benson, Florence's Self-image: The Maiden Gualdrada in History, Art and Literature; Peter B. Brown, Paying the Members of the 17th-century Russian Elite.

Also, Lawrence Budner, Wonder of the World: The Brown and Sharpe Company and the Rhode Island Industrial Experience; Mary L. Burke, An Investigation of the Potential for Chronic Sorrow in Parents Who Have Experienced the Death of a Child; Roger Clark, Testing a General Theory of Gender Stratification with Cross-national Data; Laura F. Cooley, Studies of Photosensitizers; Donald H. Cousins, Preliminary Work Leading to Writing of a Textbook in Psychology.

And, Stanford E. Demars, The Religious Camp Meeting Summer Resort in America; Rachel Filinson, An Examination of the Impact of Programming to Maintain Ethnic Ties

of Nursing Home Residents; Douglas G. Furton, Chemical and Radioactive Processing of Amorphous Carbon Thin Films; Beverly A. Goldfield, Language and Categorization; David L. Greene, Microwave Acceleration of Inorganic Syntheses; Margaret Hainsworth, An Investigation of the Potential for Chronic Sorrow in Individuals Who Have Experienced the Death of a Spouse.

Also, Terence E. Hays, Paul Wirz's Pioneering Anthropological Research in New Guinea; Elizabeth U. Henshaw, A Study of Rhode Island College Student Teachers' Perceptions and Practices of Multicultural Education; Krisjohn O. Horvat, Continuing Series of Wall Hung, Cantilevered Sculptures; Frances J. Leazes, Jr., The Public Accountability of Human Services Nonprofit Organizations; Jianhong Liu, Legal Punishment and Recidivism in the People's Republic of China; Thomas E. Malloy and David B. Sugarman, Creation of the Rhode Island College Developmental Interpersonal Perception Data Archive.

Also, Judith E. Maloney, Simulating Realities (St. Louis 1904 Midway); Charles Marzocco, Exciting Charge Transfer Reactions; Meradith T. McMunn, New Manuscript Sources for Programs of Illustration in the *Roman*

de la Rose; Elaine S. Magyar and James G. Magyar, Reactivity of Arylcyclopropanes in Ground and Excited States; Thomas Meedel, Development of Gene Expression Knockout System for Ascidian Embryos; Carolyn P. Panofsky, Reading to Children: Developing a Culture of Literacy Considered in Social-historical Context.

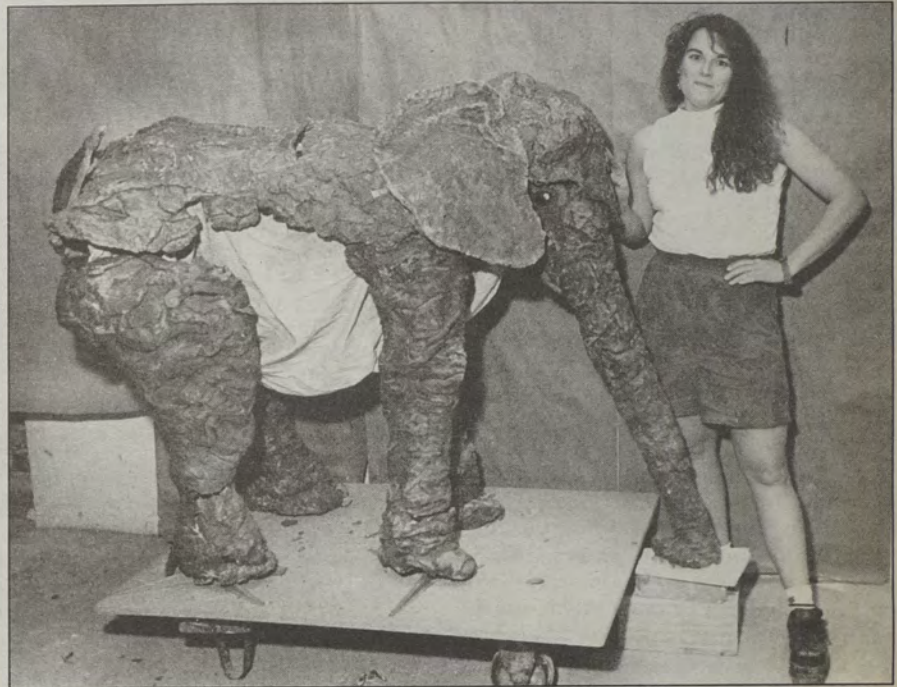
Also, Constance Pratt and Linda Cathers, Maternal-fetal Attachment in High Risk Pregnancy; Jeannine E. Olson, Friends of John Calvin; Elizabeth H. Rowell, A Content Analysis of Images of Literacy in Notable American Children's Books and the Use of These Visuals as Models of Enhance Emergent Literacy; Marita Sheridan, Genetic Structure of, and Genetic Distance Between, Geographically Isolated *Microtus* Populations.

And, Amritjit Singh, "Iron in the Soul": The Shaping of Religious Identities and Nationalist Ideologies in Indian Literary Culture; Ellsworth A. Starring, Avian Research in Eight Divergent Environments in Barrington, RI; Duncan A. White, The Continuation of Research on the Loss of Peripheral Vision with Aging and Recovery of Function with Practice.

Graduate works on display at Bannister Gallery May 5-14



'BABE' AND ME (below): Master's degree recipient Judy Pearson of Pawtucket poses with her life-size baby African elephant sculpture which she calls 'Babe.' The sculpture along with other works including the silver Metamorphic Hinged Neck Piece (at right) by Dianne Reilly, will be on exhibit in the Rhode Island College Graduate Show May 5-14 in Bannister Gallery. The exhibit is free and open to the public. For more information, call Dennis O'Malley, gallery director, at 456-9765.



Shinn winners announced

For the fourth year students selected for the Ridgway F. Shinn, Jr. Study Abroad Fund were announced at the spring theatre performance of *Gypsy*.

They follow:



KIM SHEPARD of Attleboro, a major in English and secondary education. Amount of her award is \$500. Her destination: England.



REBECCA WEBSTER of Warwick, an English and secondary education major. Amount of her award is \$1,500. Her destination: England.



BILLY RAY of Providence. Amount of his award is \$1,500. His destination: England.

For information about donations to the Fund, call the RIC Foundation at 456-8105.



STUDIO CONVERTED from school gym is part of the home of adjunct art RIC faculty member Wendy Seller of Newtonville, Mass. The seven-year-do-it-yourself project was the focus of a two-page pictorial article in the April 7 Home section of the *New York Times*. Seller says the *Times* had contacted her to do an article on her 'kids rooms' she constructed while an artist-in-residence in Massachusetts schools, but when they learned of this project and saw the documentation of before-and-after photos, they changed their minds and devoted the front page of the Home section and a second page as well with nine photos and diagram in addition to the text which was headed 'A Drill and a Dream Make a Gym a Home.'

LA Times recruits RIC grad to rate the stars



Meisner before embarking on a teaching career 30 years ago, and Larry Moss, who taught for 17 years, first at Juilliard and then at New York's Circle in the Square, critiqued each of the nominees' performances in movies they had screened.

About Tom Hanks (*Philadelphia*), nominated for and subsequent winner of best actor award, Fine wrote: "This isn't the tour de force Hanks is capable of, because the script doesn't permit it."

Nevertheless, says Fine, Hanks "did a wonderful job with what he was given. He creates an immediate likability and empathy and evidences a real vulnerability without falling into the trap of playing stereotypically gay."

This observation as well as others by Fine and his coach-colleagues was written up March 20 (just before the Oscar presentations) in the *Times* "Special Preview in Honor of the Sixty-Sixth Academy Awards."

Fine was written up by *What's News* in January 1993 in a feature article headed "Just Act Naturally."

G.L.

Rhode Island College alumnus Howard Fine, Class of 1981, a Hollywood acting coach since 1985 and boss of his own Beverly Hills studio, was recently asked by the *Los Angeles Times* to rate the actors and actresses up for this year's Oscars.

Fine and fellow coaches Janet Alhanti, who studied with Sanford

Senior art grads exhibit works

A juried exhibition of art works by Rhode Island College graduating senior art majors will be at Bannister Gallery from May 19-28.

The exhibit will feature art works from all department concentrations, including ceramics, design, fibers, metals, painting, photography, printmaking and sculpture.

An opening reception will take place May 19 from 7-9 p.m. Regular gallery hours are Tuesday through Saturday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6 to 9.



MUSIC SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS announced recently include Laurie Marcotte (seated) of Blackstone, Mass., \$500 Rita V. Bicho Memorial Scholarship; Gabriel Alfieri of Providence, \$250 Louis Appleton Memorial Scholarship; Joel McCoy of Exeter, \$450 Katherine Bryer Kruger Award; and Melissa Carter of Pawtucket, \$500 Bicho Scholarship. Not pictured are Wendy Rios of Warwick, \$500 Bicho Scholarship, and Paul Barrette, now teaching music in nearby Massachusetts, \$100 for the first Alice K. Pellegrino Music Education Award. (What's News Photo by Gordon E. Rowley)

*Congratulations
to the Class of 1994
from the staff of the
Office of News and Publications!*

Quintette Pro Arte of Monte-Carlo to perform at RIC May 14

Quintette Pro Arte of Monte-Carlo, a touring chamber quintet from the Principality of Monaco comprised of four strings and piano, will perform in concert Saturday, May 14, at 7:30 p.m. in Gage Hall auditorium at Rhode Island College.

The program will include Schumann's "Piano Quintet, Opus 44" and Shostakovich's "Piano Quintet, Opus 57." A reception follows in Gage Hall lobby.

RIC was chosen as the site of the Quintette Pro Arte's concert in this area, says music department chairman Robert W. Elam, in light of its growing reputation as a cultural center and site of other outstanding chamber music recitals such as this season's Complete Beethoven Cycle by The Muir String Quartet.

The concert at RIC is part of a four-concert program by the Quintette Pro Arte of Monte-Carlo this spring in the United States and Canada. Aside from RIC, it performed two concerts in Washington, D.C. and one in Montreal.



QUINETTE PRO ARTE OF MONTE CARLO

The quintet appears through the honorary patronage of the consul of Monaco in New

England, Dr. Helene R. Day, and RIC.

Founded more than 25 years

ago as an off-shoot of the Philharmonic Orchestra of Monte-Carlo, the quintet musicians maintain their membership in the orchestra, whose roots go back to the reign of the first prince of Monaco in the 17th century. The quintet goes on tour during the orchestra off-season.

Its first performance in the United States came in 1976 when America was celebrating its bicentennial. At that time and in that context, organizers of the First International Festival of Chamber Music requested that a musical group represent the Principality of Monaco. Princess Grace, the former U.S. movie star Grace Kelly, consented and sent the quintet. It returned again in 1979 to perform in the Boston area.

Members of the Quintette Pro Arte are Fernande Laurent-Biancheri, piano; Bojidar Bratoev and Daniel Lagarde, violin; Jean-Pierre, viola, and Shigeki Sakuraba, cello.

The concert is open to the public. Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased at the door.



HONORS PROGRAM GRADUATES at reception at the President's House are (l to r) Emily Krueger, Nadine Skorohod, Jennifer Verrill, Julie Lima, Nicole Blanchard, Deborah Zawadzki, Carrie Brunelle, Rachael Proulx, Lori Nicholas, Joann LaPere and Alissa Schaeffer. President John Nazarian is at far right; Spencer Hall, program director, is at rear.

RIC faculty vote to proceed to change general education program to meet student needs in a "global society" and reduce expenditures

by Clare Eckert
What's News Editor

In keeping with the changing global context for education and the rapid growth of knowledge, Rhode Island College faculty and academic affairs experts have begun the process of reviewing and deliberating on the structure of the College's undergraduate general education program.

At a special April 29 meeting of the Curriculum Committee, members voted to amend and approve changes in the general education requirements brought forward to them by the College's Committee on General Education (COGE). The COGE recommendations were determined after hearing from the College community at three open and public forums.

Changes to the general education requirements were initially considered by the COGE to address student learning and fiscal constraints. The "increasingly diverse and pluralistic nature of American society and how students integrate what they learn,"

along with a realistic outlook on the 1994-95 fiscal constraints in an attempt to reduce expenditures, are the driving forces in the process.

The immediate change in the general education program, as voted by the Curriculum Committee, means changes in the number of course requirements for some RIC students. In addition, the change means a decrease in the number of part-time faculty beginning in the fall semester.

Less than 25 percent of sections taught by part-time faculty in the general education program have been placed on hold so far, according to Vice President for Academic Affairs John J. Salesses. Students registering for fall classes who experience problems because of the change, or in fulfilling requirements for majors are told to speak to their advisor, or visit the Office of Academic Support and Student Services in Craig-Lee.

"We are confident that the change will benefit the students' overall academic program because more students taking general education courses will be instructed by full-time, regular faculty," Salesses said.

During the summer, the College will determine which sections of courses - if any - will be re-opened.

The faculty will continue to study and discuss the structure of the general education program for implementation in the fall of 1995.

The following is an outline of the new changes:

I. Students who entered prior to the fall of 1992, following the 12-course Gen. Ed. program, (four Core plus eight distribution courses) may choose to omit one (1) course from the following: A) one of the four courses required in the Core (Eng 101, Eng. 102, His 110, His 111) may be omitted; B) either category one (1) or category two (2) may be omitted, C) category six (6) may be omitted.

II. Students who entered on or after the fall of 1992*, following the 13-course Gen. Ed. program (four Core, 8 (or more) distribution courses, and the Capstone) may choose to omit two (2) courses from the following: A) one (1) course of the five (5) courses required in the Core (Eng. 101, Eng. 102, His 110, His 111) and the Western World Category (any WW course) may be omitted; B) one (1) course of the two

(2) courses required in the Social and Behavioral sciences category (SB) may be omitted, C) the Science/Mathematics (SM) distribution requirements may be omitted.

(*Transfer students who entered CCRI or URI prior to the fall of 1992 are an exception; upon enrolling at RIC, they follow the 12-course General Education program and may omit one (1) course as described in 1A, 1B, or 1C above.)

These changes do not affect the need to earn 120 minimum credits to graduate or the requirement for students to complete the writing and mathematics competency requirement; or, to complete the number of courses required in any curriculum or major.

Vice President Salesses encourages student to contact their advisor, department chairperson, the dean's office or the Office of Academic Support and Information Services at 456-8183, for assistance.

In a league of their own!



PUT 'ER THERE: RIC and Harvard women's softball team captains and Harvard coach join hands in friendship prior to their April 7 game at RIC, which marked the first time the two teams (from different divisions) had met. They are (from left) Tanya Haugan, Patricia Lewis, Rachel St. Jean, head coach Barry Haskell and Nancy Johnson. (What's News Photo by Gordon E. Rowley)

ATTENTION!

SENIOR WEEK 1994 IS APPROACHING

MONDAY, MAY 16	MIEVIAL MANOR MUST BE 21 CHECK IN AT S.U. 5:15 TRANSPORTATION PROVIDED \$20.00
TUESDAY, MAY 17	BAY QUEEN CRUISE MUST BE 21 CHECK IN AT S.U. 5:15 TRANSPORTATION PROVIDED \$25.00
WEDNESDAY, MAY 18	SENIOR SEMI-FORMAL AT THE BILTMORE 6:30 - 7:30 HORS D'OEUVRES 7:30 DINNER - SWORDFISH OR PRIME RIB \$20.00
THURSDAY, MAY 19	LIVE BANDS AT THE LIVING ROOM MUST BE 21 BANDS - "SUPERBUG", "THE VERGE", "THE JULEPS" \$5.00
FRIDAY, MAY 20	SENIOR & PARENT CHAMPAGNE TOAST AND BRUNCH, SENIOR SLIDE SHOW DONOVAN DINING CENTER 10:00AM 12:00-12:30 SLIDE SHOW \$8.00

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