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What's News At Rhode Island College

Rhode Island College

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Student Union, Alger Hall slated for renovations

College amidst extensive renovation program

by Shelly Murphy
What's News Editor

As anyone who has been to Rhode Island College this fall can attest, the face of the campus is changing significantly. The most obvious change is the completed Nazarian Center for the Performing Arts, which has certainly enhanced the view from College Road with its distinctive tower and roofline visible through the trees.

The view looking from the Nazarian Center toward the Forman Center has improved considerbly as well, as the College has taken steps to remove, literally, the division between the former DCEP buildings and their remainder of the campus. Last spring a tall fence between the buildings and parking lot B was removed and in the summer, the old Department of Administration carpentry shop and motor building were demolished.

"This has opened the vista to that part of campus," noted Lenore DeLucia, vice president for administration and finance, who oversees capital projects. The removal of these visual barriers has also moved the College along the path of implementing the Campus Master Plan, created by Goody, Clancy and Associates architects. "Most of the ongoing capital budget projects link directly to the master plan which was completed last year," she said.

Currently, about 75 temporary parking spaces have been created in the space freed up by the demolition, but eventually it will become part of the

See Renovations, page 8

Voters approve
bond issue

On Election Day 2000, voters of Rhode Island voiced their strong support of public higher education, approving Referendum #4, authorizing the issuance of $36.9 million in general obligation bonds to finance much-needed residence hall improvements at Rhode Island College and the University of Rhode Island, and to create a new Community College of Rhode Island campus in Newport County.

"This should be considered a resounding indication of the value that Rhode Islanders place on public higher education and a vote of confidence for Rhode Island College, the Community College of Rhode Island and the University of Rhode Island," said College President John Nazarian. "I would like to extend my deep appreciation to all who were involved in the campaign to approve Referendum #4. Because of your hard work on behalf of the College, together with the strong efforts of many other friends of public higher education throughout the state, the voters of Rhode Island expressed their support for this referendum by a margin of greater than two-to-one."

For RIC, approval of the bond issue clears the way for its first extensive renovations to the College's four oldest residence halls — Thorp Hall, Weber Hall, Browne Hall, and Willard Hall.
Focus on Faculty and Staff

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

Joan I. Glazer, professor of education, presented a paper, entitled “Prejudice, the Toddler, and Books: Fostering Tolerance in the Very Young” at the 27th World Congress of the International Board of Books for Young People in Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, in September. IBBY is an international organization of 64 countries whose mission is to promote international understanding through children’s books.

In addition, Glazer was elected to a second term on the Executive Committee of the board, and was appointed to continue as president of Bookbird, Inc., the board that oversees the publication of the organization’s journal, Bookbird, A Journal of International Children’s Literature.

Thomas E. Malloy, professor of psychology, was an invited speaker at the New England Social Psychological Association meeting held in September and hosted by the University of Connecticut. Malloy’s paper, co-authored with Linda Albright (USA), David Kenny (USA), Rolando Diaz-Loving (Mexico) and Dong Qi (China), focused on context dependent interpersonal perception in East-Asian and Western cultures. In addition to the substantive findings, Malloy discussed a new research design and mathematical model developed for the estimation of consistency in perceptions of a person across non-overlapping social groups. This research was supported by a Rhode Island College faculty research grant. In October, Malloy presented his work with Scott Miller (RIC graduate student), Stephen Peters (Columbia University), and Penelope Kinsley (Lincoln University) on interpersonal perception in status discrepant dyads at the annual meeting of the Society of Experimental Social Psychology in Atlanta. This work was funded partially by an award to Scott Miller by the Dean of Arts and Sciences.

The Way We Were...

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

DANCE-DANCE-DANCE: As the College is about to dedicate the new Fannie Helen Melcer Dance Studio, it seems appropriate that we look at an old photo of the beginnings of dance at Rhode Island College. We have been unable to date the above photo from our files. But it appears to be the modern dance club performing perhaps in the late 1950s or 1960s. The setting looks like a television studio, perhaps the TV studio in Adams Library. If anyone can give us more information, we would be happy to publish it in a coming edition of What's News.

Nancy Cloud aids Utah’s ESL teachers

Nancy Cloud, assistant professor of special education at Rhode Island College, has been tapped for her expertise in bilingual education/special education by Brigham Young University (BYU) through its Bilingual/ESL Endorsement through Distance Learning (BEEDE) program.

Because of the growing diversity in the mainstream classroom and the state of Utah’s dramatic increase in enrollment of English-as-a-Second Language students, it has been hard pressed to acquire teachers with the proper expertise in these fields. BYU has joined in partnership with five Utah school districts serving one third of the state’s students, and has reached out to experts to help train their teachers.

Cloud is one of a number of experts from around the country who were interviewed and videotaped at RIC by Brigham Young University as a means of instructing Utah’s teachers via the teacher-development BEEDE program.

The program uses what it calls a “Professors Plus” delivery system, which includes carefully crafted video segments and an instructional guide to enhance learning. These video segments create, in essence, a visual textbook via the input of various university professors and researchers.

Cloud’s input was on ESL learners with special learning needs and dual language enrichment education programs. “The instructional guide supports active learning, encourages thoughtful, analytical reflection and, above all, models appropriate strategies teachers can use with language minority students,” says a BYU publication.

Use of videos to share information “shows the integration of technology and how it can be used for education in remote places,” observed Cloud.

The next issue of What’s News will be Monday, Dec. 4. DEADLINE for submission of copy, photos, etc. is Friday, Nov. 24 at noon.

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

Nancy Cloud

Happy Thanksgiving

The Staff of News and Public Relations wishes its readers a safe and happy holiday.

What’s News at Rhode Island College

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A 'Priceless’ collection of Native American artifacts donated to RIC

by George LaTour
What's News Associate Editor

A documented and published collection of every excavation in Rhode Island undertaken by the Narragansett Archaeological Society for more than the past 50 years has been donated to the anthropology/geography department at Rhode Island College.

"In terms of Rhode Island heritage, it is truly a priceless collection — because of its documentation," says Carol Barnes, associate professor of anthropology and custodian of collections.

The materials include pottery and pottery shards, arrow heads, an ornamental stone called a gorget which might have been used as a ceremonial headdress, plummetts (weights) which may have been used in fishing, and simulated farming tools and tomahawks, re-created from early drawings by society member William Fowler, the scientific director of the Society for many years.

Some of the artifacts date back to 2,500 B.C.

The collection also includes log books of excavations and other published documents about the excavation sites and artifacts discovered, the log book dating back to the 1930s and 40s.

"Most of the sites represented in the collection are now destroyed," says Barnes, "so materials in the collection represent the only possibility of gaining additional knowledge of these important sites by the application of new analytic technologies."

The donation was made by Morris Mitchell, now of Cherry Hill Manor in Johnston. Originally from Missouri, he moved to Rhode Island after World War II and met the woman he would later marry Olga Mitchell, now deceased, and he had two children, both currently living out of state.

Asked in a telephone interview why he didn’t sell the collection, Mitchell replied, "We’d never sell it. We don’t sell artifacts.”

Mitchell said he had donated a similar collection of artifacts from Missouri to the University of Missouri.

Barnes says of the items donated to RIC, "The full importance and scientific value of this collection cannot be adequately stated in monetary terms, because the collection is unique and irreplaceable.”

She says that Mitchell was the Society's custodian and kept the materials in his home in Providence near RIC until moving to the Cherry Hill Manor.

Barnes says Mitchell himself had dug up some of the artifacts. Others were given to his care over the years by Society members.

Perhaps 20 archaeological sites are represented in the collection. These include sites at Flat River, Potter Pond, Abbott Rd, Greenpoint, Jones Pond and Apponaug.

"The tremendous historic and scientific value of this gift cannot be overstressed,” Barnes wrote to Mitchell. "It will be a lasting resource for the students of Rhode Island College, the archaeological community, and the people of Rhode Island for the future.

"We thank you for preserving these materials and for entrusting them to our care.”

Flu vaccine clinic cancelled

The flu vaccine clinic scheduled for Wednesday, Nov. 29, at RIC has been cancelled due to a national vaccine shortage. Plans to reschedule this clinic are being made. Watch What's News for details.

Alum to give lecture

Mitch Malachowski '77, professor of chemistry at the University of San Diego will speak on “The Place of Research in an Undergraduate Program” Thursday, Dec. 7 from 4:30 to 6 p.m. in the Forman Center Classroom C.

Malachowski received a doctorate in organic chemistry from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1983. After teaching at Gettysburg College for one year, he joined the faculty at USD in 1984. He serves as associate dean of arts and sciences there from 1989 until 1994. During 1992 he was a visiting professor at Leiden University in the Netherlands.

He maintains an active research program involving the preparation of models for metalloproteins. During the past ten years, he has worked with 60 research students and has published 33 papers, many of them with under-graduate co-authors.

He has received several awards, including one for the administrato- r of the year at USD. He was the 1999 recipient of the Davies Award for Distinguished Career Achievement from Rhode Island College.

Sponsored by the College Lectures Committee and the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, the lecture is free and open to the public. For more information, call Prof. Spencer Hall at 401-456-8671 or Prof. Mark Motte at 401-456-8378.

RIC After Five reception

The RIC Alumni Association’s Young Alumni Group is sponsoring a networking reception on Tuesday, Nov. 28, from 5:30 -7:30 p.m. at the & Ie restaurant in the Providence Place.

This event will feature L.A. Girard, ’98, author of P.O.W. Prisoners of Work, who will speak about the “Unwritten Rules of the Workplace.”

Refreshments will be served and all alumni will receive a gift. Reception is $5 for those that pre-register before Nov. 28 and $7 at the door. All alumni, friends, faculty and staff of RIC are welcome to attend. Parking will be validated.

To register, contact Shana Murrell, 401-456-9625 or via email at smurrell@ric.edu.

Honors reception

Members of the Honors Program, along with Spencer Hall, director of the program, and professor of English, gather in the Faculty Center for their annual reception.

Inset: Justin Routhier, a freshman and recipient of this year’s Nazarian Scholarship.

(What's News Photos by Gordon E. Rowley)
Congratulations to our alumni who ran for office and were successful on Election Day 2000. Congressman-elect Jim Langevin ’90 is our first alumnus to be elected to a national political office. We are proud of all of you and wish you all the best of luck!

RIC alumni make strong showing on Election Day

• District 57: Gary Hogan ’82
• District 42: Stephen J. Anderson ’72
• District 22: Beatrice Lanzi ’89
• District 15: Mary Ann Carroll ’76
• District 12: Steven F. Smith ’79
• District 11: Bambilyn Cambio ’99
• District 5: Gordon Fox ’85

• School Committee: Michael R. Northup ’80
• School Committee: Ann E. Masterson ’63
• School Committee: Robert L. Houghtaling ’78

The State Employees Charitable Appeal (SECA) is about to be launched for the year, providing an opportunity for state employees to support their favorite charitable organizations by designating an outright gift or one that is made through payroll deduction.

“We invite you to select the Rhode Island College Foundation — #4984 — as your ‘charity of choice,’” said Marguerite M. Brown, vice president of development. “Your gift may be directed to the Foundation as unrestricted, to the Annual Fund, or to any one of the endowed, department, athletic, performing arts, or other funds administered by the Foundation,” she said.

The RIC Foundation is listed under the category “Local Unfederated or Unaffiliated Agencies.” To make your designation to the Foundation, write #4984 in the space provided at the right of the Designation Form under Donor Choice-Specific Agencies.

Donate to RIC through SECA

Rhode Island College Foundation #4984

Perspectives on Caregiving, Dignity, Death and Dying

An interdisciplinary conference on “Caregiving, Dignity, Death and Dying: Nursing and Literary Perspectives” Saturday, Nov. 4, at Rhode Island College saw a near-capacity audience in Clarke Science Building 125.

Jane Williams, chair of nursing, provided a welcoming remarks after which two sessions were held. The first was “Final Gifts: End of Life Care” given by Maggie Callanan, a health care consultant from Washington, D.C., and author of Final Gifts: Understanding the Special Awareness, Needs and Communications of the Dying. After an introduction by Joanne Schneider, director of Women’s Studies; Jane Clarke Science Building 125.

Roland Mergener, retired director of RIC Audiovisual, attended the conference, that was sponsored by the Women’s Studies Program, the nursing and English departments.

Spotlight on…

Continued from page 1

in Middletown.

These jobs help her to be self-supporting. Her excellent grades have earned her departmental monetary awards, which have helped supplement student loans. And this year, she is the winner of the Andreoli Scholarship from the RIC Alumni Association, named for Norreen Andreoli ’80, a past alumni president.

At RIC, Callahan is involved with Amnesty International, the local NAACP chapter and is a member of The Unity Players. Off campus, she devotes time as a volunteer at the LaSalette Shrine, among other voluntary church work.

Callahan says she loves the work she does and feels “that I am contributing an important service to the community,” especially to the teens in the youth ministry who are at the same juncture of their lives as she was when she decided to drop out of school.
R.I. Teacher of the Year holds RIC MAT degree

by George LaTour
What's News Associate Editor

A holder of a 1991 master of arts in teaching with a teaching certificate in elementary education from Rhode Island College, Kathryn A. (Delsignore) Tancrelle, a fifth grade teacher at the Old County Road Elementary School in Smithfield, received the news and with it a check for $1,000 at her school Oct. 27 in a surprise ceremony attended by students, teachers and school administrators; Peter McWalters, the state commissioner of education; and members of her family.

“Kathryn Tancrelle has committed her life to literacy learning for both children and adults,” said McWalters.

“She is a highly innovative teacher, who draws on every resource imaginable — technology, hands-on activities, parents and community, multi-level instruction — to reach the unique and diverse learning styles of her students.

“When you combine this exceptional teaching talent with her school and community leadership, you have the essence of a superb Rhode Island educator,” said McWalters.

A graduate of Providence College with a degree in political science, Tancrelle has been teaching elementary education for 10 years, the last four at the Old County Road School.

There she serves on the Teacher Support and School Improvement teams, co-chaired the SALT visit preparation, and has actively participated in strategic planning and numerous curriculum committees.

She also has developed and led several workshops for adult education.

Tancrelle is known for her outreach efforts toward parents and families. Involved in adult and family literacy programs throughout the state for over 15 years, she has served as president of the board of directors of Project Learn/Literacy Volunteers of Northern Rhode Island since 1995.

In her own words, “If even one teacher re-examines practices as a result of viewing school issues from the eyes of a non-reader, we are one step closer to solving the problem of illiteracy and enabling parents to take a more active role in their children’s education.”

As the state winner, Tancrelle will attend a conference of all state winners in January in Dallas and in April in Washington, D.C. where the award-winning teachers will get a chance to meet the President. At that time, a national Teacher of the Year will be named.

Prior to winning the state honor, Tancrelle was named Smithfield Teacher of the Year for 2001.

Interviewed at her school, Tancrelle said she was pleased at the “convenience” of earning both her master’s degree and teaching certificate at RIC.

She has high praise for the education faculty at RIC, and John E. Peterson, now professor emeritus of physical sciences.

“He was wonderful. I lot of what I do in science and teaching I model on what he did. He made physical science so clear and concrete,” says Tancrelle.

She and her husband, Paul, and two children, Ciana and Jared, reside in Smithfield.

WORKING WITH STUDENTS in her fifth grade class at Old County Road Elementary School, Smithfield, is Rhode Island’s Teacher of the Year Kathryn Tancrelle. (What’s News Photo by Gordon E. Rowley)

Promising Practices

continued from page 1

introduced the keynote speaker, respectively.

“The reality is that we don’t always educate all students,” said Lam. “We educate our students but not those students. You know who ‘those students’ are; they represent different races, different ethnic groups, different religions and different cultures.

“We know that we must deliver to our community a group of young adults who can enter the work force on an equal footing with those from other areas of the state and nation.

“We must deliver future citizens who are able to take on the role of citizen with the full knowledge of all of the rights and responsibilities that entails,” she said.

Previously holding the superintendent’s post in three very different districts — San Antonio, Texas; Dubuque, Iowa, and Chelsea, Mass. — Lam came to Providence in 1999 and issued a new strategic plan for that city’s school system.

Called “Rekindling the Dream,” it calls for a community-wide effort to improve student literacy and other changes to focus the school system and community’s resources on teaching and learning.

It resulted in creating goals for all schools, goals that in many cases doubled or tripled the state-mandated minimum adequate rate of improvement.

After one year, elementary schools have posted “marked gains” in statewide test results, he said, and “some improvement” in math. Middle and high schools have seen “more modest” improvements, according to information from the superintendent’s office.

To support the goals of quality education through diversity, Lam identified 10 strategies to guide teachers and those planning to follow a career in education.

These included setting high standards and expectations, focusing on literacy and writing, creating of an accountability system, supporting professional development for every member of the organization, and engaging parents, community members and institutions in supporting reform.

Lam encouraged her audience to join in the rebirth of Renaissance the City of Providence, including the schools, is experiencing.

“We cannot do it alone,” she said.
Hundreds of prospective students and their parents attended the annual Admissions Open House on Nov. 11.

Faculty, staff and students were on hand to greet the attendees and answer their questions. The trolley tours were a popular attraction due to the intermittent drizzle.

Here is a glimpse of the activities of the day:

**Photos by**

Gordon E. Rowley
Admissions open house cheer prevails on rainy day

BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING: Karin O’Rourke, a registered nurse and current RIC student, takes the blood pressure of Katherine McCalligett of Pilgrim High School. The testing was sponsored by the College’s Office of Health Promotion.

CHEMISTRY LESSON: David Greene, chair of the Department of Physical Science and professor of chemistry, talks with Nicole Jean-Gilles (center) and her daughter Fallon, a student at LaSalle Academy.

SWEET ENDING: Ann Clarke and her son Shawn end their visit to the campus by sampling the goodies spread out by Donovan Dining Center. Shawn is a student at Apponequet Regional High School in Lakeville, Mass.
Designated for a student body of about 3,000. Current total enrollment is about 8,000. The College had expected that $3 million would be included in the bond issue for the renovation of Alger Hall. Instead the state chose to finance the $3 million directly out of the Rhode Island Capital Fund, designating $1.2 million in fiscal year 2002 and the remainder in fiscal year 2003.

“We are delighted at this turn of events. It is especially gratifying that the state will be using general revenue funds for these improvements rather than borrowing, which of course is far more expensive,” College President John Nazarian noted earlier this fall at the Opening Convocation. “During the year ahead we will be seeking guidance from the faculty and staff on what kind of facility will be needed to serve the needs of the students.

Office of the President: “The goal is to get a ‘ta da’ when you walk in the library, a revamped loading area, and two new gateway entrances – one at the Student Union loop, and another to interface with the College mall.

The final phase of construction will be on the lower level of the building, which is slated at the present time to house franchised vendors of food and services. Landscaping improvements will complete the project, turning the campus into an attractive gate for students and for the public.

The project is to be financed by revenue bonds and other sources with cost estimated to be in the neighborhood of $3.8 million. The project architect is Robinson Green Beretta, the same firm that designed the Health, Physical Education, and Athletic Complex and the renovation and expansion of the Donovan Dining Center in 1993. Renderings will be completed soon and will be available for review on the College web site.

Alger Hall new home for Center for Management & Technology

Alger Hall, which currently houses numerous administrative support offices in addition to classrooms and faculty offices, will be renovated and restored to provide an appropriate home for the growing Center for Management & Technology, which has occupied space in both Alger and Whipple halls. The Center’s growth and importance in preparing students for the workforce is evidenced by its new programs in the past two years: a master of arts in Management & Technology.

CAMPUS CONNECTOR as proposed in the Campus Master Plan, which is posted on the College web site, www.ric.edu. (Rendition by Goody, Clancy & Associates.)
Retired Coach Jimmy Adams and his career to be commemorated at ‘roast’

by Scott Gibbons
Sports Information Director

As the Rhode Island College men’s basketball team prepares for the 2000-01 season, there is an obvious difference from past years: the absence of former Head Basketball Coach James Adams. He stepped down on Sept. 30 after 21 years on the sidelines at RIC, leaving behind a storied career that has affected hundreds of high school and college student-athletes from all walks of life.

His coaching career spanned nearly 40 years with stops at Central High School and Providence College. He joined the Friars on their storied Run to the Final Four in the 1972-73 season, before landing at RIC.

“After 40 years of coaching both at the college and high school level,” Adams says, “I came to the decision that I was ready to retire. It was a very difficult decision to make, and I had a lot of mixed emotions. The one thing that I can look back upon and be proud of is that I’ve coached a lot of young men from different backgrounds and, hopefully, I’ve had a positive impact on their lives. I feel fortunate to have coached 21 years at Rhode Island College. It has been a very important part of my life. I fulfilled my dream of becoming a head coach at the college level.”

Adams has been synonymous with Rhode Island College men’s basketball since coming to RIC in 1978. He compiled a career record of 247-287 in 21 seasons and was chosen as one of the century’s Top 109 Most Influential Coaches and Athletes in Rhode Island by The Providence Journal last December.

Current RIC Head Coach Dave Johnston, a longtime assistant, has a unique perspective on Coach Adams the person. “J.A. has never given up on a student-athlete, in or out of the classroom.” – Dave Johnston

Under his guidance, the Anchormen captured the ECAC Division III title in 1982-83. Adams was selected as the Little East Conference’s Co-Coach of the Year in 1987-88 after RIC finished the regular season in first place.

FOREVER IN THE ACTION: Now retired Coach Jimmy Adams keeps a close eye on a play during a RIC men’s basketball game last season. (Above photo by Tom Maguire)

was a great experience playing for him. He’s a player’s coach. If you had a problem, you could easily go to him and he’d try to help you any way possible. He gave me the opportunity to work as a coach, and I’ve learned a lot from him. There’s not too many people around who know as much about the game of basketball than him.”

A good part of his coaching career was spent at Central High School in Providence where he led his teams to an unprecedented four consecutive state championships and won nearly 200 hundred games over 10 seasons.

While at Central, Adams taught physical education and served as the assistant principal in charge of discipline, a position that was extremely difficult. Racial problems and student unrest were commonplace in the late 60s and early 70s.

“As a person, Coach Adams is great to be around,” says current assistant coach, and former RIC All-American, Alex Butler ’98. “It

Prior to taking the job at RIC, Adams was an assistant coach under Dave Gavitt at Providence College. The Friars compiled a record of 129-59 while Adams was the assistant. He was instrumental in bringing some of the state’s finest high school players to PC including Marvin Barnes and Rick Santos.

The roast for Jimmy Adams will be held on Sunday, Dec. 10 at the Providence Marriott. Seating is limited to 5 p.m. and dinner at 6. Tickets are $35. To purchase tickets or for more information, call the RIC athletic department at 401-456-8007.

The roast for Jimmy Adams will be held on Sunday, Dec. 10 at the Providence Marriott. Seating is limited to 5 p.m. and dinner at 6. Tickets are $35. To purchase tickets or for more information, call the RIC athletic department at 401-456-8007.

Sports Roundup

Men’s Soccer
Forward Tim Brown and midfielder Jeff Kelly were named Second Team All-Little East Conference.

Women’s Soccer
Forward Kerri Ferreira and midfielder Jen Daniellian were named Second Team All-Little East Conference.

Women’s Volleyball
Head Coach Kristen Norberg’s team finished the 2000 season with a 13-11 overall record and 3-4 (fifth place) mark in the Little East Conference. The Anchorwomen were eliminated from the LEC Tournament Championship game on Nov. 1. Brandee Trainer was named Second Team All-Little East Conference.

Men’s Cross Country
Head Coach Dick Hoppman’s team placed 28th overall at the ECAC Division III Championships on Nov. 4. Tim Short was the top place finisher for the Anchorwomen with a time of 29:03 over 8,000 meters.

Women’s Cross Country
Head Coach Matt Hild’s team placed 21st overall at the ECAC Division III Championships on Nov. 4. Michele Boudreau was the top place finisher for the Anchorwomen with a time of 22:06 over 5,000 meters.
The formal dedication of the Fannie Helen Melcer Dance Studio at Rhode Island College is set for 10 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 9, immediately following the RIC Dance Company Winter Concert.

The dance studio is located in the Nazarian Center for the Performing Arts as is the Lila and John Sapinsley Hall where the concert will be performed.

Honorary guests will be Billie Ann Burrill, colleague and companion of Melcer, who preceded her as RIC dance director, and Clay Taliaferro, one of Melcer's closest friends and artistic associates.

A reception follows the dedication.

Melcer, a professor emerita whose name was virtually synonymous with that of the RIC Dance Company, died in the spring of 2000.

The RIC Dance Company exists today largely as a result and fulfillment of the vision of its founders — Burrill and Melcer.

The Fannie Helen Melcer Dance Studio was named through a $100,000 gift from Burrill.

During the course of her 26 years at the College, Burrill served as director of health and physical education, coached the fencing team, and served 20 years as technical director and lighting designer for the dance company.

After retiring in 1980, she started swimming to ease the pain of arthritis and developed into one of the world's best master's swimmers, winning nearly 300 gold medals and setting world records in her age group.

In 1960, Melcer followed Burrill as artistic director of the dance company. At that time, she also was appointed director of health, physical education, recreation and athletics. As such, she was the first female director of a coed program in the state and only the second such appointee in the country.

For the next 18 years, she put her own stamp on the growing dance company, beginning the very important practice of bringing in professional choreographers to design dances for the company, and instituting the touring dance groups whereby the RIC dancers would visit public schools.

Tickets to the concert and the dedication/reception are $40, which includes a $20 tax-deductible contribution to the Fannie Helen Melcer Fund.

For reservations, call 401-456-8105.

**RIC Dance Company Winter Concert —
Clay Taliaferro & Dancers featured Dec. 8-9**

Rhode Island College's legendary dance director, the late Fannie Helen Melcer, will be remembered in the RIC Dance Company's Winter Concert Friday and Saturday, Dec. 8 and 9, with 8 p.m. performances in the Lila and John Sapinsley Hall in the Nazarian Center for the Performing Arts.

Guest dancer and choreographer Clay Taliaferro, a close friend and artistic associate of Melcer's, will be featured.

Reprised for the concert will be "Dance in F.M.," a work Taliaferro created for the RIC company in 1978 as a tribute to Melcer. Two additional works, which had their origin in choreographic residencies at RIC, will be performed by guest dancers from the Durham, N.C., area, who presently work with Taliaferro.

A legendary performer within the contemporary dance world as a former principle in the Donald McKayle and Jose Limon dance companies, Taliaferro also will perform a recent solo work.

He was the recipient of an honorary Doctorate of Fine Arts degree from RIC in 1986.

General admission tickets are $10; senior citizens and non-RIC students, $8; RIC students, $4.

The formal dedication of the Fannie Helen Melcer Dance Studio will follow the Saturday evening performance. Special tickets for the dedication/reception are $40, which includes a $20 tax-deductible contribution to the Fannie Helen Melcer Fund. (See related story this page.)

For reservations, call 401-456-8144.
RIC Chorus, Chamber Singers in Holiday Concert Dec. 1

by George LaTour
What's News Associate Editor

Teresa Coffman will conduct the Rhode Island College Chorus and Chamber Singers in a Wednesday, Dec. 1, Holiday Concert beginning at 8 p.m. in the Lila and John Sapinsley Hall in the Nazarian Center for the Performing Arts.

The featured work in the first half of the concert will by J. S. Bach’s Cantata 140 “Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme” with the chorus, a chamber orchestra and soloists.

The second half will include pieces from the Christian, Jewish and African traditions performed by the chorus, male and female ensembles, and the chamber singers.

Included in the Christian tradition will be “Hodie Christus natus est” and “O Magnum Mysterium” both by Francis Poulenc; “Ave Maris Stella” by Javier Busto, as well as the more traditional carols.

In the Jewish tradition, “Even When God is Silent” by Michael Horvit; “Hey Harmonika” and “Mayim, Mayim” arranged by Joshua Jacobson, and “S’vivon” arranged by Valerie Shields will be included.

In the African tradition will be

Flo St. Jean, mezzo-soprano and adjunct faculty member in voice at Rhode Island College, will be joined by Julibeth Andrews, soprano, for a recital in the RIC Chamber Music Series Wednesday, Nov. 29, at 1 p.m. in the Lila and John Sapinsley Hall in the Nazarian Center for the Performing Arts.

The program, accompanied by pianist Philip Martorella, will feature a solo song repertoire of Strauss, Canteloube, Handel, Bolcom and Offenbach.

It is free and open to the public.

St. Jean performs and teaches locally in both the classical and popular music genres as well as serving as a clinician for vocal and choral workshops.

She was a finalist in the Bell Canto Opera Competition, guest performer with Operartists, and is the mezzo soloist for the Baroque ensemble Basically Bach.

She also performs as a member of the popular music group Good Friends.

Andrews has performed with the Sierra String Quartet in San Francisco as well as with Chicago’s Mostly Music, Inc., where she sang in many premiers and performed in a national broadcast.

Local audiences have heard her perform “Blanche” in Enrico Garzilli’s “Rage of the Heart,” roles with the Ocean State Light Opera, solos with Swanhurst Chorus, and as a member of the Jamestown-based trio Music for a While.

For more information, call John Pellegrino, series coordinator, at 401-456-9883.
**Take a Professor to Lunch Week**

(Above left) TAKING TWO PROFESSORS to lunch as part of the program that allows students and teachers to meet in an informal setting is Florence Baker, a S.O.S. (slightly older student) who is working on her bachelor’s degree. At left is Peter Allen, professor of anthropology/geography, while at right is Karl Benziger, assistant professor of history.

(Above right) LUNCHING WITH A PROF are Veronica Jones (standing) and Kathy Caslino (left), while the guest of honor is Fred Harrop, associate professor of math/computer science. (What’s News Photos by Gordon Rowley)

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**Notice of Affirmative Action and Nondiscrimination**

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