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What's News @ Rhode Island College

Rhode Island College

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Martha Leo was born with a bone problem which has inhibited her growth. The rent is paid through her work-study job at the Office of Student Life. Help comes from people taken back with her physical difference. Martha looks like a little girl with a woman's face. Long, long eyelashes, deep blue eyes and healthy blond hair. And the smile. Always looks like a little girl with a woman's face. Long, long eyelashes, deep blue eyes and healthy blond hair. And the smile.

Walking around campus with Martha, I was not like those other kids. But then I realized I had other things to offer, like awareness," she says sitting at her kitchen table drinking coffee. "Martha is indeed aware. Her conversation is laced with dreams and wishes to support one friend and help another. She has a ministering spirit."

But because of her size, attempts are often made to minimize her. She accepts that help when, for example, she can't reach a product on the top shelf at the grocery store. Other times, help comes in the form of sympathy. She accepts that too, but only to make the person doing the offering feel better. "A lot of people accept you in the form of pity. It's not worth feeling this way for the same. From the time she was a teenager, Martha decided that she too would go to concerts and dances and plan for college and not let a height disability keep her sheltered from the things she really wanted to do."

"I want people to know that disabled people can get around," she states. "I don't have problems mixing with different kinds of people. My mother never said to me, 'I don't want you to go out because I'm afraid you'll get hurt.' From the time I was 20 years old, I was pushed out the door," she laughed. The push was of course, not actually a push. Martha is particularly close to her family and refers to them often with a great deal of affection. Martha Leo is a junior at RIC majoring in social welfare. She lives off campus, by choice, in an apartment that she found after several weeks of searching and being confronted with various kinds of reactions from landlords. However, the man who rented her the apartment in which she now lives was particularly encouraging, she said, so she wasn't dissuaded.

Martha smiles and laughs often and talks rarely on the phone. Over coffee in the Student Union, she's apt to go on at length about the conversation from a quick mention of the Rolling Stones to a mini-discourse on the importance of conducting social work in a hospital setting, which is her own career goal.

Being a handicapped woman in an automobile, Martha is aware of what it would be like. Those who are born with a disease - well, you are with it all your life and you don't know the difference," she reflected. "I have a disability in that I'm not able to reach," she said. "I know that I'm never going to be tall. I've never known what it is like to be five feet tall — it's very hard for me to conceive of what it would be like. Those who are born with a disease — well, you are with it all your life and you don't know the difference."
Deadline for Grants, Sponsored Projects Announced

Correction: The application deadline for HUMANITIES Projects in Media is DEC. 7, 1981, not JAN. 8, 1982.

THE INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH AND EXCHANGE BOARD announces grants to assist college students to participate in summer internship sessions at foreign universities. Thirty-five awards are available. The application deadline is JAN. 15, 1982.

THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS Challenge Program awards grants to artists to strengthen artistic quality and financial stability of all grantees must match fund-raising campaigns, engage in long-range program planning, and use the grant to produce or present artistic work and stabilize the institution’s financial situation. College and universities should check their eligibility. Notice of intent to apply must be sent by DEC. 1. In addition, the preliminary deadline for submitting Capital Improvements grants is DEC. 15.

The TINKER FOUNDATION announces deadlines dates for the following programs:

Alternative Biological Resources DEC. 1, 1981
History and Philosophy of Science DEC. 1, 1981

The deadline is DEC. 11. Please contact the Bureau of Grants and Sponsored Projects, Ext. 8228 for additional information on any of these programs.

Focus on the Faculty and Staff

Dear Editor:

The result of my Oct. 26 issue of What's New(s) at RIC was my interest to see your article on the Women's Soccer Club. It was a well done pictorial description of our program. I know our team was very appreciative of your effort to promote the team through your column. Again, many thanks for the wonderful job. Please share our appreciation with your staff.

Sincerely,

Nov. 13, 1981

Dear Editor:

On behalf of the executive committee of the Rhode Island Association for Behaviorally Disordered Children, I would like to express my appreciation for your assistance in publicizing our first statewide conference on behavioral disorders, held at Rhode Island College, Saturday, Nov. 7.

We had a successful conference and shared a lot of valuable information with over 100 parents, teachers, social workers, school administrators, and school psychologists.

Your support was instrumental in allowing our message and Rhode Island College's co-sponsorship with the Rhode Island Community.

Sincerely,

Steve C. Imber, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Special Education/President, RIABDC

Letters to the Editor

What's New(s) at RIC

(continued from page 1)

Children's Museum of Rhode Island, the Governor's Citizen Information Service, the City of Warwick, and the Rhode Island Educational Television

The awards are being presented by the Governor's Committee for the IDYD.

Events in 1981 which the college has sponsored or promoted include the appearance of the Rev. Ralph Showers and Dr. Harold Wilken in February to present programs for the college and community on the disabilities; a trip in March to Connecticut by handicapped students to attend the Elizabeth Kohler-Ross seminar on Death and Dying; a one week class for both handicapped and non-handicapped on Prudence Island where they conducted a summer workshop in August on "Counseling with the Handicapped," and presentation of the "Kids on the Block" puppet show in September concerning those with disabilities.

& Awards

Deadline Today

Because of the holiday (Thanksgiving) Thursday, deadline for receipt of all material for What's New(s) at RIC for next issue is DEADLINE TODAY at 4:30 p.m. instead of Tuesday.

Deadline

Deadline for submission of copy and photos is TUESDAY at 4:30 p.m.

Tel. 464-1322

Printer: The Beacon Press
Outlet’s Sundlun to Speak to Econ/Management Students

Bruce Sundlun, president and chief executive officer of the Outlet Company, will help the RIC Department of Economics and Management kick off its new “Visiting Executives Program” with a talk to students next Monday.

Marilyn Weston said that while Sundlun’s talk will be primarily for students of economics and management all RIC students are welcome. Time of the talk will be 4 to 6 p.m. in Clark Science 128.

Sundlun’s visit was arranged through John W. Speer, college controller-treasurer, who is currently teaching a course in management as an adjunct professor, said Weston.

In addition to his duties as president of the Outlet in Providence, his business affiliations include management of 72 retail stores in New England and Washington, D.C., operations of five television stations including WARK-TV in Providence, six radio stations including WSNE-FM in Taunton-Providence, and chairman of the board of Executive Jet Aviation, Inc. of Columbus, Ohio.

He was appointed in 1963 as an incorporator of the Communications Satellite Corporation by President Kennedy.

Other extensive business and community activities both past and present, include a directorship of Quest Research Corporation in Virginia and Worthington Industries in Ohio, president of the Ocean State Performing Arts Center, director of the Trinity Square Repertory Theater, and member of an advisory group on national aviation goals and member of the Board of Visitors of the U.S. Air Force Academy.

Weston said the Visiting Executives Program’s purpose was to bring in top level executives to the college to interact with students and to bring our students to their attention.

She said they hope to have about two visiting executives per semester.

Such a program could be a forerunner of an “executive-in-residence” program that some colleges and universities have, said Weston.

Speer noted that Sundlun’s experience with large corporations in a wide variety of managerial positions and his insight to the challenges and problems of management will be an invaluable contribution to the college and the community.

Thefts Reported On RIC Campus

A stereo, theatre tickets, a jacket, keys and a purse were reported missing from various buildings on the Rhode Island College campus between last Monday afternoon and yesterday morning.

According to security and safety director Richard M. Comerford, an office at the Henry Barnard School was also ransacked during this time period, but nothing was reported missing.

Also at the Henry Barnard School, a purse was reported missing from a school fair which was being held Monday night.

A suspicious person has been reported in relation to this incident.

The stereo and theatre tickets were reportedly taken from Craig Lee Hall sometime between Monday night and Tuesday morning. No forced entry was reported.

A wallet and a jacket were also missing from Alger as well as a purse. Comerford said he cannot yet tell if the incidents are related.

On Radio

RIC Prof. Robert Vienne was featured on radio station WEEA’s “Mid-Day Magazine” last Thursday regarding the Great American Smoke-Out.

Vienne was interviewed via telephone from Tennesse where he was attending a physics conference.

He, along with several of his students, had started a campaign to quit smoking as reported in the Nov. 16 issue of What’s News(s) at RIC in a feature article by Art Bass, assistant news director.

That same article prompted Channel 12 to contact What’s News(s) for an interview with Vienne which proved impractical due his being out of state.

Show Film

“War Without Winners,” a film on nuclear war, will be presented in the RIC Student Union Ballroom on Tuesday, Dec. 1, at 12:30 p.m.

A discussion will follow. It is open to all.

Water Main Breaks

Some water damage was sustained by files and office equipment. As of last Monday morning telephone service had not been restored.

Gas company and water department officials responded as did Providence and North Providence fire departments. Campus security and safety department and physical plant responded as well.

There was reportedly some concern at first that there may have been a gas leak also, but this proved to be gases from oil which had spilled from one of the furnaces.

The cut-off water service forced some minor menu changes at Donovan Dining Center that evening.

A ‘Soapy’ Trend at RIC

It looks as if fairytale romance has come back in style on college campuses.

On two rainy afternoons at RIC, when many students might be meandering in a late afternoon nap before dinner or catching up on some last-minute schoolwork, almost 200 of them sniffled, screamed, sighed and squeezed before the television screen in the Student Union’s Video Den.

Lucas Lorenzo Spencer, the Paul McCartney of the 1980’s, and Laura Webber Baldwin, his dewy-eyed Cinderella, were married on television’s most popular soap opera, “General Hospital.”

So excited were the RIC students about the nuptials that they got together their own wedding buffet of cake, cookies, pink punch, multi-colored streamers and crepe paper wedding bells.

As they drew rice in the air and wiped tears from their eyes, television cameras from Channels 6 and 12 and a photographer from the Providence Journal Bulletins, recorded their reactions and their football-game style cheers.

This is a national trend, this adulation of “General Hospital,” and RIC students are keeping right up with the latest in media heroes. Since this segment of “General Hospital” was expected to contract the most television viewers in tube history, (even more than the “Who-shot-J.R.” episode from “Dallas.”) it can be assumed that college students across the country were doing exactly the same. But perhaps not with as much style and as much humor as they did at RIC.

The included downlay of Video Den was gaily decorated for the two-week wedding ceremony and cookies and cake were

ALMOST 200 RIC STUDENTS showed up to watch the soap opera “General Hospital” followed by the Student’s Video Den last week to celebrate the on-screen nuptials of characters Luke and Laura. Streamers, confetti, cake and punch were all part of the celebration.

HIGH TIDE AT CRAIG LEE: Water gushed into the basement level of Craig Lee Hall after a heavy break near-by. Water rose to a level near three hundred feet before being turned off.

What’s New(s) at RIC

A broken water main caused the evacuation of Craig Lee Hall early Friday afternoon, Nov. 12.

All water service was temporarily cut off to the campus, and Craig Lee and Alger Halls were without electricity.

The break reportedly occurred on an excavation site adjacent to Craig Lee while workmen were attempting to fix a water heating line.

Water gushed into the basement level of Craig Lee and flooded the complex of offices there with three feet of water within a matter of minutes.

Some water damage was sustained by files and office equipment. As of last Monday morning telephone service had not been restored.

Gas company and water department officials responded as did Providence and North Providence fire departments. Campus security and safety department and physical plant responded as well.

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One of the last scenes in the Video Den was the Scottys’ wedding back at Camelot.

Doge and the Richard Spencer’s a TV’s most popular queen.

The whole scene in the Video Den was reminiscent of one past generation who cried for an afternoon watching “General Hospital.”

We usually have 50 or 60 kids here on an ordinary afternoon watching “General Hospital.”

And if their long-awaited nuptials weren’t enough, actress Elizabeth Taylor somehow agreed to get in on the act. She was filmed for five episodes—quite a coup for GH producers—and quite a treat for viewers. Though she spoke only 10 words on Tuesday’s infamous episode, the college crowd screamed for “Quiet” on the Video Den set and a hush spread over the room when her violet eyes appeared on the screen. The crowd was predominantly female, but there were a good number of men watching as Luke shouted his “Yahool” after the vows were exchanged. Indeed, there surely has never been a more jubilant bridegroom. Lucas Lorenzo Spencer couldn’t be dragged up the altar.

The soap Joe Kelley earned a few sighs from the crowd as did the handsome Dr. Noah Drake and the Dr. Richard Spencer. Joined up with Luke, they are undoubtedly TV’s most popular couple.

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The smile.
It's also obvious that she has made a lot of friends on campus, judging from the number of "hellos" she collects along the way.

She's standing in line at the campus bank waiting to cash her work-study check. The earned money will help buy a new pair of shoes and perhaps a book.

"Maybe I'll get Towards the Psychology of Being, she says. She looks out towards the lobby at the clothing being sold by a vendor there and says she'd enjoy a sweater like the one hanging up, but finding one to fit is always a problem.

"I don't often notice the stares, or else, I just ignore them," she said. "But there are times when I'm definitely aware of it. Sometimes kids ask me, 'Why are you so small?' And I say, 'Because God made me small,' " she smiles.

Martha feels that sometimes "people tend to look at small people as comical. As circus freaks," she says without bitterness. Those are the people who are perhaps uncomfortable with her size. Those that look deeper, those who see beyond the physical differences find that Martha's disability becomes less and less noticeable as the conversation continues.

Martha has held several jobs, among them a position with the Governor's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped. Travel is mainly by bus, to the campus, the city for shopping and socializing. Often she catches a ride with a friend. And sometimes, like on this beautiful autumn day, getting around from job to campus to her apartment is tiring. It all gets her down, a feeling college students are apt to often experience.

"I'd rather be out working, helping people. Sometimes school is overwhelming," she sighs. "But I try to live day to day," she retorts. "This morning, for example, I opened the door and the air smelled so good. Now, that's living," she smiled.

Getting through four years of college is difficult: There's academic worries, there's social changes. Martha Lee could add one more thing to the difficulty of obtaining a diploma. But she's not one to dwell on her problems. She'd rather smell the fresh air, think about a possible trip south to visit her brother during semester break, and look for a life filled with adventure rather than one filled with barriers.
a Leo: An Independent Spirit

Please wait here for the next available teller.
The Monument

By Vincent Marino

(Editor's Note: The author of this article has more than one reason to be bitter. In addition to his experiences as outlined below, he is now physically handicapped due to a job-related accident that occurred after his tour of duty in Vietnam. His complete lack of bitterness or cynicism and apparent writing ability were recently revealed to his fellow students in the evening newswriting course being given this semester at RIC. We are pleased to be able to share this article into the Vietnam War and into the character of a compassionate young man.)

The monument is very impressive looking, black marble glistening in the shining sun. It is a most appropriate color for a memorial to dead soldiers. Our next stop was Dong Tam, division base camp (headquarters). After a bout a week of orientation, we were both assigned to the 9th Infantry Division stationed south of Saigon in the Meekong Delta. We trained together for eight weeks, and were wounded, some seriously. I escaped a major wound, somehow.

Our platoon was point again. We went ahead. But not very far.

Our next home was a firebase that didn't even have a name. We had finally arrived in the middle of the war. We were more attuned to life in Vietnam, went home on a bittersweet leave, and then flew to Southeast Asia. For the story's sake, we must go back to 1968. I guess I never will forget it. Our mission was search-and-destroy in which we did what the name implies. We was the "point" or lead platoon all morning. We had reached our final objective by noon. Instead of going back, we went ahead. But not very far.

Our platoon was point again. We went about 100 feet when we came across a deep, swift moving river; not typical of Vietnam. Something like that was burned into one's memory.

We hardly felt like that. We were also introduced to the earth-shattering, deafening roar of our-going artillery.

We were more attuned to life in Nam, and both assigned to the same company, Alpha, 3rd Battalion, 366th Infantry or the "Screaming Blue Eagles."
Exhilarating' were used to describe RIC's Symphony Orchestra and Chorus in the last year as Edward Markward (above) conducted the RIC's annual Holiday Gift to the Community at the Ocean State Performing Arts Center.

The musical selections planned for the 30th annual performance include 'Das Neugeborn Kindlein' by Buxtehude, 'Concerto in G. Minor for Oboe and Strings,' by Handel, 'Christmas Cantata' by Daniel Pinkham and Benjamin Britten's 'Ceremony of Carols.'

Delight Immonen will be the featured oboist in the Handel piece and Anne-Mar- guerite Michaud will serve as harpist for the Britten piece.

The Chamber Singers were featured last August in the National Association of Music Clubs national convention. They have been selected to perform at two major events this season: On Feb. 20, they will give a concert at the American Choral Directors Association Eastern Division Convention at the Biltmore Plaza Hotel in Providence, and they have been invited to perform at the 1982 World's Fair on June 13 in Knoxville, Tenn.

H. P. Lovecraft, the Providence-born fantasy writer, is the subject of a film being produced by a group of RIC students in a workshop under the direction of communications professor Barton St. Armand, a Lovecraft expert. St. Armand says that the film would be the only one of its kind in existence.

Lovecraft's fantasy and science fiction writings have recently enjoyed a surge of popularity among Americans, though he has been popular in Europe for many years. The 10 students in the workshop researched, wrote, filmed, recorded and edited the 15-minute documentary.

Included in the film is an interview with Brown University professor Barton St. Armand, a Lovecraft expert. St. Armand said that the film would be the only one of its kind in existence.

The film will be previewed at RIC's Faculty Center on Dec. 15, Professor St. Armand said. Interest in it has also been expressed by the Rhode Island Historical Society and the Providence Athenaeum, he said.

Calendar of Events

November 23-November 30, 1981

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 23
9 a.m.-5 p.m. Pre-registration For Nursing Majors: Fogarty Life Sciences, Room 137
7:30-9:30 p.m. Quil Smoking Clinic. Session 5. "The New You", Student Union, Lounge F.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 24
12-1 p.m. Women's Center Meeting. Student Union, Room 310
12-1:30 p.m. Programming Meeting. Student Union, Lounge F.
12-2 p.m. Workshop for Students Unemployed on Major. Craig Lee Hall, Room 052
12-2 p.m. Finance Commission Meeting. Student Union Chambers.
1-2 p.m. Jewish Students and Faculty Meeting. Student Union, Room 304
7:30 p.m. Patterns in Relationships Workshop. Final Workshop. Student Union Ballroom (Week 7)
8 p.m. Nikolais Dance Theatre. This will be its only New England appearance. Tickets are $7 general admission, $3.50 for RIC students and are available at the box office. Roberts Hall Auditorium.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 26
Happy Thanksgiving.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 27
Thanksgiving Recess.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29
10 a.m. Sunday Mass. Student Union, Ballroom.
7 p.m. Sunday Evening Mass. Browne Hall, Upper Lounge.
7-9 p.m. Kappa Delta Phi Meeting. Student Union Chambers.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 30
4-4:45 p.m. RIC Department of Economics and Management Visiting Executive Program. Featuring Bruce Sundlun, president and chief executive officer of the Outlet Company. Call for more information. 456-8036. Clarke Science, Room 128.
7:30-8:30 p.m. Student Council For Exceptional Children Arts and Crafts Program. Student Union Gamesroom.
7:30-9:30 p.m. Quil Smoking Clinic. "Staying Off" (Week 6). Student Union, Lounge F.
8:15 p.m. RIC Chamber Singers and Orchestra, Roberts Hall Auditorium.