5-16-1983

What's News @ Rhode Island College

Rhode Island College

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What's News

Rhode Island College

Vol. 3, No. 33 May 16, 1983

Survey results totaled:

‘What’s News’ readers share their views

In the household 59 percent of the readers who responded to a survey about What’s News at Rhode Island College two or more people read each issue of the paper. Thirty-five point eight percent of the respondents said that at least two people in the household read each issue. Fifteen point four percent reported that three people read each issue. Eight point two percent reported that four people read each issue.

Among the respondents who returned surveys was distributed fairly evenly across the spectrum. The largest single grouping was the 35-to-44-year-old range with 27.3 percent of the replies coming from that group. However, at least 22 percent of the readers who responded were in each of the following categories respectively: 22 to 34 years old (22.4 percent); 35-to-44-year-old range (27.3 percent), 45 to 54 years old (24.2 percent); 55 years and older (22.4 percent). Thirty-nine percent of the total respondents were male. Sixty-four point six percent of the replies came from single groupings. RIC—what’s News continued success!” (1).

“Staff at What’s News are doing an outstanding job, depend on RIC news, appreciate the effort.” (1). “Always look forward to receiving What’s News.” (2). “Have been on leave from RIC and look forward to receiving What’s News—it should continue to be sent.” (2). “Full time working mother, not enough time to read paper, enjoy reading it.” (1). “It is very interesting.” (2). “Keep up the good work.” (4).

Among some of the responses received were the following (paraphrased):

“Enjoy reading the paper, find it very interesting.” (3 people). “Keep up the good work!” (4). “It shows excellent effort on the part of the editor’s staff, please continue it!” (3). “What’s News helps members stay informed of what’s happening, thanks.” (2). “I am a self-supporting student living alone who enjoys the paper.” (1). “Proud to have a daughter attend RIC—what’s News continued success!” (1). “Staff at What’s News are doing an outstanding job, depend on RIC news, appreciate the effort.” (1). “Always look forward to receiving What’s News.” (2). “Have been on leave from RIC and look forward to each issue, excellent, a contribution to the college.” (1). “What’s News is my sole contact with RIC, retired.” (1). “Have enjoyed reading What’s News—it should continue to be sent.” (3). “Full time working mother, not enough time to read paper, enjoy reading it.” (1).

(continued on page 6)

What you say about us

In the survey conducted among readers of What’s News at Rhode Island College, respondents were given the opportunity to offer their own comments and observations.

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(continued on page 6)

RIC 15-year-old Hebrew scholar:

To study in Israel

by George LaTour

There’s a cadet on the Rhode Island College campus who could knock the socks off a biblical scholar with her knowledge of the Bible of which she can quote chapter and verse...and is Hebrew yet.

Aside from that, she is quite a scholar in “secular” studies as well. She has two biology, two history, two English, a logic, a psychology and pre-calculus courses.

As if that weren’t enough, this 15-year-old charmer can (and does) disarm the most cynical of cynics with her dimpled smile, easy blush and youthful modesty.

Yes...15 years old.

When she enrolled in the General Education Honors Program last spring, Judith Tenenbaum of Providence, was only 14 and, as such, very possibly the youngest RIC student enrolled for this year.

It is virtually impossible to tell who the youngest actually is in that students are not required to give their date of birth when applying for admission or at registration, but at age 14, one can be fairly certain that Miss Tenenbaum was in contention for the honor of being the youngest college student at RIC, if not in the entire state.

Judith is the oldest child of Rabbi and Mrs. Israel Tenenbaum. She has three sisters and one brother.

(continued on page 8)

900 to receive degrees:

Graduation rites May 28

Pauline Hartington
Joseph Silverstein
Barbara Nichol

Rear Admiral Pauline M. Hartington USN, a native of Providence and a Rhode Island College alumna, will be the featured speaker at Rhode Island College’s commencement ceremonies on Saturday, May 28. She will receive the honorary doctor of pedagogy degree. Currently, Hartington serves as Commander of the Naval Training Center in Orlando, Florida. The 10 a.m. rites will also include the awarding of two other honorary degrees. Joseph H. Silverstein, artistic director designate of the Utah Symphony Orchestra and concert-master of the Boston Symphony Orchestra, will receive the doctor of fine arts degree, and Barbara L. Nichols, secretary of the department of regulation and licensing, a cabinet post in Wisconsin, will be awarded the honorary doctor of pedagogy degree.

The commencement begins at 10 a.m. and will take place on the esplanade in front of the college’s Walsh Health and Physical Education Center (weather permitting). The faculty will be led in a procession march by Dr. Peter R. Moore, chair of the Council of RIC, the college governance organization. He will carry the DelSesto Mace. The RIC Symphonic Band under the direction of Richard Koshgarian will play the Processional March by Richard Wagner, the Processional Entry by Richard Strauss and Ein Zags March by Johann Strauss to open the activities. During the recessional Daniel M. Crowley, president of the RIC Alumni Association will carry the DelSesto Mace and lead the faculty and platform guests.

Bringing greetings from the state will be Attorney General Dennis J. Roberts II. Also greeting the new graduates, some 900 strong, will be Dr. Eleanor M. McMahon, the state commissioner of higher education and Henry J. Nardone, vice chair of the Board of Governors for Higher Education.

Two members of the class of 1933, Mary Moran Loughrey and Dr. Avis G. Marden, will present a gift to the college on the occasion of their class’ 50th anniversary. Linda M. Moran, president of the class of 1933, will speak to her fellow graduates.

Winners of the Thorp Awards for faculty who have distinguished themselves in scholarship and other areas will be announced. Two awards are given—one in the School of Education and Human Development, the other in the Faculty of Arts and Sciences.

Both graduate and undergraduate degrees will be awarded at the ceremonies. The college formerly held two separate ceremonies. Last year they were combined into one. This is the 128th RIC Spring Commencement.

(continued on page 6)
Bureau of Grants, Sponsored Projects:

Announces funding possibilities

from scholars for the purpose of conducting institutes for secondary school teachers on teaching about the Constitution.

Deadline: June 15, for institutes to be held the following year.

Office of Scholarships and Student Awards

Proposals are encouraged which:

- Focus on the public's investment of tax revenues in the Constitution;
- Plan: how resource can be most effectively allocated to meet the demands of the Bicentennial;
- Examine the role of the Bicentennial on humanities institutions and on their communities.

Deadline: August 1, 1983, for projects starting after April 1, 1984.

To date, the endowment has received very few proposals to the Divisions of Humanities Research, and it is especially interested in encouraging submissions in these areas.

For information on these programs, contact John C. O'Neill, at 456-8228.

Summer Issue of What's News coming June 20

President's Report

david E. Sweet

What's NEWS
Rhode Island College

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DEADLINE
Deadline for submission of copy and photos is TUESDAY at 4:30 p.m.
Tel: 456-8122
Printer: The Beacon Press
Dr. Paul Sherlock to head ed delegation

Dr. Paul V. Sherlock, professor of special education and a Democratic state representative from Warwick, has been elected to a two-year term as chairman of the Rhode Island delegation to the new England Board of Higher Education, an interstate agency which seeks to foster (regional) collaboration on behalf of education and economic development.

Sherlock, who helped write Rhode Island law initiating early childhood education for the handicapped here in Rhode Island, has been elected to replace state Sen. Robert J. McKenna (D-Providence), who replaces state Sen. John V. Friedman, who has been elected to the new position.

"Representative Sherlock will not only bring legal expertise to the board, but also will bring a demonstrated interest in quality education to his new responsibilities, but also will assure the board's members that they are indeed known during board deliberations," said Rebecca Lassan, chair of the nursing majors division and a Democratic state representatives from the Providence area.

Sherlock has been a textile professor at Rhode Island College and a former state director of the American Association for the Advancement of Higher Education, and will serve on the board.

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Dr. Paul Sherlock, professor of special education, was invited to participate in a regional conference on "Public Policy Affecting Chronically Ill Children and Their Families" at the Harvard Medical School on May 12 and 13.

The conference was organized by the Rhode Island College College of Health and Human Services, the University of Rhode Island College of Education, and the Rhode Island College College of Health and Human Services. The conference was attended by over 200 educators, parents, and community members.

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Notification of his selection as the winner of the Rhode Island College Willard Achievement Award for 1983 brought "surprise, immediately followed by pleasure, then a wave of nostalgia" to Francis W. Campbell, Class of 1946. His reaction was pretty much shared by all the award recipients at the Alumni Awards Dinner on May 5.

Chairman of the board of Thomson & Thomson of Boston, Campbell credited the dinner and award for the "wonderful opportunity to thank all the wonderful people who helped me in relation to the success I have achieved."

His appreciation was reflected by all the award recipients who are: John O. Pastore, retired U.S. senator and governor, who received the Award for Service; Philip M. Whitman, professor of mathematics, who received the Faculty Award; Charles E. Himion, foreman of the RIC electric shop, who received the Staff Award; and Regina M. Marcotte, Class of 1925, and retired teacher and member of the alumni executive board, who received the Alumna of the Year Award.

Campbell, an attorney, was cited as the 'first alumnus to attain the level of chairman.' Thomson & Thomson is the country's largest trademark research firm. He has been with the firm for 30 years.

He received word of the award while in Africa on a world cruise. He told those in attendance at the awards dinner at the college Faculty Center that after his initial reaction to word of his winning the award he felt "embarrassment at all of the other people who deserved recognition but weren't fortunate enough to have returned from the war."

World War II had interrupted his studies. He returned to RIC after four years in the Army Air Corps. Campbell gave a brief roll call of the names of those who also interrupted their education at RIC but who didn't return.

He termed the college as being "more than bricks and mortar; it is a caring, feeling place with traditions" and RIC "is second to none."

Pastore, cited for his distinguished career in public service which spanned more than five decades, noted that he "has received many awards - probably more than I deserve - but this award means a great deal to me."

Himion cited his 12 years at the college as "most enjoyable." Marcotte denied any claim to greatness, but 36 years in the classroom speaks for itself.

Daniel M. Crowley, association president, presented the awards. Dolores A. Passarelli was mistress of ceremonies. Greetings were given by President David E. Sweet, Holly L. Shadoian, alumni director, and Crowley.
Editors have abandoned objectivity and instead, 42.3 percent of the spouses of the individuals filling out the survey regarded The RIC to be great, I wish I had more children (among survey respondents) read it. Thirty-one point five percent of the households receiving the survey read the paper. Thirty-nine point seven percent of the readers characterized the news articles of considerable value with 27.3 percent seeing them as having average interest and 26.7 percent viewing them as outstanding. Again 70 percent of the respondents who read the news find them or the features well-written. However, only 7.1 percent of the readers characterize the news items as timely. Fifty-four point nine percent of those surveyed did so while 94 percent failed to put any significance on the feature's appearing before the fact. The Notes From Bernadette column was given to characterize the news items as outstanding, by 43.2 percent of the readers.

A significant statistic is the response to a question on who the news articles of considerable interest. Thirty-five point five percent of the readers found it of considerable value. Twenty-eight point one percent of those surveyed said they want to keep on receiving The Briefs. Eighty-four point five percent of those readers who read it as a choice. Seventy-one point two percent of the respondents said: How can the paper be improved? They, therefore, felt that the personals column should be discontinued. One hundred and forty-two respondents felt otherwise, said: It should be continued.

Admiral Hartington graduated from RIC in 1953. She was commissioned as an ensign in the U.S. Naval Reserve on August 25 of that year and completed Women Officer Induction School in Newport, R.I. in December. It was the start of a distinguished career. In 1963 she was assigned for instruction to the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, California. Upon completion of the Personnel Management Curriculum in 1964, she was assigned to the President's Task Force on the War Against Poverty as the liaison with Service Women. She was promoted to Rear Admiral in 1970 and then, in 1971, became the second woman to reach that rank. Now a permanent resident of Chapel Hill, Texas, Admiral Hartington is the daughter of Augustine Hartington of Middletown and the late Katherine (Koriski) Hartington.

Joseph H. Silvestrini celebrates his 40th anniversary as a co-founder of the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra this year. Born in Detroit, he began his musical studies with his father, a violin teacher, and later attended the Curtis Institute of Philadelphia. Among his teachers were Josef Gingold, Mischa Maisky and Efrem Zimbalist.

He has won numerous awards including the Queen Elisabeth of Belgium International Competition and the Salzburger Mozart Preis. Since 1970 he has been Principal Guest Conductor of the Washington University Symphony Orchestra and since 1972, he has been Assistant Conductor at the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra. Ms. Silvestrini has appeared as soloist with the orchestras of Denver, Detroit, Los Angeles, New York, Indianapolis, Milwaukee, Philadelphia and Rochester in the United States and abroad in Geneva, Jerusalem and Brussels. He appears regularly as a soloist with the BSO and the orchestra frequently in Symphony Hall and at Tanglewood. He has also conducted, among others, the Los Angeles Philharmonic, the Rochester Philharmonic and the Jerusalem Symphony. He was a featured soloist and master teacher at several Summer Music Festivals staged at Rhode Island College in recent years.

Silvestrini is presently directing and adjudging professor of music at Boston University. He is also music director of the Westminster Symphony and principal guest conductor of the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra. Next season while maintaining his BSO commitments he will become artistic director of the Westminster Symphony.

Barbara L. Nichols was president of the American Nurses' Association from 1978 to 1982. TheANA is a 180,000 member professional organization. In her capacity as president, Mrs. Nichols was the spokesperson for the present movement before Congress on the many issues relating to the health care professions. She also served as director of the hospital-wide inservice education department at St. Mary's Hospital Medical Center in Madison, Wisconsin during this period.

She is the author of numerous articles in professional journals and has contributed to books and magazine written. She was a 1979 graduate of the School of law, University of Wisconsin, Madison and has been the recipient of a number of awards and honors, including honorary doctorates from the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee and the University of Lowell in Massachusetts. She is a veteran of service as an officer in the U.S. Navy Nurse Corps.

In her post as Secretary of the Department of Regulation and Licensing she directs the Office of Regulation and Licensing and directs a staff of 100 and is responsible for the supervision of 17 professional boards regulating 26 different occupations.

Following the conferring of degrees on the undergraduates and graduates (700 plus undergraduates and just under 200 graduate degree recipients) and the awarding of the honorary degrees, Dr. Dale D. Sasso will have a "final word" with the class 1983.

Admiral Hartington's career has been marked by a number of assignments and awards. For the Naval district of Washington and selection as the first Navy officer to attend the National War College, Lacey was named honorary Executive Secretary, Joint Chief of Staff, the first female to serve in a billet that had been filled previously by a flag or general officer for 34 years. Upon her detachment from the post, she was awarded the Legion of Merit. While at the Pentagon, she was promoted to Rear Admiral in 1970 and then, in 1971, became the second woman to reach that rank. Now a permanent resident of Chapel Hill, Texas, Admiral Hartington is the daughter of Augustine Hartington of Middletown and the late Katherine (Koriski) Hartington.

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Get rid of it. "Young and out of holes."

"Throw it away."

"Don't touch it."

These were the answers of three- to six-year-old children in response to the question, "What do you think old mean?"
The responses indicated that to them "old" meant something that should be discarded because it is no longer useful.

"Shed"—and sometimes more positive—responses were elicited from children in a 1981 study by the Rhode Island Gerontology Center on the attitudes of the children towards aging.

The study shows the man, As morning shows the day.

Island College Gerontology Center on the "Kayak of the Century," the Elderly and Death and Dying as Experienced through the Arts.

The study, under the supervision and direction of Dr. Camal and Sylvia G. Zaki, R.N., explores the forgotten tears of gerontology center director and psychiatric nurse, was conducted throughout the school year, and included third, fourth, and fifth graders, for both students and their teachers—for the children to creatively express their attitudes toward aging, the elderly, and dying in general through original works of art, poetry, prose, plays and the like, which it was hoped, would capture their inner feelings.

As such, it was expected that the elderly studing every worded anywhere in the world.

The results of the contest were presented at the 35th annual scientific meeting of the Coordinating Council of Jewish Community Social Services in Buenos Aires, Argentina; from Malaysia, Germany, Minnesota, Florida and other points near and far.

"No area has been neglected," says Dr. Zaki, "points out that one can hardly find any literature on the subject at all. For centuries the elderly and death have been considered a shameful subject. Today, the child's view of the elderly and death is a myth to assume that people change their personalities immediately after turning 65," says Dr. Zaki.

"Personnel are interested in such great extent in the elderly in the early stages of development," he continues.

And, as pretty well conceded, our children for some time have been indoctrinated, through both books and movies, all the more so that old is "bad."

A youth-oriented society has, consequently, developed.

In a close correlation, American society has also become a "throw-away society." says Dr. Zaki.

The subliminal message to ourselves has been "if something is old you discard it."

"The practices of the socialization process suggests that the society's immediate and short-term needs," confirms Dr. Zaki.

"We tell our children, exclusively through the media, to brush their teeth so they will not develop cavities. This is a short-term objective.

"The long-term objective should have been to teach our children to brush their teeth because they have to last them at least 20 to 30 years," observes.

The same applies to exercising, dieting and not smoking.

Children should be taught the relationship to longevity rather than the child's immediate well-being.

Another aspect of our "disposable" society is that we tend to replay what we lose as an image of our life style, he notes.

The easiest way to cope with loss is to replace the loss with a rewarding object such as in the case of a missing tooth in a child and the resultant visit of the "Tooth Fairy."

In fact, according to the conclusion of the study, "the majority of the entries viewed the psychological and physical aspects of aging positively."

The ratio of positive to negative attitudes was surprisingly high: almost 2 to 1 in general.

In the visual arts portion of the contest, children reflected different stereotypes with respect to attitudes toward personal appearance of the elderly.

The fourth graders saw the elderly as spending their time knitting and watching television. The presence of a pet, especially a cat, appeared in many entries. Many also indicated the disabilities of the elderly, showing wheelchairs, walkers, tripod cases or canes.

The sixth graders stereotyped the elderly as physically handicapped and needing the help of others. Throughout some of the entries, there occurred the "park bench image" of aging. Many entries showed elderly sitting on park benches feeding birds. Other entries were accompanied by a poem:

Dr. Zaki has received letters asking for more information on the work of the children indicated a similarity, and other—often more realistic and part of the life cycle. Fear, guilt and sadness were also reflected.

Sixth graders viewed death as a better alternative than a nursing home. One fourth grader notes, "Death is the end and a beginning." A sixth grader who addressed the inevitability of death wrote: "Respect the elderly, you're next in line. Love what they need, don't make it hard to find. If you make it your way to love each other.

You can conquer your future death."

Some students used the words "scary" and "afraid" to describe death as violence and the word "kill."

The following are examples of the children's attitudes on death:

When you get sick, it really makes you feel crummy. That happened to one of my grandmas. She died when she was 82. Two of my grandfathers died too, so didn't one of my grandmas. That's why I don't want to grow old.

The most scary thing is dying. But it will be good for me."

"I think when old people die, they just start the next life.

Death isn't the greatest thing to do."

The study concludes: "The work of the children indicated that we need to change our images of aging and the elderly and plan their lives according to their own aging process becomes apparent."

"Things are changing (for the better)," report Dr. Zaki, adding, "we are more concerned with the elderly than before."

The gerontology center director notes that "it takes time for institutions and society to catch up" with the grass roots movement representing largely due to the larger research and teaching efforts being dedicated to the elderly.

The Zaki's feel strongly that a unit on aging, death and dying should be included in the social studies classes of American children from Kindergarten through the 12th grade.

Such would enable our youth to study aging and the elderly and their lives realistically and objectively. They have resulted from merely short-term planning which has been the result of our past sociocultural process with its fear of and reluctance to accept old age and death.
To study in Israel

(continued from page 1)

The Tennenbaums came to Rhode Island three years ago from Boston where Judith attended the New England Hebrew Academy. Her father continues to serve as principal of the Fall River Hebrew School.

In Rhode Island, Judith enrolled in the New England Academy of Torah on Providence’s East Side which she attended until this past fall when she entered RIC on the early admission program.

After her successful studies this year, she will earn both her high school diploma and credit towards her freshman year in college.

Not one to stand still too long, the petite pre-nied student plans to leave for a year’s study in Israel late this summer, after which she plans to return to RIC and continue her studies as a sophomore with an eye towards becoming a doctor specializing in dermatology.

Awareness of Judith’s planned study in Israel prompted the academy officials to allow her to complete her high school studies at a secular college in the knowledge that “that would take care of my religious obligation at the academy.”

She says she really has to be “up” on her Hebrew “because they’ll teach in Hebrew like you’re a native.

Judith should have little trouble with Hebrew, however.

Last year she won third place in a national Hebrew short story contest sponsored by Yeshiva University in New York. Previously to that, she won first place in a national contest sponsored by the Department of Education and Culture of the World Zionist Organization for high school students which dealt with the biblical Books of Exodus and Judges. The questions were all in Hebrew.

Well, let’s not be modest. Judith actually has “a whole room full” of certificates she has received in her school life for excellence in both Hebrew and secular studies, and she will have an outstanding record for her studies at RIC. Admitting this brought a blush to the young scholar’s face.

It’s difficult to be modest when you’re good and know it, but she manages without a doubt.

In addition to her love of the Bible and Hebrew—she’s memorized (in Hebrew) the Book of Esther and half of the Books of Proverbs and Ecclesiastes—Judith has been a camp counselor in Gani Israel. She has also been involved in a lot of work. Her camps took up a lot of time for one thing.” She assures.

Small classes “you really get the attention.”

This summer, prior to her trip to the Middle East, she will “probably” attend RIC’s Early Bird Summer Session and also brush up on her Hebrew in anticipation of her studies in Jerusalem which, upon completion, will enable her to study Hebrew anywhere in the world.

In Israel she will attend a religious seminary with other Jewish girls who have completed the 12th grade in their respective schools in the United States, England, Australia, “and all over the world.” Consequently, most of them will be in the 17-19-year-old bracket and Judith will again be in the situation of being the youngest student in attendance.

You can pursue what you’re interested in. You learn so much more this way,” she assures.

That knowledge, “a lot of encouragement” from her parents, and the award by RIC of the Martha Bacon-Ronald Ballinger Scholarship as a General Education Honors student earned the way for our attendance at RIC which she has never found anything to be quite like before.

“In the General Education Honors Program they leave things up to the student, so you can pursue what you’re interested in. You learn so much more this way,” she assures.

Judith, brushing her long brown hair aside, points out that the General Ed Program “focuses on the individual student.”

But it’s actually a lot of work. The labs take up a lot of time for one thing.”

This summer, prior to her trip to the Middle East, she will “probably” attend RIC’s Early Bird Summer Session and also brush up on her Hebrew in anticipation of her studies in Jerusalem which, upon completion, will enable her to study Hebrew anywhere in the world.

Study acid rain problem

Rhode Island College American Chemical Society Student Affiliate, one of only nine chapters throughout the country to receive an innovative activities grant from the society, has been studying the acid rain problem in Rhode Island this year.

Under the supervision of Susan Cady, student director, they have collected rain and pond samples and measured the acidity. In addition, they collected an extensive array of background materials on the subject and on April 26, Cady and Christopher Ether gave a talk on the results of their studies at the second annual Physical Science Research Symposium. On May 10, a slide show about acid rain was given in the physical sciences department which was narrated by Brian Bowers.

"COLORED GIRLS WHO CONSIDER SUICIDE when the Rainbow Isn’t Enough" reading is performed by Wanda Schell (left) and Veronica Perkins at the second annual Women in the Arts Celebration on May 6 in the Student Union Ballroom. Some 100 persons attended the event which featured dramatic readings, musical performances and a buffet.

‘PRE-REUNION 20 Year Reunion,” “Champagne Brunch,” drinks specials, food, and music. Everyone is welcome. RIC Rathskeller.

TUESDAY, MAY 24
7 p.m. to 1 a.m. Moonlight Cruise Bay Queen. Buffet dinner and dancing. $15. Sunset, Providence, R.I.

THURSDAY, MAY 26
8 p.m. to 1 a.m. "Touch of Class." Cocktails, hors d’oeuvres, and dancing. Music by “Celebrate.” $10. Everyone is welcome. Garden Room, Biltmore Plaza, Providence, R.I.

FRIDAY, MAY 27
10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. "Champagne Branch." Buffet breakfast and graduation rehearsal immediately after. Seniors only. Donovan Dining Center. Commencement Gala. $7.36 per person. Champagne reception with a "pre-rectangular " to follow. Donovan Dining Center.

SATURDAY, MAY 28
9 a.m. to 2 p.m. "The Big Band Era at the Commencement Gala May 27.

PRESENTING ‘THE TUXEDO JUNCTION Living Band’: Relive the exciting sounds of the Big Band Era at the Commencement Gala May 27.