What's News @ Rhode Island College

1-23-1984

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Students design useful devices for handicapped by George LaTour

Thanks to the students in Prof. William F. Kavanaugh’s industrial technology classes at Rhode Island College, life for the elderly, the handicapped, the elderly, and other people who are physically or mentally impaired may be a little easier and perhaps even more enjoyable.

A number of the students studying design analysis has, through their own initiative and some prompting by Kavanaugh, developed surprisingly low-cost devices that, among other things, would allow a person confined to a wheelchair to use the bathroom without assistance; a severely impaired arthritic to be able to put on one arm; an easily-installed and operable barrier/sign combination that will serve to keep other vehicles from parking too close to a handicapped van; an arm rest and convenience pocket/pouch for stroke victims who have lost the use of one arm; an easily-installed and operable barrier/sign combination that will serve to keep other vehicles from parking too close to a handicapped van.

Other devices developed include an arm rest and convenience pocket/pouch for stroke victims who have lost the use of one arm; an easily-installed and operable barrier/sign combination that will serve to keep other vehicles from parking too close to a handicapped van.

Most of the students, many of whom are industrial technology majors at RIC, say they would be willing to reproduce their devices upon request if the interest from the public is there. One or two students say they are looking into patenting some of their inventions. Some even talk of the possibility of going into business for themselves if there is enough demand for their products.

All, however, are primarily interested in making their inventions available to the elderly, the handicapped, paraplegics or others through whatever is the most direct and economical route.

Ten students out of the two industrial technology classes actually developed models of helpful devices. Others among the 45 students who had original ideas for their own inventions but did not have the resources or did not elect to develop prototypes, according to Kavanaugh, who is an associate professor of industrial education.

Kavanaugh, who holds a Ph.D. degree, says this is the first time he has assigned such a project to his design analysis class. He has only taught the class once before, however.

“Everyone had to do a project,” he said, the other day amidst tools, tables and lathes of the classroom workshop in Gauge Hall.

He and the industrial education faculty have been very supportive and encouraging to the young students and have assured them on to produce top-notch highly professional works.

In most cases the devices actually talked physically handicapped persons some instances minority groups and their families – to determine what their needs are or at least what could be done for them to make their lives a little more normal.

One student went to the Rhode Island Association for the Blind and Visually impaired continued on page 6

RIC has fulfilled ROTC program

Rhode Island college now has its own fulfilled Reserve Officers Training Corp (ROTC) program offering both beginning and advanced courses leading to a commission in the Army for graduating cadet seniors.

Senior cadets John J. Johnson and Steven S. Ruscio presented college President David A. Sweet a plaque in December with the recently approved “offer of commission” created and political persuasion has earned him a wide representation.

Through sheer perseverance and at great personal risk he was able to make an extensive photographic record of Jewish life in Germany and Eastern Europe before it was eradicated by the Nazis.

Though arrested 11 times and placed in a concentration camp in Vichy, France, he managed to hide many negatives. He had made 16,000 exposures. Two thousand survived and he retrieved them after World War II ended. In 1962 he selected about 200 of them._ Remarkably, he created perhaps the only photographic record of a subculture which has been removed from the earth. One hundred and one members of Vishniac’s family perished during the time Adolph Hitler was in power.

The honorary doctor of humane letters degree will be conferred upon Vishniac at the ceremonies. Kinnell will also receive this degree. Marfoff will be awarded an honorary doctor of pedagogy degree.

Commencement will begin at 2 p.m. in the auditorium of Robert Hall in the RIC campus.

The survey was conducted jointly by the college administration under the guidance of Dr. John J. Sambu, then assistant vice president for academic affairs, and Army personnel.

Proctor and a college student were interested in the beginning courses on a tentative basis that has been approved by the Faculty Curriculum Committee.

Until this time, all RIC students who wished to enroll in an ROTC program had to travel each week for their courses, to E.C., which is the local area “host” institution for ROTC.

Since then beginning course have been offered at RIC but advanced courses had to be taken at E.C.

continued on page 6
They were among 800 administrators also looked over up-and-coming artists available for the coming season. They of note.

Representatives from major artist’s managements and general sessions, met with representatives of the academic community. Attending were John Coster, director, and students Fred Anzevino, Paula Lynch, Patricia Nolin and Tim Murray. They were among the administrators from the U.S. and Canada attending.

Performing Arts Series staff, in addition to attending doctoral seminars and general sessions, met with representatives of major artist’s management to discuss attractions and artists available for the coming season. They also looked over up-coming artists at ACUCA’s Showcase Weekend program.

As a result, the staff reports it is optimistic about the Performing Arts Series in 1984-85 “Which includes quite a number of such notable events as the New England College of Professional Actors, its production of Macbeth or the nationally-acclaimed cellist, Yo-Yo Ma.”

Of note...

VIVIAN R. MORGAN, assistant professor of mathematics and computer science, and her husband, the parents of a baby girl, Alicia Rose, were born on Dec. 12 in Women’s & Infants Hospital.

ELLEN WEAVER PAQUETTE, coordinator of cooperative education, and her husband, Joseph, are the parents of a baby girl,出生于 Dec. 9. He weighed 7 lbs. 8 oz. at birth.

The father of DR. JOAN H. ROLLINS, director of the Division of Research and Economic Development, and Mrs. Rollins, professor of psychology, is currently on sabatical leave.

CLASSIFIED

For Sale or Rent: North Providence.

 Classified ad slated on December, 8, 1984. Financial Aid Programs for the 1984-85 academic year are now available at the Center for Financial Aid & Student Employment Services, as was announced today by William H. Hurry Jr., director.

The applications must be completed and mailed so that they will arrive in Princeton, N.J. by March 1, he said.

A new Office of Financial Aid Services now has applications for the National Merit Scholarship Program. These scholarships are awarded on the basis of academic excellence, service to the community and financial need.

Deadline for making application is March 31.

For Sale or Rent: Rhode Island

What's News @ Rhode Island College

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What's News Rhode Island College

What's News @ Rhode Island College (USPS 881-650) is published weekly throughout the academic year (except during summer weeks). Rhode Island College News and Information Services, 670 Mt. Pleasant Ave., Providence, R.I. Associate, Second Class postage paid Providence, R.I.

Postmaster: Send address changes to What's News at Rhode Island College, News and Information Services, c/o The Bureau, 600 Mt. Pleasant Ave., Providence, R.I. 02908.

DEADLINE

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

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One or more humanities disciplines and to publishable research projects such as books, monographs and articles. The Research Conferences category supports a limited number of conferences, workshops and colloquia that enable scholars to advance the current state of research on a particular topic. DEADLINE: February 15, 1984.

6. National Science Foundation (Science and Technology to Aid the Handicapped)"

This program focuses on fundamental research in a variety of fields in order to advance scientific developments and technologies to aid the handicapped. In FY 84 two million will be available to:

a. support a wide range of fundamental scientific and engineering research that will provide knowledge relevant to aiding the handicapped.

b. support research to bring this knowledge base more directly to the benefit of the handicapped by exploiting scientific and technological breakthroughs;

c. encourage interaction between the research and handicapped communities to ensure that the research meets the needs of the handicapped. DEADLINE: Proposals may be submitted any time.

* Villers Foundation: This Washington, D.C.-based foundation, established by a Boston industrialist, Philippe Villers, has an endowment of $80 Million. The major emphasis of the foundation is placed on "developing a movement of empowers the "elderly" with priorities under this goal within the areas of health care, income security, social services in order to improve the contributory roles in society of the elderly and housing. Special emphasis will be placed on the poor elderly.

6. National Science Foundation (Science Education Foundation Fellowships)"

Two types of awards are offered: Two six-month awards with stipends of $8,500 for work in residence at the Newberry or up to 10 shorter-term fellowships, for periods no longer than four months, for work in residence with stipends of $800 per month.

The Newberry will award post-doctoral scholars at early stages in their careers whose work gives clear promise of productivity and whose careers would be significantly enhanced by their residence at the Newberry. Applications will be accepted for study in any field appropriate to the Newberry’s collections.

DEADLINE: March 10, 1984.

What's News @ Rhode Island College

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Request for proposals

The Bureau of Grants and Sponsored Projects will be providing information about requests for proposals (RFP’s) on a regular basis in this column. Anyone interested in obtaining further information or applications and guidelines need only circle the number of the RFDP on the enclosed coupon and send it to the Office of Grants and Sponsored Projects.

1. American Council of Learned Societies: Travel Grants to International Meetings for Humanities:

Travel grants enable scholars in humanities disciplines to participate in conferences held outside the U.S., Canada, and Mexico. The deadline cycles apply as follows: Applications submitted March 1st must be for travel between July-Oct. Applications submitted July 1st must be for travel between November - February; and applications submitted Nov. 1st must be for travel between March - June.

DEADLINE: March 1, July 1st, Nov. 1st. (deadlines above)

2. National Endowment for the Humanities: Summer Seminars for College Teachers:

To provide college teachers the opportunity to work with distinguished scholars in their field at institutions with libraries suitable for study. A total of 80 seminars, if full, will be held. Stipends are $3,000. DEADLINE: March 1, 1984.

4. National Science Foundation: Grants for Improving Doctoral Dissertation Research:

This program awards grants for support of doctoral dissertation research in the environmental, behavioral, and social sciences in order to improve the overall quality of dissertation research in these sciences.

Grants are intended to provide funds for items not normally available from a university or other sources. Allowable items include travel to specialized facilities or field research locations, specialized research equipment, supplies, microfilm, payments to subjects, and computer time. DEADLINE: Proposals may be submitted anytime (March 15 must be for travel before March 31).


2. Humanities, Science and Technology (March 1, May 1, and Nov. 1 for preliminary proposals)

3. Research Conferences (Feb. 15 and Sept. 15)

Projects funded by the Basic Research program are expected to lead to new knowledge or critical understanding in one or more humanities disciplines and to publishable research projects such as books, monographs and articles. The Research Conferences category supports a limited number of conferences, workshops and colloquia that enable scholars to advance the current state of research on a particular topic. DEADLINE: February 15, 1984.

6. National Science Foundation (Science and Technology to Aid the Handicapped)"

This program focuses on fundamental research in a variety of fields in order to advance scientific developments and technologies to aid the handicapped. In FY 84 two million will be available to:
RIC Foundation to host financial seminar
Jan. 25 at Faculty Center

"Financial Planning Using Tax Advantaged Investments" is the title of an investment seminar to be presented by the Rhode Island College (RIC) Foundation on Wednesday, January 25, at 7 p.m. in the RIC Faculty Center.

The seminar will focus on the growing need for financial planning in the current-time complex of choices. The presentation will review the way individuals meet their tax obligations and provide historic examples of the effects of inflation on the lives of the consumer.

Emphasis will be placed on investments which produce income, preserve capital, and provide growth. The seminar leaders will be Michael M. Anderson, Edward D. Sprague, and Susan R. Wilcox.

In Memoriam
William F. Flanagan

William F. Flanagan of Warwick, Rhode Island College's first director of graduate studies and later founder and first president of Rhode Island Junior College, died Jan. 8, at Kent County Memorial Hospital at age 87.

The retired president of RJC now the Community College of Rhode Island was stricken as a widower of Helen C. (Flynn) Flanagan. Flanagan was named president of RJC, the state's first public two-year college, in 1964, in leased rooms at the CIC in Providence.

He presided over construction of the college's first permanent campus on the former Knight estate in Warwick in 1972, and its expansion into Lincoln in 1976. The Lincoln facility, originally called Blackstone Valley Campus, was later renamed in his honor.

In his 14 years as college president, he saw its student enrollment grow from 300 to 9,000, as its faculty increase to 530 members.

Flanagan was a 1936 graduate of Providence College and earned his doctorate from the University of Connecticut. His career as an educator included experience as a high school teacher and principal, and as a faculty member of RIC.

He was named RIC's first director of graduate studies in 1957 and held that position until he became president of RJC.

Flanagan received many honors during his lifetime, including induction into the Rhode Island Heritage Hall of Fame in 1981.

Following his retirement as RJC's president, he was named executive director of the Rhode Island Higher Education Association, which represented the state's independent colleges.

Flanagan was termed by Clyde Bennett, superintendent of Warwick schools, who knew him for almost 30 years, "a man of great intellect and a person of great sensitivity. He also had a tremendous sense of humor and a capacity to express himself with unusual flair."

Flanagan was also praised by colleagues, many of whom are today's leading educators, for his influence on their professional lives.

Surviving are three sons, William F. Flanagan III, John J. and James V. Flanagan, all of Warwick, and two daughters, Sarah A. Flanagan of Washington, D.C., and Ellen L. Flanagan of Warwick.

Funeral services were held in Warwick and burial in St. Francis Cemetery, Pawtucket.

Noel Chadwick

Noel Chadwick, 67, a retired associate professor of modern languages at Rhode Island College, died on Dec. 18 in University Hospital in Boston after a short illness.

Husband of Helen (Brewer) Chadwick, he taught French at Thayer Academy in Jamaica Plain, Mass., in 1940, before enrolling at Tufts University, from which he received a master's degree in French, 1942.

Having joined the college faculty in June of 1948, Chadwick subsequently taught French at the University of Paris Law School. He received a master's degree in French in 1958 from Middlebury College.

Chadwick came to the United States in 1940 and began employment with the First National Bank of Boston before joining the university in 1948.

He told Fred Hays, Fulbright Fellow, of his decision to leave the college faculty in 1968 and take a professor at the University of—

Born on April 6, 1916, in Paris, France, Chadwick began his career in France, receiving his bachelor's degree of the University of Paris in 1936. He received his master's degree in French at the University of Paris in 1940, and his doctorate of philosophy in French at the University of Paris in 1941.

He received a bachelor's degree in French from the University of Paris in 1940, and a master's degree in French from the University of Paris in 1941.

Hays is Fulbright Fellow

Dr. Terence E. Hays, associate professor of anthropology/geography, has been awarded a Fulbright Research Fellowship to complete his study of the myths and legends of the peoples of New Guinea.

A medical and psychosocial up-date on Alzheimer's Disease and Dementia Research, White Plains, will be held in May for 12 months at the Australian National University Followed by two or three years in Paris.

A medical and psychosocial up-date on Alzheimer's Disease and Dementia Research, White Plains, will be held in May for 12 months at the Australian National University Followed by two or three years in Paris.

Dr. Sidney Katz, director of the Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Association, Inc., will be held at the Burke Rehabilitation Center in White Plains, N.Y., for 12 months.

A medical and psychosocial up-date on Alzheimer's Disease and Dementia Research, White Plains, will be held in May for 12 months at the Australian National University Followed by two or three years in Paris.

One of the major goals of the conference is to engage in discussions of innovative ideas and developments, and to provide the opportunity to rotate among them. Each workshop will be led by a professional co-ordinator and will be presented by a small group of participants, who will prepare a final report for the conference. The conference will be held from Monday, February 24, to Friday, March 2, 1983, at the Rhode Island College Gerontology Center.
Students design useful devices

continued from page 1

Impaired and queried them as to the needs of blind persons in the area or recreation. After some probing questions and discussion, the students set to work, laying out plans on paper complete with actual specifications; they obtained the needed materials, and with a lot of improvisation, patience and skill, developed unique and inexpensive aids.

As with so many other inventions, after one sees them he wonders why others hadn’t thought of them long before.

Take the simple modification of a wheelchair that allows a physically-impaired person confined to it the ability to use a toilet without the embarrassing need of assistance from another person.

All that was required was the shifting of an undershine back forward a few inches and conversion of a fixed canvas seat to a movable canvass seat in order to allow the wheelchair occupant the freedom to simply maneuver the chair over the toilet chair. According to Robert A. Razzino of Providence, the designer.

Razzino, a senior, talked to a stroke victim who was paralyzed on one side. The 50-year-old man was confined to a wheelchair.

"The man was bothered by the fact that he couldn’t go to the bathroom alone," confirms Razzino whose first thought was that it might be possible to wheel the chair over the toilet bowl. A brace under the seat meant "most wheelchairs weren’t set up for this.

Razzino went to a major wheelchair manufacturer and talked with a design engineer to determine if the brace could be moved forward approximately six inches without weakening the chair itself or the seat.

When it was confirmed that this was possible, the student also worked on developing a canvas seat rather than the normal fixed one. Hence, the wheelchair occupant does not have to reach down to the toilet.

Razzino asked the wheelchair designer why there isn’t any such thing on the market. The engineer could offer "no real thought was given to who needs it," says Razzino.

The industrial technology student notes that for the wheelchair occupant to be able to use such a modified chair he or she must have "a little strength to maneuver."

Razzino has built a prototype of a movable seat and would like the opportunity to "work on an actual wheelchair to try and adapt it" for such use.

If anyone is interested in talking with him about modifying a wheelchair, they may call him at his home (401) 331-9574.

Monique L. Rouleau of Woonsocket, a sophomore, thought first of her grandfather when assigned the project.

Because of his arthritis, particularly in his hands, he has a difficult time grasping certain pieces of clothing and cannot easily pull on a pair of socks, for instance.

Monique developed a "mitt" that covers the four fingers and thumb like a mitten. It is made of suede and padded to about half-inch thickness and has velcro fasteners on the hand (grip) side. These fasteners are adhesive strips. The relative thickness of the mitt, combined with the adhesive quality, enables her grandfather to grasp items of clothing and pull them on.

The mitt is hand-sewn and has straps for the wrist.

Anyone interested in learning more about the mitt may contact Monique through the RIC Industrial Technology Department at (401) 456-8009.

Thomas E. Kearns of Scituate, a sophomore, went to the association for the blind to determine what needs blind people might have that are not currently being met.

It was determined that because of blindness, otherwise physically healthy persons were often not getting regular cardiovascular exercise, i.e., rapid walking, jogging, running.

"Their bodies can do these things but because of inability to see (and not exercising) their bodies are wasting away," notes Kearns.

He developed a concept and put in on paper. He designed a perfectly feasible device that is probably something relegated to something in the future because it would involve public (or private) field tracks.

An invention calls for a rail-like device to be installed around the perimeter of a standard running track in which a movable armature would be installed — connected to the small wheeled armature that would run along the rail on the track on one end and the runner via a waistband on the other end.

The blind person could then be free to walk, jog or run around the track guided by the armature.

"This would allow the blind person to run and exercise his cardiovascular system, thus improving his health, while enjoying a form of recreation," points out Kearns.

"It allows independence and mobility," he says. His device — the wheels, armature and waistband — is inexpensive to make but, he points out, the rail "would cost money" and would have to be approved by various schools or the state legislature before being installed.

Another variance on this theme and something that Kearns sees coming in the future is the availability of an electronic sensing device that would also allow blind persons to move with freedom.

Until such time, however, his device — elegant in its simplicity — would more than fill the bill if those institutions owning field tracks could be convinced to install Kearns’ designated rail.

For more information about his device, you may contact Kearns at the RIC Industrial Technology Department below.

For stroke victims or others who have lost the use of one arm, William M. O’Brien of East Providence, a junior, developed a nylon sling-like arm rest and pocket/pouch combination that serves two purposes; it cradles the arm and saves it from the constant pull of gravity that puts stress on the shoulder joint, and gives the wearer a pouch with which to carry articles that otherwise could

ROBERT RAZZINO with his modified wheelchair seat.

WILLIAM O’BRIEN with his sling pocket/pouch.
have been carried by the arm.
The device holds the arm with nylon straps at a comfortable position across the wearer's mid-section. The pocket/pouch (with straps underneath for the arm) rests on top. The unit is attached around the neck with a system of straps and rings that can be put on with the good arm and tightened to the wearer's comfort.
The entire unit is lightweight and can be folded and put in the pocket of the wearer's clothes when not in use.
For those interested in the pockets, they may contact O'Brien at his home address: 11 Evergreen Drive, East Providence, RI 02914.
For the elderly or handicapped who use wheelchairs, walkers, etc. and travel via vans or automobiles, there has always been a problem of getting back into the van or auto due to other vehicles having parked too close to the side or rear doors.
Charles G. Sanders of Johnston, a part-time industrial technology student and full-time maintenance machinist, came up with an idea on his own of a fold-out parking barrier and sign that attaches easily to a van or automobile.
Upon parking a van or auto, the device is mounted on the side or rear and folded out about four feet. On the folded-out portion is the sign. "My wheelchair needs this extra space - thanks."
The barrier/sign can be used in parking lots or on the street, although if used to the rear of the van or auto "a flag should be hung from the end" for better visibility suggests Sanders.
The armature-like barrier is solid plastic and swivels and folds up for easy storage.
"My hope is to give the handicapped more independence and not be hemmed in," says Sanders. He will try to produce the devices himself, although he doesn't rule out working with others.
"It probably takes a couple of hours to make one from scratch," he says.
He's already talked with the Special Olympics people and has taken the first steps toward patenting the device.
Direct inquiries to Sanders at (401) 421-6580 after 3:30 p.m.
William F. Place of Johnston, a junior, has developed a gun rest for paraplegic sportsmen.
An aluminum rear-mounted armature with an arm-support bar, it swings from the back of a wheelchair to the side so that the chair's occupant can rest a rifle or shotgun on it for hunting. It is also good for target practice or other sport shooting. It has the convenience of shooting from any position, for example.
Anyone interested in this should contact the RIC Industrial Technology Department, also.
Other devices conceived and, in some instances, developed into prototypes include one that allows archery hunting from a wheelchair, developed by Mark E. Fillon of East Providence; a "grip per" for those confined to a wheelchair which allows the patient to reach out several feet and grasp items, say on overhead shelves or other places they could not reach from the chair. This was developed by Tom Swink of Providence.
Others include a cane for blind persons operating with a sonar-type mechanism; and even an artificial arm specifically designed to allow a former motorcycle driver the opportunity to again ride his bike. For this "arm" to work, modifications have also to be made in the motorcycle handlebars.
Questions about any of these should be directed to the industrial technology department.
"We've got bright and articulate students here at RIC," confirms Kavanaugh, who adds that the handicapped community can call on them for assistance.
"I don't know who's out there and what their needs are. We've got the talent here with eager students who can build prototypes. I'd like to have people from the various associations for the handicapped come to class and tell us the needs of their people," says Kavanaugh.
"We're quick to admit we can't solve every problem, but we're willing to tackle anything," assures the industrial education department chairman.
After all, he points out, "RIC is here to serve the community."
Kavanaugh assures his industrial technology classes "will pursue this project again."
Congress stalls student loan consolidation program

WASHINGTON, D.C. (CPS) -- The program that allowed students to consolidate all their school loans and stretch out the payment times for them "has gone the way of blue suede shoes" for the moment, said officials in Washington.

The Senate recessed in November without passing a bill that would have continued the program through the next three years, and political considerations probably will stop the Senate from passing it when it reconvenes in January, says Dennis Martin of the National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators.

Students who already have lumped their school loans together under the Student Loan Marketing Association (usually called Sallie Mae) program won't be affected by the program's end.

But Martin says no more students will be able to consolidate their loans with Sallie Mae until Congress passes some kind of replacement in the future. The bill that failed wasn't as generous to students as previous loan consolidation programs because it had to be paid for.

Under the new bill, students would have had to have paid nine or ten percent interest on their loans, compared to the current 4.3 percent. Moreover, they would have had to pay the interest on their loans back over 15 years instead of the 20 years they do now.

In addition, the new bill would have prohibited student loan agencies from making consolidation loans to students. Bill sponsor Rep. Paul Simon (D-III) excluded the state agencies to try to increase the federal government's tax revenues.

Under the old system, states got money to lend to students selling exempt bonds to their citizens. The U.S. Treasury consequently couldn't collect taxes on the money used to buy the bonds.

But excluding state agencies was the major reason the Sallie Mae bill staggered the Senate after being passed by the House.

"There are some real differences of opinion (in the Senate) over allowing state agencies to participate in making consolidation loans," Martin says. "It probably won't pass this time.

In fact, "the people already in the program will continue in it, but (the program) won't be available for any new people" after it expired in November.

But Martin is "hopeful the program will be passed as part of the (new) Higher Education Reauthorization Act," which may not come to a vote until late 1984 or early 1985.

Directory of Human Service Agencies in Rhode Island

- Special offer to those in the transportation and hospital staff or in schools of nursing as an opportunity to become better acquainted with the human service delivery system in Rhode Island. The directory -- regularly $10 -- is available to Jan. 31 only at the following rates:

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<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Price per Copy</th>
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<td>15 or more</td>
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Available for pick-up only at Council for Community Services, 229 Waterman St., Smithfield.

To take advantage of this offer, students, faculty and staff should call Loretta Laidler at 861-5550 or stop in at Council Headquarters at 229 Waterman St., Providence, 2nd Floor. ORDER ENDS JAN. 31

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Dear Editor,

Thank you very much for including my feature in the December 9th issue of What's News. While Sally Brine and Larry Kruger spoke of broadcasting notes. However, you spelled my last name wrong. It has one "r", not two.

Sincerely, Holly Beretto

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DEADLINE
Tuesday 4:30 p.m.
New York, N.Y. — Americans are so concerned about the rising costs of higher education and their possible inability to pay for it that they are calling on government at both the federal and state levels to increase funding for colleges and universities.

This is the principal finding of a comprehensive new public opinion study on American attitudes toward higher education which was released Oct. 1. The survey was conducted by Group Attitudes Corporation of New York City and co-sponsored by several higher education associations and universities.

The poll—which surveyed a representative sample of 1,299 adult Americans—found four out of every five Americans convinced that college costs are climbing at such a rate that college will be out of reach of the average person in the foreseeable future.

"The 1983 survey involved interviewing by telephone a statistically reliable and valid random sample of 1,299 adult Americans, 18 years of age or older. The field work was carried out between September 18th and 19th.

In addition to Group Attitudes Corporation the study was co-sponsored by five selected higher education associations, colleges and universities, one of which has requested anonymity. The other four co-sponsors were the Council for Advancement and Support of Education, located in Washington, D.C.; the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education, located in Boulder, Colorado; the New England Board of Higher Education, located in Boston; and Texas A&M University located at the Texas A&M University System Center, College Station, Texas.

The 1983 poll contained 12 major findings relating to people's feelings about higher education. In addition to the findings pertaining to the cost of higher education and federal and state support of colleges and universities, the survey also revealed that:

* A large majority of Americans (68.1 percent) think the overall quality of higher education in the United States is good or excellent. This represented a slight decline from last year. In 1982, 72.5 percent of Americans had rated the quality of a collegiate education in this country as good or excellent.

* Americans overwhelmingly favor greater interstate cooperation in higher education. If such cooperation can reduce costs and at the same time increase the number of academic options available to college and university students.

* A trend that was first identified in the 1982 higher education survey appears to receive even stronger support this year: That is, Americans are more inclined to view higher education as a means to specific ends rather than as a means to broaden one's outlook on life. Those polled this fall strongly support a shift in the academic curriculum toward high-tech, even as this comes into conflict with liberal arts and humanities.

"The 1983 higher education survey shows that Americans continue to be highly supportive of higher education," said Dr. Walter K. Lindenmeyer, president of Group Attitudes Corporation, who supervised the research project.

"Yet the poll also shows that Americans have major concerns about the expenses associated with a college or university education. To them, the solution of the problem of financing higher education rests largely with federal and state government. There is a clear-cut message here that deserves the attention not only of the academic community, but also of decision-makers in the government sector."

The General Public's Feelings About the Cost of a College Education

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<th>Agree</th>
<th>Disagree</th>
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"No Opinion" answers are eliminated. Source: Group Attitudes Corporation.
An evening of grand opera with Boris Goldovsky

"Opera Highlights" featuring the renowned Boris Goldovsky will be presented at Rhode Island College's Roberts Auditorium on Saturday, Jan. 28, as part of the RIC Performing Arts Series. Curtain time is 8 p.m.

Dubbed "Mr. Opera," Goldovsky is presenting his first tour of "Opera Highlights," a sparkling and touching evening of famous opera arias, duets, trios and quartets.

Goldovsky himself will be at the piano opening out his well-known piano portraits. Assisting him will be four distinguished vocalists bringing familiar music of the world's most revered composers such as Mozart, Rossini, Gounod, Bizet and, of course, opera's beloved Puccini and Verdi.

To millions Goldovsky has become grand opera's most articulate spokesman; his quintessential Russian accent is eagerly awaited on the witty and informative intermission programs on the Saturday afternoon broadcast direct from the Metropolitan Opera House in New York City.

Mr. Goldovsky is also artistic director and moving force behind the Goldovsky Grand Opera Theater -- now in its 24th national tour -- which brings living opera to countless audiences around the country who would otherwise be deprived of this classic art form.

"Paradoxically, the man who today is identified as opera's most articulate champion and most enterprising producer frankly admits that for the first 24 years of his life he positively despised opera," relates Fred J. Anzevino, publicist for the Performing Arts Series.

"In the early 1930s, while studying under Reiner at the Curtis Institute, Goldovsky was called upon to play for an opera workshop class conducted by the eminent German stage director, Ernst Lert.

"For the first time, Goldovsky could imagine how, in the ideal opera performance, an engrossing drama or comedy could be made even more vivid by the addition of well-chosen music, a great score appreciably enhanced by an irresistible libretto.

"From that moment on he has been relentlessly pursuing a life of opera -- explaining, producing and presenting grand opera to the world, and training and aiding opera singers to understand and enjoy their strange but enchanting profession."

Box office opens Monday, Jan. 23. Tickets are $8.50 for general admission; $5 for senior citizens and non-RIC students; and $3 for RIC students. All seats are reserved. Group rates are available by calling 456-8194. For reservations call 456-8144.

**SPOTLIGHT ON RIC RHODE ISLAND'S CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS**

RIC ALUMNUS KRIS HALL of Warwick clutches the script of "Mindbender," his first completed play, while several actors who appeared in the original production at Rhode Island College as the background. The show has been chosen as the performed at the American College Theatre Festival regions in Keene, N.H. on Feb. 3. There will be a tune-up and benefit performance at RIC on Jan. 28. What's News photo by Peter E. Tobias.