What's News @ Rhode Island College

Rhode Island College

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To graduate in May and then —

It’s off to Harvard

by George LaTour

Given that a person is bright, dedicated and has initiative (qualities shared by many), and given that she’s 21, a senior in college and has aspirations of pursuing graduate studies leading to a career combining medicine, dentistry, and anthropology, what one other ingredient might it take to get an invitation to attend Harvard University?

Attending Rhode Island College is the answer Joan M. Petracca of Providence would give.

“Rhode Island College has provided me with an excellent preparation. It got me where I wanted to go,” attests the biology major in that discipline’s honors program.

Not only has Joan been accepted at Harvard, but she’s been welcomed to another Ivy League by anyone’s definition.

Joan, the daughter of Anthony and Bernice Petracca (Bernice is a senior clerk-typist in the college’s nursing department), is one of a growing number of RIC graduates who are being invited to prestigious universities to pursue graduate studies.

A graduate of Classical High School in Providence, Joan talks in glowing terms about her college: “RIC didn’t put any limits on me. It gave me all the freedom I needed (to excell). I really liked that.”

“Some other students really don’t want that (freedom). Then they (RIC faculty) lead them by the hand,” she says, explaining that what’s good for one isn’t always good for another.

An example of her initiative and the freedom to pursue her career goals through study can be seen in her undertaking not one, but two projects in biology — both in addition to her “every heavy course load.” One is with Dr. George C. Hartmann and Dr. S. Salman Wasti on Dutch Elm Disease; the other with Dr. Lloyd H. Matsumoto on DNA replication.

Love of RIC

Her love of RIC started when she was in high school where she was doing a research project. The school, known far and wide for its excellence, is, after all, not a college, and Joan was already doing college-level work and needed supplies, only a college lab could offer.

She was introduced to Dr. Charles W. Owens, assistant professor of biology, who assisted her with her research one day each week and also provided some of the needed supplies.

“He really put the college at my disposal,” attests Joan, who knew even in high school she “wanted something in biology” for a career.

Once at RIC, she took minor studies in chemistry and anthropology and her career plans evolved from biology to medicine and dentistry. From that point her horizon expanded even further to encompass anthropology as a career goal.

Her story, however, is not without a portion of it — so that now she envisions herself as a practicing dentist.

At Harvard, she can do it all. And, that’s precisely why she chose the prestigious Ivy League institution, although the fact that she likes Boston had something to do with it.

“At Harvard they have a special program where you can combine your DMD (dental medical doctor) with another major field” — in her case, anthropology.

This August she’ll leave for Harvard for a two-week orientation period and then start her studies in September. For the first two years she will be in the medical school. In her third year she will start her studies of dentistry, and her fifth year will be devoted to research in anthropology.

There will be only 23 students at Harvard in her particular program.

continued on page 6

Pamela L. Milligan of Smithfield, a sophomore honors program student at Rhode Island College majoring in history and economics, has been named the 1984 Truman Scholar from Rhode Island.

Selected from competition among second-year college students from all the state’s colleges and universities, she is one of less than 200 individuals scholars and fellows — so honored throughout the United States this year.

As such, she will receive a scholarship, which covers tuition, fees, books and room and board up to a maximum of $5,000 per year for four years.

Milligan’s scholarship will cover her last two years of undergraduate study at RIC and two years on the graduate level.

A graduate of Classical High School, she intends to study either law or public administration after graduation from RIC.

RIC students:

Form Computer Tutor assistance group

A group of advanced computer students, concerned that some beginning students might be needing more help, have formed the Center Tutoring Group.

The group — now 10 members strong — was conceived and established by Shawn A. Parsons, a sophomore from Cranston, Frank Agrella, a junior from Central Falls; and James S. Ramsey, a sophomore from Providence.

Its purpose is to provide assistance to computer students who are experiencing problems with any computer courses under the 300-level. All group members have taken all of the 200-level courses themselves.

They are prepared to assist students with computer concepts rather than with program details which is currently the job of the computer consultants, who are students hired by Academic Computer Services operating out of Carpenter 165, with whom they intend to work hand-in-hand.

“We also want to familiarize students with all the various computer facilities on campus and inform them of the many resources available in the common library accounts,” says Parsons.

The tutoring will be given free of charge.

During the organization process, the three founders of the group presented their idea to the mathematics/computer science department which approved the idea at their March department meeting.

Helen E. Salberg, chair of the department; Kenneth M. Long, assistant professor of computer science; and James A. Schafer, assistant professor and director of Academic Computer Services, all assisted the organization, reports Parsons.

“There are a lot of computer science students on campus and the department is overloaded,” explained Salberg, whose assessment paralleled the student continued on page 6
Named president of North Adams State

A former director of the Center for Economic Education at Rhode Island College has been appointed president of North Adams State College in Massachusetts.

Catherine A. Trienger, who served as a director at RIC under a “visiting appointment” in 1979-80, will assume her role as president of the former teachers college this summer. Her appointment was announced on March 19.

North Adams State is a liberal arts college situated in North Adams, Mass.

After leaving RIC in 1980, Trienger served as provost and vice president for academic affairs at Central Missouri State University.

She received her bachelor of arts degree in 1958 from The College of Wooster in history, her master of arts in sociology from the University of Pennsylvania in 1962, and her Ph.D. in economics in 1970 from the University of Pennsylvania.

She studied at Harvard University’s Institute for Educational Management.

in 1977 and did post-doctoral studies, also at Harvard, in educational administration and Asian Studies in 1977-78.

Among her other administrative posts, she served in the office of the governor in Minnesota as a special assistant for education, cultural affairs, human rights, and international affairs; was special associate vice chancellor for academic affairs for the state university system in Minnesota; and was interim president of the Southwest State University in Marshall, Minn.

She also held several high administrative positions at Metropolitan State University in St. Paul and was acting provost (dean) at Calioun College at the University of the Pacific in Stockton, Calif.

Dr. Trienger was a tenured professor at Metropolitan State University and also taught at Calioun and the State University of Oenonta, N.Y.

Do you need...

25th Year Reunion

The Class of 1959, the last to graduate from Rhode Island College of Education and the first to graduate from the Mt. Pleasant campus, will hold its 25th year reunion celebration at the Bimihore Plaza Hotel on commencement evening, May 20.

Three members of that class are now members of the Rhode Island College faculty: Dr. Walter A. Crocker Jr., Dr. Joseph J. McCann, and Dr. Henry P. Guillette.

Also members of the faculty and staff at that time who are not members of the Class of 1959 are also welcome to join the class for this unique gathering.

Contact Professor Guillette for more information at Ext. 9729.

Alumni giving finalist

The alumni annual giving program at Rhode Island College has been selected as a finalist in the Improvement Category in the 1984 U.S. Steel Alumni Giving Incentive Awards Program. It has been announced by the council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE).

Preliminary screening for the awards was based on the data RIC submitted in the 1982-83 “Look Ahead” report on alumni giving (CASE).

CASE reports that finalists in the Improvement Category must have shown at least a 10 percent increase in the number of alumni donors to the annual fund and at least a 25 percent increase in the alumni dollar amount given to the annual fund between 1981-82 and 1982-83.

Completed entry materials will be submitted prior to the April 25 deadline by James E. Gilefreet, director of development who heads the program, and Holly L. Shadoian, director of alumni affairs.

Other alumni who have been selected for this award are members of the Class of 1959 and are also welcome to join the class for this unique gathering.

Contact Professor Guillette for more information at Ext. 9729.

Lisa Godinho

Wins Fulbright Grant

Lisa M. Godinho of Providence, an assistant professor in the Rhode Island College Department of Modern Languages, has received a Fulbright grant for travel and study in Brazil from June to August.

A native of the Azores, she studied at the Classical University of Lisbon, taught there for one year in Angola, and studied English at Oxford University before coming to this country, settling in the New Bedford area.

She received her bachelor’s degree at Southern Massachusetts University, also in Portuguese, in 1978. She received her MA degree at Harvard University in romance languages and literatures, and is now a doctoral candidate at Harvard in romance languages and literatures.

Professor Godinho has been on the RIC faculty since the 1979-80 academic year.

One of only 15 persons in the United States to win this scholarship this year, she will be traveling in Sao Paulo, Curitiba, Brasilia, Belem, Salvador and Rio.
INTERNATIONAL FAIR of the Foreign Visa Students Association (F.V.S.A.) held last Wednesday on the RIC Mall finds Ajanto Poovaiah from India (top) visiting with friends at the college. The mark on her forehead signifies matrimony. At far right Luis Salvador, a freshman, explains the artifacts from Ecuador-South American, to Laila Pato, while (above) Elsa Dias stands in front of some Chinese art at the China booth. She is a student at RIC. At right is a close-up of a table cloth at the fair.

What's News
Photos
by
Peter P. Tobia
Is Veteran of desegregation struggle

by Laurence J. Saxon, Jr.

World War Two provided much of the momentum for the gathering force of desegregation which reached legal culmination in 1954 with the famous case Brown vs. Board of Education of Topeka, Kansas. The de facto achievement of desegregation has taken a good deal longer.

Dr. John A. Finger, Jr. — known universally as "Jack" — is a veteran participant in the social movement to integrate the schools of America. Brown vs. Board of Education launched the massive social reorganization 30 years ago. At Rhode Island College the court decision and its ramifications will be commemorated May 2 and 3 with a conference.

Jack Finger, professor of education, at RIC since 1962, remembers vividly what it was like at the start of the movement.

His first encounter with the reality of segregation was during his military service. He recalls for a visitor how he, a native of Winchester, Massachusetts, felt boar­ ing a ferry for Newport News and the Norfolk Navy Yard in Virginia. One side of the boat was for whites and the other was for blacks, he explains. It was a shock. So was riding the bus where black people were separated but unequally. It was inconceivable that the court could have ruled otherwise than it did in Brown.

However, what neither Finger nor anyone else could have predicted precisely was the degree of resistance and the number of delaying actions which would follow.

"I wonder whether people thought it would be such a long tedious process in 1954," he muses.

"The fact that some people were unwilling to even admit a black student to a white school after the Brown decision wasn't something I expected. I think many people didn't expect that." Building upon the legal foundation that had been laid with Brown was the momentum for the gathering action which would follow. The de facto achievement of desegregation has taken a good deal longer.

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As Finger was very busy.

"The armed forces had begun to desegregate facilities, however, and the upheaval caused by the war had begun to break down barriers and prejudices. Labor shortages created new opportunities and the Roosevelt administration put non­ discrimination clauses in defense contracts."

Just the experiences that thousands and thousands of military people had set the stage for the Brown decision," Finger observes.

"Everyone knew that separate but equal schools were unjust and were separate but unequal. It was inconceivable that they could have ruled other than it did in Brown."

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Charles D. Walton, director of Rhode Island College's Urban Educational Center, a black man who grew up in the South, has vivid memories of life in segregated schools and of the impact of the landmark Brown v. Board of Education Supreme Court decision which abolished the "separate-but-equal" doctrine.

The landmark decision came after he had finished high school in Raleigh, N.C.

"It was during his high school years," he says, "that the injustices of the separate but equal educational facilities first became apparent to him."

"These schools (black segregated) were inferior. Our textbooks were always used...texts that whites had used first, but we had to pay the same price for them as if they were new," he noted.

"I encountered first hand the racial slurs. This was my first confrontational experience of being in an all-white setting where people were actually hostile to you," he said.

After only one semester there, he transferred to an all-black institution.

Walton feels the Supreme Court decision "really made a revolution in education for both blacks and whites."

Walton said the decision abolishing separate but equal schools "dramatically changed the economic system which both blacks and whites had suffered under."

The integration movement has, consequently, helped both educationally and economically.

He said whites in the South had benefited from segregation while blacks and poor whites had suffered. The economically-advantaged whites had used the poor whites to help keep blacks down, thus pitting one race against the other to maintain the status quo.

"(They poor whites) could never understand this," he said.

Walton feels that today "Reagan is so well liked in the South" because people see him giving them alternatives to integration.

"What's taking place now is probably as significant as the whole battle of desegregation -- they're resegregating schools" through tax breaks to private schools and the rise of "Christian" based schools.

"An integral part of this movement toward equality were the Voting Rights Act of 1965 and the affirmative action move."

"It was a much bigger issue than just education. It meant better trained black people who would be getting better jobs -- in some instances, replacing whites in the labor force."

The decision said to whites that democracy would be practiced, that black and whites in the public domain would have to share, and many of the whites in the South hadn't expected this, noted Walton.

Consequently, there was backlash and a resurgence of the Ku Klux Klan activity, some of which he was witness to.

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"When you see the progress in the South today among blacks, it is a direct result of opening up public education," said Walton, who adds it will be interesting to see the South in another 10 years when people come to fully realize this is the law.

"He emphasized that "institutional racism still, by and large, is the greatest impediment to black progress, whether in the North or South."

"Brown v. the Board of Education confronted this institutional racism and challenged it as it's been practiced in America," said Walton.
It's off to Harvard
continued from page 1
After obtaining her DMD, she "will very likely" set up practice in Rhode Island and look to the opportunity of serving as a consultant in anthropology. Asked if she could expect many consulting jobs in Rhode Island, she said, "No," but explained that consulting requests could come from anywhere and she would be ready.

An inquisitive reporter asked further if it were necessary for her to travel to, say, Africa as a consultant, would she go. "I would do it," was her firm reply.

Lest the reader think Joan Petracca is completely wrapped in the sciences, it's important to note that she loves to read, particularly the mystery stories of Edgar Allan Poe, Agatha Christie and Arthur Conan Doyle; collect shells (both from the beaches and from other collectors/dealers); and knit — "my all-time favorite hobby."

She’s also a locator for the Holy Cross Church and this year served as a locator for the televised Thanksgiving Day Mass with the Rev. Louis Gelineau, bishop of Providence. She also serves as an usher at the Providence Performing Arts Theater.

She’s studied drawing and painting, ballet and dance, and has taken Third Curriculum courses in tennis, tap, ballet and acrobatics. As one might expect, her activity achievements in academia find her on the dean’s list; named to Who’s Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges, and as an officer in the Math & Computer Science Club and member of the Physical Science and Biology clubs.

That she received so many invitations to attend big-name universities for her graduate work "speaks well of RIC," she says, as she raises her finger to indicate RIC is Number 1 in her book.

Keeping Score
with Kathy Feldmann

Pitches no-hitter: A first for RIC softball

Junior Paula Pistacchio of North Providence fulfilled the first no-hitter in the history of RIC’s fast-pitched softball when the Anchormen took on Salem State.

Paula was so intent on doing her best for the team that she didn’t know about the no-hitter until after the final out in the 6-0 victory when the entire team went out to congratulate her.

Pistacchio had three strikeouts and two walks during the game. The victory was truly a team effort, according to Paula.

One of the important defensive plays came in the fourth inning when Junior Carol Lynch turned a ground ball into a sacrifice fly as she tagged the Salem State runner going to second and threw to first. The biggest play of the game came in the final inning with Salem up with one out. The Salem baserunner hit a pop fly over the head of third baseman Monica Benette but RIC’s shortstop, Lori Green, saved the no-hitter with a diving catch near the left field line.

Sophomore Kim Smith had a triple and Smith, Greene and Lori Palagi had two hits each for the Anchormen.

COMPUTER
continued from page 1

Computer Tutor organizers are trying to attract more students to the program.

"These students volunteered this service and started the group on their own," notes Salberg, who sees Computer Tutor as a "good service" to RIC students and "a splendid example of student initiative at work."

The group’s next objective is "to fit into the college framework and obtain funding," according to Parson.

He emphasized that Computer Tutor continues the rest of this semester. The organizers say they hope the group will be able to continue next academic year and beyond.

An inquisitive reporter asked, "Are there any students needing help who can get tutoring?"

"Tutors will be in Game 274 Mondays through Fridays from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. and on Fridays from 10 a.m. until 11 p.m."

The tutor group is made up of students in addition to the three organizers — Ken Cadwell, Joe Burgess, Robyn Brown, Gail Gardiner, Ann Fagali, Jude Schroeder and LuAnn Petracca.

TRUMAN
continued from page 1

An award ceremony for the newly named Truman Scholars will be held at the Harry S. Truman Presidential Library in Independence, Mo., on Sunday, May 13. The scholars will be bused for their travel expenses to this ceremony.

Sophomore Lyn Luther with 17 at-bats is leading the Anchormen with a .229 batting average. Palagi is .310 with 29 at bats and Greene is batting .294. RIC’s Record is now 1-8.

Karl Allaire, junior shortstop from Woonsocket, is being touted as one of the premier players in New England for the 1984 season.

Coming off a sophomore year during which he hit .331 with 18 doubles (second in the country) and a summer with the Hyannis team in the Cape Cod League, this season should really be something to look forward to for Karl.

This fall, Allaire was chosen the top player in a try-out camp at Brown University for the U.S. Olympic Baseball Team. This honor earned him a trip to Louisville, Ky., with those selected from other camps across the nation.

Since then, Allaire has become a member of the United States National Team and will compete in the Olympic Games in Los Angeles this summer.
Correspondent to speak on Latin America

James N. Goodsell, The Christian Science Monitor's Latin American correspondent, will speak on "Crisis in Latin America" on Thursday, April 26, at 2 p.m. in Gaige Auditorium.

Sponsored by the history department and the Rhode Island College Latin American Student Organization (LASCO), Goodsell will place special emphasis on recent events in Central America, and discuss Latin America's past, present and future relations between the United States and Cuba. The public is invited free of charge.

A reception will be held in Gage Hall 205 following Goodsell's address. Students and faculty are invited.

Goodsell has also been the Monitor's Latin American correspondent for the past 20 years. He is a Ph.D. in history, and is the author of several books, including The Quest for Change in Latin America (Oxford University Press, 1970) and Castro's Personal Revolution in Cuba (Cuba: University Press, 1974).

He is currently preparing a film documentary on Central America for WGBH in Boston.

Summer session registration deadlines

Schedules of course offerings along with fee information and registration forms are available at the Records Office in Roberts Hall. Seating is limited, so register early.

What's News

DEADLINE

Tuesday

4:30 p.m.
REHEARSING FOR KISS ME KATE at RIC are Fred Anzevino and Mary Phillips. The Cole Porter musical comedy will be staged in Roberts Auditorium from April 26-29. "We've used other techniques to make an interesting presentation, including a question and answer session, a tape recording of an Egyptian children's song and a refreshing candy characteristic of children."

"Yes, it's not a crash course in English literature, but rather a song from the musical score in Kiss Me Kate, a Cole Porter musical comedy to be performed by the Rhode Island College Theatre Department."

Adapted from the book by the same title written by Bella and Samuel Spewack, Kiss Me Kate is the story of a quarreling divorced couple starring in a musical version at RIC, where they were on leave from teaching at the University of the Sham of the Show as they're acting the leads.

Kiss Me Kate is directed by Dr. Raymond Pizzuti, professor of theatre. Musical director is Dr. Robert Elam, professor of music. It will be performed in Roberts Hall Auditorium from April 26 to April 29. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday performances begin at 8 p.m. Sunday matinee begins at 3 p.m. General admission is $4; non-RIC students, $3; tickets are available at the Box Office in Roberts Hall. Appearing in addition to Anzevino and Phillips are Dennis P. Pedetl of Woonsocket, Paul J. Pacheco of Pawtucket, Linda Bebele of Lin- 

Be prepared: it's time to "Brush Up Your Shakespeare." And the place is Rhode Island College.

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Youngest lecturer ever at Wheaton courtesy of RIC

Rhode Island College, through the husband and wife team of Drs. Richard and Carol M. F. Loeb, has produced the youngest lecturer ever to step in front of a college class ever.

Their seven-year-old daughter, Josina, recently gave an hour-and-a-half lecture to anthropology students at Wheaton College to everyone's delight. She told the students in a senior seminar of her experiences as a child in the Sudan and Egypt. She had spent two-and-one-half years there with her parents, both associate professors of anthropology at RIC who were on leave from teaching there.

The invitation to lecture at Wheaton stemmed from a social meeting with Dr. Christine Obbo of that institution's sociology and anthropology department and her reading of an article about Josina's experiences in the Sudan which had been published in the anthropology journal Human Organization. The article was entitled "Josina's Observations of Sudanese Culture.

After being treated to lunch on March 28 at the Wheaton Faculty Center, Josina began the seminar, at which other faculty members and her parents also attended, with a prepared report on the "Sudan Saga" or market place in Khart- 

Tour of the audience Next Graham (Petruccio) and the transformed Eliza Dussault (Katherine), played by Fred Anzevino of Providence and Mary Ellen Phillips of East Providence, respectively, parallel the plot of The Taming of the Shrew as they're acting the leads.

Kiss Me Kate is directed by Dr. Raymo- 

MONDAY, APRIL 23
10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Spring Plant Sale. RIC Greenhouse adjacent to Clarke Science.

11 a.m. to Noon - Career Services. Resume workshops. Craig Lee, Room 103.

11 a.m. to 1 p.m. - Health Watch. Donovan Dining Center.

Noon to 1 p.m. - Meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous. Student Union, Room 310.

2 to 4 p.m. - Career Services. Interview workshops. Craig Lee, Room 104.

3 p.m. - Men's Baseball. RIC vs. Bryant College. Away.

3:30 p.m. - Men's Tennis. RIC vs. Roger Williams College. Away.

6:30 p.m. - Black Women in Film. Ethel Waters in "The Member of the Wed- 

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8 p.m. to midnight - Sounds From the Basement. WRIC disc jockeys playing live requests every Monday night. Admission is 50¢. Student Union, Room 305.

SUNDAY, APRIL 29
11 a.m. to 3 p.m. - Health Watch. Donovan Dining Center.


11 a.m. to 1 p.m. - Health Watch. Donovan Dining Center.

Noon to 1 p.m. - Meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous. Student Union, Room 310.

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