What can you do about world hunger?

by George LaTour

This Thanksgiving, most of us in the United States will sit down to a more-than-plentiful harvest meal. But on that same day, for many people in Asia, Africa and Latin America, there will be little or nothing to eat. For the thousands of starving people in Ethiopia it will more than likely be just another day of too little, too late.

The immediate cause for the famine in Africa is a widespread drought which has lasted for some three years. Signs of it are everywhere: thin, listless children, dying animals, corn shriveled in the fields, and everywhere dust.

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People face starvation, according to Oxfam America, a non-profit, international development agency that funds self-help programs in these affected countries. Food and economic self-reliance are a major emphasis in the programs for each country.

The local efforts are in conjunction with Oxfam America. All monies received by the university, both human and staff, will select themselves to fast for one day or at least part of a day.

The campaign to win voter approval for the bond issue question which will provide funds to convert Whipple Gym into a center for industrial and business technology.

The former assistant dean of education at RIC, Walter Crocker, has been known at RIC for his ability to marshal disparate resources with consummate skill, and a half constructed a "series of building efforts to make a point with consummate skill. For the first time since 1971 Walter Crocker will get up in the morning this week and head for some work place other than the Rhode Island College Campus.

Staying today Crocker will assume the duties of dean of the college of continuing education at the University of Rhode Island.

The 46-year-old RIC alumnus accepted the post after 13 years of service at RIC, the last six as dean of the school of continuing education and school services.

For the bespectacled, inveterate pipe smoker Crocker the move from the state college to the state university means a move from one alma mater to another. Crocker earned a masters degree in history from URI in 1969. (The dean also holds a doc-torate in education from Wayne State University).

A former junior high school social studies are an English teacher in East Providence, Crocker served in the Peace Corps and the Job Corps as well during the 1960's.

"I see it as an opportunity to provide more resources at the university, both human and material," he pointed out.

"I feel I came to RIC at the right time for the college," he observed. "In 1971 it appeared as if the college was just beginning to reach out."

The former assistant dean of education studies at RIC (prior to becoming dean of continuing education and community services), Crocker believes that the past decade and a half constructed a "series of building units to bring the college to its publics."

"We broadened our offerings to go well beyond professional education," he says. One of the services which has emerged is the delivery of education to off-campus locations.

"I'm very pleased with RIC's ability in the last few years to bring liberal arts and technical courses on site to employees throughout the state."

For new challenge at URI

Walter Crocker bids RIC farewell

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DR. ROGER A. SIMONS, associate professor of mathematics and computer science, gave a talk at the ACM annual conference on the “Fifth Generation Challenge” in San Francisco on Oct. 10. Entitled “Parallel Algorithms for Unification and Other Complete Problems in P,” his talk was based on his research with Dr. Jeffrey Vitter of Brown University.

He described their algorithm for fast parallel computation of an operation which is frequently used in certain computer software. This algorithm enables currently experimental, parallel processing computers to do this computation faster than possible on a conventional computer, contrary to previous computational complexity theory.

Their work also includes proposing a new theoretical model for parallel computational complexity.

DR. MARYLIN G. EANET, associate professor of elementary education and coordinator of the Reading and Study Skills Center, delivered a paper at the Col¬lege Reading Association conference in Washington, D.C. on Oct. 24.

Her subject was “How to Help College Students Change From Passive to Active Learners.” With this conference, Professor Eanet has presented at national reading and education conferences and FIeld Experiences at the ninth annual conference held Nov. 7 and 8 in Worcester, Mass.

DR. MERADITH McMUNN, assistant professor of English, presented papers entitled “Drama and Ceremony at the Scottish Court in the Fifteenth Century” at the Fourth International Conference on Scot¬tish Languages and Literature at Johannes Gutenberg University, Mainz, Germany, and “Children as Actors and Audience in Early Scottish Drama” at the 19th International Congress on Medieval Studies at Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo, Mich. She was also a participant at the Fifth Medieval Ser¬mon Studies Conference at Oxford University.

The department of mathematics and computer science is now accepting applica¬tions for pre-registration for spring 1985. This computer science curriculum is designed for those who are interested in software as well as those who wish to do this computation faster than possible on a conventional computer, contrary to previous computational complexity theory.

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Of note...

IRMA M. MORETTINI, senior clerk-typist in the office of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, is a patient in the intensive care unit of Miriam Hospital.

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Nursing students to conduct health fair

The third annual Health Fair, a community service project of the community health nursing students at Rhode Island College and the West Warwick Senior Center, will be held at the senior center Nov. 14 from 4:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Entitled “Be A Winner! Join the Race to Good Health,” the fair offers services to the senior citizens based on needs as deter¬mined by a community study done by the RIC nursing students which identified health risk factors for the population of the West Warwick area.

Services provided at the health fair include blood pressure screening, nutritional and mental health counseling, family health information, medication information and stress management.

Flu vaccine will also be available for a nominal fee.

Along with the nursing students, a registered dietician, local pharmacists, staff of the Kent County Mental Health Association, and members of the state Department of Health will be available to assist with health-related questions and to offer guidance.

The health fair will be under the direction of Marianne Barba, M.S. and R.N., assistant professor of nursing at RIC.

Impetuous rhythm

“Impetuous Rhythm: The Score for Battlehip Potemkin” will be the title of the public lecture by film critic and English department faculty member Dr. Kathryn M. Kalinak on Wednesday, Nov. 14, at 2 p.m., in Flagg Hall.

Discussion and refreshments will follow.

The lecture is being sponsored by the Rhode Island College English Department Colloquium Series in conjunction with Film Studies and the RIC Film Society.
What's News @ RIC, Tuesday, Nov. 13, 1984—Page 3

**WORLD HUNGER**

(continued from page 1)

in its most recent fiscal year through private donations from individuals, religious, civic and educational groups.

Oxfam America's "*Fast for a World Harvest*" provides a symbolic way to participate in the struggles of the poor and hungry in many parts of the world. A fast involves taking the day off from food or drink or giving up certain foods over a period of time. You can fast for a meal, 8 or 12 hours, a simple meal of rice and water or not eat junk foods or meat.

"However you define it, fasting is bringing a special awareness of those millions of people in the world who live with so little," says Oxfam, adding, "For many Oxfam supporters that awareness has been a first step in a commitment to take action so that others will have the simple justice of eating."

At book bazaar, craft sale

**Mother Goose at RIC**

Mother Goose herself will make an appearance from noon to 1 p.m. on High School All-Staters, Tom Cimino from "Yes, That's easy. I will mis...the high note of West Warwick, Wayne Griffin of "This is a great day for Rhode Island College and all of us can feel justly proud of the way in which we conducted this effort."

In relating the triumph Foley took time to reflect upon the importance of the decision to know when it is reaching the limit of its desire to cooperate at least in the area of continuing education. "I think that President Sweet would be especially pleased with the outcome of the referendum," Foley said.

at Rhode Island College throughout the campaign. The committee is to be very pleased with and appreciative of the tremendous vote of support the people gave to Rhode Island College and Millie Ruscito, in charge of publicity for the association.

The Anchormen placed 26th as team, 10th in the scoring for the men, and 12th for the women. The men's harriers were in action at the Cronkite Invitational at Providence, R.I. on the 8th and 9th.

While Hall has been the pacesetter for the women, yet another junior has been the pacemaker for the men. Mitch Delaney has led the Anchormen in every meet except for two and was 74th in 19:52. Deery worked on that and improved her score in that one and he was injured in that one and did not compete. Delaney placed 73rd with a time of 26:23 in the five-mile event in the N.E.A.

The Anchormen placed 26th as team, competing against 16 Division I and II teams in the 28-team field. Division I Boston College took the team title.

The other Anchormen finishers were John Duffin (143), Joe Zaffellini (177), Frank Mullin (180) and Steve Segatore (181). The women's racing squad was the first squad in competition.

The other Anchorwomen finishers were Jennifer Brown (62), Barbara Smith (63), and Kathleen Haddad (71). The women's running squad is the first squad in all of the men's running competition.

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Paul Berliner, a protege of Zimbabwe's master mbira players, will perform "Shona Music and the Mbira" Tuesday, Nov. 13, at 7 p.m. in Rhode Island College's Walsh Gym Dance Studio, Room 106. Sponsored by the False Face Society of RIC, the Performing and Fine Arts Commission, the anthropology/geography department, and the African/American Studies Program, the performance is free and open to the public.

In Zimbabwe, the Shona musicians play mbira, some with as many as 50 keys, in large gourds for amplification and polyphony in which a single musician can perform many melodies, creating the effect of yodeling to melodic riffing and harmonizing. The result is a sophisticated polyphony in which a single musician can play many melodies, creating the effect of an entire ensemble. This complexity is enhanced by a variety of vocal parts, ranging from yodeling to melodic riffing and the performance of traditional poetic texts.

Mbira players are held in high esteem in Zimbabwe, providing music not only for religious and social occasions. At sacred ceremonies the instrument invokes ancestral spirits, bridging the world of the living with that of the departed. After many years of study, Berliner's teachers honored him with the nickname "Gwenyambira," which it reserved for skilled mbira players and performers whom they regard with special affection. He performed with them at sacred spirit possession ceremonies and experienced there the force of music in African culture.

Berliner has performed and lectured about mbira music in Africa, Canada, India, Israel and Japan as well as throughout the United States. A frequent guest soloist with the Paul Winter Consort, he has performed on the group's album "Common Ground" and has produced two albums from field recordings: "The Soul of Mbira" and "Shona Music and Mbira." His book, "The Soul of Mbira: Music and Traditions of the Shona People of Zimbabwe," was released in 1978 and remains highly regarded.

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Shona music and the Mbira

Paul Berliner

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