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What's News @ Rhode Island College

Rhode Island College

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U.S., RIC collegians prove to be lonely

LINCOLN, NEB. (CPS) — College students, particularly entering freshmen, are more lonely than virtually all other social groups except single parents, alcoholics, and some high school students according to a researcher at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

“We have been very surprised to learn that college students are one of the more lonely groups of people we’ve surveyed over the years,” says John Woodward, UNL professor of human development, who has given his loneliness test to thousands of control — including over 400 students — over the past 20 years.

After asking respondents how they feel and behave in specific social situations, Woodward rates them on what he calls his “loneliness index.”

“Conversely, what we have found is that high school and college students — who you would expect to be the least lonely of all people — rate very high on the loneliness index, while the elderly — who you would expect to feel lonely — are the lowest group on the loneliness index,” he reports.

The only people lonelier than entering freshmen, he says, are alcoholics, single parents, rural high school students and female, inner-city high schoolers.

“We believe that students are lonely for a good many reasons,” Woodward explains.

Most of them have been uprooted from their family support systems, their life-long friends, and are searching to establish a new support system in a strange place among strange people.”

In addition, he says, “college collegians are in a period when they have to make new decisions about all sorts of things — committing themselves to college, building a philosophy of life, setting rules for moral behavior, what classes they will take — and decision-making is a very lonely process.”

“College is indeed a time of shaping and building for students,” agrees Thomas Cummings, a counseling education specialist at Arizona State University.

“You can be in the middle of New York City and still be lonelier than if you were

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**COLLEGE JOINS**

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All instructions from R to through graduate school are eligible for assistance from the consortium, but efforts initially are being directed at the junior college and grade 12 grade levels, says McClelland.

He points out that at about the same time the consortium ultimately approved the state approved a basic education plan. In essence this time he says, the state is demanding that every school to maintain minimum standards in writing instruction. There must be a writing component in all subject matter areas, for instance, says McClelland.

In addition to the new standards, the State Department of Education administers something called the Rhode Island School Improvement Fund.

McClelland observes that monies from this fund are available to all school systems. School boards of all districts can apply to the state for assistance to the consortium.

"One program the consortium is launching is a pilot seminar for training consultants for schools," says McClelland.

Participating in the seminar in addition to the consortium executive committee members are two teachers from each of the school systems of Cranston, East Greenwich, Lincoln, North Providence and West Warwick, McClelland explains.

The seminar consists of a 10 weeks series of meetings. The instructors at URI each Wednesday afternoon from 2-5 p.m. They will outline the results of her research at the 1985 national meeting of the National Association of Secondary School Principals in Washington, D.C. is attended by deans of the state's education associations such as the Reading Association, the social studies teachers, math and science teachers and the Rhode Island Council of Teachers of English.

The topics of these meetings have been academic program articulation between secondary and post-secondary schools and the Rhode Island School Improvement Fund.

"McClelland called the consortium a "historical organization" in that there has been formal organization of a joint activity among all of these institutions for the first time.

**BUILDS WHEELS**

(continued from page 1)

cost-cutting which helped him to keep the price down. For example, the front wheels list for $420. Because of his knowledge of the bicycle business, he was able to get them for $412.

The small 14 inch high speed hand rims which are used to propel the chair cost just $75. "It took a great deal of research and adding, "medical staff is expensive."

Rappaport's experience and ability came into play when it was necessary to fabricate the frame and some of the moving parts of his chair.

The calm-mannered former bike and motorcycle racer claims that he has "spatial cognition." He says that he has the ability to see angles perfectly from different perspectives. This proved invaluable when he took time to bend tubing for the frame and construct the forks for the front wheel.

He points out for a reporter the axle mountings which are blocks of aluminum drilled out with so many holes that they look like a modern sculpture of Swiss cheese. Each hole is a possible mounting point for the rear wheels.

This design allows the rider to position the large driving wheels wherever they are most comfortable and effective for him. Canted outward at the bottom, inward at the top, the wheels provide the maximum traction with the minimum amount of wear.

The entire chair weighs only 16 lbs. Rappaport used chrome-molybdenum tubing for the frame, aluminum for other parts such as the tie rods, the aforementioned steering mechanism, the wheels, forks and seat.

He shaped the tubing, brazed it, assembled the rear wheels and made the front wheels with himself on the lathes himself. The tie rods, he added, "are not designed for bike wheels."

Besides his work as a bicycle mechanic, he has served as mail room supervisor at Narragansett Publishing, Inc. While at RIC he worked in the college's mail room as a student employee.

Now he is looking for a position with a large corporation in which he will be able to utilize his design and mechanical talents for the large corporations.

He is also looking for that person who will be the right match for his machine. He has approached the Paraplegia Association of Rhode Island, he says, in efforts to locate a good driving wheelchair. He has approached the Paraplegia Association of Rhode Island, he says, in efforts to locate a good driving wheelchair. He will tell you, pointing out that it is being considered for Olympic competition, that the chair he built will find its way into the gold medal winner's circle. He believes it belongs there.

**APARTHEID**

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signs — termed "a rally for sign making" — are expected to get to City Hall by 4 p.m. RIC participation in the activities surrounding International Apartheid Day being hosted by the Union of Minority programs and services.

The activities are free and open to members of the college community.

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**BUBBLE WHEELS**

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Anecdotally, the speciality version also aids in providing maneuverability. "This is a better fork than you would find on the most expensive because I used sealed bearings," Rappaport says with obvious pride.

His discourse on the merits of various features of the machine grows more and more arcane as Rappaport continues.

There is talk of rear tires which are glued onto the rim and which can be inflated to 110 lbs. to minimize friction (the front wheels which are pneumatics hold 75 lbs.). There is a description of how he assembled the wheels himself. They are "radically faces," he explains. It refers to the conformation of the spokes, and it is done to the enhancing the capabilities of the chair.

From the esoteric to the commonplace Rappaport seems to delight in telling people about his project. The seat, he will tell you, is made from Duron spinlocker cloth "right out of a sail loft."

Rappaport received a A in the course for which he built the chair. He also graduated cum laude from RIC.

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It is the apple harvest season, so last week kids from Henry Barnard School’s
day care and first grade paid a visit to the Henry Steere Orchards in Greenville.
At the farm Rachel Pruefer, 4, (above) has her assignment for the day. Bethany
Rallis, 3, (right) reaches for the apple of her eye while Jesse Starnino, 3, and
Stefano Fortunato, 3, (below right) study the fruits which Hurricane Gloria
spared. Meanwhile Nichola Fluehr-Lobban, 4, learns about a device used to
reach down such precious apples.

What’s News Photo by Gordon E. Rowley
The women’s tennis squad has been blessed with the record-setting performance of senior captain Sue Landry over the past four years. Landry, the defending New England Division III champion, has a 3-4 career singles record and an 11-11 career record.

Herbert

She has been the heart and soul of the Anchowerwomen team and deservedly so, but there is a new kid on the block this year who has come in and made her presence known much the same as Landry did four seasons ago.

Eighteen-year-old Diane Hebert from Harrods, Rhode Island has quickly become the number two player on the squad and has challenged Landry for the top spot as well, but lost a close decision to her. She is undefeated so far this season with a 3-5 single and a 2-2 doubles mark.

She has really played well and has been a key component of the team’s success, with the squad currently undefeated at 5-0. She has been successful on the amateur level as well and has been ranked in the Top 25 for 14 singles and in the Top 20 doubles.

The women’s tennis team has been blessed with a new kid on the block this year. Harrisville, Rhode Island has quickly been blessed with the performances of her. She has really played well and has been a success on the amateur level. She has been a success on the amateur level. She has been a success on the amateur level.

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