Director for Center for Industrial Technology…

On the mark and on the move

The last 11 months haven’t been easy for William F. Kavanaugh, director of the Rhode Island College Center for Industrial Technology. Since he took the helm of the multimillion-dollar Center in January 1990, Kavanaugh has been hanging on doors, pounding the pavement, and generally “trying to connect the manufacturing businesses with the opportunities and resources we offer at the Center.”

His job is not an easy one. There aren’t enough hours in the day, he says. “I’m still doing “PR” much of the time. But once he’s got his foot in the door, “you can’t beat him.”

Getting his foot in the door of many of Rhode Island’s largest manufacturers is only the first step of the process of “marrying” the College with the company.

“I go in and introduce them to what is available in the Center,” he said, adding that most CEO’s are not familiar with the sophistication of the training methods and equipment offered to them by the College. Hours and hours are devoted to exchanging information, and convincing companies of the importance of human development training for supervisory staff employees.

In a very short time, though, Kavanaugh has overcome many obstacles. His accomplishments keep piling up.

Michael Montigny, corporate personnel manager for East Greenwich based Amtrol Inc, an international company manufacturing life-sustaining products, said his company “couldn’t be more pleased.”

“Everyone felt that Kavanaugh did an excellent job,” according to Montigny. “When we hired Bill, our main objective was to have our employees look at education as fun and entertaining” as well as a learning process and “we proved it.”

Kavanaugh’s routine at Amtrol, Inc and other companies he has worked with is to teach classes of employees of between 15 and 20 people in three sessions (two on-site and one at the Center) in the areas of human development.

“I go in and teach them about themselves and others, and how to develop better working relations. It’s all people skills,” he said. Active participation by the students plays a key role, Kavanaugh added, with no hierarchy of personnel.

Montigny said those selected for the training are “primarily supervisors, who have high school diplomas.” The average age is “in the mid-40’s.”

“Kavanaugh has the ability to lift a person’s self-esteem and to show them what an important role they play” within the company, he said. Feedback from those who participated has been tremendous. “Many of the older employees wished they’d had the training 20 years ago.”

Forty people took part in the sessions at Amtrol, Inc., Montigny said. Further training by the College in other areas is currently under discussion.

A similar success story is told by Margaret M. Costa, a Rhode Island College alum and the human resource manager at internationally known toy manufacturer Hasbro, Inc. of Pawtucket.

Costa said “it was the right timing” for her company to get involved in the program. “It is very beneficial.”

Kavanaugh “is 60 percent” of it, “He sets up a training situation, offers a broad-based program and helps them have more insight into themselves. I think it’s the open-minded and down-to-earth” approach Kavanaugh takes with the class groups.

Costa said “the direct advantage is that people are better communicators. They are better listeners and understand that everyone’s ideas deserve attention.”

As a result of the “group classes” development, she has been able to further the in-house training more efficiently.

“We’ve kept the employees in the groups to offer our own supervisory training, and to discuss the company’s employee assistance program.”

Also, Costa said, “we are continuing to develop proposals as to what we want to offer, how to encourage employees to continue furthering their education, and what incentives are appropriate to help them to finish.”

Kavanaugh will complete the training of about 130 Hasbro Inc. employees in January. In addition to Amtrol Inc and Hasbro Inc., he also introduced the program to CVS managers and intends on completing a full session to Kenney Manufacturing Co. staff in February.

Most recently, members of the Greater Providence Chamber of Commerce Manufacturers’ Council held its December meeting in the Center.

(continued on page 4)

(continued on page 8)
Christina Noel—Third member in the Noel family to be a part of Up With People

by J. Patricia Henkin-Bookman
Student Writer

SINGING SISTERS: (l to r) Cheryl J. Noel and her sisters Christina and Charlene have all participated as members of the youthful ‘Up with People’ company.

“One of the great things is living with the host families,” Cheryl says. “We learned culture and tradition through people. Instead of just travelling and doing tourist things, we began to learn the language, to learn about our host families.”

Anyone involved with UWP knows the city of Woonsocket in Rhode Island. It has always felt a deep commitment to assisting its young people in participating in this culturally rich program. Woonsocket is especially well known for its hospitality in each year’s cast members, as well as sponsorships of each show. In 1983, they formed a non-profit organization called The Spirit Express which is a committee of friends and relatives of UWP students. It helps the student and their families raise money for nation.

We learned culture and tradition through people.”

This past July, UWP marked its first 25 years in a Silver Anniversary Celebration in Denver, Colorado. An open invitation to join the festivities was extended to more than 12,000 former students, 350,000 host families, and thousands of donors and participants all over the world.

In 1968, UWP was invited to perform in the USSR. The cast toured Leningrad, Kalinin and Moscow. In 1987, UWP established the International Alumni Association to provide a means for alumni to keep in contact. In 1985, UWP returned to Beijing and other cities in the People’s Republic of China.

Matheson inducted into NETC College of Fellows

At an awards ceremony of the New England Theatre Conference (NETC) in Portland, ME last month Barbara B. Matheson, costume designer, was inducted into the NETC College of Fellows, an honorary society that recognizes long-term service to NETC and to New England Theatre.

Matheson of Auburndale, MA, said that this induction is “a generalized honorary recognition” for her work in the field over the last 30 years.”

“it’s nice to be recognized,” she said.

Her work has included numerous workshops, panels and demonstrations having to do with costume in some way.

Robert F. Carey
Warwick resident Robert F. Carey, director of the Center for Evaluation and Research (CERRIC), recently presented two papers at the annual conference of the National Council of Teachers of English in Atlanta. The first paper was titled “Alternative Assessments for Literacy Programs.” The second, an invited address, was titled, “Evaluation of Polio Democratic Thought from the Renaissance to the Great Emigration: Essays and Documents.”

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Reducing childrens’ fears with the ‘bear’ facts

by Cynthia L. Sousa

To a small child, not much is scarier that a visit to the doctor’s office. That’s why junior and senior nursing students who are members of the Rhode Island College Student Nurses Association (RICSNA) or the National Student Nurses’ Association (NSNA) decided to hold a teddy bear clinic for the youngsters of the Cooperative Playgroup on campus.

The clinic, held Wednesday, Nov. 28 in the nursing resource lab in Fogarty Life Science, was organized by senior nursing student Deborah Terpening, NSNA president, to help the children “get accustomed to the procedures carried out in a doctor’s office or hospital and to emphasize that there is nothing to be afraid of.”

About a dozen children between the ages of three and five brought their teddy bears, stuff animals or dolls to the clinic to have a simulated physical examination performed on them.

The toddlers looked comical as they tried on face masks, caps and shoe covers like the ones worn in hospitals. Some of them put them on their dolls or stuffed animals.

Stations were set up in the lab, each containing a bed with a teddy bear or doll in it.

The first station was the “heart beat” station where each child got to listen to his or her own heartbeat with a stethoscope and then got to check his or her toy with it.

The children seemed to relax with each demonstration. They were taking their doll’s temperatures, getting their teddy bear’s “boo-boos” bandaged or their broken legs put in splints!

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One station had an intravenous bottle hanging and a nursing student explained to the children that that was how you eat when you are too sick to chew. “No, it doesn’t hurt,” she guaranteed.

The children looked comical as they tried on face masks, caps and shoe covers like the ones worn in hospitals. Some of them put them on their dolls or stuffed animals.

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Rhode Island College receives Muratore ‘treasures’

The “treasures” of education are best found in the libraries of our colleges and universities.

Most often these precious items come to our schools in the form of “gifts” from philanthropic minded people who respect the process of learning and have high regard for the preservation of our society.

Joseph R. Muratore is among those people. And Rhode Island College is among those institutions of higher education to become the recipient of some of these “treasures.”

An internationally known figure for his research on the origin of Christopher Columbus and his rare collection of Colombianas, Muratore is also well-known in the Italian-American community of Rhode Island for his service and commitment to its heritage.

This gracious man’s 20 years or more of work “will truly benefit the students of Rhode Island College as they conduct research and study history, and also the hundreds of other people who use our library,” said Richard A. Olson, director of Adams Library, which will house the Joseph R. Muratore Collection.

A Warwick businessman, Muratore commissioned the Rhode Island College mural, a pictoral history in itself of the buildings and symbolisms of the College. He also had commissioned and has given to the College the "CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS: Admiral of the Ocean Seas.

(continued on page 4)
Serious fun!

The atmosphere at Donovan Dining Center last week during the Rhode Island College third annual Service Recognition Day, honoring employees who have worked at the College for at least 10 years was more festive than ceremonial. [In fact, it was downright fun!]

Following Director of Personnel Gordon N. Sundberg's brief introductory remarks, President John Nazarian took to the mike with an informal approach to the occasion combining serious appreciation of service to the College with familial humor.

Nazarian finished his friendly exchange with the audience with a strong "thank you for the unselfish work you do as part of the Rhode Island College family." At which time, Sundberg and President Nazarian, assisted by Kathryn M. Sasso, director of conferences and special events, and Roben K. Bower, director of communications began announcing the names of those people being honored.

About 100 members of the faculty, administration, and staff attended.

A short reception ended "a very nice time."

(Upper right): Those recognized for 30 years or more of service to the College are (l to r standing) John E. Browning, Samuel Han, Carl E. Stenberg. (Seated) John E. de Melim, Jr., Rose C. Merenda and Ira J. Lough.


The following persons' names were inadvertently omitted from the list for Service Recognition Day which appeared in the last issue of What's News:

**10-YEAR SERVICE AWARDS**

Administrative Staff
Alyson B. Fruite '98
Gordon E. Rowley '88
Support Staff
Norman Hamal Jr. '90

**15-YEAR SERVICE AWARDS**

Faculty
Frances Benen
Alice E. Cary
Jerry L. Melzarino
Tom M. Randall

Administrative Staff
Marjam Z. Bojsian
Holly L. Shandlian

Support Staff
Rosina Mauraca

**20-YEAR SERVICE AWARDS**

Faculty
Louis E. Allisone

**THIRTY-YEAR HONOR ROLL**

Dorothy R. Pieniadz
1956-1986

Roman Kaplan, RIC student in the Center for Industrial Technology guides tour of some of the 35 business men and women.

**GIFTS**

(continued from page 3)

"Mr. Muratore is an interesting and generous man," Olson said. "One who gets involved with the community and the kind of person who does something about what he believes in."

Olson, along with Renato Leonelli, Rhode Island College professor emeritus and Foundation member, worked with Muratore to decide which of the hundreds of special items he owns would become a part of the College's special Muratore collection.

Among those items include: Italian Consular correspondence, papers and memorabilia; materials relating to Christopher Columbus, including extensive photographic reproductions of documents signed by King Ferdinand, Queen Isabella and Columbus, and reproductions of Columbus' stipulations, grants and privileges, contracts with the Crown, A Papal Bull, and other documents.

In addition, certain papers, books and records of the Rhode Island Quincentenary Celebration committee; reproductions of Vespucci and Verrazzano signatures, documents relating to the dedication of the bust of Mgr. Galiano Cavallaro in Providence, Oct. 21, 1979, photographs which depict people, places, and events related to the history of the Italian-American Community in Rhode Island, books on Italian genealogy and coats of arms; early opera recordings, and various materials which document the civic, historical, and cultural activities of Mr. Muratore.
Marlene Lopes: Providing special care of Special Collections

by George LaTour

"I see a lot of people who are uncomfortable or intimidated by libraries," says Marlene L. Lopes of Providence, Rhode Island College's new Special Collections librarian.

And, this concerns her.

She sees libraries as an invaluable source of education through the wealth of information resting on their many shelves or in library files of one sort or another. It is important to her "to make people feel comfortable" so that they can derive the full benefit of the stored knowledge of the ages that most libraries afford their users.

Towards this end, Lopes extends a cordial "welcome" to all members of the RIC campus to visit the James P. Adams Library in general and her Special Collections section in particular.

Located on the fourth floor, her section consists of special collections of such things as faculty research and publications; the College Archives in which are stored historical records, including many from the College itself — it boasts copies of the College yearbook going back to 1829; and center for gift books received by the library from individuals or estates and the like.

Do just drop by

"People do just drop by or come in to do research," says Lopes. Often this requires that she do some research on their behalf before they can even begin.

For this and other tasks, which she very much seems to enjoy, she is usually on hand. But, "sometimes," she explains, she has to go off campus for a portion of a day to check out book collections for one reason or another.

She suggests that those who would like to visit Special Collections call her first to assure she will be there to assist them.

She also gets telephone inquiries and "spite a bit of mail," most of which involve questions that need to be answered by people doing research, including those who want information about RIC or about education in Rhode Island.

After all, RIC IS the bastion of teacher education in Rhode Island!

An outstanding librarian

Richard A. Olsen, director of the Adams Library, terms Lopes "a very fine librarian," whom he is pleased has been appointed to Special Collections "as she did an outstanding job as head reference librarian."

While Special Collections is a new venture for her, Lopes says she's worked in most other areas of the library and still "covers" the reference desk from time to time.

Lopes came to the College as a head reference librarian in 1983 with the academic rank of assistant professor.

She has high praise for Sally Wilson, her predecessor, who retired last spring after some 25 years at RIC.

"Sally has a wonderful knowledge of the College and of Rhode Island," assures Lopes.

"And, she has indicated she is always willing to be contacted by me for any information I might need," adds Lopes.

It is fitting

It is, perhaps, fitting that this woman of Cape Verdean ancestry has been appointed to her current position as Special Collections librarian.

One of the largest special collections on Cape Verde peoples in their native islands and in America is housed here, thanks to Richard A. Lobban Jr., professor of anthropology at RIC, who initially donated some of his printed materials and studies of Cape Verde and its peoples.

Others from RIC whose studies of Cape Verdeans have added to the scope of the collection include Waltraud Berger Coli of Cranston (What's News, June 20, 1988) and Al Perretta of the department of State Library Services, says Lopes.

Born in New Bedford, Mass., a daughter of Manuel and Matilda (Costa) Lopes, she has a younger brother, James, of New York City, who serves as chief legal counsel for CBS/Fox, and two sympterg sisters, Brenda, who works with Arthur D. Little Consultants in Cambridge, Mass., and Ann, who is in public relations with an organization called Safe Kids in the Washington, D.C. area.

Lopes is a graduate of Connecticut College with a degree in English and holds a master's in library science from Syracuse University.

Among her many professional associations, she is a member of the Adams Library, terms Lopes "a very fine librarian," whom he is pleased has been appointed to Special Collections "as she did an outstanding job as head reference librarian."

She is a contributing author to the Book of Days: An Encyclopedia of Resource Guides and the Who's Who of Nobel Prize Winners, having written entries on several historically significant persons.

An abiding interest of hers, as you might expect, is Cape Verdean-American history and culture on which she conducts on-going research.

Three of her grandchildren have come from the Cape Verde islands — "probably around 1920," she says. Obviously proud of her heritage, Lopes says she hasn't yet been to Cape Verde "but I hope to someday," she adds quickly.

She feels it is appropriate she is in library Special Collections because Cape Verdeans — after coming to this country — "realized they were a very small minority and want to preserve their history."

Her father, she says, has collected "many scrapbooks" filled with materials on Cape Verde and Cape Verdean-Americans.

Who knows?

Perhaps someday he will add to the Cape Verde collection at Rhode Island College now in the loving care of his daughter.

★ CLINIC

(continued from page 3)

Dina Bredeau, a junior nursing student felt that the clinic was a great way to ease the children's fears about going to the doctor's or to the hospital. "They really seemed to enjoy themselves while learning about the different equipment."

According to Terpening, this was the first year that RICSA held a clinic of this sort.

"We plan to work more closely with the Cooperative Playgroup in the future because they are right on campus," she said.

RICSA is involved with a number of health issues and has distributed pins and balloons for the Great American Smokeout, has held blood pressure clinics on and off campus and most recently put together a Thanksgiving Food Basket.

Polly Erickson, the teacher at the Cooperative Playgroup, said she thought the teddy bear clinic was "very successful" and hopes that it becomes an annual event.

"The groups were just the right size for each child to receive a lot of attention. I think the demonstrations really helped the children feel more comfortable with the things that doctors do."

SINGING "SILENT NIGHT" at rehearsal prior to their performances at the Federal Hill House, the DaVinci Center and the North Providence Senior Citizens Center last week are Rhode Island College members of Mu Phi Epsilon music society and the student chapter of the Music Educators National Conference (MENC). With them is Robert Elam (third from right), chair of the music department. (What's News Photo by George LaTour)
On the job with...

Who would want the demanding task of telling people they owe money? Or listening all day to “tales of woe” about all the horrible things that can happen in people’s lives? Not me!!! Especially not in these tough times. It takes a very special kind of person. On this campus, there are at least three; Dolores Bessett, Marie Inglesi, and Belmira “Bell” Peters, all tellers in the College’s Bursar’s Office.

“These kinds of people are remarkable,” according to John Fitta, College controller. “They have a major task to do every day that’s not always pleasant. They have to keep our student’s morale up and they have to be tolerant and understanding.” These women are usually the first personal contact a student has with the College, outside of admissions officers. “They answer all the questions on financial aid, adding and dropping, refunding procedures, late payment problems, and more,” he said.

And if that isn’t enough, Fitta said they are doing “an excellent job” in handling the College’s newly implemented Extended Tuition Payment Plan, which allows students to pay tuition on an installment basis. “They should be recognized for the good work they do.”

Hats off to you...Dolores, Marie, and Bell!

Dolores Bessett (above right and left) calls up information for students (l to r) Glen Halverson, Lisa DiSasa and Jolene Fries. Below left: Bill Peters flashes a smile to a colleague, while (far right) Bursar Charlene Sacripanti (standing) confers with Marie Inglesi.
‘I did it my way...’

Sasso big hit at annual tree lighting ceremony

Even though Kathryn M. Sasso, director of conferences and special events, probably won on some of the best conferences, receptions, events, and gatherings in all of higher education, she may have missed her true calling.

Which is—and you’ll surely agree with me if you were present for her outstanding performance of ‘Twas the Night Before Christmas’ at the 8th annual tree lighting ceremony last Monday evening—the stage.

As the children sat before her in awe, with their mouths agape, mesmerized by her outfit designed by herself and Barbara Matheson, College costume designer, the adults in the audience were equally amazed by her performance.

Next issue of What’s News is Monday, Jan. 21, 1991
DEADLINE for copy, photos, etc. is noon, Tuesday, Jan. 15.
RIC’s Lynda Michael takes Miss R.I./USA crown, looks to Miss USA, Miss Universe titles

by George LaTour

Rhode Island College junior Honor Program student, Lynda Michael of Cranston, has captured the Miss Rhode Island/USA crown and prepares to leave for Wichita, Kan., in early February to compete for the title of Miss USA.

With stars in her eyes, the 20-year-old beauty pageant contestant, is already thinking ahead to the possibilities of becoming Miss Universe, a prospect that would arise next spring if she takes the Miss USA title on Feb. 22.

Is she excited? You bet.

She’s been winning contests of one sort or another since age 3 for which she gives much of the credit to a loving and supportive family, headed by Dad and Mom, Joseph M. Sr. and Rose (Marcello) Michael.

A recent disappointment, which Lynda took in stride, was her failure to win the Miss Rhode Island -Miss America title last June. (What’s News June 15).

Only national pageant winner

Being Rhode Island’s only national pageant winner (at age 16 she had garnered the Miss National Teenage America title) she had every hope of capturing the Rhode Island title which would have enabled her to compete in the Miss America contest.

But, being prepared to lose is every bit as important as being prepared to win, indicates Lynda. One takes the bad with the good.

It also helps when one considers that as Miss America she could have looked forward to some $30,000 in prizes and scholarships, Miss USA, on the other hand, can expect over $350,000 in prizes and scholarships, she points out.

Having decided just one week before the Sunday, Nov. 25, pageant to enter, Lynda says she “really didn’t expect to win.”

She indicates that pageant wins often go to contestants who have put in lengthy preparation, all else being equal.

For this pageant, she didn’t have to worry about the “trait” portion, as it had none. Consequently, the classical pianist (and National Grand Talent winner at the U.S. Teen Pageant in Missouri in 1985) just went about the task of impressing the judges with her interview and swimsuit and evening wear demonstrations.

Contemporary woman

“They’re looking for the ‘contemporary woman’,” says Lynda, “one who knows who she is and what she is about and can express herself very well.”

“The most important thing for them this year at the Miss USA pageant,” she says, “is a spokesperson who can handle herself in front of an audience.”

And, Lynda can do.

Barely having time to catch her breath after her recent win, Lynda was pressed by the press for interviews: the Jimmy Grey show on WPRO-FM, the Salty Brine show on AM, an in-depth interview by Jim Scovor of the Providence Journal/Evening Bulletin and, of course, a rush visit to What’s News to keep her College “family” informed.

Somewhere in between all that she attended a Christmas tree-lighting ceremony with Gov. Edward D. DiPrete and WPRO’s Jimmy Grey at the State House and was “guest of honor” and master of ceremonies all in one at the “Christmas in...” competition in West Warwick, which raises funds for needy children.

Then, there’s the matter of being a fulltime student at RIC and all the other attendant matters in Lynda Michael’s life. Ah, to be young again and have that energy!

Lynda would hope that the readers of What’s News will join the members of her immediate family on Friday, Feb. 22, and watch her compete for the Miss USA title. It will be broadcast “live” locally over CBS TV 6.

MISS RHODE ISLAND-USA, Lynda Michael

Debate Council to send two teams to World Tournament

The Rhode Island College Debate Council was one of a very small group of collegiate debating organizations invited to send two teams to the World Cup Debate Tournament to be held January 3-7 at the University of Toronto in Canada.

R.I. College sends two two-person teams

This annual invitational event, the most prestigious English language debating tournament, is rotated among sites in North America, Britain, Australia, and New Zealand and attracts teams from all over the world.

Most of the invited colleges and universities from North America will be restricted to just one two person team in the 1991 tournament, but a very few teams with exceptionally strong organizations and previous tournament records are invited to send two, and RIC has qualified.

Since last year’s World Cup Tournament, which was held in Glasgow, Scotland, the Debate Council has racked up an impressive record of consistently high performance.

Members of the Debate Council have also won a large number of trophies for individual speaking awards Trophies are awarded to no more than 10 of the top teams or individual speakers at parliamentary debate tournaments which usually attract between 100 and 400 participants.

Entrants in the World Cup Tournament will be selected from trophy winners from this semester’s competition which will conclude at the Bates College Tournament to be held Dec. 6-7.

Thus far trophy winners include Richard Berger, Dylan Costa, Jeffrey Fielder, John Geoghegan, Heidi Lamb, Ray McMahon, and Paul Spumeni.

The coach of the Debate Council is Dr. Audrey Olnsted of the Department of Communications and Theatre.

R.I.C ARTISTS CO-OP HOLIDAY SALE finds George Epule (left) from the anthropology/geography department making an inquiry about a piece of pottery to Annette and Ted Halpern. The arts-and-crafts sale was Nov. 26 in the Art Center. (What’s News Photo by Julienne Pires)
As the musical strains of "O Holy Night" waft through the pines on the shores of Lake Mishnock, a spiritual tranquility settles over the land.

Peace on earth; good will toward men.

Ah, 'tis Christmas time again!

In June?

That's right, June.

Well, if you're going to make a Christmas album and have it ready to sell by Christmas, you have to plan ahead.

Rhode Island College's artist-in-residence, pianist Judith Lynn Stillman of Providence, and "friends" - recorded the album Christmas Remembered "in three days last June" in West Greenwich at Mishnock Grove and, already, it's sold 30,000-plus "all over the country."

That figure comes from the album producers, North Star Records of Providence, whose vice president, Bruce Foulke, assures it is being sold in compact discs (CDs) and cassettes "in thousands and thousands of stores" nationally.

The recording - Stillman's first as a featured artist - is billed as "classic holiday chamber music."

Stillman says she combined existing classical music with traditional Christmas carols to produce "a unique sound."

Combined arrangements

Indications of the combined arrangements are found in the wedding of selections: "Intermezzo" and "Silent Night" and the Paganini-Liszt "Etude" and "Deck the Halls." Other Christmas classics include "Joy to the World," "Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy/Carol of the Bells," "God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen" and, of course, "O Holy Night."


Stillman's "friends" include a flutist from the New York Philharmonic, members of the Charleston String Quartet from Brown University, and musicians from the Cleveland Orchestra and the Academy of Saint-Martins-in-the-Field.

"Christmas Remembered," says North Star, "is a subtle blend of traditional Christmas carols and familiar classical music, elegantly arranged for classical chamber music groups.

"The selections and their performances are as diverse and evocative as the many meanings of Christmas."

"Intimate combinations of piano, violin, viola, cello, guitar and flute weave carols and classical favorites together into a holiday experience that is sometimes joyful, sometimes pensive, and always compelling."

Well, of course they'd say that, and more. After all, it's their recording label.

Gendron to perform Spanish music Dec. 12

Guitarist Mychal Gendron, performer and teacher, will perform Spanish music in the Rhode Island College Chamber Music Series Wednesday, Dec. 12, at 1 p.m. in Robert Hall 138 (recital chamber).

The program - entitled only "Espana" - will offer a work of Gaspar Sanz (1640-1710), "Aires y Danzas Españolas" as well as "Tres Piezas Españolas" by Joaquin Rodrigo and "Concordia," "Malorca" and "Tore Bermeja" by Isaac Albéniz (1860-99). The recital is free and open to the public.

Gendron, an adjunct faculty member of the RIC music department, has toured Brazil as a soloist under the aegis of Partners of the Americas and has performed with flautist Susan Thomas for six years as the Thomas-Gendron Duo.

In addition to performing throughout New England as soloist, in concert and in chamber recitals, Gendron recently performed at the Roundup Music Festival in Texas.

A graduate of the North Carolina School of the Arts, Gendron studied with Jesus Silva, renowned teacher of guitar and protege of Andres Segovia, the world-famous guitarist.

During this time, he was chosen to perform at ceremonies honoring Maestro Segovia at the University of North Carolina.

For more information, call John Pellegrino, coordinator of the chamber music series, at 456-8244.

But listen to what the critics have to say about Christmas Remembered:

"Today's Tip Off: Get in the holiday spirit...with Christmas Remembered."

"A very relaxing and pleasing piece of hoilday fare...with excellent quality. The only bad thing about the disc: It doesn't last long enough!" (WVYV Radio 99-North Carolina)

Beyond high class...the album reaches beyond high class easy listening in several inventive arrangements, blending classical favorites with familiar carol tunes - most delightful Paradies' "Toccata" is seasoned lightly with "Ding Dong Merrily on High." (Christianity Today magazine)

Stillman says she and the other artists "had a great time" making the recordings and found little difficulty "getting in the mood" despite it being summertime when they actually did it.

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She gives much credit for the success of the sounds achieved on the recording to Jack Gauthier, their recording engineer, and to Foulke of North Star for suggesting to her over a year-and-a-half ago after one of her concerts that they get together and record something for Christmas.

Stillman - the youngest musician ever admitted to the Juilliard School of Music's doctoral program - has performed to critical acclaim throughout the United States, Europe and Israel, winning some 18 competitions, including the International Piano Recording Competition in 1985.

Stillman is delighted with the apparent initial success of the recording and says she's "even getting some fan mail" now.

She has already begun work on two other recordings, which, she says, should be released this spring.

For information regarding the recording, call (401) 456-9501.