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What's News At Rhode Island College

Rhode Island College

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Planning a trip with the ‘three little bears’

by Clare Eckert

Goldilocks had her three little bears to teach her a thing or two about traveling too far away from home without a map to guide her along the way. So why not let “three little bears” teach Joan C. Bloom’s Henry Barnard School first graders a little something about traveling, saying goodbye to friends, and at the same time, about the world around them?

Bloom, who was selected as one of four Rhode Island teachers to participate in an intensive geography summer institute sponsored by the National Geographic Society “to increase and improve geography in our schools” set off to do just that when she started her innovative class project two weeks into this school year.

“It was one of the ideas I came away with,” from her attendance at the Washington, D.C. training session “I just took a first-grade approach.”

Last week, chanting their farewells of “bon voyage,” “claw,” “adios amigos” and “good-bye,” in unison, about 25 happy-faced, first-graders sent off their “adopted” 20-inch, teddy bears to various parts of the globe as part of a special geography project conjured up by her creative teacher.

According to Bloom, the children shared in making all the decisions about what they would select to go on the trips. At first, she said, there were three different kinds of animals going. They also decided where they would travel to, what they would carry, and how they were to return home.

She involved the parents in the project by sending home notes, requesting parents to let her know if they had plans to travel in the near future. As responses started coming in from homes, Bloom said, the children would find the place on the map in the classroom, discuss it, and decide whether the bears should take that route.

“The children decided that one bear would travel in Rhode Island, one bear would travel in the United States, and one bear would travel around the world,” Bloom said.

Once agreed upon by all, Bloom made arrangements for “Willie Worker” to stop first in Seattle, Wash., thanks to Margaret and Dimitro Gamit, parents of first-grader, Alexandra, who will be attending a dental convention; for “Honey Helper” to stop in Belgium, by way of Bloom’s brother, Father Raymond Collins, who teaches at the University of Louvain, and the third bear, “Billy Bear” to be turned over to another teacher in Rhode Island by Bloom herself.

The point of the project is to learn about countries, states, and communities by following the traveling trio wherever they go and mapping out their excursions in the classroom.

Ric fall enrollment sets new record with ‘slight’ increase

Enrollment at Rhode Island College “increased slightly” this fall, once again setting new enrollment highs, reports the Office of Institutional Research and Planning in its official enrollment report.

“The new student enrollment fall report reportedly was established despite a cutback in admission of new students by 10 percent,” Bloom said, the children would find the place on the map in the classroom, discuss it, and decide whether the bears should take that route.

“Despite Admissions’ cut back of new applicants to the point of the project is to learn about countries, states, and communities by following the traveling trio wherever they go and mapping out their excursions in the classroom.

Rhode Island College received approval of a $2,561,000 loan from the U.S. Department of Education to renovate an historic stone building which adjoins the College campus and is adjacent to the Recreation Center.

According to Vice President for Administration and Finance Renore DeLuca, the loan was "ranked number one by the education department, which distributed $578.1 million in its latest round of federally supported loans. The largest amount allocated by the department's College Housing and Academic Facilities Loans program is $1 million, according to John Vickers, RIC's plant engineer and the author of the loan proposal.

Four letters of support by Rhode Island's Congressional team to the education department followed the RIC proposal.

And at the last Board of Governors for Higher Education meeting, a vote to accept the project was issued by its members.

The two-story, 1870 stone building, once part of the state's former O'Rourke Children's Center, was turned over to RIC this year by Gov. Bruce Sundlun. Although folded up for the last spring and fall, DeLuca said the exterior was fortunately unfurth the entire sum of funds available to do interior renovations and reconstructive work.

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(continued on page 4)
Focus on the Faculty and Staff

OSKY V. CASCONOE, assistant professor of nursing, is one of four consultants to the United States Agency for International Development (AID) Armenian Relief Society-North America (ARSA) Leninenk National-Nurse-Physician exchange program. This three-year USARSA-funded project's major objective is to develop a cadre of health care change agents and to improve health care delivery in the city of Leninakan which was nearly destroyed during the 1988 earthquake in Armenia. Three consultants and the project director traveled to Armenia for three and a half weeks in assistance on a fact-finding and teaching mission. This United States team of nurses conducted interviews with nursing and health education students, nursing school leaders, made on site observations of nursing activities as well as interviewed applicants for the exchange program.

Continuing education classes were conducted at the four poly clinics. To aid her in teaching on diabetes, Cascone developed a diabetic teaching module in the Armenian language. The module was received enthusiastically by both the nurses and physicians. This module was revised, upon Cascone's return, to include new content and is presently being published.

The first exchange of nurses and physicians occurred in October, 1990. Three nurses and two physicians participated in New England medical institutions for six weeks. Cascone participated as an interpreter for one physician—the Minister of Health in Leninakan. The second exchange will take place in November 1991 when 10 nurses and physicians will participate in a four-week education program offered at the University of Connecticut Center for International Community Health Studies.

Next issue of What's News is Monday, Oct. 28.

DEADLINE for copy, photos, etc. is noon, Friday, Oct. 18.

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The successful national trend of turning life insurance policies as capital gifts to colleges through their foundation offices is taking hold at Rhode Island College.

Recently, Theresa Howe, vice president of the Richmond office delivered to President John Nazarian a policy she had held for several years. Howe has been an active fundraiser for Rhode Island College and after researching the benefits gained by donating a personal life insurance policy, she realized that this special donation was another viable option her ongoing effort to continue supporting the College.

Foundation President Talia A. DeRobbio praised Howe's actions and used it as an "example that may inspire other friends of the College to make gifts using existing, old policies, or even new ones purchased for this purpose."

According to Jack Z. Buckley, a plan gift expert, who presented a workshop on the topic to members of the Foundation board last spring, "life insurance gifts should be encouraged among donors who want to make a large gift in the future, but have only modest means to do so."

"The value of the policy when it is donated qualifies as a charitable deduction, and all future premiums are also tax deductible," he explained.

"And the Foundation has several ways to benefit," Pezzullo said. "Although there are only two types of giving, the benefits of this type of planned gift."

DeRobbio, in thanking Howe for her gift, said, "although there are only two types of insurance gifts on record at RIC, this form of donation will very likely grow as businesses, particularly the large companies, participate in this type of giving and the very attractive tax consequences, as well as the potential to make a much larger gift than would otherwise be possible."
College Shorts

Nominations sought for Who's Who

Rhode Island College is accepting nominations of undergraduate or gradu­
ate students for consideration for the who's who Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges. Please nominate any student that you feel is deserving of this award. Send nominations by Oct. 18 to Dixon McC­Cool, Associate Dean of Student Life, Rhode Island College, Craig-Lee 127.

Undergraduates must have a mini­mum point average of 2.50 and have completed at least 60 credits; gradu­
ate students must have a minimum grade point average of 2.25 and have completed at least 15 credits.

The Growing Stage — 'Alternative theatre' brings passion to the stage

by George LaTour

"Passion can be destroyed by a doctor, it cannot be created," says a character in the Tony Award-winning Broadway play, Equus.

Rhode Island College's Growing Stage, the all-student volunteer theatre group, will tackle Peter Shaffer's difficult psychological thriller Thursday through Sunday, Oct. 24-26, in Roberts Little Theatre starting at 8 p.m.

And passion about theatre is one of the traits the dozen-or-so student actors and technicians share in the Growing Stage. In existence for a number of years — it began in the early 1970s as PRISM — the group has sometimes somewhat avant garde theatre is now 'becoming more and more an alter­native to the main stage," assures Terry Shea of Providence, who is directing Equus.

Last spring Growing Stage did Just Say No — concerning "how Nancy Reagan ran the White House" — and before that Kennedy's Children — "a bar scene with drinkers talking."

"I see it (Growing Stage) as an exten­sion of main-stage theatre — not compet­itively with it," says Shea, who points out that the Growing Stage comes under the wing of the College communications and theatre department, which produces "main-stage" theatre via RIC Theatre.

"Growing Stage provides additional and alternative experiences for students in all areas of theatre," explains theatre prof. David H. Butt, the faculty advisor for Growing Stage. In addition, each show must have a faculty advisor, he points out. In the case of Shaffer's Equus, it is theatre prof. P. William Hunchinson.

Joseph Delude II of Pawtucket, a junior, as chair of the Growing Stage, serves as liaison for the director and stu­dents and the faculty "to make sure things are done right" as far as meeting sched­ules, abiding fire and electrical codes, etc. Always free of charge and able to seat an audience of about 50, "we have the freedom to make whatever statement we wish," says Shea. "We can't have to fear that people will want their money back," says Shea tongue-in-cheek as a recent Sunday evening rehearsal.

Working on a year.

A theatre major, Equus is his senior Honors Program project, one he's been working on for the past year. With the help of his cast, nearly half of whom are also students in the College's Honors Program, a stage manager (Brad­ger Tietjen), an assistant stage manager (Kelly Richmond), a choreographer (Donna Molloy), and costume designer/make-up person (grad-student Heather Chapman), and student actors and technicians share in the Growing Stage. Each production is done right as far as meeting sched­ules, abiding fire and electrical codes, etc.

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Directing Cast Members of 'Equus' at left is senior Honors Program student Terry Shea. From left are Eric Tucker, formerly of Rosmuck, Va., Nick Nevola of Providence and Sean Wheeler of Middletown. (What's News Photo by Gordon E. Rowley)

...dark-clad specters in the shape of horse­head skeletons

In the key roles

Starring in the key roles in the Growing Stage production are 22-year-old fresh­men Eric Tucker of Rosmuck, Va., who, with wire-rimmed glasses, immaculate white shirt, conservative tie and dark wet hair combed straight back, looks every bit the role of a straight-back psychia­rist, and Sean Wheeler, an 18-year-old freshman from Middletown, who plays the fouled stable boy.

"That boy," says the psychiatrist, "has known a passion more intense than any I feel all my life."

He feels he can patch up the boy's tor­mented mind and psyche, and send it out on the street.

But, what will be lost in spiritual ener­gy? "Passion can be destroyed by a doctor, it cannot be created," realizes the psychia­rist.

Student director Shea views with skep­ticism the exorcism of that passion.

Are we producing demons," he asks, "and, if so, it is our intent to do so, who's really sick?" — society, as repre­sented by the psychia­rist, or the individu­als society seeks to change? A thought-provoking question, indeed, and one, it seems, appropriately framed by the Growing Stage.

DIREC'TING CAST MEMBERS of 'Equus' at left is senior Honors Program student Terry Shea. From left are Eric Tucker, formerly of Rosmuck, Va., Nick Nevola of Providence and Sean Wheeler of Middletown. (What's News Photo by Gordon E. Rowley)
‘The Worth of the Human Being’ exhibit/symposia continues

The exhibit — having its first North American showing at RIC’s Bannister Gallery — is a documentary offering a look at medicine, public health and ethics in Germany from 1918 to 1945. It continues this week, ending on Friday, Oct. 18, with a recital by violinist John Sumerlin and pianist John Boutcher i.e. the monstrous practices of Nazism, i.e. the值得 of its technology to the point of culminating in destructiveness,” i.e. the monstrous practices of Nazism, the theme emphasized by Richard R. Weiner, dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, at the opening of “The Worth of the Human Being” exhibit and symposia at Rhode Island College Sept. 26.

“Weiner reports that faculty associated with the exhibit have noted “strong student interest” in the exhibit.

“Students do not confront it as either a German or Holocaust show,” says Weiner, “rather, they see issues of their everyday life — How are victims of AIDS labelled? How are people defined as useless or redundant? How do we value each patient?”

SYMPOSIUM PANELISTS Dr. Ann Taylor Allen (left) of the University of Louisville and Dr. Carole Poore of Brown University discuss “Defining the Worth of the Human Being in Germany, 1918-45” in Gaige Hall auditorium on Oct. 3.

Remaining exhibit highlights include: Tuesday, Oct. 15, Dr. James Starak of the University of Wisconsin at Madison, and Dr. Michael Grodin of the Boston University Medical School, will lead a discussion on “Victims and Human Rights” which will be accompanied by film footage from the 1920s and 30s as well as the Nuremberg Doctors’ Trials, 1946-47.

The symposium begins at 3:30 p.m. in Fogarty Life Science Building 205. On Wednesday, Stewart Blazer will give a poetry reading at the Bannister Gallery.

UPWARD BOUND STORY

The need for added student housing on campus was apparent as far back as 1980 when a page 1 article in the first issue of What News at Rhode Island College noted the “higher-than-even influx of students” that fall.

This fall, enrollment again has hit a new all-time high, as reported by the office of Institutional Research and Planning. See story on page 1.

In paying tribute to Sweet, who led the College from 1977 until his death on Sept. 16, 1984, President Nazarian said, “The naming of the residence hall in his honor is appropriate for many reasons. But first among them is that this residence hall was planned during his presidency and it is fantastic that his idea has been fulfilled and that his memory will go on forever.”

UPWARD BOUND STORY

Members of the College community have been invited by President John Nazarian to the dedication and formal opening of the David E. Sweet Residence Hall on Wednesday, Oct. 30.

The ceremonies begin at 1:30 p.m. at the new $3.8 million 210-bed building. The naming of the residence hall honors the memory of the College’s sixth president, David E. Sweet, who died unexpectedly while still in office in 1984.

The concert will consist of works by Stravinsky, Mozart and Debussy. It is free and open to the public.

It is being held in conjunction with the exhibit, which offers a look at medicine, public health and ethics in Germany from 1918 to 1945.

Sweet Residence Hall to be dedicated Oct. 30

Violinist Sumerlin featured

A recital by violinist John Sumerlin and accompanying pianist John Boucher on Friday, Oct. 18, at 4:30 p.m. in Roberts Hall 138 (recital chamber) will mark the closing of the Der Wert des Menschen (The Worth of the Human Being) exhibit in Rhode Island College’s Bannister Gallery.

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UPWARD BOUND STORY

Rhode Island College. The RIC Upward Bound program also was featured on TV 36’s Ray Rickman show. (What’s News Photo by Gordon E. Rowley)

BEARS—

(continued from page 1)

Each bear has a knapsack, diary, and a written message asking its “keeper” to send a postcard or letter to her class from the various destinations. They also are tagged with the names, a short message, and a photograph of the first graders. The bear traveling in Rhode Island carries a cassette tape about the class in its knapsack.

Bloom hopes that by the end of the school year, the bears will be on their way home. “Hopefully, (the holders of the bears) will send us a post card or letter,” and that the bears will return home safely, she said.

The children have become attached to the stuffed animals, taking turns holding them during their class day, Bloom said, adding that the “letting go” of the bears was another learning experience for the children.

During the farewell party, complete with juice, pizza, and a cake designed like a map of the United States, the children were excited and talkative about where they would want to travel.

Daisy Schneider said she’d like to go to Ireland, or maybe, Block Island because her family has a house there. Shaina Wells said going back to New Hampshire would be just fine with her, and Angela Fim said when she’s “bigger” she’ll go to her homeland, Korea.

Wherever their lives take them, one thing’s for sure, they’re probably one step ahead of other children their age, because these youngsters have learned a little bit more about the world around them, thanks to their first grade teacher, Mrs. Bloom.
'79 alum willing to work at making a difference

by Clare Eckert

Mary L. Smith is strong-willed, opinionated, honest, smart, perceptive, persistent, disciplined, and in her own words, a true believer in "putting your money where your mouth is."

The petite, 44-year-old woman is also gentle, easy-going, a listener, natural, down-to-earth, friendly, considerate, polite, believes in herself and has faith in others.

"I've seen the good and bad," the 1979 alumna of Rhode Island College says of her childhood and adult experiences as a black female.

Her life has taught her that change is possible if you're willing to work at making a difference.

Aside from earning a bachelor's degree in sociology, her college experience taught her one very important lesson: "I learned that I had a lot more to give than I had ever known before."

A product of the 1960s, Smith grew up in a war-time society filled with racism and sexism. During her first few years at RIC, as a part-time student during the early 1970s, she said the College was facing many of the same problems the country faced.

It was during that time in her life, that Smith placed her feet firmly on the ground, held her head high and decided that she would become a part of the solution to the problem.

"There were few Black students on campus," Smith said, and some people were rude. "It got to the point where we organized a group and marched on Dr. Sweet's office six months after he took office." (David E. Sweet held the office of president of RIC from 1977 to 1983.)

"We had a list of demands, and instead of not letting us in, Dr. Sweet told us to come in and sit down and talk," Smith recalled, adding that "things changed" under his administration. Hiring practices were amended, minority recruitment practices were put in place and "increases in (the number of) full-time minority students" occurred.

By then, a young mother of two boys, already having spent two years in the US Marine Corps, Smith took Van Leesten up on his offer and within weeks was counseling "serious juvenile delinquents who had been convicted of three or more felonies" under the OIC's New Pride program.

"When I graduated from college, I knew I wanted to work with kids, and I knew I wanted to work within the community," she said.

The philosophy she shared with the youngsters and their families was one of reality and hope. "You can't sit around crying about what happened. What already happened is fact. What you need to do is care about yourself, believe in yourself, believe that you are worthwhile, and take control..."

Smith credits the RIC "march" as among the first experiences she had in working together with others to make changes. Looking back in time, she smiled and said, "I guess I never knew how to keep my mouth shut" when it came to acting upon her beliefs that if there was room for injustice, there was also room for change, compromise, or cooperation.

Over the years, she discovered, that "to make some real changes, the best way is to make changes from within. You have to become a part of it."

And becoming an integral part of whatever she's involved with—solitarily or involuntarily—Smith has. As an alumna of Rhode Island College says of her childhood and adult experiences as a black female.

It was during that time in her life, that Smith placed her feet firmly on the ground, held her head high and decided that she would become a part of the solution to the problem.

"Just about everyone had written off the kids I was dealing with," she said. Once in her "custody," the youngsters' attitudes began to change, she said, adding that "eight out of every 10 kids did not end up in jail. I'd pull them out of bed and tie up their whole day to keep them out of trouble!"

As vice-president of the Family Housing Development Corporation (FHDC), with an office on Broad Street in Providence, Smith, along with other members of the organization, has been working toward finalizing mortgage approval to begin construction of a nearly $26 million, 300-family unit housing facility on the site of the demolished Roger Williams projects.

As vice-president of the Family Housing Development Corporation (FHDC), with an office on Broad Street in Providence, Smith, along with other members of the organization, has been working toward finalizing mortgage approval to begin construction of a nearly $26 million, 300-family unit housing facility on the site of the demolished Roger Williams projects.

"In 1986, Smith was asked to be a member of the Providence School Board. "I learned a long time ago, how to plea bargain (through the court system)."

Five months ago, Gov. Bruce Sundlun appointed her to the Rhode Island Board of Governors for Higher Education.

"I think a lot of things are good about higher education," she said. "But there needs to be more of a collaborative effort between the colleges and the urban schools. One of the reasons we have so many problems with kids in the schools is that the teachers are ill-prepared, in a hands-on kind of way, to deal with the urban population."

I believe that both presidents, (Robert L. Carothers, University of Rhode Island, and John Nazarian, RIC) are committed to improving the urban environment through time, effort and money. Education is not the only answer that Smith believes will "break the welfare syndrome." Housing is also critical, she said.

Smith was good at her job. She soon became the court liaison for the program, "spending hours five days, a day, five days a week" talking to lawyers, judges, and law enforcement officers about how her program could help a young person stay out of jail.

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The group is very close to receiving finances for construction to begin, Smith said, adding that the facility will be owned by the tenants (with stipulations)

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On the job with...

She can’t remember how many bandages she’s opened over the nearly 20 years she’s worked in the training rooms of college athletic departments, but Rhode Island College’s Athletic Therapist, Kathleen M. Laquale, does know that the “Bierdoss Company” makes the finest ones.

Laughing heartily at the question, Laquale says, “Now that’s a good question. I don’t know how many I’ve opened.” But you can bet this woman, who was among the first female trainers at her alma mater, the University of Rhode Island, has opened lots and lots of them.

Laquale graduated from URI in 1973 as a physical education and biology major, and went on to Indiana State as a graduate assistant, working as an athletic trainer. She received her master’s degree at Indiana, but “my claim to fame is having met Larry Bird,” she said, laughing once again.

From there, Laquale, who grew up in North Providence, came back to her home state and worked for Providence College as a track coach and athletic trainer for eight years. In 1984, RIC became her “home away from home” and this is where she intends to stay.

Laquale is responsible for the College’s 200 athletes, and 14 student trainers. She does everything from nursing, to therapy, to conditioning, to counseling, and more. But her special interest is in nutrition.

Students are always asking her about diets and what foods to eat, she said. “I was always researching and looking for new material through journals.” Last year she began a Ph.D. program at URI in nutrition and hopes to complete the work in the spring of 1992 because “it would be great to graduate with my nephew.” Laquale’s nephew is expected to receive his undergraduate degree in the spring.

The 37-year-old says she “loves” any outdoor activity and doesn’t have a favorite team or sport. “I guess it’s because I’ve always been objective when it comes to sports,” Laquale said. “Just give me good competition.”

Photos by
Gordon E. Rowley
Text by
Clare Eckert

Clockwise from upper right: Kathy LaQuale demonstrates taping techniques to student trainer Denise Courtemarche; helps a member of the opposing soccer team (U.S. Massachusetts Maritime Academy); on duty at a soccer game; training the RIC basketball team; and teaching.
My experience of successful living in a multicultural world

EILEEN JONES

Successful living in a multicultural world such as ours takes a lot of understanding.

The one step is understanding that there are people who possess different cultural backgrounds and that this is the premise on which our country was based.

Another step is understanding that other cultures, though seemingly foreign and strange to us, are really an exciting insight to an ever growing and changing world such as ours.

The most important step in understanding that before one can truly appreciate another culture, is that one must be aware and comfortable with his/her own culture and heritage.

For me, the most important step was the most difficult.

My parents are both Caucasian, while I am African-American.

My first memory

In our home, which was in a very white, middle-class town, there was never any mention of racial issues, or even, the fact that I did not look the same as anyone in my family or neighborhood. My first memory of Kindergarten is of a little girl in my class looking at me and saying, "You're different than we are."

Evidently, this began the lowering of my self-esteem.

Junior high school was even worse as classmates, who were as uneducated as I was when I entered, went on to become teachers, who were as uneducated as my classmates, who were as uneducated as I was when I entered.

What I understand now is that I didn't understand then is that my classmates were probably not taught to appreciate other groups of people. Perhaps if I'd known more about my own background, I would have been able to understand them instead of feeling self-conscious about their sometimes meaningless remarks.

My own beauty

During my second year of junior high school, my parents notified me that we would be moving out of state. Although I was relived to be leaving Rhode Island, I was even more frightened to be going to a new place where I would be different and new.

To my surprise, my parents decided to move into the housing project in a big city.

Here, my eyes were opened to my own beauty and self-worth.

I learned about African-American culture, and although it wasn't my culture, it was my heritage. I saw many people who were like me. At this point, I didn't feel shame about my complexion, my broad nose, and my beautiful, kinky hair.

For the first time in my life, I felt proud to be who I was.

At the projects, I also met many Hispanic people, I was interested in their culture, having taken my first step in noticing the beauty in the different groups of people in the world.

Nine to be inducted into RIC Athletic Hall of Fame

Eight men and one woman will be inducted into the Rhode Island College Athletic Hall of Fame at a dinner at the Quonset Point Club, Thursday evening, Oct. 20.

The woman, Dorothy Foley Kienzl, is a member of the Class of 1952. Foley Kienzl, who received the New England Women's Track and Field Association's award for 1942, was the first woman to win the mile run in the NCAA Championships in 1942.

The men to be inducted are: Edward F. O'Malley, Providence; Vincent J. Cullen, Leonard E. Overhy; and Arthur T. Petrarca, Cranston.

At the projects, I also met many Hispanic people, I was interested in their culture, having taken my first step in noticing the beauty in the different groups of people in the world.

Renee Wilson

A 1969 graduate of RIC, Wilson will be honored for her achievements in the sports of cross country and track. She served as a teacher at the projects in both '69 and '69, and for his after-college achievements as a mentor. In 1976, he took the New England title in the pentathlon and the 1982 New England Athletic Conference (50 mile) championships were shared in his 45-50-milers across the country.

Domenico Petrarca

Born in Italy, Petrarca served as a captain of the Rhode Island Academy for his two years in a row.

Jim Soares

A Rhode Island native, Soares was a "rebels" - the white, middle-class town, but this time I was shunned between people; focus on your similarities; and don't be afraid of befriending someone with a different cultural background.

It just makes you appreciate the beauty of a colorful world.
In support of your alma mater

October 15, 1991

Dear Alumnus/Alumna:

I am writing to you as the 1991 Alumni Fund enters its closing phase. As you know, the Fund provides the College with much needed funds for scholarships, special programs, and the services of the Alumni Association.

Earlier this year you received an appeal from husbro’s Senior Vice President, Steve 1987 Aquinnam 74, outlining his personal reasons for supporting the 1991 Fund. We and I am pleased to report that as of this date, $74,000 has been received. The Alumni Office confidently projects that by the end of 1991, we should exceed 1990’s record high fund year of $76,000. We should all be proud of this record, especially in light of Rhode Island’s current economic climate.

One consequence of the poor economic climate falls especially hard on our students. They are paying about 28.4% more in tuition this year compared to last year due to the loss in support from the State of Rhode Island. Federal financial aid policy now requires students to meet more of their educational costs through loans. Our Financial Aid Office says that a typical student loan today is $2,500 per year. In response, the College has raised dramatically the amount in the budget that provides student aid, but with a State appropriation that is more than $2 million below last year’s, we simply cannot meet our own estimates of student need in a satisfactory way and maintain the quality of all our diverse programs.

I am told that in ordinary times a president does not make a direct appeal to alumni for support. But these are not ordinary times. Your gift or pledge to the Alumni Fund will provide needed financial aid to students who are eager to share the experience of Rhode Island College that you and I have enjoyed.

Today’s Rhode Island College student needs your assistance and I know that you will be as concerned and as generous as possible.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

John Nazarian
President

We’ll be calling you!

Phonathons staffed entirely with RIC students will begin on October 28 and continue through November 17. Keys to Tomorrow—the 1991 Alumni Fund—has already raised $74,000 this year through 12 nights of phonathons in the spring and a mailed solicitation in May. The student callers (shown here) will be trying to reach as many alumni as possible over the three weeks of scheduled calling.
RIC Dance Program —
Fusionworks to premiere two works in Oct. 18 concert

Premiere works by Terry Creach of the dance team of Creach & Koester and Debra Meunier, artistic director of Fusionworks Contemporary Dance, a Rhode Island-based modern-dance repertory company which boasts several RIC alumni as members, will perform for the first time anywhere Creach's "Scene Study" and Meunier's "Markets." Known for their dance partnering, the work of Creach & Koester is characterized by quick, subtle manipulations...very abstract, says Meunier. "Scene Study" will be danced to an original score. Meunier's "Markets" — on which she worked "all summer" — has elements of theatre and some "vocals" in it. RIC students of dance and theatre will be involved and "it's fun," assures Meunier. Other works in the concert are "Three" by Margit Galanter (who has been studying dance in Bali); "Fire in the Lake" by Meunier (with animation by Rhode Island School of Design students Sharon Fitzgerald and Tricia Kelly), and excerpts from Meunier's "Albanita," her Latin American piece.

The performance of Fusionworks this fall is the first of two by prominent Rhode Island-based repertory companies this season in the RIC Dance Program's effort to support local dance troupes for which it has received partial funding from the Rhode Island State Council on the Arts.

Meunier, of Cranston, teaches modern dance as an adjunct faculty member at RIC and as Rhode Island's leading contemporary dance company out of Newport. It is recognized as Rhode Island's leading contemporary ballet company, says RIC's acting dance director Dante DeGaglucio.

Island Moving Company will perform Jan. 25.

Fusionworks concert lighting will be by Michael Giannitti, formerly of New York.

Meunier founded Fusionworks in 1987 with the aim of establishing a permanent, Rhode Island-based repertory company that would draw upon her own choreographic talents as well as those of other regional and national choreographers.

The troupe has nine regular dancers and each year offers a wide range of performance and educational programming within the southeastern New England area.

Meunier, of Cranston, teaches modern dance as an adjunct faculty member at RIC as well as at her own dance school, the Dance Workshop, in Lincoln. She has received awards from the Rhode Island State Council on the Arts for two of her pieces being performed in this concert, "Fire in the Lake" and "Albanita."

Tickets are $8 general admission with discounts for senior citizens and students.

RIC Symphony Orchestra to offer tribute to Mozart in Oct. 21 concert

Markward to conduct; Susan Thomas featured

A tribute to Mozart during the 200th anniversary of the composer's death will be offered by the Rhode Island College Symphony Orchestra when it performs his "First Flute Concerto in G Major" in concert Monday evening, Oct. 21, starting at 8:15 in Roberts Hall auditorium.

Edward Markward, professor of music at RIC, will conduct. Flutist Susan Thomas will be featured as a solo performer.

Opening the concert will be Paul Hindemith's "Symphonic Metamophones on a Theme of Carol Maria von Weber," considered a hallmark of 20th Century composition.

The program will conclude with Cesar Franck's "Symphony in D Minor."

The concert — the first this season by the RIC music department — is free of charge and open to the public.

Markward, who joined the RIC faculty in 1973 after having earned a doctor of musical arts degree from the University of Michigan, also conduct the College Chorus and Chamber Singers, the latter group having performed at the 1982 World's Fair in Knoxville, Tenn. as well as in concerts in 13 states, Washington, D.C. and Canada.

Additionally, he serves as the guest conductor of the Brooklyn Heights Symphony Orchestra in New York and has served as associate conductor of the Providence Opera Theatre, music director/conductor of Opera Rhode Island, and was founding conductor of the Festival Chamber Orchestra of Rhode Island.

Thomas, also a member of the RIC music faculty, is an active orchestral and chamber musician in New England. She holds the position of principal flute with the Portland (Maine) and Vermont Symphony orchestras.
RIC alum named managing director of Pittsburgh Ballet

Native Rhode Islander Steven B. Libman, a 1981 magna cum laude graduate of Rhode Island College with a degree in performing arts management, has been appointed managing director of the Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre, concluding a five-month national search by the ballet. Libman had been PBTs development director since 1987 and has acted as chair of the interim management committee since May of 1990.

As development director, he is credited with having raised $9 million and effected a six-fold increase in the number of individual contributors, reports PBTs public relations director Alison Cordray.

Prior to going to Pittsburgh, Libman was managing director for the Fulton Opera House in Lancaster, Pa., where he managed a professional resident theatre and 909-seat performing arts center serving more than 120,000 people annually. Libman's professional experience since graduation from RIC also includes management positions with the Auburn Civic Theatre in New York and the Trinity Repertory Company in Providence.

He begins his new assignment immediately.

Pianist prize winner to perform in Chamber Series

American pianist Gail Niwa, the first woman to receive first prize in the 1991 Gina Bachauer International Piano Competition, will perform Wednesday, Oct. 23, at 3 p.m. in the Rhode Island College Chamber Music Series in Roberts Hall 118 (recital chamber). She was the only American to reach the finals in the competition which was held in Salt Lake City, Utah. Additionally, she captured the Audience Prize with her performance of Rachmaninov's "Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini." which a critic termed one of "brilliance and vitality."

Niwa, who made her orchestral debut with the Chicago Symphony at the age of 18, went on scholarship to the Juilliard School of Music from which she subsequently received her master's degree.

Her RIC performance will include Beethoven's "Sonata in B Flat Minor, Opus 35" (Funeral March), Scriabin's "Five Preludes, Opus 74" and "Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini," which she will perform as part of a recital at the Concertgebouw in Amsterdam last July and at a New York recital at Alice Tully Hall this month. Her RIC performance will include Beethoven's "Sonata in F Sharp Major, Opus 76," Chopin's "Sonata in B Flat Minor, Opus 35" (Funeral March), Scriabin's "Five Preludes, Opus 74" and Lisnauvon's Lenginka.

Her performance—as are others in the RIC Chamber Music Series—is free and open to the public.

Niwa is a native of Chicago where she made her orchestral debut with the Chicago Symphony at the age of 8. She went on scholarship to the Juilliard School of Music from which she subsequently received her master's degree. She won the 1987 Washington International Competition for Pianists and made her solo debut at the Kennedy Center in May of 1990.

Niwa's master's degree was in piano performance and she frequently received her master's degree. She was the only American to reach the finals in the competition which was held in Salt Lake City, Utah. Additionally, she captured the Audience Prize with her performance of Rachmaninov's "Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini," which a critic termed one of "brilliance and vitality."

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TURTLE ISLAND STRING QUARTET

Turtle Island Quartet brings swing to strings

by George LaTour

East and West. Oil and water. Men and women. Black and white.
String quartet and jazz.

If you think the last two are total opposites, prepare to have your preconceived notions dashed at 8 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 23, as the Turtle Island String Quartet opens the Rhode Island College Performing Arts Series season with a toe-tapping, finger-snapping concert.

The repertory of the Turtle Island strings, the talented West Coast ensemble, is an ambitious amalgam of jazz compositions by people like John Coltrane, Horace Silver and Dizzy Gillespie and original compositions that touch on new-age, bluegrass and classical styles.

The quartet, whose members are in their middle-30s, has been together for almost five years. While its violinist, Irene Sazer, and its cellist, Mark Summers, come from classical backgrounds, its violinsts, Darol Anger and David Balakrishnan, both came from the world where jazz meets bluegrass.

"Jazz standards form the nucleus of our music, but we're also evolving our own compositional style, one that embraces bluegrass, Texas fiddle, rock-and-roll, some Eastern music and African rhythms," Balakrishnan told The New York Times' Stephen Holden.

Listening to the Beatles

Reflecting on the diverse influences that each member brings to the group, Summer says, "It's given us a chance to play all the styles we grew up listening to — in a string quartet format."

Balakrishnan adds, "It allows us to be what we are: We're a string quartet, we're jazz musicians, we're composers and we grew up listening to the Beatles."

"The strings sing, not like angels, but like they've been around. The improvisations... hang tough, solidly built, and take no back talk from anybody," notes Regina Hackett of The Seattle Post-Intelligencer.

"Everybody and everything cooks!... a singular triumph," says Chick Bong for the Jazz Times.

Push, 1990, charcoal, graphite, mylar, 42" X 30" by Deborah Davidson will be on exhibit at Rhode Island College's Bannister Gallery. (Photo by Bill Kipp)

The art of Deborah Davidson—a return to prehistoric roots—at Bannister Gallery

Artist Deborah Davidson's abstract works will be at Rhode Island College's Bannister Gallery Oct. 24-Nov. 15 in an exhibit entitled, "Useful Metaphors."

Davidson uses abstraction, not as an historical outgrowth of 20th-century modernism, but as a return to the prehistoric roots of signs, symbols and communication.

"Art, like metaphor, seeks to transcend. In the face of mortality, banality and angst, the creation of one's own meta-language is a powerful tool with which to engage those aspects of being that are inaccessible to the rational mind," says Davidson.

Her work has received increasing recognition throughout the Northeast and is included in many private and public collections, according to exhibition curator, Stephen Fisher of the RIC art department.

Davidson currently teaches at Vermont College in Montpelier and at the School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston.

Exhibit opening is Oct. 24, from 7 to 9 p.m. A slide lecture and monotype workshop is scheduled for Nov. 7 from noon to 2 p.m. in the gallery.

Free and open to the public, the Bannister exhibit — in the RIC Art Center — is open Monday through Friday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Tuesday and Thursday evenings, 6 to 9.

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This, and other exhibits at the gallery, are supported in part by the RIC Art Club, Artists' Cooperative, and the College Lectures Committee.

For more information, call 456-9765 or 8054.
Tuesday, Oct. 15
9:30-10:30 p.m.—After image performs in the Student Union Coffee Ground. Free.

Wednesday, Oct. 16
10 a.m.—Discussion Workshop on "The Spirituality of Transition" to be held in SU 300 to address the spiritual concerns of older students. For more information, contact the Chaplains' Office, Ext. 8668. 12:30 to 1:30 p.m.—Magician Tom Carrier performs in Donovan Dining Center, lower level. Free.

Thursday, Oct. 17-18, Friday, Oct. 18
American Biotechnology Manufacturing Conference. Open to all. Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:45 p.m.; Friday, 8:30 to 11 a.m. Free. In Whipple Hall Center for Industrial Technology.

Friday, Oct. 18
Noon—Discussion Series for Catholics and Feminists. Women's Group, Group meets in the Student Union 300. Brown bag lunches are appropriate.
8 p.m.—Fusionworks Contemporary Dance performance in Roberts Auditorium. General admission $5; Senior citizens, groups, non-RIC students, and RIC faculty/staff $5; RIC students $3. 4:30 p.m.—Recital by Violinist John Sumerlin and accompanying pianist John Booucher in Roberts Hall 138 to mark the closing of the Der Wert des Menschen exhibit. Free and open to the public.

Saturday, Oct. 19
8 p.m.—Rhode Island College Foundation Benefit Concert featuring Rose Weber, a Los Angeles entertainer. Roberts Auditorium. Tickets $15-35. For more information, call Clare Eckert, Ext. 8909.

Monday, Oct. 21
8:15 p.m.—"Spontaneous Metamorphoses on a Theme of Carl Maria von Weber" will be presented by the Rhode Island College Orchestra in Roberts Auditorium. Free and open to the public. 9 to 10:30 p.m.—Comedy Cafe. Two Boston comedians perform in the Student Union Coffee Ground. Free.

Tuesday, Oct. 22
7 p.m.—Freshman Fand sponsored by the Campus Center, to be held in the Student Union Ballroom. Sign up at the New Hall front desk. For more information, call Erin McCarthy, Ext. 8034. 7:30 p.m.—Squeeze will be presented by the Providence Performing Arts Center. Tickets available at New Hall front desk. For more information, call Bernie, Ext. 8045. 9 to 10:30 p.m.—The Velcro People will perform in the Student Union Coffee Ground. Free.

Wednesday, Oct. 23
1 p.m.—Chamber Music Series. Pianist Gail Nisw performs in Roberts Recital Hall 138. Free.
10:30-11:30 a.m.—Meet the Artist Reception in Roberts Alumni Lounge. Free. For more information, call John Custer, Ext. 8669. 12:30 to 1:30 p.m.—Musician Kevin Fallon performs in Donovan Dining Center, lower level.
8 p.m.—"The Turtle Island String Quartet" will perform in Roberts Auditorium as part of the Performing Arts Series. General admission $8; senior citizens, non-RIC students, and RIC faculty/staff $4; RIC students $4. For more information, call Roberts Box Office, Ext. 8944.

Thursday, Oct. 24
1 p.m.—Discussion Workshop. "Living With Loneliness" to be held in SU 300 to address the spiritual concerns of older students. For more information, contact the Chaplains' Office, Ext. 8668. 7 to 9 p.m.—Bannister Exhibit entitled "Useful Metaphors" opening. The art of Deborah Davidson will be displayed at the RIC Art Center in Bannister Gallery from Oct. 24 to Nov. 15. Special gallery hours for the exhibit are Monday-Friday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Tuesday evenings, 6 to 9 p.m. A slide lecture and monotype workshop is scheduled for Nov. 7 from noon to 2 p.m. in the gallery. For more information, call Beth Gersh-Nesic, Ext. 9756.

Friday, Oct. 25
3:30 p.m.—"Recent Developments in Photo-electrochemical Solar Cells" in Clarke Science 106. Free and open to the public.
11 a.m.—Physical Science Department Colloquium to be given by Dr. Sierad Licht, Clark University, entisled "Recent Developments in Photoelectrochemical Solar Cells" in Clarke Science 106. Free and open to the public.
Noon—Discussion Series for Catholic and Feminists: A Women's Group. Topic is "God Language: How Do We Speak About Her? Him?" Group meets in the Student Union 300. Brown bag lunches are appropriate.

Saturday, Oct. 26—Monday, Oct. 28
8 a.m.—The Growing Stage, RIC's all-student volunteer theatre group, presents "Eugene" in Robert's Little Theatre. Free and open to the public.

Sunday, Oct. 27
Day Retreat for Older Students to be held off-campus. Cost is $15. There is some financial aid available. For more information, call the Chaplains' Office, Ext. 8668.

Monday, Oct. 28
11 a.m.—Discussion Workshop on "Letting Go of Heart Hurts" to be held in SU 300 to address the spiritual concerns of older students. For more information, contact the Chaplains' Office, Ext. 8668.
9 to 10:30 p.m.—Comedy Cafe. Two Boston comedians perform in the Student Union Coffee Ground. Free.

Sports Events
Wednesday, Oct. 16
7 p.m.—Women's Volleyball. Rhode Island College vs. the University of Massachusetts. Away.

Thursday, Oct. 17
3:30 p.m.—Men's Soccer. Rhode Island College vs. Salve Regina College at Wehmer Field.

Friday, Oct. 18

Saturday, Oct. 19
11 a.m.—Women's Cross Country. Rhode Island College vs. Connecticut College. Away.

11 a.m.—Women's Volleyball. Rhode Island College vs. Eastern Nazarene College. Away.


Sunday, Oct. 20

Monday, Oct. 21
3:30 p.m.—Men's Soccer. Rhode Island College vs. Albertus Magnus College. Away.

Monday, Oct. 22
7 p.m.—Women's Volleyball. Rhode Island College vs. Roger Williams College. Home.

Wednesday, Oct. 23
3:30 p.m.—Men's Soccer. Rhode Island College vs. Eastern Nazarene College. Home.

Thursday, Oct. 24
6 p.m.—Women's Volleyball. Rhode Island College vs. Framingham State at Wentworth Institute.

Saturday, Oct. 26
Noon—Women's Cross Country. Little East Championship in Southern Maine. 1 p.m.—Women's Volleyball. Rhode Island College vs. Clark University. Home.

Monday, Oct. 28
3:30 p.m.—Men's Soccer. Rhode Island College vs. University of Massachusetts. Home.

7 p.m.—Women's Volleyball. Rhode Island College vs. Bryant College. Home.