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What's News At Rhode Island College

Rhode Island College

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Computer novice professor teaches class via internet

by Shelly Murphy
What's News Editor

Technology has been advanced at full speed this academic year at Rhode Island College as state-of-the-art computer equipment and support funded by the passage of the technology bond issue cropped up all over the campus. The result has been greater access and the opening of doors for students, faculty and staff.

Perhaps no one has been impacted — actually transformed — by the new technology more than Belle Evans, chair of the masters of social work department, who was "completely computer illiterate" as of December 1997. However, in January 1998 she found herself at the keyboard teaching "social work staff and friends of the College — who will hear the wry and humorous observations of Rhode Island native Spalding Gray, considered one of the foremost monologists of the 20th Century. The undergraduate commencement exercises are scheduled for Saturday, May 23, beginning at 9:30 a.m. on the esplanade in front of the New Building.

SPALDING GRAY

More than 1,300 Rhode Island College undergraduate and graduate students will receive their diplomas during the 1998 commencement exercises. This year's undergraduate festivities are expected to draw a gathering of 10,000, or more attendees — undergraduates, their friends and families, and faculty staff and friends of the College — who will hear the wry and humorous observations of Rhode Island native Spalding Gray, considered one of the foremost monologists of the 20th Century. The undergraduate commencement exercises are scheduled for Saturday, May 23, beginning at 9:30 a.m. on the esplanade in front of the New Building.

B. JAE CLANTON

nationally recognized Trinity Repertory Company and its Conservatory. Nine students, including two who hold bachelor degrees in theatre from RIC — Eric Tucker and his wife Jennifer Mudge Tucker, have successfully completed the three-year program instituted in the fall of 1995.

The collaboration was built on a long-standing relationship between RIC and Trinity Repertory. They have been working together since the inception of RIC's theater program's three-year program instituted in the fall of 1995. The collaboration was built on a long-standing relationship between RIC and Trinity Repertory Company and its Conservatory. Nine students, including two who hold bachelor degrees in theatre from RIC — Eric Tucker and his wife Jennifer Mudge Tucker, have successfully completed the three-year program instituted in the fall of 1995.

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The graduate speaker Binder, was born and raised in Brooklyn. He is a 1963 graduate of Dartmouth College and earned a MBA at Columbia University. He began his professional career as stage manager for Julia Child's "The French Chef on WGBH, and later spent several years as a talent scout for Merv Griffin. Venturing to San Francisco, he learned juggling with the San Francisco Mime Troupe. There he met Michael Cisternas, and together they traveled throughout Europe, earning a living by juggling on street corners and eventually joining Annie Frattellini's legendary music to Ninigret State Park in Charlestown, one of the regular stops.

In their own words...

Katherine Ferry
Class of 2001
Recipient of: RIC Alumni Freshman Award

Education is a most valuable tool in our lives. Its merit is to be found both professionally and personally. In today's society, individuals face growing competition in the job market, which are very satisfying. Those who have not obtained a college education are often at a disadvantage when searching for employment. Without an education, chances of securing such a satisfying career may be limited.

In addition, a solid education is necessary in this age of science and...
The Way We Were...

This popular item in What's News will continue this year in order for you to be able to recall your alma mater with a selection of photos from the past...To the College's past, whether the current era (Rhode Island College) or past era (Rhode Island College of Education or Rhode Island State Normal School). We invite your contribution of old photos, along with sufficient information about each so who's in the photo and such is possible. In the meantime, we'll continue searching our files for interesting pictures of past College life.

**HOMING IT UP:** In this 1960 photo, which appeared in the yearbook, Ricoléd, we see some very dramatic reactions to a very intense chess match, or as the yearbook had it: "Enthusiastic spectators await outcome of a game in the Men's Lounge." (File photo)

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**Focus on Faculty and Staff**

Steve C. Imber, professor of special education, coordinated a presentation entitled Can't Believe That My Student Actually Ate His Homework! Practical Behavioral Interventions at the Elementary and Middle School Level at the 14th annual Behavioral, Emotional and Social Trends Conference at the Holiday Inn at the Crossings, Warwick, April 3.

In his presentation, behavioral interventions through the creation of a multimedia animated slide presentation which incorporated concepts he has shared with his students during the past 25 years in special education. One of Imber's co-presenters was Caroline Mack, a former student of Imber who earned her degree in 1980. For the past several years she has served as a special and elementary education teacher for the Lincoln school department.

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David L. Abrahamson, associate professor of mathematics, has had two articles accepted for publication in the journal *Mathematics in College*. In the first article, entitled "Revisiting the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus in the Era of Reform," the pedagogical approach to presenting the theoretical aspects of the calculus sequence as technology and applications change college courses is discussed.

The second article, written jointly with Helen Salzberg, professor of mathematics, is entitled "A Mathematical Modeling Perspective on Baseball Statistics." A statistical analysis of which baseball statistics are most relevant in terms of the correlation with team runs scored is presented together with an easy-to-remember grading scale for the contribution of individual players.

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Alumni scholarships, book awards

Scholarship applications for the 1998-99 academic year are available in the Alumni Office. Last year nearly 70 students received assistance which is made possible through the Annual Fund appeal. There are freshmen scholarships for the sophomores, junior and senior with the highest GPA who also happen to be a child or grandchild of an alumnus.

The Alumni departmental scholarships are available to all RIC students, who have a GPA of 3.7 or higher. This award is based on GPA and essay. To be eligible for this award you must have earned your undergraduate degree at the College and must be accepted as a full-time graduate student in a RIC master's degree program.

The Alumni Office also reviews applications for the Frank and Agnes Campbell Scholarship which is for a sophomores, junior or senior who is a Rhode Island resident, with a GPA of at least 3.0 and submits an essay. Applications which outline the criteria for both awards are available in the Alumni Office.

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Book awards

With upcoming high school graduation ceremonies close at hand, the RIC Alumni Book Award will be presented at many ceremonies across the state. Last year, the award, which is a hard cover dictionary and thesaurus imprinted with the College logo and packaged in a hard bound sleeve, was presented to 44 high school seniors planning to attend RIC. The Alumni Association is eager to expand this program and asks that you call the Alumni Office at 456-8086 for more information.

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Celebrate Saveur Francaise May 3

The French-American School of Rhode Island in Providence invites members of the Rhode Island College community to celebrate Saveur Francaise Sunday, May 3, at 6:30 p.m. (cash bar 6 p.m.) in the CAV restaurant, Providence.

Mayor of Providence Vincent A. Cianci and the general consul of France in Boston will be the guests of honor.

Tickets are $45. Proceeds benefit the children of the school. If interested, call the school at 455-3437 or the RIC modern language department at 456-8029.

Ghislaine A. Gélon, associate professor of modern languages at RIC, also announces that summer camps at the French-American School will be run June 29-July 2 and July 6-10. Scholarship applications are available.

She says this is "a great opportunity" for children to be exposed to another language through the school's partial immersion program. Anyone interested should call the school or the RIC modern language department.

On April 16, students of French at RIC went to the French-American School to work with elementary students studying the same foreign language. They read universal stories with which all could identify and prepared the children to relate the stories in the foreign language to their parents later in the day.

In other news of interest to Francophiles, Gélon reports that a francophone channel broadcasting 24-hours-a-day has made it to the U.S.

Available through Direct TV via the EchoStar satellite, persons interested in buying the package can call 1-855-3474 and ask for Option 2 twice.

With the package you also can get RFI radio international (RFI) that offers news analysis worldwide.

Dr. A. Coons, associate professor of international languages, says the College is investigating the possibility of hooking up to the satellite. For more information, call the department.

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**African Turning Points**

**WHAT'S NEWS**

**AT RHODE ISLAND COLLEGE**

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Russian grandmother makes it all count

by Cynthia L. Sousa
What's News Writer

El la Yanko arrived in the United States from the former Soviet Union not speaking a word of English and more than a little apprehensive about what the future would hold. Her possessions included only a few dresses and a few dollars.

In May, only seven years later, this 58-year-old grandmother will receive a baccalaureate degree in accounting summa cum laude. She will also be recognized for her outstanding scholastic achievements at the Cap and Gown awards ceremony on May 8 when she will receive the John Silva Memorial Scholastic Award.

For Yanko, the adjustment to life in these United States has been incredibly difficult but worthwhile nonetheless. Born in Moldova, a small country southwest of the former Soviet Union, Yanko, who earned a high school diploma in the former Soviet Union, worked as an accountant and computer programmer there for 15 years.

She left familiar faces and grounds and came to this country with her immediate family in search of prosperity, freedom, financial success and equality.

Her son Alexander, now a computer programmer in Pennsylvania, and daughter Marina, a physical therapist in Rhode Island, had learned English in school, but Yanko did not know one word of English.

She was frightened and discouraged by the overwhelming feeling that she could not learn to speak and understand the English language. Other cultural differences were also very difficult to get used to — the clothing, the food and the abundance of everything.

She enrolled in an English-as-a-Second-Language course at the Community College of Rhode Island — a brave first step.

Gradually, she began to grasp and comprehend words, then sentences. It made life a little more bearable. The homesickness began to lessen and she was adapting to some of the customs here.

With these accomplishments under her belt, Yanko had the confidence to take the next step. She enrolled in an associate's degree program at CCRI. She toiled through the courses, finished the accounting program and didn't stop there.

She set her sights on a bachelor's degree and enrolled at Rhode Island College. With the help of her professors, whom she says were all "great," and other supportive staff at the College, Yanko was able to "get the most out of her experience here.

Associate Professor of Accounting Marilyn Sylvestre had Yanko in her classroom. She said, "Ella is one of those rare students who wants to learn — the grade is important to her, but most important is how much she can learn.

It is evident to Sylvestre that this determined student doesn't let her age interfere with the fact that she's starting a new career in a new country.

"She's always thinking about the future and trying to plan what her next move should be," she said.

"Sometimes it is difficult for Yanko to believe all that she has accomplished. She says that all of the hardships of immigrating to America have been worth it.

To Yanko, the United States is still the "land of dreams" and a "melting pot of cultures." "The different cultures and heritages of the people that live here are what makes this a great country," she said. "It's important for descendents of immigrants to hold on to their culture.

America has a much higher standard of living than European countries, Yanko feels. She also believes that people here are friendlier, less judgmental and very open and frank. She is often amazed at the work of charitable and volunteer organizations. There were no such "acts of compassion" where she comes from. And certainly no government agencies to take care of the environment.

Yanko's ability to adapt to the United States, although it took some time, was the saving grace to her survival here.

When she drives down the street to her apartment in Providence she feels good about herself and is very thankful to the American government for giving her the opportunity she has had.

She feels that there are no excuses for Americans not to take advantage of the educational opportunities available in the states. Citing herself as living proof, she says "Anything is possible, if you put your mind to it."

Yanko's next goal is to land a job where she can "give back" some of the knowledge and skills she has been so lucky to have acquired. She hopes to do this in a position where she can use her native language, perhaps in an international business setting.

And she is looking forward to seeing the accomplishments of her children and grandchildren in the "land of endless opportunity."
The cutting edge—

Prof puts calculus in new dimension

You've probably heard more than once about little kids who are not in the least intimidated by computers. If only that were true about their older brothers and sisters who are now in college.

Math Prof. Mariano "Rod" Rodrigues of Rhode Island College said many students are still learning about using computers, although as time goes on and today's little kids grow into college age, that will change drastically.

For now, however, Rodrigues has succeeded in immersing his calculus students in web pages to exchange information with him and with each other.

"It has been so successful that the International Conference on Technology in Collegiate Mathematics (ICTCM) recently awarded him $1,000 for his work on "Integrating Student Web Pages in a Calculus Course."

Rodrigues explained that since the web pages sprung up on us several years ago, teachers could get information to students such as a course syllabus, attendance records, and future notes instead of printing these out as in the past. This, obviously, has made life easier.

Rodrigues later added to this the process of animation whereby he could move lines on a page.

To receive communication from him—apart from setting up - and being taught to them how to get on the web.

Then they could communicate with him through the Internet forums (e-mail that stays posted).

Next step in Rodrigues' project was getting his students to submit calculus homework on the web page. "This was involving the students in a new arena," pointed out Rodrigues, and they responded to his instruction successfully.

Photos of the students were introduced to the web pages. By clicking on the face, you can go to their web page and determine the student's name, you can send e-mail.

Rodrigues reported that someone in his class offered to set up a forum (e-mail that stays posted).

But Rodrigues, who has two degrees in education and characterization, has stressed his students' learning appears to be a success. "I was surprised. I thought we'd lose some of the emotionality, but then the net students. The teacher becomes a computer, leaving it to the student to do the work."

"I was surprised. I think I know the internet students better because I have more individual contact with them by e-mail. From what I can tell, the net students are doing as well or better than the traditional classroom students."

While the initial work to go on line was tremendously and the frequent correspondence via e-mail was time-consuming, Rodrigues believes the commitment is worthwhile and that the workload between teaching a traditional and a virtual classroom would even out eventually, especially as technology improves. Would he recommend it to other professors? "You have to really want the challenge for the first time, and believe it offers opportunities for students. Our students are mixed out as far as who are doing the homework. The students are ecstatic, they say they have learned as well or better by the net, and they aren't forced into a specific time slot. They can do the work when they have the time to devote to it."

Christine Famiglietti, one of the internet class students, concurs. She took the internet calculus because she thought it would be interesting and that it was experimental. She also liked the convenience of not having to drive to campus and the comfort of being in your own house for class.

The flexibility to fit into the students' hectic lives, Evans says. The net meeting time was a cooperative decision. "Students are more than just teachers and learners, they are collaborators, our students are adults. We are teaching in the hands of the learners, the learners becomes a resource," Evans says. Now that she knows enough to know better, would she do it again? Absolutely. She's already scheduled to teach a different class this summer. Look for Evans on a beach this summer with her laptop computer.

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Internet class

The group persevered. "We had to have a sense of humor," Evans says, recalling some of the glitches like the time when she couldn't access to her virtual classroom and the students were there waiting for her. "Evans says she now understands why her more computer literate colleagues were not the first to teach an internet class, leaving it to those who "don't know better."

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Prof. Reamer leads way for new social work code of ethics

Name: Frederic G. Reamer
Hometown: Originally Baltimore, now Pawtucket
Degrees Earned and from: B.A., University of Maryland; A.M., University of Chicago; Ph.D., University of Chicago
Academic rank and year joined RIC faculty: Professor, joined RIC faculty in 1980 (along with my wife, Deborah Siegel, who also is on the School of Social Work faculty)
Dates of Sabbatical: Fall semester 1997
Site of Sabbatical: Local
Title of Study or Project: "Ethical Standards in Social Work"

Description of Study or Project: Between 1994 and 1996 I chaired the national task force, sponsored by the National Association of Social Workers (NASW), that wrote a new code of ethics for the social work profession. The NASW includes approximately 160,000 members and is the principal national organization in the profession comparable to the American Bar Association, American Medical Association, etc. The new Code of Ethics — only the third in NASW's history — provides guidance to social workers who face ethical issues, is the primary document used to adjudicate ethics complaints involving social workers, and is often used in courts of law in litigation involving social workers. The new code was ratified by the national governing body (the 300-member NASW Delegate Assembly) in August 1996, and went into effect Jan. 1, 1997.

The new code is among the most ambitious of any professional code in the nation. It contains a number of novel features, including an explicit mission statement for the social work profession, a brief guide to ethical decision-making, a summary of broad ethical principles, and over 155 specific ethical standards to guide social work practice.

The primary purpose of my sabbatical project was to write a book analyzing the ethical principles and standards contained in the new code. Given the code's wide spread implications — for social work education and practice — there has been much controversy involving an in-depth analysis of the code's many guidelines (an "exegesis" of sorts). My 300-page book was just published (March 1998). The title is Ethical Standards in Social Work: A Critical Review of the NASW Code of Ethics (NASW Press).

Intended Audience/Benefactors: Social work students and practitioners facing ethical issues and dilemmas, and those involved in adjudicating ethics complaints.

Intended Results: The book that was just published.


Do You Plan Further Study/Work on this Subject: Yes. I have a number of other research projects under way.

FREDERIC G. REAMER

Mona didn't find a totally straight path from high school to college graduation. None-the-less, when he wanted to do "something in criminal justice service," worked full time as a department manager for Shaw's supermarket, earned an associate degree in criminal justice at the Community College of Rhode Island and served five years as an auxiliary police officer with the Attleboro Police Department. He credits his mother, the former Eugenia H. Boggia, RIC Class of 1961, for much of his success.

"Mona's sister, Michelle, died in 1990 at age 26. Her other sister, Cheryl LeBlanc, resides in North Attleboro and takes classes at RIC — she'll finish and get her degree if I have to push her," says Mona with a goodly amount of brotherly love.

Mona is proud of having "put the beat on the beat" in Attleboro, pointing out that to do that he had to attend the police academy for nine months and then be certified. He passed the Massachusetts Criminal Justice Training Council Academy. He did this while studying law enforcement at CCRI where he is expected to be certified as an emergency medical technician under a separate program he is studying concurrently with his RIC studies.

While at CCRI he also served as a referee for the Saturday morning children's basketball program at the Newman YMCA in Seekonk and continues today as a soccer referee there. Once at RIC, he did more. In two years to earn his degree, having brought a number of credits with him from CCRI. While at RIC, he worked for the Alumni Office in its phonathon fund-raising efforts.

In September, it'll be off to Northeastern University to study criminal justice — "it's the best graduate program in New England," says Mona — and then a job in federal or state law enforcement.

Additionally, he'd like to serve as an adjunct faculty member in criminal justice, perhaps at RIC.

"My Mom's a teacher, so kind of runs in the family," says Mona.

RICHARD MONA
Brian Iafrate, a RIC junior, is 35 feet up in the air, inching his way along a cable stretched between two trees. There are ropes he can grasp hanging over his head but they are spaced about 15 feet apart, so he has to let go of one to grab the next. The cable and his legs are颤颤抖抖, and the two dozen people watching from ground level hear him say, "I've never been so scared in my life!"

Brian is one of 40 physical education majors who traveled to Hamilton, Mass., half an hour north of Boston, to participate in a Project Adventure workshop. Project Adventure, or "PA" as insiders call it, is an outgrowth of Outward Bound, the training program that originated in Britain during the 1940s. Like its British forebear, PA is designed to increase confidence and promote a spirit of teamwork among participants. According to Jan Marecsak, assistant professor of health, physical education and recreation, the buzz words for PA are "communication, cooperation and trust." After experiencing the workshop, these phys ed majors will be able to incorporate its goals and principles into their own lesson plans when they are teachers.

Shortly after getting off the bus, the RIC students gather in a circle on a field to play a game called "alcatraz cell." Rachel Janasek, the facilitator, explains that where the game is set up, anyone and "zaps" him or her, so the group must go over that people or either side can zap each other. If you are tapped by a student, you are out. It's fun — and that's an important aspect of PA. Or, as Karl Radhakrishnan writes in Silver Bullets: A Guide to Facilitating Adventure Games and Trust Activities, one of the goals is "to develop an increased joy in one's physical self and in being with others." The group breaks into two teams to play "Alaskan baseball," another fun game that involves throwing a rubber chicken. Later, smaller groups play more games, some designed to get everyone to know each other's names and more designed to develop trust. For instance in one, each group member falls backwards into the arms of the others. Eventually it's on to ropes and cables. Games now involve group problem-solving. One group of 10 is faced with: How to get hold of a dangling rope in the middle of the freefall? The solution: everyone contributes a solution; the group must come up with a plan. As sophomore Corey Ricci says, "I have a fear of heights. But I'm REALLY doing this! It was awesome!"

After lunch, the group meets the "Mohawk Walk," a walk along low cables strung from tree to tree and requiring a lot of group cooperation. Finally, after lunch, it's on to the high cables, where we met Brian Iafrate and where it's more of a personal challenge. Although everyone is wearing a harness attached to a belly — a rope on a pulley designed to break any accidental fall — there is still plenty of "perceived risk," as the facilitator says. Even here a lot of cooperation and trust is involved. These people on the ground operate the pulley system, and everyone shouts suggestions and encouragement to their colleagues on the cables.

Although there is considerable fear up there in the tree tops, there is also a lot of pride in accomplishment. As sophomore Corey Ricci says, "I have a fear of heights. But I'm up there thinking, 'I'm REALLY doing this! It was awesome!'"
1998 commencement exercises

Continued from page 1

on its annual tour schedule. In addition to reaching audiences of over a half million each year, the Big Apple Circus has established several ongoing programs to bring the circus to communities. Recent outgrowth of the Circus Arts in Education program, which provides inner-city youth with after-school instruction in the study of classical circus arts, and its Clown Care Unit which sends clowns into the homes of over 115,000 hospitalized children every year, spreading cheer and laughter.

The study of classical circus arts, and itself been awarded the prestigious kind of oral composition or quite metaphor for a man in the grip of a mid-life crisis. Three of his best Rhode Islanders: B. Jae Clanton and Gray, who will receive an Honorary Service Degree will be presented to John Hope Settlement House as a professional social worker. She earned a BS from West Virginia State College, a MSW from the University of Connecticut, and post-graduate work in supervision and administration at the Boston University School of Social Work. With intellect, compassion, and courage, she boundless energy, and clear vision, building the Urban League into what many regard as the state's strongest and most effective advocate for social and economic justice. During her tenure she increased the agency's annual budget from $500,000 to over $4 million and its staff from 10 to over 110. Among her long list of successful causes are the establishment of a pediatric oncology unit at Rhode Island Hospital, her advocacy for improved children's counseling services as a member of the Governor's Juvenile Justice Subcommittee for Delinquent Children, the establishment of an adolescent parenting program and workshops designed to discourage teen pregnancy among

Honorary Doctorate of Public Service Degree will be presented posthumously to Bossie Jae Smith Clanton. Known to all as B. Jae, she dedicated her life to empowering and giving voice to minorities, the poor, and the disfranchised. Clanton, a native of Harrisburg, Pa., arrived in Rhode Island in 1957 to accept a position at the John Hope Settlement House as a professional social worker. She earned a BS from West Virginia State College, a MSW from the University of Connecticut, and post-graduate work in supervision and administration at the Boston University School of Social Work. With intellect, compassion, and courage, she boundless energy, and clear vision, building the Urban League into what many regard as the state's strongest and most effective advocate for social and economic justice. During her tenure she increased the agency's annual budget from $500,000 to over $4 million and its staff from 10 to over 110. Among her long list of successful causes are the establishment of a pediatric oncology unit at Rhode Island Hospital, her advocacy for improved children's counseling services as a member of the Governor's Juvenile Justice Subcommittee for Delinquent Children, the establishment of an adolescent parenting program and workshops designed to discourage teen pregnancy among minority youth.

Juvenile Justice Subcommittee for services as a member of the Governor's Juvenile Justice Subcommittee for Delinquent Children, the establishment of an adolescent parenting program and workshops designed to discourage teen pregnancy among

Native Rhode Islander Spalding Gray, who will receive a Honorary Doctorate of Fine Arts Degree. Working from his studio in North Scituate, LaMontagne is one of the state's most celebrated living artists. He has received international acclaim as a virtuoso in the medium of wood sculpture. His talent is so great and his eye for detail so exact that once, as a young sculptor, he constructed a fake Great Brewer Chair that passed muster with leading antique experts – just to prove a point. LaMontagne is best known for his portrait sculptures of sports and history figures. Some of his more notable subjects have included George George Patton, Eleanor Roosevelt, Bob Hope, John F. Kennedy, and sports legends Larry Bird, Carl Yastrzemski, and Bobby Orr. His sculpture of Ted Williams and Babe Ruth, which stand inside the entrance to the Baseball Hall of Fame, are the most photographed items in Cooperstown. Saul Wisnia, in an article written for the Jan. 22, 1986 edition of Sports Illustrated, wrote: "With hair, clothes, and shoes all carved from single 1,000 to 2,500-pound blocks of basswood, LaMontagne's works often leave viewers staring in disbelief at what appears to be real skin, wool, and leather. Sometimes amazement gives way to emotion; upon seeing his statue in 1985, the notoriously rough-edged Ted Williams broke down and cried. 'Armand captures a spark of personality in his work, which nobody else seems able to do in wood sculpture,' says Roger Scherwee, who has written nine books on the subject. 'Others attempt it and come up with something impressionistic or caricature-like, but he makes subjects come alive. He's pushing wood to its limits.'"

The grandson of an architect and son of a construction-site superinten­ dent, LaMontagne, after putting six months of 80-hour weeks into each work. LaMontagne is lesser known but equally adept as a painter; his style in this medium incorporates the same keen eye for detail and realism that is found in his sculptures.

His works include the official portrait of a number of Rhode Island leaders, including a strikingly life-like statue of Gov. L. Joseph Garrahy (1977-1985) that is on permanent display in the State House. One of his latest projects in a wooden statue of Roger Williams destined for Roger Williams University. LaMontagne has been named as a 1998 inductee of the Rhode Island Heritage Hall of Fame.

HOLocaust survivor Lea Elisha talks to students in the Honors 162 sections in Bannister Gallery on Wednesday, April 8. She was the recipient of the honorary degree of Doctor of Public Service at last May's convocation and ceremonies. Honors 162 is the second semester of the Western Cultures course. (What's News Photo by Gordon E. Rowley)

97 Honorary Degree Recipient Returns to Campus

Commencement dates

Cap and Gown Day
Wednesday, May 6
12:30 p.m.
Roberts Hall auditorium

Graduate Commencement
Thursday, May 21
5:30 p.m.
New Building

Commencement Gala
Friday, May 22
6:30 p.m.
Donovan reception and dinner at 7:30 p.m.
Music by Avenue A

The cost is $17.50 or 2 for $30.
For reservations, call 401-456-8022.

Undergraduate Commencement
Saturday, May 23
9:30 a.m.
Esplanade in front of New Building
Sports Memorabilia Auction, May 6

The second annual RIC Sports Memorabilia Auction will be held Wednesday, May 6 at the Marriott in downtown Providence. The proceeds from the auction go directly toward supporting programs for student-athletes, particularly those involving academics and life skills.

Last year's auction was a huge success and everyone in attendance had a fantastic time. The 1997 auction included more than 200 items. This year's list has already surpassed that number. The items include memorabilia of star athletes, political figures and stars of the big screen. There are golf days and trips to some great sporting events. There is a Mickey Mantle jersey and an autograph from the Golden Bear himself, Jack Nicklaus.

The RIC pep band will be providing entertainment and there will be great refreshments. A special celebrity auctioneer will be in attendance.

The doors will open at 6:45 p.m. and a silent auction will precede the live auction. Tickets are $10 each. Each in attendance will receive a free gift.

Remember, Wednesday, May 6 at the Providence Marriott! For additional information or to purchase tickets in advance, call 401-456-8007. Tickets will also be sold at the door.

Sports Roundup

Baseball

The baseball team is 6-13 overall and 1-5 in the Little East Conference. The Hetherman Award is perhaps the biggest win in recent years. With an 8-7 victory over the reigning Division III National Champions, Southern Maine, on April 30.

Silverio leads RIC in hitting, batting .361 in 19 games. In addition to playing third base, he's also second in RIC in stolen bases. Pitcher Felder has a team-leading 16 runs scored and first baseman James Fitzgerald leads the team with 17 runs batted in.

Softball

The Anchorwomen are currently 16-15-1 overall and 2-8 in the Little East. Leftfielder Jennifer Cook is leading the team in hitting with a .324 batting average. Cook is tied for the team lead with 16 runs scored. Pitcher Richele Roderiques is 5-4 with a 2.30 earned run average and a team-high 24 strikeouts.

The men's and women's track and field teams recently took part in the Connecticut College Invitational on April 11.

Tommie Butler placed ninth for the men in the long jump at 5.64 feet. Keeey Subin continued to perform well, finishing first in the 400 meters with a time of 40.62. Subin also placed third in the 200 meters with a 27.79.

The Anchorwomen will travel to Plymouth State College on Saturday, April 17 and Sunday, April 19 to take part in the Little East Championships. The team recently scored its record at 5-3 with an 8-1 victory over Rhode Island College.

Eric Provencal is 3-1 in singles action. Pat Prendergast is 3-2 and Eric Francis is 3-1 in singles action. Pinho and captain Joe Ramos are both 2-2 in doubles matches this spring.

Butler and Lange's achievements on and off the court recognized

by Scott Gibbons
Sports Information Director

Senior student-athletes Alex Butler and Kelly Lange were recently chosen to receive the John E. Hetherman and Senior student-athletes Alex Butler and Kelly Lange were recently chosen to receive the John E. Hetherman and Senior student-athletes Alex Butler and Kelly Lange were recently chosen to receive the John E. Hetherman and 2nd Award, respectively. The awards are sponsored by the Sports Information Director. The Hetherman Award must be a male senior student-athlete, demonstrate a variety of leadership skills and show academic success.

Kelly Lange is a four-year letter-winner on RIC's women's tennis and softball teams. As the team's number one singles player, Lange was a member of two Little East Championship teams in 1994 and 1995. As a junior in 1996, Lange made it to the finals in number one singles at the Little East Conference Tournament.

Alex Butler needs no introduction to RIC athletic community. He was a two-time All-American as a guard on the men's basketball team. He was named the Little East Conference's Player of the Year three times in 1994-95, 1996-97 and 1997.

Butler was a First Team All-Little East All-Star in each of those seasons as well. He was the NEC's Rookie of the Year as a freshman in 1993-94 and RIC's second all-time leading scorer with 2,298 career points. He also ranks in the top 10 in many all-time records at RIC.

Head Men's Basketball Coach James Adams says, "Alex accomplished more than any other player I've ever coached here. What makes Alex special is his personality. He is very competitive and always came to practice to work hard to make himself a better basketball player."

Butler has also excelled in the classroom, maintaining a grade-point average of 3.49, and has made the Dean's List every semester.

In addition to participating in intercollegiate athletics, Lange is also a member of RIC's orchestra, flute ensemble, wind ensemble and sings in the chorus. Earlier in the year, Lange student-athlete at the RIC. She is currently a member of the RIC and was named to the RIC for her contributions to the athletic program.

The student who receives the Murphy Award must be a female student-athlete, contribute to the athletic program and have a strong academic average.

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Head Women's Tennis Coach Dick Ernst says, "Kelly has been the biggest impact player I've coached in my nine years at RIC. She continuously gave 100 percent and is an excellent example of how to conduct yourself off the court."

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Shinn Fund winners to study in Dominican Republic, Morocco, Hungary

by George LaTour
What's News Associate Editor

The Ridgway F. Shinn Study Abroad Fund has made awards for overseas study to three Rhode Island College students for the 1998-99 academic year.

Anthony Francisco of Providence, a sophomore studying Spanish and secondary education, will go to the Dominican Republic from September to June; Edicta Milagros Grullen of Providence and formerly of Woonsocket, a junior majoring in music education, will travel to Hungary in September for the fall and spring semesters.

Announcement of their selection came at the April 25 reception held after the performance of The Boy Friend in Roberts Hall. The winners were guests of the fund for that benefit performance.

Francisco will study the culture of South America and Spanish language at the Universidad Nacional Pedro Henriquez Urena in its transcultural studies program.

A. FRANCISCO

After college, he would like to teach high school and pursue a doctorate in theology, thereafter to minister to the Spanish community, he says.

He sings and plays piano as well as acts in the Spanish Theatre of RIC (STRIC). In addition, he is active as a translator, musician and co-host of "The Prophetic Voice of Southern New England" show on radio Station WELH (88.3 on the dial) which airs Saturdays and Sundays from 6-8 p.m.

Grullen, the daughter of Edicta Diaz and Diodrado Grullen, has four older brothers, but she is the first in her family to go to college.

Busy tutoring her friends both on and off campus in any number of subjects — "I like to be helpful"— she says she’s been too busy to get involved with more formal extra-curricular activities.

"There are so many things I want to do after graduating that I can’t really name one, but I’ll definitely continue my education," Grullen said.

Spanish Theatre to present 18th annual drama 'Un trono para Cristy'

by George LaTour
What's News Associate Editor

"Great Moments of the Opera" will be celebrated in the 20th annual Bicho Memorial Scholarship Concert Monday, May 4, at 8:15 p.m. in Rhode Island College’s Roberts Hall auditorium.

The RIC Symphony Orchestra and Chorus under the direction of Edward Markward, the Bel Canto Opera Chorus with Marybeth Simonelli as director, and performing artists soprano Cecelia Redi, mezzo-soprano Tracey Fulgan, tenor Ray Bauwens and baritone Robert Honeysucker will be featured.

In the opening segment of the program selections will be performed from "Hansel and Gretel," "Tannhauser," "Norma," "Cavalleria Rusticana," "La Traviata," " Nabucco" and "Rigoletto.

The second part of the program will feature selections from "Madama Butterfly," "La Boheme," "L’Irovatore" and "Carmen.

After a brief intermission, the Bicho Scholarship(s) will be presented.

Bicho served on the music faculty for 30 years until her retirement in 1979 when she was named professor emerita. The scholarship was established in her honor of her lifelong dedication to teaching and music.

The fund is held in the RIC Foundation, the interest from which supports from one to four scholarship holders annually. Bicho died in 1981.

The winners: Cecelia Redi has appeared as a soloist in recital, opera and oratorio throughout New England. She recently performed with New England's touring production of "Manzoni Requiem with the Bel Canto Opera Company of Rhode Island, and a program as part of the 1997 Concerts by the Bay Series at Blithewold Mansion and Gardens in Portsmouth, R.I.

Robert Honeysucker has performed in recital, concert and opera, the latter with the Connecticut Civic Chorale and Orchestra; Ferrando in Mozart’s "Così fan tutte" with the Bel Canto Opera Company of Rhode Island, and a program as part of the 1997 Concerts by the Bay Series at Blithewold Mansion and Gardens in Portsmouth.

In addition, he has performed with the Connecticut Civic Chorale and Orchestra; Ferrando in Mozart’s "Così fan tutte" with the Bel Canto Opera Company of Rhode Island, and a program as part of the 1997 Concerts by the Bay Series at Blithewold Mansion and Gardens in Portsmouth, R.I.

A $10 donation is requested for admission. $5 for senior citizens and non-RIC students.

All box office proceeds go to the RIC Bicho Scholarship Fund.

The concert will be preceded by the RIC Department of Performing Arts in its professional opera productions, and will also feature the Bel Canto Chorus of the Bel Canto Opera Company of Rhode Island, the RIC Madrigal Singers and a wide range of roles which have included those of Leicester in "Manzoni Requiem with the Bel Canto Opera Company of Rhode Island, and a program as part of the 1997 Concerts by the Bay Series at Blithewold Mansion and Gardens in Portsmouth.

Honeysucker has been involved in many community and Off campus groups, and in the local chapter of the Music Educators National Conference; acts in RIC productions of "Barber of Seville" and "Le Nozze," sings solo soprano in the RIC Chorus. Her teachers have included Donald St. John, an adjunct member of the voice faculty at RIC, and the late Robert H. Honeysucker.

The Shinn Fund, held within the John Paul II campus in honor of RIC president, has awarded $50,000 for study in 13 countries, reports Shinn.
Crossing borders takes one into unfamiliar territory, but it also opens new frontiers of discovery and insight. As Americans celebrate the bicentennial of Lewis and Clark's geographical "border crossings," the Rhode Island College Wind Ensemble's Friday, May 1, concert will be a celebration of crossing the boundaries which, unfortunately, have separated us from the performing arts of music, dance, and theatre, according to Rob Franklin, director of the RIC Wind Ensemble.

Entitled "Border Crossings," the concert will incorporate music, dance and narration through a collaboration of RIC music, dance and theatre areas in the Department of Performing Arts.

The program - at 8:15 p.m. in Roberts Hall auditorium - will open with Walford Riegger's "Dance Rhythms" featuring members of the RIC Dance Company. Morayo Akinlawon, Carla Fazio, Melissa Francesco and Stacey Grasso with choreography by Susan Thompson. Rob Kapiloff's "Green Eggs and Ham" follows with soprano Joanne Mouradjian and the RIC Chamber Winds. Liana Stillman, 11-year-old daughter of RIC's artist in residence, pianist Judith Lynn Stillman, will provide the narration. Liana has performed with a number of theatre companies, including Trinity Rep and its production of A Christmas Carol.

P. William Hutchinson is the stage director for "Green Eggs and Ham." On one level, the "children's story" by Dr. Seuss is a delightful tale of unrelenting Sam-I-Am hawking his green cuisine with all his wiles. On a completely different level, it is a parable about a child teaching an adult to overcome prejudice, and the adult thanking the child.

It is this level which makes "Green Eggs and Ham" a perfect subject for an evening of parent-child connection, says Franzblau.

On Saturday, May 2, Vivaldi's Concerto for Two Trumpets with Michael Coggeshall and Eric Ventura, music education majors at RIC, follow.

The program concludes with Johan de Mey's Symphony No. 1, The Lord of the Rings with narration by Frank Totti, a theatre performance major, concluding the concert. Presentation of endowed scholarships in music will take place during intermission.

General admission, $7; students/senior citizens, $5; RIC students free.

Alumna featured RI Philharmonic soloist May 9

Operatic soprano Diane Alexander, who graduated with a degree in music from Rhode Island College in 1986, is back in her home state for two upcoming performances before leaving again for a series of operatic performances nationwide.

On Saturday, May 9, she will be the featured soloist in the Rhode Island Philharmonic Orchestra's season finale of "Knoxville: Summer of 1915" at 8 p.m. in Veteran's Memorial Auditorium. Call 331-6060 for tickets.

Alexander, who recently spent a year in San Francisco with the Phantom of the Opera in the role of Carlotta, just returned to Providence's East Side from Chattanooga, Tenn., where she performed in Susannah, and will travel to Colorado this summer to sing the role of Abigail in The Crucible at Central City Opera. Then its on to debut performances for San Diego, Nashville and New Orleans Opera companies and Opera Grand Rapids.

Alexander is formerly of Barrington, R.I.

DIANE ALEXANDER

The annual juried Senior Show, highlighting the best works by graduating seniors receiving the bachelor of fine arts or bachelor of arts degree, will be held in Rhode Island College's Bannister Gallery May 14-23.

The exhibit opening is May 14 from 7-9 p.m. It is free and open to the public.

The show features art work from all department concentrations, including ceramics, graphic design, fibers, painting, photography, printmaking and sculpture.

Gallery hours are Tuesday through Saturday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6-9.

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RIC CALENDAR

Tuesdays

Noon to 1 p.m.—Bible Study. Chaplain Larry Nichols is conducting Bible Study. Everyone is invited to join him in the SU 300 for an informal discussion of the Bible. Bring your own lunch.

Wednesdays

12:30 to 1:45 p.m.—Catholic Student Association meets in SU 300. Any Catholic student who would like to be a part of this group is asked to drop in on any meeting. You can join at any time. Pizza and refreshments are provided on a bi-weekly basis.

27 Monday

7 p.m.—Fashion Show in Student Union Ballroom. Sponsored by Harambee.

29 Wednesday

1 p.m.—Music: The Jubilee Trio. Part of the Chamber Music Series in Roberts 138.

1 Friday


2, 3 Sat. & Sun.

8 p.m. Sat., 3 p.m. Sun. — Spanish Theatre of Rhode Island College (STRIC) presents its 18th annual spring Spanish drama, Un trono para Cristy (A Throne for Cristy), Saturday, May 2, at 8 p.m. and Sunday, May 3, at 3 p.m. in Geiger Hall auditorium. Tickets are $4 if purchased in advance and $5 at the door. RIC students, $4. For advance tickets or further information call 456-8029.

4 Monday

8:15 p.m.—Music: RIC Chorus and Symphony Orchestra. 20th Annual Rita V. Bicho Memorial Scholarship Concert in Roberts Auditorium. Donations: $5 and $10, RIC students free.

5 Tuesday

5 p.m.—RI Mental Health Counsel Monthly Meeting in the Board of Governors Room in Roberts Hall. The meeting is held in recognition of professional counselors and the service they render to the community. Dr. Suzanne G. Riggs will speak on eating disorders.

6 Wednesday

6:45 p.m.—RIC Sports Memorabilia Auction to benefit student-athlete programs. Providence Marriott. Tickets are $10 and will be available at the door. For more information, call 401-456-8007.

Rhode Island College Sports Memorabilia Auction

Wednesday, May 6, 1998

Providence Marriott

6:30 p.m. Preview
7 p.m. Reception

Silent & Live Auction

Food • Door Prizes • Cash Bar

Donation $10

Tickets available at the door or by calling 401-456-8007.

AVENUE A will entertain at the “Lilacs and Lavender” 1998 Commencement Gala Friday, May 22 in Donovan Dining Center, beginning at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are $17.50 or $30 for two. For more information, call 401-456-8022.

Notice of Affirmative Action and Nondiscrimination

Rhode Island College is committed to equal opportunity and affirmative action. No student, employee, or applicant will be denied admission, employment, or access to programs and activities because of race, sex, religion, age, color, national origin, handicap/disability status, sexual orientation, preference, or veteran status. This College policy is in concert with state and federal nondiscrimination laws. Inquiries concerning the College’s compliance with the nondiscrimination laws should be addressed to the College director of affirmative action. Reasonable accommodation upon request.